This is our final newsletter for 2015. We have packed so much into the past 12 months to ensure that our students have had a rich and varied education. A few of the highlights from 2015 would have to include the Coffs Harbour excursion, Grandparents Day, our Mary Poppins production, the Lucinda Project, ONYA celebrations, making ‘Bee Movies’ on the Dorroughby excursion, and our success on the sports field. Having said all of that, I’m sure that I have overlooked a mountain of other equally exciting events and activities that have made 2015 a year to remember.

I would like to thank all of the students, staff and families who have been part of our school this year for helping make Lismore Heights Public School the very special place that it is.

On behalf of all of the staff, may I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Year 6 Graduation Dinner and Assembly
Our Year 6 Graduation Dinner and Assembly have now been held, bringing us one step closer to the end of the year and to the time when we will have to say goodbye to our Year 6 students. The students conducted themselves wonderfully throughout both events. I would especially like to praise our amazing School Captains, Kayla and Finn, on their fabulous speeches, which were engaging and delivered with confidence. I would also like to express my thanks to all of the volunteers who helped out, ensuring that the events ran smoothly, especially Trish for all of her hard work behind the scenes, and Mrs Abeleven and Mrs Keevers in their roles as Master of Ceremonies for each of the events. Thank you also to the many parents and family members who attended and helped make them both very memorable events.

Presentation Assembly
Please remember that our final assembly of the year is next Monday at 10.00am. This is our Presentation Assembly. At this assembly, we will also be announcing who the successful candidates are for the positions of School Captain and Vice Captain 2016.

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.
Lucinda Project

The Lucinda Project is a very exciting learning experience open to Stage 3 students. Lismore Heights PS has been running the project for the past 3 years, under the guidance and expertise of Graham Jessop, an experienced teacher and children’s film maker. Mr Jessop has helped the students to develop the art of writing a movie script, acting, filming and editing, resulting in the creation of a mini-movie made entirely by students. On Tuesday this week, Birch Carroll & Coyle cinemas in Lismore screened our students’ movie on the big screen, alongside that of a handful of other schools involved in the project. A big ‘thank you’ to BCC cinemas for supporting this project. The students involved were ‘dressed to kill’ as they made their way to the special screening. We would like to congratulate each of the students involved on their creativity, dedication to task, and the amazing movie that they produced, which was described as ‘Majestic’ by the event organiser, Mr Jessop. Who knows what this fabulous project will lead to – perhaps some of our students will see their name in lights!

Volunteer Student

Lismore Heights PS student appears on front cover of Council’s ‘Local Matters’ News Issue. Lily has been helping to recycle old bicycles which have been used to create a stunning and highly original Christmas Tree sited on the corner of Magellen and Keen Streets. Well done, Lily, for giving your time as a volunteer and helping to brighten up Lismore during the Festive Season.

Sporting Success

Congratulations to Caitlin on her outstanding achievement at Nationals this week. Caitlin qualified for two events at Nationals, which were held in Canberra this year, Discus and 200m. With a throw of 12.35m, Caitlin secured second place and came home with the silver medal. This is the third year in succession that a Lismore Heights PS student has returned from Nationals with a medal, continuing our long tradition of sporting excellence. Our school motto is ‘Aim High’ and Caitlin has certainly done that!

PBL Rule of the Week

Be Safe, Be Respectful and Have a fun Holiday!

Thank You for supporting PBL
Aboriginal Awards Ceremony
Lismore Heights PS was delighted when we were approached and asked if our Aboriginal dancers would perform at this year’s Aboriginal Awards Ceremony in Lismore this week. We travelled to Invercauld House with a small group of dancers on Wednesday morning and performed three dances as part of the opening ceremony. Our students performed with great pride before a very appreciative audience. Congratulations dancers on your wonderful performance.

Classes for 2016
At this point in time, we anticipate starting next year with 11 classes (the same as this year). Census day is mid-February, and the number of students enrolled at the school on this day will determine the actual number of classes that we will be able to run for the remainder of the year. If student numbers are different to those anticipated (either because of new enrolments or families moving out of the area), we may have to make changes following Census day - which would result in a number of students changing classes. We do understand how unsettling this can be for students and families. This is the same for all public schools at the start of a new school year. Please make sure that your child understands that nothing is set in stone until Census day mid-February.

Canteen Roster
14 December – Sally
15 December – Stacey
16 December – Jamie

White Ribbon Day
Hundreds turned out to support the White Ribbon Day event, coordinated by The Rivers P-12 Community of Schools. Over $2000 was raised by the event which attracted the support of locals Stan Gilchrist and Jenny Dowell. Thank you to the Lismore Heights students and families who attended and showed their support.

ONYA Events Next Week
On Tuesday, students who have earned their Diamond ONYA are invited to attend the mystery excursion. Parents of children who are attending the excursion, and need to know the location of the mystery excursion, are requested to contact the school office. We ask, in order to keep it a secret for the children involved, that parents keep it to themselves and DO NOT pass on information to other families or share on social media. Thank you.

On Wednesday, any student who has received an ONYA certificate this term is invited to take part in our ‘Wet and Wild’ ONYA Day: a series of fun, water-based activities at the school. Students are reminded to bring swimmers, a rash shirt and a towel to school next Wednesday if they are taking part.

Vacation Care
School holidays begin on Thursday 17 December. Come join us for cooking, water fun, a trip to the cinema and laser tag to name just some of the activities available.
For bookings or further information contact: Jalyn on 0437 553 057.

Holiday Dates
We break up for the school holidays at 3.10pm on Wednesday 16 December. Please note, apart from those students attending the Vacation Care facilities at the school, the school grounds are closed during the holiday period. School resumes for students in Years 1-6 on Thursday 28 January 2016. Kindergarten students start on Friday 29 January 2016. We look forward to seeing all of our lovely students bright-eyed and bushy-tailed at the start of the New Year.
**Carols by Candlelight**

What a fabulous evening we had yesterday for our annual Carols by Candlelight event. The feedback from parents on the evening was overwhelmingly positive. We are so proud of our students and their wonderful performances. And wasn’t it great to have Santa there! There were so many smiling faces on the stage yesterday; it was evident that everybody had a wonderful time. We were also delighted that residents from Chauvel Village were able to join us for the event. A big ‘thank you’ to all of our volunteers who gave up their time to support the event, not forgetting our amazing teachers and support staff who gave up time with their own families to stay at school and make our carols evening yet another wonderful family event at Lismore Heights Public School.

**What’s for Christmas?**

What children get for Christmas will have an impact 6 months down the track. Activity based presents will give them the motivation to get up and get active. Think about:

- New footy boots/ ballet /tap shoes
- A new netball
- A groovy running outfit
- Water pistols
- A kite
- New board shorts
- A body board
- Something for the bike
- A skipping rope
- A hammer and saw
- A bucket and spade