Congratulations to all of our sportsmen and women. We've had a lot of successes on the field and in the pool recently, and it is also great to see our students playing well in our playground. I've enjoyed taking the Net Games sports group on Friday afternoons and Mrs Bingle has had good games of cricket during her Bat and Ball sessions. Mr K has been working hard with his Basketball group on Wednesday afternoons and is planning on taking his team down to the Rec this Wednesday. Good luck to both Ryder and Eucla who are trying out for the Mid North Coast PSSA basketball team and to Melyn who is swimming at the North Coast Regional swimming carnival this week.

We recently hosted the Bellingen Place Based Planning meeting at Dorrigo PS which was attended by representatives from the Department of Education, Family and Community Services, Mid North Coast Health and the Bellingen Neighbourhood Centre. We discussed trends in Kindergarten Best Start data and also health and community services in Dorrigo, Bellingen and Coffs Harbour. We were made aware of the Bellingen Kids Corner Facebook page. This page is full of information about local events and helpful hints and ideas for parents and families.

Our School Counsellor Kris deJong has settled in and has been doing some great work with our students and families. Kris attends our Learning Support Team meetings during which we discuss the academic and social skills of our students. Kris is available to see students and parents on Friday mornings. If you would like your child to see Kris please contact the office for a counsellor permission note.

I am pleased to inform our families that KidsSteps Therapy Centre is offering a free speech therapy assessment at Dorrigo Public School for our students. If you would like to take advantage of this great opportunity, please contact the office for a permission note.

Last week staff from Dorrigo PS, Dundurrabin PS and Hernani PS all participated in CPR and Anaphylaxis training. We ask families to please ensure that our school has updated student medical details and emergency contact details.

Year 6 students who are attending the Young Leaders Conference in Brisbane next week will be going to an information session this Wednesday afternoon at Bellingen Public School. This will be a good opportunity to meet the principals, teachers and all the Year 6 students who will be attending this excursion and to find out final details about this exciting event.

We have rescheduled our P&C AGM. It will now be held on Wednesday 16 March at 4:30 pm. Please consider coming along. Our P&C provides wonderful opportunities for our students. Hope to see you there.

Tanya Bajda
Principal

Calendar – Term 1

Week 7
Tues 8/3 MNC Basketball trials Coffs Harbour
Wed 9/3 Pre-meeting Brisbane Leadership Conference 1:30-2:30pm

Week 8
Wed 16/3 P&C AGM 4:30pm

Week 9
Mon 21/3 Harmony Day
Easter Hat Parade

It’s Not Long Now!

Thursday 24 March

We are having an Easter Hat Parade!

We are inviting all our children to create a hat at home and participate in the parade which will begin at 9:30am in our school hall. Every child who participates will receive a small gift.

The draw for our Easter Treats Raffle will take place after our parade so make sure you have returned your tickets!

Lis Kovacevic

Harmony Day

Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity and on Monday 21 March Dorrigo Public School will be celebrating Harmony Day. Students will be working in Stage groups throughout the afternoon from 12:45pm rotating through a range of activities focussing on Asia as these countries are our closest neighbours. Parents are welcome to attend this informal presentation.

Students are encouraged to wear traditional cultural dress or orange on Monday as it is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day and to show their support for cultural diversity in Australia.

Child Protection Lessons

Child Protection lessons are taught in each Stage as part of our Personal Development Program. The main ideas of the program are outlined in the attached information.

Year 6 to Year 7

Moving into Year 7 in 2017? It is time to act now.

Year 6 students have been issued with an information booklet which includes an Expression of Interest form, for placement in Year 7 in a NSW government school. Once completed the EOI should be returned to the school office no later than Friday 18 March.

Canteen Term 1

Week 7
Wed 9 March  Mel C  Michelle W
Fri 11 March  Ness T  Denna B

Week 8
Mon 14 March  Kerrie B
Wed 16 March  Michele K
Fri 18 March  Pete & Leanne S

Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received merit certificates at last week’s assembly.

Kindergarten/Year 1  Freya  Harry
Year 1/2  Mikayla  Holly
Year 3  Sam  Lucy
Year 4/5  Zahara  Lucas
Year 6  Isabelle  Asher

Principal’s Class of the Week - Year K/1

Friday’s Assembly

Year 1/2 will conduct the assembly on Friday 11 March at 11:15 am. Parents and community members are most welcome to attend.

Easter Treats Raffle

Thank you to those who have donated Easter treats for the Easter Treats raffle prizes. Donations can be left at the office. Each class will have an Easter Treats prize and there will also be an overall prize winner – so that means there will be six prizes to be won. The raffle will be drawn following the Easter Hat parade on Thursday 24 March. All funds raised will go towards fundraising for our larger excursions including our Big Day Out held at the end of each year. We thank you for your support.
P&C Meeting – Wed 16 March, 4.30pm

The Annual General Meeting of the P&C Assoc has been recalled for Wed 16 March to be held at 4.30pm in the school staff room. Meetings are open to all Parents & Citizens of our school community. Our P&C committee is only small and cannot continue in its current format without new faces to share ideas, opinions and knowledge.

There are many activities, events and funding areas managed by our P&C which will not be able to continue if a working P&C Association is not formed.

Please consider joining us for this important meeting and then just once each month. Our meetings are not held in school holidays and they are open to you.

Michele Kellett
Secretary

Blue Book Health Check
Do you have a 2 or 3 year old child?

It is time for their Blue Book Health Check. Take your 2 or 3 year old child along for their FREE Blue Book Health Check with the Dorrigo Child and Family Health Nurse and you will receive a free coffee from Food Angle Café or A Touch of Country.

Phone: 6657 2066 to book an appointment

Piano Lessons

Beginners Welcome

Sheila Guymer a highly experienced teacher and pianist is happy to teach all levels with beginners especially welcome.

Cedar Street Studio telephone 0401 827 625

Basketball

Mr K is planning on taking his group of Basketballers to the Stadium on Wednesday. The Variation to Normal Routine (Walking Note) covers consent for this excursion. Please check at the school office if you are unsure that you have this permission.

Open Arms Care (Out of School and Holiday Care)

Open Arms Care Children’s Services are considering establishing an Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service in Dorrigo and are conducting a survey to determine the need for care in the community. Surveys are available from the school office. They need to be completed and returned to Open Arms Care by 8 April.

Dads are Important

A group for fathers after separation

Starting 14 March

Are you:
• Separated from your children?
• Isolated with little or no support?
• Stressed by custody and family law issues?

You are not alone.

‘Dads are Important’ is a group for fathers to share their experiences, provide support, network and exchange information and get advice on issues such as parenting, relationship with ex-partner, coping with stress and well-being.

Where: 10 Kemp Street, Grafton (Sunshine House)
When: 2nd Monday of each month 6:30-8:30pm
Cost: Free (light refreshment also provided)

For enquiries or to register phone Cranes on 6642 7257 or email jduffy@cranes.org.au

Please note: This is a support group and as such does not provide legal advice or advocacy.