This Friday is the last day of canteen for this term. Next term will see some changes in the canteen and whilst these changes are being negotiated we will not be opening the canteen.

The P&C executive, in consultation with Chris, have decided to close the canteen briefly next term and evaluate our direction. Some of the issues we need to consider are the Healthy Canteen Policy, workload and our profit/loss. We have many amazing people within our school community with ideas. If you have ideas to offer and time to put them into action, we’d love to hear from you. There are strict guidelines to what we are able to do.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Tanji Winstanley for her dedication and hard work as our canteen supervisor and wish her well in her new ventures. We’d also like to thank Mandy Borthwick for organising the rosters for our wonderful canteen volunteers and ensuring the canteen is well staffed. Valmay Rutherford also dedicates much time to our canteen, thank you Valmay. Of course our canteen couldn’t open without the many volunteers, who are there every Friday – thank you.

We are looking forward to reopening our new look canteen next term, we will keep you informed.

Donna McFadden & The P&C Exec
ospandc@gmail.com

The final day for the year 6 secondary experience program is tomorrow Wednesday 2 April. Students travel by bus to Mullumbimby High and return home on the school buses.

Mullumbimby High School offers the opportunity for Year 7 students to apply for placement in the Summit Class. This class is for enthusiastic students who display high levels of achievement and ability. The class will follow year 7 curriculum that includes extension, enrichment and highly challenging work across the range of subjects studied.

Applications are sent into Ocean Shores Public School and forwarded on by me. They are due by Friday 9 May.

Please note – We are still waiting on forms from year 6 students in regard to high school placement next year. These are now due!!!

Our beachwalk will take place on Friday 11 April so students should be busy collecting sponsors for the event. High tide will be at around 5.30am so we will be able to have a full morning on the beach. We will leave school just before 9.30am.

Students may come out of uniform for this day. They need to wear a school hat or their Easter beach hat. All students need to bring a water bottle with them. Students will be able to take their shoes off once they reach the park and put them back on when returning. The prize draw will take place in the hall starting at 2.00pm.

Beachathon 2013

Student selections in regard to our term 2 creative arts program are due in on Friday. Students in years 3-6 have 9 choices for groups to be involved in which now includes the option of Capoeira (Dance). Students who have not returned their option sheet will be placed in an available group.

We commence our school athletics program this Friday 4 April. This will enable us to run a 10 week series of skill development and practice before our track and field carnivals in the last week of term 2. These sessions run on Friday afternoons from 2.15 to 3.15pm for primary students. If any parent would like to assist with this program please let me know.
BILBY DAY – 9 APRIL
All planning for Bilby Day next Wednesday 9 April is going well.

Some reminders:
- Sausage Sizzle order sheets to be handed in at the office by Monday 7 April.
- Bilby Colouring in competition is due this Friday 4 April with 50c entry fee.
- Don’t forget to bring in your donations of toys and books. Please bring toys to Mrs O’Donnell’s classroom and books to Mrs Jordan’s classroom.
- Please bring cupcakes to Miss Essery’s room before school on Bilby Day, Wednesday 9 April.

ANZAC DAY
This year our school choir will be leading the singing at the dawn service in Brunswick Heads. It would be fantastic to get as many students as possible to the service which commences at 5.00am.

Mrs Woods has sent home an information sheet re this. Please return the commitment slip to her as soon as possible.

ZONE WINTER TRIALS
Congratulations to all students who participated in zone winter trials today. We look forward to hearing how they performed.

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC
Thank you for a wonderful first term of Music in Schools. Enrolment continues for the school year, so please remember to inform the Conservatorium with 2 weeks’ notice if your child is withdrawing from lessons at any time.

There are vacancies for some instruments, and waiting lists for others – new students please contact the Conservatorium ASAP to be included in timetables for term 2. Enrol online at: www.enrol.nrcac.edu.au

Our strings tutor Heidi Chappelow only has two students at OSPS at present. She is a very good teacher, with extra special skills when it comes to listening and communicating with young people and children, so it would be great for more students to be benefitting from her presence in the school. Heidi is also happy to teach ukulele to individual students or groups.

SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT
The 2013 Annual School report has been placed on the school website. It includes a range of reports and information about the year and significant data relating to school progress, financial situation, targets and future goals. The 2013 Annual Report can be found in the “Our School” section on the website and as a news item.

ASSEMBLY
Our next assembly will be hosted by 5/6E this Thursday 3 April commencing at 1.00pm in the hall.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY EVENT
The school cross country takes place on the first Friday of next term, ie Friday 2 May

We are very excited to announce that we have entered into a partnership with North Byron Parklands and will run our school cross country on their site.

This offers much better running conditions and greatly improved safety for our students. We have designed a 2km and 3km course for our junior and senior competitors.

We will travel out to the site by bus leaving the school at 9.20am. When we arrive at the site we will walk the course so that students are familiar with it. We expect that the first of our 3000m events will begin at around 10.15am.

Permission notes re the event will be sent home soon.

Students in K-2 will have a fun run in the school grounds commencing at 11.30am on the same day.

NAPLAN
These national assessment tasks are rapidly approaching. They affect years 3 and 5 at the primary level and years 7 and 9 at the high school level. Dates for testing are 13, 14, and 15 of May.

I am attaching a letter to parents of year 3 and 5 students to provide further information about the tests. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any issues relating to NAPLAN.

Additional information can also be found at: www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent Carer support/index.html.

ROAD AND BIKE SAFETY
I had a visit last week from Byron Shire Traffic representatives. They have been visiting schools in the area to have discussions about road and traffic safety around school zones. I was advised to remind all parents about taking extra care in school zones to observe road safety laws. There are significant fines and loss of demerit points for infringements in school zones so please be sure to protect yourselves and our kids.

I am currently investigating with Byron Shire the establishment of a pedestrian crossing at the front of the school and will keep you informed re this.

SAVE THE DATE
Next term we will be holding a parent forum to look at the long term goals and priorities of our school. We would like significant parent input into this process so will meet on Tuesday 20 May to commence our planning.

Chris Hauritz