Principal’s Report 14th June 2012

Thank you for your attendance.

1. Student and staff news
   - Student enrolment is 636 in 25 classes
   - Parents and staff completed merit selection training on 23 May with John Baker Principal Southern Cross School
   - The Department have replaced Jayne Connell who retired in May. Bronwyn Moncrief from Jindabyne CS will commence in 2012.
   - Every Student Every School project (supports student learning) allocation 3.5 days per week support teacher learning difficulties-Sue and 1 day per week support teacher behaviour Claudia Hulsberger. We will retain three teachers aids for the rest of 2012.

2. Building programs
   a. Landscaping school grounds
      - Employment of a 1 day per week gardener has commenced to work on garden projects. We have had positive support for our request in the newsletter for plants for the gardens.
   b. B block redevelopment
      - No progress since last monthly meeting
      - Applied for funding from DEC for renovations, waiting for a response.

3. Communications with parents
   - Semester 1 student progress reports will be sent to parents on Friday 22 June

4. Technology innovations
   - With another 14 netbook computers purchased, our target of computers in classrooms of 1 computer to 5 students has been attained. These computers are available to students during class time, complementing our computer access in the computer room and library.
   - Online computer learning is available to students during class and at home with Mathletics and ABC Reading Eggs.

5. Recent events in the last month
   - Year 4 students attended an excursion to Midgelbil Hill and Year 3 students attended an excursion to SeaWorld.
   - Year 3 and 5 students completed NAPLAN.
   - Students competed in cross country at Zone and Regional carnivals.
   - Students sat the ICAS test in Computer and Science
   - Selected Stage 3 students with a talent in creative writing attended the Lighthouse Valley Learning Community writer’s camp at Evans Head.
   - The Senior Dance Group performed at the North Coast Dance Festival at Lismore Workers Club.
   - The SRC held a mufti day, raising money for the Asthma Foundation. They also finalised the odd sock fun run which raise $15000. The proceeds were split with 30% of funds raised allocated to classroom initiatives and 70% of funds being used to support SRC initiatives. I would to make a special mention to Heather West, Michelle Spry, Martine Gudgeon and Amanda Starfield who managed the project.
   - The District Multicultural Education Public Speaking was held at Lennox Head. Sidney Kennedy was successful and will move onto the next level of competition. The three other students were representatives the school

6. Coming events
   - Students will sit the ICAS Writing and Spelling tests next week.
   - Our Stage 2 and 3 choirs will perform at Bayside aged care facility on 20 June.
   - The first Arts Extravaganza 2012 will be presented on 27 June. Tickets will be available next week.
   - Brainstorm Productions will present ‘Human Race’, a production which will focus on a personal development theme on 28 June. This is an inclusion in our school fee as the presentation is an important aspect of the school’s personal development program.
   - The annual school athletics carnival is planned for 29 June at the new sporting facility at Ewingsdale.
   - End of Term 2 on Friday 29 June.

7. Financial Notes
   - The latest campaign to raise funds by providing tax incentives for donations to our Building Fund and Library Fund was coordinated by the committee. Thanks to all who played a role in the initiative. Stuart was instrumental in the preparation of the new brochure while Gavin, Kathy, Tim and Megan prepared the mail out. Participation in this fund raising initiative is optional.
   - We have received 3 donations as at 14 June.
• **Building Fund balance** – $1644.70
  o The Building Fund has successfully funded the hall extension, the installation of air conditioners and the construction of technology centres in classrooms. The next project will focus on the development of playground infrastructure. Our aim is to provide improved facilities in the playground for students during the breaks and after school as well as during fitness, sport and physical education lessons. A concept plan is being developed after which projects will commence as funds become available.

**Library Fund balance** – $12817.34
  o The reading room project is fully operational. Resources are being used by teachers during their guided reading sessions and as part of the home reading program. The funds raised by this initiative will be used to purchase books and online resources.

8. **Arts Committee Report**
   • A successful Band Committee meeting was held on Wednesday. It was well attended by parents.
   • The Stage 2 and Stage 3 choirs are busy rehearsing for their performances. The choirs will perform at the Coastal Kids, Arts Extravaganza and during Education Week. The senior choral choir is preparing for their performance at the Choral Festival in the Sydney Opera House on 18 October.
   • Senior dance group performed at the Far North Coast Dance Festival and will be performing at the Arts Extravaganza and during Education Week.
   • 10 classes, choirs, bands, dance groups and individual students are preparing for the Arts Extravaganza on 27 June. Tickets will be available this week at the usual venue, on the verandah before school. The Arts Committee will cater for the event to raise funds to support the instrumental program.

9. **General business**
   • The audio-visual capabilities of the hall will be upgraded with a new sound system and the installation of a data projector and screen.
   • Half the year is upon us and I report the school continues to provide students with quality comprehensive educational opportunities in a public school setting. This is a result of the staff and parents who have worked together as a cohesive community. I would like to thank the staff for their dedication and the parents for their support. I look forward to Semester 2.

Geoff Spargo