PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

**Infants Hat Parade**
This year once again we will be holding our **Infants Hat Parade**. Each student in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 are asked to bring along a hat to wear on the day. Last year many children created and made wonderful **Easter hats** and paraded them around, while others preferred a **crazy hat**, an **animal hat** or a **sports hat**. The only limit is your imagination! *(School uniform is to be worn).*

Parents and friends are invited to come along and watch the parade, and little brothers or sisters are welcome to make their own hat and join in as well. The parade will be on **Thursday 24 March at 9.30am** in the COLA.

**Pedlar's Box Stalls**
The P&C will be holding a Pedlar's Box fundraiser on the Infants Hat Parade day **Thursday 24 March, after the Infant Hat Parade**.

**What to do:**
1. Decorate a small box (eg. shoe box) to use as your Peddler’s Box.
2. Gather or make some items for sale - about 6 items per child is plenty.
3. Decide a price for your items between 50 cents - $2 each.
4. Bring your Pedlar’s Box to school on **Thursday 24 March** and sell your wares - remember to bring some money so you can purchase items too!!

**What items can I sell?**
The idea is that the children will get involved with making or finding items to sell. Ideas include:
- Craft items eg. pet rocks
- Baked goods eg. cupcakes (a list of ingredients must be supplied to cater for allergies etc)
- Toys that are no longer used eg. matchbox cars
- Bric-a-brac eg. hair clips, pencils, stickers

The possibilities are endless! Please note that 5 or 6 items per child is plenty and the box should be inexpensive for you to put together. Items will be sold for between 50c and $2 each and all proceeds will go to the P&C to help purchase additional resources for our school.

**Netball Gala Day**
On Wednesday 23 March 2016, one team from our school will participate in the Netball NSW Schools Cup at Port Macquarie. We wish the following girls good luck:

*Piper Aquel, Cailie Buchanan, Eryn Cahill, Maddie Collins, Dakota Cooper, Emelia Copelin, Laicy Costigan, Gabby Fozzard, Tahlia Hall, Tarsha Matthews, Ruby McAndrew, Abby Moores, Rose Murray, Keali Newman, Charlotte Ostler, Aidan Turnewitsch.*
**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards**
These awards are given to students who have demonstrated exemplary behaviour reflecting Beechwood Public School’s Code of Conduct. The following students received awards at the last assembly or at a morning assembly:

**BRONZE:** Amber Coombes, Chayse Madeley, Ronan Merrill, Avi Thompson, Elliette Turnewitsch, Ryan Taylor, Charlotte Ostler.

**SILVER:** Will Hamerlok.

**Quality Work Awards**
The recipients of the “Quality Work” award at last week’s assembly were:

**Year K** - Zara Smith, Jeddah Bean, Cooper Parkes, Anushka Turnewitsch.

**Year 1** - Meika Cotter, Beau Grigg.

**Year 2-3** - Jalen Leyds, Dylan Taylor, Brandon Rock, Harrison Cooper, Myles Cooper.

**Year 4-5** - Ashley Wrightson, Noah Barter, Aidan Turnewitsch.

**Year 5-6** - Josef Dowton, Eryn Cahill, Charlotte Ostler, Hunter Palmer-Bain, Ruby McAndrew, Gabby Fozzard, Astynn Carney, Ryan Taylor, Piper Aquel.

**BPS Awards**
Our BPS Awards celebrate and reward students from Kindergarten to Year 6 who consistently demonstrate the three main expectations that the students, staff and Beechwood School community believe to be important skills such as Best Effort, Positive care and respect and Safety.

The following students were recipients of the BPS Awards at last week’s assembly:

**Year K** - Anushka Turnewitsch.

**Year 1** - Avi Thompson.

**Year 2-3** - Dominic Norris.

**Year 4-5** - Kiah Palomer-Johnson.

**Year 5-6** - Keali Newman.

**Ministers Awards**
These awards are only handed out at Parliament Assemblies. Each Minister selects a student who displays qualities that enhance their particular portfolios.

The following students received Ministers Awards at the last Parliament assembly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
<td>Will Hamerlok.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader of Opposition</td>
<td>Ebony Faint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Christall Lord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Relations</td>
<td>Madalyn Scott.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Functions</td>
<td>Kayden Cook.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>Cooper Farrington.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Transport</td>
<td>Beau Stackman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Gardens</td>
<td>Cooper Parkes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Congratulations and well done!**

**Wauchope High School's Year 6 Twilight Tour**
All parents and carers of Year 6 and the current Year 7 students are invited to Wauchope High School on **Monday 21 March** from **4pm to 6pm**, to attend the combined Year 6 **Twilight Tour** and **Meet the Parents** night.

This night is an opportunity to tour the school’s facilities, view student work samples and meet the staff, including the newly appointed Year 7 Advisor for 2017.

Afternoon tea will be provided in the library. Come and see what our school has to offer!
FRIDAY FUNDRAISING
Chicken Sausages on bread may be purchased at $2.00 each and Bulla Splits $1.50 each. Half a sausage in slice of bread available for $1.00. Slushies are available ($2 each) and poppers/flavoured milk ($2.00 each).

If your rostered date is not suitable, please contact Mrs Reid in the office.

TERM 1, 2016 – FRIDAY FUNDRAISER ROSTER

| WEEK 8: | Friday 18 March 11.30 – 1.30pm | Judith STYLES |
| WEEK 9: | Friday 25 March 11.30 – 1.30pm | GOOD FRIDAY – PUBLIC HOLIDAY |
| WEEK 10: | Friday 1 April 11.30 – 1.30pm | Patricia CRAIG |
| WEEK 11: | Friday 8 April 11.30 – 1.30pm | Amanda ROBERTS |

HARMONY DAY
This Monday, 21 March, students at Beechwood School will be celebrating Harmony Day. Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common.

The central message for Harmony Day is that ‘everyone belongs’, reinforcing the importance of inclusiveness to all Australians. All students are asked to wear orange coloured clothing as traditionally the colour orange relates to social communication, stimulating two-way conversations.

All students will display Harmony Day ribbons as well as participate in explicit and engaging lessons that promote the theme, “everyone belongs”.

If parents would like to know more about Harmony Day and further discuss this at home with their child/children, please visit www.harmony.gov.au. This website provides some great resources for parents and students.

Tahlee Thomas - Organiser

P&C NEWS

Easter Raffle
Please keep those Easter egg donations coming in so we can have some great raffle prizes!

A reminder to please return the raffle tickets and money by next week for the drawing Annual Easter Raffle. Tickets are only $1 each. There are more tickets available at the office if you are able to sell more and we will have some available to purchase on Pedlar’s Day.

The Easter Raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade/Pedlar’s Day on Thursday 24 March.

LEANNE FARRINGTON - P&C President
COMMUNITY NEWS

“Celebrate Jesus Community Fun Day”
This is being held in Bain Park on Saturday 19th March, 9am to 2pm. At 10.45am, Colin Buchanan will be performing: he is a world renowned children’s entertainer with a great message. It’s a great family day out, with all the activities and food provided FREE, organised by the Combined Churches of Wauchope. For more information please contact Lis Harvey on 0438 221 985, or Peter Huxley on 0427 813 496.

The Camden Haven junior races due to go ahead this weekend at Pilot Beach Dunbogan have been cancelled due to lack of numbers. Sunday senior race will run as advertised.

Hastings Baseball are holding registrations on Friday 18th March 3pm to 5pm at Laurieton Coles. Saturday 19th March 9am to 12noon at Wauchope Supa Iga. Sunday 20th March 9am to 11am at Blackbutt Park, Wauchope. Registrations can also be made online www.hastingsbaseball.com.au any enquiries can be directed to info@hastingsbaseball.com.au or Rose 6585 2076

CANTEEN NEWS

Hot Cross Buns
Half hot cross buns for 50c each will be available from the canteen on Tuesday in place of cupcakes. 

Suzie Collins – Canteen Supervisor

Tuesday Canteen Roster:

Week 9: Tuesday 22 March
Bec Buchanan
Leanne Farrington
Supervisor Suzie Collins

Week 10: Tuesday 29 March
Kelsie Ramsay
Rose Turnewitsch
Supervisor Suzie Collins

BOOSH NEWS

Our Theme Days at BOOSH have been so much fun and we will be having our last Theme Day for Term 1 on Thursday 24th March. It will be an “Easter Party”. Bring along your bunny ears or anything else you want for dress ups and we will play lots of party games and even have an EASTER EGG HUNT.

Sharon Palmer
BOOSH Coordinator

TERM 1 - 2016
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 8: Friday 18 March
Years 6 to 7 Expression of Interests due

Week 9: Monday 21 March
LNC Rugby League
Tuesday 22 March
Library Van
Wednesday 23 March
PSSA Soccer Trials
Thursday 24 March
NSW Netball Gala Day
Friday 25 to Monday 28 March
Hat Parade/Pedlars Box

Friday 25 to Monday 28 March
EASTER PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Week 10: Wednesday 30 March 10.00am start
Girls Cricket 8-a-side Wayne Richards Park
Saturday 1 April 10.00am
Year 4-5 Assembly

Week 11: Thursday 7 April 10.00am
Grandparents/Senior Citizens Assembly
Friday 8 April 10.00am
ANZAC Service

END OF TERM 1 – Friday 8 April 2016
TERM 2 – STUDENTS RETURN – Wednesday 27 April 2016
LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2016 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 10-12 May 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 10 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 11 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 12 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 13 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. From 2016, NAPLAN content will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this please see the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child's preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 13 May 2016.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.
FREE fun after school program for kids to become fitter healthier and happier. Do you have children aged seven to 13 and worry they may be above the healthy weight range?

Go4Fun provides a fun approach to learning skills for life. Each week involves fun games including free water sessions at the local pool in season.

Mid North Coast families highly recommend the program, describing improvements in their children’s fitness, physical activity levels, nutrition and self-esteem.

A parent or carer must attend with their child. Parents receive $15 fresh fruit and vegetable vouchers for each session attended.

REGISTER NOW FOR TERM 2 2016!

Venue: Wauchope Indoor Stadium
Mondays
4 pm – 6 pm

Starting: 2 May

Register: Contact Go4Fun
on 1800 780 900
or text 0409 745 645
for a call back. Register online
at: www.go4fun.com.au

Local contact: Margo Johnston P: 0427 929 313

NSW Health
Mid North Coast Local Health District

Go4Fun®
Healthy • Active • Happy • Kids