Principal’s Report 13 October 2011

1. Student and staff news
   - Gaye McKenna was the successful applicant for the position as senior administration manager. Gaye will continue managing the office and school administration.

2. Building programs
   a. Primary School for the 21st Century $3000000
      - The new building is a wonderful resource and a valuable asset for the school.
      - We anticipate the transfer of library resources from B block to P block (the new building) in the coming weeks.
      - The classrooms will be in full use in 2012. The Art Show will be held in the new library.
   b. Landscaping school grounds
      - First meeting of the school playground development team is planned for 24 October at 3.30pm. The team will include Steve Huntsman, Sarah Aldridge, Jack Phelps, Michelle Turner, Cheryl Booker, Geoff Spargo and Boyd Kellner. The team’s purpose is to plan improvements for our playground and sporting facilities.

3. Communications with parents
   - Teachers have commenced their Semester 2 student reports. Parents will receive reports on 9 December.

4. Parent requests for a child’s placement in 2012 will be considered if there are exceptional circumstances and parents will have the opportunity during weeks 2 to 4 to make these requests. The teachers will be working on the establishment of classes in the next three weeks. Teachers have a sound knowledge of their students and will have their say in the placement of students. Parents are requested to be respectful of their child’s teacher and rely on their professional knowledge of students in their classes.

5. Recent events in the last month
   - Stage 2 participated in a cricket coaching day with sport promotion officers from Australian Cricket.
   - Equestrian Team represented the school in the Grafton Horse Sports winning a swag of ribbons. Thanks to Ruth Gotterson for the management of the team of five girls.
   - In the Far North Coast Spelling B challenge Byron had four representatives. Congratulations to Nathaniel Jenson who won the Stage 2 section which means he will participate in the State finals in Sydney this year.
   - Rugby Union day at Bangalow. Two rugby teams participated in the carnival.
   - NAPLAN results for year 3, 5, 7 were received by the school and copies provided to parents. The school uses the results to identify areas of strength and areas for development. Class teachers use the results to guided their teaching and identify areas that individual students need support in.
   - Boys’ soccer team were narrowly defeated by Taking Point 3-2, a great performance.

6. Coming events
   - Art Show is planned the week of 24 October. The show will include student entries, class entries and donation from local artists. The show’s purpose is to raise the awareness of visual art in the school community. We have volunteer artists visiting classes and working with students.
   - NSW PSSA Sate athletics 19 October
   - Kindergarten 2012 observation days recommencing 28 October
   - The Creative Arts Camp at Lennox Head 31 October
   - Alpha Show presenting Beauty and the Beast 4 November
   - Classes will be preparing for the finals of public speaking competition on 9 November
   - Life Education Program commences on 10 November for all classes.

7. Financial Notes
   - Building Fund balance - $19492.93
     - Quote accepted Coolman Air-conditioning to install units in library and classrooms at a cost of $18900 GST incl.
     - The guttering has been installed on the canteen walkway to reduce ground water in the playground.
   - Library Fund balance – $22503.73
     - Allocation of funds to establishment of reading and uniform rooms.
     - Allocation of funds to provide 15 desktop computers to the library.

8. Arts Committee Report
Arts Extravaganza was a resounding success, demonstrating the talent of students in the performing arts. Thanks to the staff and students for their dedication to the creative and performing arts.

Future directions for the school instrumental program were discussed on Wednesday with final recommendations available in the next three weeks.

Geoff Spargo