School plan in action

The school plan 2015-2017 lists three strategic directions:

- **Inspired learning**
- **Innovative classroom,** and
- **Leadership practice and community@nps (parents, students and staff working together).**

Throughout the coming terms we will be working toward achieving these directions in order to improve the outcomes for all at Nemingha Public School. One process that will be undertaken is an internal review of the teaching of English. I urge all interested parents to attend upcoming workshops and complete surveys in order to be a part of this evaluative process. Mrs Kristine Sharkey will be co-ordinating this review and will be sending notes home for you to participate.

Another process will be the staff developing a thorough understanding of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. As part of our weekly staff meetings, teachers will demonstrate a skill or lesson that addresses particular standards. Over the past weeks we have had demonstration lessons in the areas of PE and visual arts. Thank you to Tracy and David for sharing their expertise and talents in these areas.

**Leadership day**

Mrs Sharkey and the school captains attended a leadership day at the Town Hall on Monday. Every year the school captains attend the Grip Leadership Conference with other student leaders from local schools.

Isabella, Campbell and Deni returned to school with a host of ideas about activities they would like to instigate at Nemingha Public School. I look forward to working with the school leaders and Mrs Sharkey in developing these.

**Library program**

Some Year 6 seniors have begun a library program under the guidance of Mrs Diss. Every day these monitors attend the library and read stories, return books and co-ordinate games during the second half of lunch. This provides another area for children to participate in quiet activities during the lunch break, as some children do not wish to play physical activities for the entire lunch period.
Mrs Diss will also provide book borrowing time as long as the children have their library bags and do not have any overdue books.

**Class assessments**

Class assessments have been occurring during the week. These results are used to inform staff about their effect size and will be used as supporting evidence for the semester one reports. Reports will be sent home during week ten. As always if you wish to discuss your child’s progress you can ring the office to make an appointment with your child’s teacher.

**Look out Masterchef!**

On Tuesday I was invited to taste some very delicious recipes from our Year 5 chefs. The class, under the tutelage of Mrs Bowman and Mrs Dockerty, created san choy bow and then ate it together. As part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program the children were not only involved in the creation of the meal, but also preparation and cleaning up. It was wonderful to see the many eager participants nominating to complete these activities, even the washing up duties! Look out Masterchef in the coming years.

This wonderful program could not take place without the support of parents and the community. The wonderful men from the Lions Club worked tirelessly in the kitchen last Thursday to ensure all benches were stable and level. We have enlisted an electrician to connect the oven and exhaust fan and then will have a servery cut into the wall between the kitchen and the library.

Once these necessary works take place we will look to invite parents and friends into the school for our grand opening cook-off. I know the P&C fundraising committee has some exciting ideas for the kitchen.

**Cross country carnival**

Thank you to David Lewis for organising the cross country carnival on Friday.

The track is well marked and staff and students will be directing the runners. All children have been practising during PE lessons, so we are looking forward to seeing some fast times on the day.

The zone cross country carnival will be held on Monday 18 May in Barraba.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Leanne Kemp, Relieving Principal

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**Welcome back Adam**

Welcome to Mr Adam Sipple, currently “prac” teaching in the Year 2 classroom. Adam was a student at Nemingha Public School until 2005, when he was School Captain.

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**AFTER-SCHOOL TRAINING**

It is important to note that during training for sport after school, parents and coaches should make sure that children do not run throughout the school or play on the equipment.

Only children who are involved in the training should be at the school during this time and if there are any siblings who need to be here, the parents must supervise them.

*Play equipment is totally out of bounds.*

**CAPERS 2015**

CAPERS (Creative Arts in Public Education Regional Spectacular) is held every second year to showcase the talents of students in public schools around the New England and North West.

Held at TRECC in Tamworth, it will involve more than 2,000 students from Kindergarten to Year 12 in an exciting and entertainment performance.

Many students who have performed at CAPERS have gone on to perform at the Schools Spectacular and even to careers in the entertainment industry.

Evening performances will be open to the public, with tickets sold to help offset the costs. These two evening performances will be on Friday 6 and Saturday 7 November, 2015.

For our students it is a chance to show off their dance skills, gain confidence, meet students from other schools and above all to have fun.

A note is included with this Newslink seeking expressions of interest for students to be part of CAPERS 2015. You should note that there will be costs and possibly volunteer time involved in making costumes for each child, and costs for bus transport to and from rehearsals.

If you would like your child or children to be included in CAPERS 2015, please complete and return the expression of interest by Friday 22 May.
**Volunteers**

Volunteers for Week 5 are:
- Monday 18/5  Mandy Hartin
- Friday 22/5  Gretel Roberson

**Canteen and clothing pool meeting**

A combined canteen and clothing pool meeting is on Friday 29 May at 2pm in the staff room. All welcome.

**What is gluten?**

Heard of gluten? Or people on gluten-free diets? What is it?

Gluten is a protein found in wheat, rye, barley oats and hybrid grains of these.

Some people choose not to eat gluten due to discomfort, while others suffer from coeliac disease, a condition that causes damage to the lining of the small bowel when gluten is eaten.

A gluten-free diet includes fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh meat, poultry, fish, milk, cheese and some yogurts, eggs, nuts, rice, corn and legumes.

Foods to avoid eating are baked goods such as bread, breakfast cereals, cakes, biscuits, pastry, pasta and battered or crumbed foods.

For gluten-free recipes go to www.healthy-kids.com.au

Thank you,
Marion Woods, Canteen Manager
0414 766 131

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**Stewart House**

Each year 1,800 public school children in need come to Stewart House from many parts of NSW and the ACT.

During their stay, children are provided with optometric, dental and medical treatment as well as emotional support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost their self-esteem and to promote a healthier lifestyle.

Children in the care of Stewart House attend a specific purpose school on site for eight days of their 12-day stay. The NSW Department of Education and Communities provides infrastructure and staffing support for this school. All others costs associated with the children’s stay are met from charitable donations.

Stewart House needs your support to ensure we can continue to provide important services to children.

Donation envelopes were sent home with a previous newsletter. If you wish to support Stewart House with a donation and entry in their family holiday competition, please complete details on the back of the envelope and return to the school office by **tomorrow, 8 May**. The competition will be drawn on Friday 22 May.

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**P&C News**

**Next P&C Fundraising Meeting**

*Wednesday 20 May 5.30pm*

*Meeting at HungryJack’s*

**Seeking Donations**

The P&C are seeking donations of goods or services, nothing too big or too small, as we organise the Winter Wonderland Ball.

If you are able, or know of anyone able to donate, please contact Donna Murphy on 0418667202.
Sports news

Last Friday our students participated in a touch gala day, with both the boys’ and the girls’ teams performing very well.

The boys played four games throughout the day. In the first round we won our match against Kootingal. In the second round we beat Moombi 12-1. In the third round we just won over Oxley Vale and in the final of the day we were beaten by a very good Tamworth South team.

Congratulations to the boys on getting through to the 4th round of their competition. Outstanding players for the day were Jock Button, Mitchell Henderson and Charlie Henderson. The team was very well led by Deacon Tait, who was the captain of the team. Mitchell was successful in being selected in the Tamworth Zone team.

The girls played Kootingal in the first round and won that comfortably, we then played Oxley Vale in the second round and won 6-1. In the final game of the day we beat Manilla and the girls now progress to the regional semi-finals against another Tamworth team. Best of luck girls.

Basketball

Last week Jack Dawson represented North West in basketball. The North West team came 10th in the state titles. Congratulations Jack.

Cricket

Our girls’ cricket team will play on Friday 15 May against Sir Henry Parkes school from Tenterfield. The game will be held at Nemingha and spectators are most welcome.

Congratulations to Mitchell Henderson, who on Tuesday was selected in the North West boys’ cricket team.

Touch football

Congratulations to Nellie Palmer, Sienna O’Mally and Isabella Cameron, who were selected in the Tamworth Zone touch football team to go to the North West trials on Wednesday, 20 May, in Armidale.

Cross country tomorrow

The times for the cross country are as follows, and parents are most welcome to come and watch:

- 5/6 years girls: 9.20am, 1km
- 5/6 years boys: 9.45am, 1km
- 7 years boys and girls: 10.05am, 1km
- 8/9 years girls: 10.25am, 2km
- 8/9 years boys: 1.20pm, 2km
- 10 years boys and girls: 1.50pm, 2km
- 11 years boys and girls: 2.20pm, 3km
- 12 years boys and girls: 2.40pm, 3km

David Lewis, Assistant Principal

Rake and Bake on Wednesday

We will be holding our next ‘rake and bake’ group on Wednesday 13 May. We will be following up on a few garden jobs and making items for the Pillamore pickers day on 14 June. We are asking for the following items to be donated to get us underway:

- Fabric/material off cuts
- Fabric/clothes patterns (not cut up)
- Plastic knitting needles
- Manure and mulch donations – our worms are always hungry!
- Decking board off-cut lengths longer than 1m
- Carpet – to cut and cover the worms in the round bed and bathtubs
- Coloured glass flat backed stones
- Marbles
- Old magazines or children’s picture books that have had their day
- Tea cups – china ones (not coffee mugs)
- Egg cartons
- Large jar lids only (for edible landscapes)
- Small figurines, for example animals, dinosaurs, fantasy, people

Have a great weekend