Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Community Members,

As always, a lot has happened in the fortnight since our last newsletter and there will be a lot happening in the next fortnight. We certainly keep busy!

I would like to firstly welcome Mrs Cherie Heck, who is joining our team until the end of this term and will also be back next term. Mrs Heck is completing her 3rd and 4th year teaching practicums at North Eton. We are grateful for her presence and trust she will learn a great deal in our small school.

Professional Learning and Development for staff is an important factor in enhancing teaching and learning. Effective schools and teachers engage in professional learning to keep abreast of research, skills, knowledge's and understanding for the benefit of the students. For the past two weeks, I have been away Thursday and Friday to engage in Professional Learning. The first conference I attended was the annual Queensland Association of State School Principals (QASSP) conference, which was an amazing two-days in Cairns. Whilst there, I engaged in various professional workshops, listened to inspiring key-note presenters and networked with many other Principals from around the state. Our Minister for Education, Hon. Kate Jones addressed the delegates and shared with us her pride in the success of Queensland’s students regarding their NAPLAN results. Queensland students “have taken out the most improved award.” http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-08-05/queensland-students-improved-naplan-but-behind-nationalaverage/6672436
The 2nd workshop I attended was the Principal Peer Review Training facilitated by the School Improvement Unit. Every school throughout the state is required to undertake a School Review. This often happens in conjunction with a Quadrennial School Review (QSR) and the ultimate goal of the review is to improve what a school does. North Eton’s QSR is next year (2016) so now is a good time to ensure our practices are of a high standard. This training also enabled me to become a peer reviewer and visit other schools within the state to be on their review team.

While I was away, Mrs Nilsson and Mrs Hildred took over and ensured the school ran smoothly and the students continued on their learning journeys.

For those who missed parade this week, the students (led by Mrs Hildred) performed “Tiddalick the Frog”. The Year 3 students are studying Australian literature in English lessons and have been looking at Aboriginal Dreamtime stories. This was a great opportunity to get all the students involved and they did an amazing job. Thankyou Mrs Hildred for your excellent input! See photos in the attached pages.

We noticed a slight shift in student behaviour at the beginning of the term in regards to “getting along” and “including everyone”. Due to this, we implemented the “Buddy Box”, this is a way for students to focus on the positive behaviours that their classmates are displaying and by acknowledging the small things they do for each other. The students were required to note down their observations and at Parade they were awarded a certificate of appreciation. I would like to say how proud I am of the way the students engaged in this activity and it was fabulous to be able to hand out these certificates. This will be an on-going program. Thank you students! As always, have a great fortnight! Geraldine

Mrs Heck is completing her 3rd and 4th year Pracs with us this semester. Please ensure you say to Mrs Heck when you see her around the school!
Student of the week

JORJA
for excellent leadership and responsibility!

Great behaviour awards

Sight Word Recognition Awards

Tiddalick the Frog

Rule of the week
We respect our own, and other people’s property
Fire Safety

Hi Everyone!

Cocktails in the Canefields is fast approaching. Thank you to all who have been working overtime to make this event a success. Tickets are still available so round up your family and friends! Tickets are now on sale for our beautiful chair which was kindly donated by Country Charm. These are available at Country Charm and then sold at the event.

If you could start bringing in bottles and jars and any succulents you have spare, it would be greatly appreciated.

A big thank you to Steph Grieves for all her hard work with the tuckshop so far this year. Next term, we will be looking for someone to help get the tuckshop ready as Steph will be working in the classroom. If you are available please have a chat to Geraldine or Steph.

Many thanks,

Tenille
Lantern Parade—Mackay

Lantern Making with Mrs Ward

Each Tuesday morning, students have been busy making pyramid lanterns. Using bamboo and tissue paper to make the frame, each lantern will hold a battery operated tea light at the base. They are all looking really bright and fun. Materials have been funded by a project called “Animating Spaces” which aims to bring people back into the city centre.

A special community family fun evening will be held in the city on August 29. NESS students and their families are encouraged to come into town and walk along the riverside boardwalk with their beautiful lanterns and lots of other children and families.

The parade will begin in the parkland opposite Canelands at about 5.45pm, proceed along the boardwalk and finish at the top of Wood St where there will be more fun activities to celebrate the CBD.

Hope you can come!