Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences: Thank you to the parents/caregivers who attended this week’s conferences. Thank you to all of the teachers who stayed at school to support our children and families in meeting at a convenient time. It is great that our parents and caregivers can be informed of and understand the progress of their children and how to effectively support them in partnership with the staff. Please be reminded that you are welcome to contact your child’s classroom teacher and arrange a convenient time to meet at any time throughout the year you feel the need.

Sports shirts are available for purchase from our uniform shop. Your child should now know which house they are in for sport. Kookaburras are green, Bellbirds are red, Swans are yellow and Pelicans are blue. These shirts will be compulsory from Term 2. The Uniform shop is open on Mondays from 8.15am-9.15am and Thursdays from 8.15am-9.15am and 2.15pm-3.15pm. If you are unable to attend in these hours order forms are available from the school office. Please fill the order form out with payment options and leave in the post box in the foyer.

Clean Up Australia Day: Thursday March 12 (Kindergarten) and Friday March 13 (Years 1-6). Students from Merimbula Public School will be participating in the 25th Clean Up Australia Day event. We have participated in this community event for many years. Students will be tidying up the school and local area. Students should bring rubber gloves or gardening type gloves and a recycled shopping bag. Classes will go out to clean up at times that fit in with their timetables. To participate students will need to have returned their walking permission note to their class teacher. Students without notes will remain at school.

Voluntary Contributions: Thank you to those families who have paid their voluntary contributions. We now have $3535.00 towards our estimated goal of $16,000.00 to spend on much needed resources for the education of our students.

Absences: Thank you to everyone for being so prompt in contacting the school in regard to your child’s absences. Phone calls on the day of absences are much appreciated (6495 1266) or notes sent in the following day after absences make for less admin follow-up. It is a requirement of the Department of Education that all absences are explained. If you have planned absences ie family holidays in school time, please contact the school prior to your departure.

Book Club: Brochures have been sent home today. Money is due back by March 20. NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED. Reminder – We do not accept cash orders for BOOK CLUB. You can pay by cheque made out to Scholastic Australia OR by credit card online www.scholastic.com.au/payment OR by credit card automated phone service 24 hours freecall 1800 557 908. Once you have made a payment you will get an 11 digit receipt number which needs to be recorded on order form. Then return order form to school for processing. Proceeds from Book Club go towards much needed books for the Library, however there is never any obligation to order.

Term 1 SRC Disco: Tuesday March 31. Permission notes have been sent home today. Money and notes must be received at the office by Thursday March 26.

SCILC Music Camp 2015: The fourth Sapphire Coast Public Schools Music Camp will be held at Kianinny Resort, Tathra from 2pm Sunday May 17 – 8.30pm Wednesday May 21 (Week 5, Term 2). The camp offers students in Years 5 – 9, with an interest in music and performance an opportunity to work with experienced music teachers, professional musicians and peer tutors to further develop their skills. Workshops include but are not limited to: guitar, vocal, wind, brass, percussion, marimba, keyboard, music composition, performance arts, concert band and rock band. All music learned at camp is performed at a closing night concert held at Tathra Primary School on the evening of Wednesday 28 May commencing at 7pm and concluding at 8.30pm. Here, students showcase their skills to their families before heading home. The camp is offering places for only 90 students this year, schools are allocated a number of places according to the size of the school. In the case that one school receives applications above their allocated number, students will be considered according to their skill level and whether there are enough places available in their preferred workshop to accommodate them.

The cost to students is $250 ($180 for subsequent children attending from same family) and covers all tuition, activities, transport to venues in Tathra, accommodation and food. Expression of interest notes have been sent home today with all children who are in the Band or who attend Music Tutorial Groups. Please complete and return these notes if you wish for your child to be considered. If your child receives tuition out of school and would like to attend, or they have not brought home a note, please have them collect a note from the office.

P & C Easter Raffle: Thank you to everyone who has sent in Easter eggs for the raffle, there is quite a basket building up but we still need more to make this a great fundraising event. All donations are gratefully appreciated. Thank you also to those who have returned their raffle tickets. If you would like extra raffle tickets they are available from the school office.

Tickets are $1.

Annual Mother’s Day High Tea: Sunday May 3. Please see attached flyer for more details.

Cricket: Last Wednesday our school cricket team took part in the first round of the PSSA Knockout Cricket competition. It was a beautiful day and a home game for us at Berrambool Oval. We played a strong and experienced Pambula side. Pambula won the toss and elected to bat, putting on an impressive 160 runs in their 25 overs. Our boys did well in the field and our bowlers took 4 wickets. Some, who had never bowled on a full length pitch before, showed great improvement as the match wore on. Our opening batsmen were looking good to accumulate plenty of runs when we unfortunately lost Jem to an excellent run out effort from Pambula. All our batsmen had a go but in the end Pambula’s bowling attack proved too strong and we were all out for half of their score. Congratulations to Pambula and good luck for
the next round. Congratulations also to all our players for the effort you put in and the way you displayed our school values on the sporting field. Thank you to Mrs Ryan for helping with setting up the oval and thank you to Mr Howker for keeping score.

Years 3-6 Cross Country: The Annual Years 3-6 Cross Country Carnival is being held at Berrambool Oval on Thursday, April 2 - the last day of term. A permission note has been sent out today. In the event of inclement weather, the carnival will be postponed (as per details in the note). Any changes being made will be advised on the morning of the carnival via our Facebook Site.

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**K-2 News**

**Early Stage 1 - (Kindergarten)**

**Buses:** We are so pleased with the way our bus routine is working. Well done everyone.

**Library:** A reminder to children to bring library bags on library day which is Tuesdays.

**Writing:** Thank you to those who have been helping their child practise writing their name. For children who are having a little trouble forming all their letters in their name, work on one letter at a time.

**Stage 1**

**Assembly:** Thank you to 2H who hosted a wonderful assembly this week. The next K-2 assembly will be held in Week 7 and 1Y will host this. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**English Project:** Your child will have now received their talking and listening task. To clarify, the recording sheet is to be filled out if your child wishes. If not they may simply present their speech and fill out the bottom boxes in class. Please do not panic if your child cannot speak for the full two minutes. Our aim is to help the children to speak for a purpose and eventually for a longer period of time. You may like to help your child by talking to them about standing still, making eye contact and speaking in a loud clear voice. They will eventually improve in this area with regular practise.

**TEN:** This week you could practise counting backwards with your child from a given number. Kindergarten - 10 back, Year 1- 30 back, Year 2- 50 back.

**Stage 2 News**

**Three Way Interviews:** Thank you to all the parents and students who attended the 3 way teacher-student-parent interviews which were held this week. Teachers appreciated the opportunity to meet their students’ parents and share social and academic information about each child’s progress.

**Mathematics:** Town (Taking Off With Numeracy)

Stage 2 teachers have been busy assessing students’ knowledge and understanding of the Place Value and Multiplication and Division aspects of the Numeracy Continuum. They are trialling, sharing ideas and analysing lessons related to these aspects as part of their TOWN training. Aside from developing a conceptual understanding of place value, students need to comprehend problem contexts. If you hear your child talk about Newman’s Error Analysis, it is about Anne Newman’s suggested five significant prompts to help determine where errors may occur in students’ attempts to solve written problems.

1. Read the question to me.
2. Tell me what the question is asking you to do.
3. Tell me how you are going to find the answer.
4. Show me what to do to get the answer.
5. Now, write down your answer to the question. These five questions can be used to determine why students make mistakes with written mathematical questions.

**Stage 3 News**

**Homework:** All Stage 3 students received their homework task last Wednesday. Students will have the opportunity to raise any questions or concerns they might have about the project with their teacher this week. The task is due on Friday of Week 9. A reminder that the project just doesn’t have to be a written piece or a PowerPoint presentation. Be creative.

**3 Way Conferences:** Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and caregivers who attended the 3 way conferences of either Monday or Tuesday night. Teachers were very happy with the turn out. We value this process and thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules. If you were not able to attend a meeting, remember you can always contact your child’s teacher to make arrangements for another time.

**High School Enrolment:** A form has been sent home with every Year 6 child today. It asks you to indicate which high school you are planning to send your child to. It doesn’t mean that you are unable to change your mind. We would appreciate you completing this form promptly and returning it to school. Children who are planning to go to a Non Government school (e.g. Lumen Christi) still need to return this form. Please return by Wednesday March 18.

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**Community News**


**Additional Tips**

Facts About Tutors: Private tutoring to give kids a helping hand in their schooling is a growing business. However, it’s also an area where parents can be vulnerable to bogus offers and misleading advertising. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/facts-about-tutors

Public Speaking: Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child’s next speech a success. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/public-speaking-in-primary-school

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**School Contributions due ($45 per student)**

**Money due**

**Term 1 - 2015**

**WEEK 7**

Fri Mar 13
School Contributions due ($45 per student)

**WEEK 8**

Mon Mar 16
ATSII / AECG Committee Meeting
Ryka All Performance

**WEEK 9**

Mon Mar 23
K-2 Assembly
Thurs Mar 26
Disco Notes & Money due
Fri Mar 27
No Scripture/Ethics classes

**WEEK 10**

Mon Mar 30
Year 3-6 Assembly
Tues Mar 31
Disco K-2 – 5.25pm
Disco Yrs 3-6 – 6.30-8pm
Thurs April 2
School Cross Country Years 3-6 - Berrambool
Last day of Term 1

Monday April 20
Staff Development Day (No students)
School resumes for Term 2 for students on Tues

Ph: 64951266
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