COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1

8-10 February    SRC Elections
Wednesday 10 February  Parent Information Night
                    Disco Night
Friday 12 February  Boys Cricket vs West
                    Kempsey PS
Monday 15 February  Kinder students finish at
                    3.15pm
Wednesday 17 February  Macleay Swimming
                        Carnival
                    P&C AGM 5.30pm
Friday 19 February  SRC Badge Presentation
Wednesday 24 February  LNC Swimming
Monday 29 February  Halogen Leadership
                    Excursion
Tuesday 1 March    Early Explorers Parent
                    Information Session
                    2.30pm
(Calendar items are subject to change)

PRINCIPALS NEWS

Bingo Fun Night
Save the date! Wednesday 6 April. We are having a Bingo Fun night to raise funds to support the Egan family. We are planning an early start, 5.30-6pm for the BBQ and then Bingo from 6-7pm. There are lots of ways our families and wider school community can help us: if you cannot attend the evening, or can attend but would like to also assist by donating prizes for the evening (up to $10 a prize eg chocolates, lollies, gifts) please send these in to the office. We will also willingly accept any cash donations to support one of our Kempsey East school community families. Every little bit will help! P&C are helping us on the night - all help welcomed.

Classes - Minor Changes
We have had to make a slight alteration to classing. Mrs Elsley will be teaching 2/3T on Mondays and Miss Tonkin will be on her class Tuesdays to Fridays each week.

Voluntary School Contributions
Thank you to all of our families who have paid these promptly. This helps us to provide resources for your children. The voluntary school contributions this year are $62 per student (year) or $15.50 (term) and $118 per family (year) or $29.50 (term).

School Disco and Meet the Teacher Evening this Wednesday Night (10th)
We would like all of our parents to attend this evening as well as meeting the teachers we will be explaining the new award and discipline process. We will also be demonstrating how parents can download Classdojo which will be our only method of communication when children receive awards or receive a classroom timeout or behaviour notification. Kindergarten Disco K-2 and parent meeting 5-6pm and Year 3-6 disco and parent meeting 6-7pm.

URGENT REMINDERS

GENERAL PERMISSION NOTE & OTHER FORMS
Please ensure that you have returned the forms that were sent home with the first week’s newsletter for each student. There is also a Library User Agreement at the end of this newsletter which needs to be returned.

MATHLETICS & HOME READERS
You are still able to purchase your child’s home reader/senior diary and Mathletics access from the front office.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
This program is free to students from Kempsey East Public School. It will be run on a Wednesday and Thursday this term from 3.30-4.30pm.
Students need to return a new permission note in order to attend this year – please see Mr Henry for these.
Classroom Information
Issued to each child today is an information sheet about how their class will be operating this year. Please read this and contact the class teacher if you need any clarification.

Before School Dance Classes
Two classes commenced this week and we are hoping to commence a boys’ hip hop/ breakdance class. Please contact the school this week if your son would be interested in joining this class so we know whether we can operate it.

KEPS Swimming Carnival
Our school swimming carnival was held today. Please be aware that the rules for progressing to the Macleay Swimming Carnival have changed this year. Previously students who received a 1st, 2nd or 3rd progressed however this year students times determine whether they progress to the Macleay Swimming Carnival.

StudentCover
Flyers will be handed out with today’s newsletter with details of StudentCover where you can insure your child against certain injuries.

Macleay Education Community of Schools
Attached to today’s newsletter is a survey from our MECS group, we would love if you could take the time to complete this and return this to the school.

Kind Regards,
Jenni Griffiths
Principal

CANTEEN NEWS
Please remember our canteen is only open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week.

P & C NEWS
P&C AGM
The 2016 P&C AGM will be held Wednesday 17th March. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students:
Co-operation - Axel S, Ariy H, Justin B, Jacob B, Indie-Anne B
Respect - Julie D, Mia W, Byron B
Responsibility - Tyler F, Ruby S
These awards will be handed out at this Friday’s assembly

MORNING DANCE CLASSES
Breanna Maghazey-Hayes from Coastal Dance Academy is again happy to run dance classes before school on a Monday (K-2) and Thursday (Yr 3-6) from 8.30-9.15am, this will start on Monday 8 February. This gives students the opportunity to learn dance without parents having to run around after school. The cost will be $5 per week for 8 weeks totalling $40 - no refunds given for missed days. We would especially like to see a boys’ breakdance group formed this year. Please return the below permission note with full term payment.

Morning Dance Classes
I give permission for my child/ren to attend the morning dance classes.
Student Name ________________________________
Class ________________________________
Amount Enclosed ($40 per student, cash only) $__________
Parent/Carer Signature: ________________________________
Parent/Carer Name: ________________________________
Date: ___/___/___

is it BULLYING?
When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once, that’s RUDE.
When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, that’s MEAN.
When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it— even when you tell them to stop or show them that you’re upset—that’s BULLYING.
Meet the Teachers and Disco Night

On Wednesday 10th February (tomorrow) there will be a ‘Back To School Disco’ – 5pm-6pm Yrs K-2, and 6pm-7pm Yrs 3-6. The theme will be ‘Footy Colours’ this means students come dressed in the colours of their favourite footy team. Entry will be a gold coin donation per student.

There will be a parent session on at the same time as the discos. This will be the opportunity for parents to meet their children's new teachers. Information will also be given on how our new discipline and award system will operate this year. We will demonstrate ClassDojo and parents can download and set it up at the time. This is the method we will use to inform you of awards your children receive, if they have had a classroom warning or have been issued with a behaviour notification (old contracts and support desks). We hope to see you there.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Early Explorers Transition Program to Kempsey East Public School

Early Explorers is a transition program to Kempsey East Public School for 4-5 year olds commencing school in 2017. The program is designed to make starting ‘big’ school at Kempsey East Public School as successful as possible for children, families and teachers. Throughout the program, children participate in a variety of play based learning experiences and we welcome parents/carers who are willing to assist for the afternoon.

Early Explorers Aims:
* to get to know your child as an individual
* to enhance your child's oral language, literacy and numeracy skills
* to provide opportunities for parents/carers to share in their child's transition to KEPS
* to allow your child to develop relationships with children they will start kindergarten with, and
* to complement the benefits of early childhood education programs your child already attends.

If your child is going to start kindergarten at Kempsey East Public School in 2017 and you are interested in your child becoming involved in this program, please fill out an Early Explorers Expression of Interest form available from our school office and return it to our school office by Friday 26th February, 2016.

A parent information session for Early Explorers will be held at Kempsey East Public School on Tuesday 1st March, 2016 at 2.30pm.

Due to the high number of enrolments, attendance is on a fortnightly basis and will be held every Tuesday from 12.30 to 3.00 at Kempsey East Public School.

If you have any questions, please contact Alisia Byrne at Kempsey East Public School on 0265624927
Library User Agreement

I understand that borrowing books from our school library is a privilege. I give permission for ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………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MECS Recognition Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey. Your contribution will provide us with the important information needed to help us to celebrate the wonderful achievements of your children and our students into the future.

1) Have you heard of MECS before?

2) If you have heard of MECS, could you please describe what you think MECS does?

3) Who do you think are members of our MECS group?
   - Only Macleay public primary schools
   - Only Macleay public high schools
   - All Macleay public schools
   - All Macleay public and private schools

4) "MECS" actually stands for "Macleay Educational Community of Schools" and consists of all public primary and high schools in the Macleay. Independent schools are not members of this group.

The purpose of MECS is to provide our students the fullest range of opportunities and our staff the best professional learning from across our 17 schools. MECS is responsible for a number of highly valued initiatives.

Due to the significance of MECS and its benefit to local students we are considering the option of a name change.

From the list below, could you select the name you think is the most ideal for our group or suggest one of your own.

- Macleay Educational Community of Schools
- Macleay Schools
- Macleay Public Schools

5) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Educational Community of Schools" as our name, please comment why you think it is suitable or otherwise.

6) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Schools" as our future name, please comment on why you think this name is suitable or otherwise.

7) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Public Schools" as our future name, please comment on why you think this name is suitable or otherwise.