PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

We have had two formal events over the last week. The Presentation Day Ceremony was a trial to evaluate a day ceremony. I have had many positives about the event and would welcome further feedback. The event will be discussed more at P&C next year. It was wonderful to see the younger students able to see and hear the speeches and recognition of older students. I am sure many of them were setting their personal goals for when they are senior students. This is missed in the evening ceremonies where many younger students go home early.

The School Concert last night was another celebration of the inclusiveness of our school community, the talent of our students and the skills of our teaching and support staff. Every student was engaged and for some it was there chance to shine. As usual, Year 6 ended the show with a display of their talents and their playfulness as they imitated staff, some far too accurately.

Reports go home today. Seek the comments that identify the things that need to be set as learning goals but mostly celebrate your child’s achievements and personal growth.

We have had a rush of enrolments this term and unexpectedly it seems that we are very likely to have 14 classes next year. Final classes and staffing will be set once we have numbers consolidated next year.

Next Wednesday will be the last day of 2015 for students. We will be having our traditional talent quest in the afternoon and the ‘walk through the arches’ for our Year 6. Everyone makes an archway for them to walk under as they pass through the front gate for the last time. Parents are welcome to both of these events.

If you miss next week’s newsletter please accept our thanks for all that you do as parents for the school. We have respectful and supportive relationships across our school community and that is a solid base from which students can achieve their personal greatness. We have a world class staff in a world class public education system. Please take the time to complete the feedback survey going home today as your continued comment and ideas are important in informing our school plan.

Enjoy Christmas with your loved ones and keep safe. As I stated in my address on Presentation Day, there are those in the world trying to make us vulnerable, we must all answer that challenge by making the effort to connect with others. Please take the time to say hello and be interested in those different from you. Australia has been ‘different’ for 40,000 years or so with 300 Indigenous Nations. We are a great nation of fair and democratic people from all around the world. We are a school with connected students from many cultures. Please connect. It’s okay to be different, I know I am.

POOL PICNIC DAY

Tuesday 15 December is the School Picnic Day. School hours will be 7am - 1pm. Parents are responsible for students making their way to the Reserve and for pickup from the pool at 12:30. For those students who cannot arrange transport to the pool, buses will run at the normal times. Children arriving by bus will be walked from school to Sawtell Pool at 9am, under the supervision of Mrs Hart and Miss Anderson. These children will also be walked back to school and put on the bus at the normal time in the afternoon. A FREE sausage sandwich will be available.

Pool entry: $3.20. All students MUST have adequate sun protection including a hat, drink, sunscreen and a rash shirt/T-shirt to swim in.

A MESSAGE FROM CHERYL WARD, MUSICALE DIRECTOR AT TOORMINA HIGH SCHOOL.

A huge thank you goes out to all the students who auditioned for our 2016 Musicals! What an incredible group of talented students! Over 5 weeks, more than 200 students from across Bongil Bongil schools - including over 100 from Toormina High, auditioned to be chosen as part of the Vocal and Drama Leads teams, Elite Dance Team, Elite Gymnastics Team, Clowning Team, Vocal Ensemble and Band. Thank you to all students and to the parents who chauffeured them here over the many weeks.
**LIBRARY NEWS**
This is a final appeal for any home readers or library books still at home. We still have quite a few books unaccounted.

**TECHNOLOGY NEWS**
Student are reminded to bring in a USB drive to school before next Tuesday if they wish to save any work off the School drive.

**P&C NEWS**
Thanks to all the raffle ticket buyers last night - we made a nice $300 to go towards the school. Thanks to the raffle sellers and prize donors - Novotel Pacific Bay Resort, 63 First Ave [Mother’s Milk], Salty Lizard Eatery in Toormina and Kristy Knight.

Things are looking exciting for 2016 - we have started the process of working with the school to develop a concept master plan for improvements to the school grounds. We will have some meetings early 2016 to get your ideas and input.

**WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK.**
A reminder that all volunteers who work with children at school, on excursions or for sports travel need to have a working with children check. Volunteers also need to sign on each day at the office please. This is free for volunteers online at:

**UPCOMING EVENTS**
- Thurs 10 Dec Year 6 Surf Safety
- Fri 11 Dec Level O’Day [Stage Celebrations]
- Mon 14 Dec Year 6 Farewell 6:00pm
- Tues 15 Dec Picnic Day (7am - 1pm)
- We 16 Dec Last Day of Term for Students
  - Talent Quest
- Fri 18 Dec Last Day for Staff
- Thurs 28 Jan First Day for Students 2016

**ASSEMBLY**
This week’s Assembly 8:55am Friday: Both Bands

**BAND NEWS**
Please bring instruments this Friday as all band members are playing on assembly. If you have a school instrument it is to be returned to Mr Moore’s room after the assembly.

**UNIFORM SHOP**
The Uniform shop will be reopening Thurs 28 and Fri 29 January 2016. Then Wed 3 and Thurs 4 February 2016. Opening hours 8:30am. The Uniform Shop will then be open Wednesdays as usual. Should you be unable to attend the Uniform Shop during these hours, order forms are available at the school office.