**Principal News**

**Welcome Back**

It was lovely to be back at school again, refreshed, recharged and ready to go! And by the looks of things, the staff and students all felt the same way. Term 4 is always a big term with lots on the agenda, including: Skate Night (organised by the P&C see below); Kindergarten Orientation (commencing 12 November); Year 6 Graduation Dinner (2 December) and Graduation Assembly (7 December); High School Transition Days for Year 6 students (26 November and 3 December); Carols by Candlelight (10 December); and our Presentation assembly (14 December). Phew! There is a lot there, so get those dates in your diaries.

**‘The Rivers’ Community of Schools**

During the first two weeks of term Stage 3 students at Lismore Heights Public School will be participating in a dance lesson with Elise (dance teacher for The Rivers College) as part of our school’s PE curriculum. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to extend our PE program, and to take advantage of the expertise of the staff in our feeder high schools. Another great example of how ‘The Rivers’ community of schools are working together.

The Lismore public high schools have now been formally united as ‘The Rivers Secondary College’. Their secondary campus names now appear as:

- The Rivers Secondary College, Kadina High Campus
- The Rivers Secondary College, Lismore High Campus
- The Rivers Secondary College, Richmond River High Campus

Any families wishing to access the websites for any of the campuses should use the new names, preceded by ‘The Rivers Secondary College’.

**Maternity Leave**

Mrs Elpitiya Baldalge has requested extended maternity leave to spend more time with her new baby, which the school is happy to support. Class 1/2EB will therefore stay in the more than capable hands of Miss Urquhart who has been doing an amazing job with the class since Mrs Elpitiya Baldalge went on maternity leave. Miss Urquhart will remain on the class until the end of the year.

**Intensive Swimming**

Intensive Swimming starts next week for students in Years 2 – 6 who cannot confidently swim 25mts. Cost is $55 per student which is for pool entry and bus fare for the ten days. Lessons are free. Please return notes asap.

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Elders past and present of the Wijabul Wiyabal people and other peoples of the Bundjalung Nation.

We acknowledge that they are the first peoples of this land on which our school stands.
Stage 3 excursion

I have heard so many wonderful, positive stories about our Stage 3 excursion at the end of last term – from staff and students alike. I would like to formally thank our amazing teachers and support staff who attended the event and made it such a fabulous experience for our students.

Gifted and Talented Student’s Success!

We are constantly looking for opportunities to stretch and challenge our more able students, and last term a number of targeted students entered State-wide competitions. All of the students that participated performed very well. In Writing the following students achieved a Merit Certificate, Oscar and Mia; Leith and Tulsi both achieved a Credit; and Ziggy achieved a very impressive Distinction. In English, Samantha received a Merit Certificate, a Credit was achieved by: Kayla, Lily, Leith and Ayla. Distinctions were earned by: Mia, Olivia and Oscar. Congratulations to all of those who took part. These awards will be presented at Monday’s assembly.

Staff Development Day

Information for parents/carers: the last Staff Development Day of Term 4, scheduled for Friday 18 December, will be completed as twilight sessions throughout Term 4 (instead of as a full day at the end of term). Sessions are scheduled to be held after school on Tuesday 3 November and Tuesday 24 November. This will not impact on students as Term 4 ends for students on Wednesday 16 December 2015.

Skoolbag

Thanks to Anne Fitzgerald for the heads up about Skoolbag, a new communication system for schools. The system is a Mobile App that communicates directly with iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows phone devices. Lismore Heights PS will be launching the App in the coming weeks and we will keep parents/carers informed about how and when to get connected. Watch this space.

Skate Night

On Wednesday 4 November our P&C committee have organised a Skate Night at Lismore Skating - put the date in your diary. The P&C are arranging a sausage sizzle on the night. Skating commences at 6pm and runs ‘til 8pm. Tell your friends – everyone welcome!

Grandparents Day.

All grandparents are invited to come into school to visit your grandchild’s classroom on Thursday 29 October. We will be serving morning tea in the hall before the visit to the classroom. This will be from 10.10am until 11.10am then you are welcome to join the children for a picnic lunch.

Mrs Irvine

Congratulations Mrs Irvine (nee Miss Smith) on her recent marriage. Congratulations and best wishes to a wonderful couple.

PBL Rule of the Week

Wear a hat

Please speak to your children about the importance in wearing a hat. Discuss Sun Safe issues when not wearing a hat.

Thank You for supporting PBL