Principal’s Report 10 May 2012

1. Student and staff news
   - Student enrolment is 636 in 25 classes
   - Merit selection training 23 May 3.30pm with Dean Files. It is important to have parents who have participated in training to act as members of selection panels.
   - Tracey Barnes will remain at Goonengerry Public School as Principal until the position has been finalised. Sarah Robinson will teach KB until Tracey returns.

2. Building programs
   a. Landscaping school grounds
      - Employment of a 1 day per week gardener will commence this term to work on garden projects.
   b. B block redevelopment
      - No progress since last monthly meeting
      - Applied for funding from DEC for renovations, waiting for response.

3. Communications with parents-
   - Parent teacher interviews data. In Term1 85% of parents attended interviews which compared favourably with the 86% in 2010. 92% of Kindergarten 87% of Stage 1, 79% of Stage 2 and 85% of Stage 3 parents attended the interviews.
   - Semester 1 reports will be sent to parents on 22 June.

4. Technology innovations
   - The 4 interactive whiteboards have been installed in classrooms using funds from the P&C.
   - Reading Eggs and Reading Eggpress have been added to our online learning suite.
   - All teachers are receiving ongoing training in the use of interactive whiteboards in the classroom.

5. Recent events in the last month
   - School disco was held on 21 March to assist Year 4 excursion to Midgelbil Hill.
   - Seven students participate at the NSW Swimming Carnival on 4 April
   - Parent teacher interviews were held in Term 1 Weeks 9 to 11.
   - Stage 3 students participated in the Maths Olympiad with students from Byron High their feeder primary schools at Byron High on 22 March
   - Trials in rugby league, rugby union, soccer, at District, Zone and Regional levels. Selections include 1 student in Zone rugby league team, 3 students in District rugby team and 3 students in Zone soccer with 1 selected in Regional team.
   - Successful school cross country and odd sock fun run on Friday. The winning house was Byron.
   - A combined school development day was held at the Services Club. Staff from schools in the Lighthouse Valley Learning Community listened to guest presenter Michael McQueen who spoke about the characteristics and influences of the different generations and methods teachers can use to engage the Y generation at school.

6. Coming events
   - Year 4 excursion to Midgelbil Hill and Year 3 excursion to SeaWorld are planned for Week 3.
   - NAPLAN for Year 3 and 5 students in Week 4.
   - Walk to School Safely is planned for Friday 18 May.
   - Merit selection training on 23 May at 3.30pm at school.
   - Cross country at Zone 25 May and Region 8 June.
   - ICAS test will commence in Week 5. Computer 22 May and Science 6 June
   - Camp for talented Stage 3 writers at Evans Head in Week 6.
   - The Senior Dance Group will be performing at the North Coast Dance Festival on 31 May at Lismore Workers Club.

7. Financial Notes
   - Building Fund balance - $1644.75
   - Library Fund balance – $12817.34
      - The reading room project was completed and accessed by teachers.

8. Arts Committee Report
   - Successful Band Committee meeting held on Wednesday. It was well attended by parents (4).
   - The three bands are coming together and are sounding great.
   - The string program has overcome some challenges. Students are receiving weekly lessons and the string ensemble is continuing.
   - The Stage 2 and Stage 3 choirs are busy rehearsing for their performances. The senior choral choir is preparing for their performance at the Choral Festival in the Sydney Opera House on 18 October.
Senior dance group has 35 dancers, 6 boys are in the group. They will perform at the Arts Extravaganza and at the Far North Coast Dance Festival.

9. General business
- Fund raising - Michelle Hall spoke to me about a fund raising opportunity at the Golf Club in July. The restaurant is not operating and it is available to our school for a function. An Italian night/curry night etc are possibilities.
- Annual School Report is attached
- School Plan 2012-2014 is attached

Geoff Spargo