Principal’s Report 16 February 2012

1. Student and staff news
   - Student enrolment 636, 25 classes, 5 Kindergartens, 8 Stage 1, 6 Stage 2, 6 Stage 3. The school has experienced a 10% increase in student enrolment since 2007 (569).
   - The origins of new families are diverse with many from interstate and overseas.
   - We welcomed fifty-four new enrolments and eighty-two new Kindergarten students. Twenty students from Kindergarten Rising 5 commenced Kindergarten.
   - Out of zone applications - We have no vacancies in Kindergarten, Stage 1, and Stage 3 for out of zone applicants. There is 1 student on the wait list for Stage 3.
   - Three new staff commenced in 2012. Elaine Watling (Stage 1), Jae Van Der Leeden (Kindergarten) and Kirsty Paron (Stage 1)
   - Tony Hutchinson has accepted the relieving principal’s position at Wilsons Creek until the position is filled. Andrew McIntyre will replace him. Andrew is the team leader for sport.
   - Brian Pamphilon resigned as band director. David Sandford will be directing the combined and intermediate bands while Glenn Kellett will direct the junior band. All tutors returned.

2. Building programs
   a. Primary School for the 21st Century $3000000
      - The project is complete. I would like to thank the BER support who assisted with the project. The library and three Stage 2 classes have moved into the building and teachers and students are very happy.
      - Two demountable classrooms have been removed. Two are decommissioned ready for removal. We are waiting for council permission to remove a tree to permit access to the two demountable classrooms in Middleton Street.
   b. Landscaping school grounds
      - Holiday plans to remove cocos palms and coconut trees were 50% successful with the cocos being removed from Kingsley Street area.
      - The planning team have plans for future development prepared for implementation.
      - We had planned the landscaping project to be the focus of our building fund.
   c. B block redevelopment
      - During the break, emergency renovations were done on the kindergarten team teaching learning space. A building contractor completed modifications. Tracey Barnes and Michelle Turner worked during their break to ensure the room was ready for the first day.
      - The store room was redeveloped into the new uniform shop with the help of parent volunteers.
      - We made little progress with the reading room project but intend to complete the project during term 1 with funds from the library fund.

3. Communications with parents-
   - Parent teacher meetings were held in week 3 and 4.
   - Parent teacher interviews are planned with the last three weeks in Term 1.
   - Parent survey- **What parents want their children to gain from school.** A survey was circulated to families via the newsletter distribution list. The survey followed the educational forums I conducted in 2011 and will provide valuable input into our school’s self-evaluation. The results will be published in the school’s annual report.
   - Term 1 calendar was sent to all families and is available on the school’s website.

4. Technology innovations
   - Our Technology Plan 2009-2011 has achieved its target to have technology centres in all classrooms consisting of a minimum four PC computers in each classroom.
   - Our next task will be the replacement the thirty computers in the computer lab with notebooks (Department T4L funding) and reallocating the desk tops to classroom technology centres.
   - The 4 interactive whiteboards have been ordered and we are waiting for installation. At this stage we have 14 IWB’s being used by teachers in classrooms, 3 Interwrite IWB’s (older version of IWB) and 10 data projectors in our twenty seven learning spaces. In 2008 the school had 1 interactive whiteboard.
   - All teachers receive ongoing professional learning in technology for teaching and learning.
   - We employ computer support person who coordinates of school’s website. The Department provides external support for technology in schools.
   - Every teacher is supplied with a laptop computer.

5. Recent events in the last month
The Life Education Program was held on 10 November for all classes. The cost was included in the school contribution to enable every student to attend.

Remembrance Day – The school conducted a Remembrance Day service while the captains and the Principal represented the school at the Byron Bay Services Club.

Year 6 travelled to Canberra for the annual major excursion while Year 5 visited Wet and Wild.

The selection process for the 2012 school captains was held. Zoe Reeve and Ethan Archer were elected captains while Summer Chasling and Noah Amos Eakin vice captains.

6. Coming events

• School photographs are planned for 20/21/22 February.
• School captains and SRC will receive the badges at the school assembly on Monday 20 February
• Solo Resource Recovery will be visiting Stage 2 classes to talk about recycling.
• Young Leaders Day trip to Brisbane – 5 March
• P&C Annual General Meeting 8 March.
• Northern Star will photograph Kindergarten classes for their Kindy supplement on 24 February.
• District, zone and North Coast swimming carnivals 17 and 29 February and 7 March
• State equestrian carnival 1 and 2 March
• Campout 2 March Rites of Passage Institute will hold a campout in the school grounds for families
• Stage 3 will visit the Byron Film Festival March 8

7. Financial Notes

• Building Fund balance - $1644.75
  ❖ Air-conditioning units were installed in P block. This means we have achieved our target to provide all classrooms with air conditioning.
• Library Fund balance – $12817.34
  ❖ The reading room project is still progressing.
• In past years the P &C have allocated $50 to classrooms for resources.

8. Arts Committee Report

❖ Choirs are planned for Stages 1, 2, and 3.
❖ The Stage 3 choir will be participating in the Choral Festival at the Sydney Opera House in Term 4.
❖ Heda Sherab and Christine McCue will be coordinating the school’s music program.
❖ Arts Extravaganzas will be held in term 2 and 3.
❖ Instrumental music program – Helen Jarvis will continue as band coordinator. All tutors have indicated they will resume. The combined and intermediate bands will be directed by David Sandford while the beginner band will be with Glenn Kellett. The string ensemble will continue with Stephanie Hogg.
❖ Year 2 recorder group is proposed in 2012.

9. Student mobile phone policy attached.

Geoff Spargo