Term 2 begins by welcoming all of our students back to school. It’s great to see our students return to school smiling and with obvious enthusiasm. Our Tweed Heads Public School community continues to grow as we welcome 6 new families and 9 new students to the school. Word of mouth is a powerful thing as many of our new families have commented on the good things they have heard about our school and our students. What a lovely way to begin the term!

Interviews and student reports
Thank you to the parents/caregivers who were able to attend scheduled parent/teacher interviews over the last couple of weeks of Term 1. At the end of this term students will receive a Semester 1 report. Once again parents/caregivers will have the opportunity to request a mid-year interview. The school schedules 2 formal interview opportunities during the course of a school year. However, an interview can be requested at any time as required either by the teacher or the parent/caregiver. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you wish to organise a meeting time with your child’s classroom teacher.

THPS students are great ambassadors!
During the school holidays 45 of our students took time to represent their school in the local ANZAC Day Parade and Service held here at Coolangatta/Tweed Heads. I was very proud of every single one of the students present. They looked amazing in their smart blue uniforms and they all participated with pride and enthusiasm. Commendations were received from people attending the event and also from a number of RSL veterans. Our students were invited to be “water bearers” for the special service guests and veterans. It was a very hot day so our 7 water bearers were kept very busy. They did a brilliant job and were acknowledged for the service they provided. Congratulations Michaela, Jackson, Dan, Joe, Emily, Lachlan and Holly. A special thank you to the parents/carers for getting the students to the event during the school holidays and a huge thanks to staff, Miss Cutler, Mrs McCabe, Mr Regan and Mrs Robinson who were also able to attend on the day and support our very keen students.

Upcoming Events...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 13 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN - Language Conventions and Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN - Reading</td>
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<td>Bookclub Due</td>
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<td>Thurs 15 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN - Numeracy</td>
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<td>Mon 19 May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting - 6pm in the library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 20 May</td>
<td>UNSW Computer Studies Competition</td>
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What’s happening in our school community...

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Cross Country
On Thursday 10 April (Week 11 of Term 1), THPS participated in the annual School Cross Country which was held at Recreation Oval. Thirty-nine students have qualified to attend the Tweed District Cross Country Carnival which will be held in Kingscliff on Thursday 8 May. Good luck to all those students competing!

Maths Olympiad Champions
In the last week of Term 1 whilst I was on leave, riding my bicycle in a charity event in an area with very patchy phone reception, I received an SMS message from a very excited teacher. Miss Cutler could not wait to let me know that THPS senior students had won the Tweed River High School 2014 Maths Olympiad and were the recipients of the 2014 perpetual Maths Olympiad Trophy. An excellent achievement and well deserved. Congratulations to the participating students for putting their excellent maths problem solving skills into action and defeating a number of other local school teams.

Attention to Attendance
In the latter part of Term 1 the Home School Liaison Officer conducted an audit of student attendance at Tweed Heads Public School. Whilst generally overall attendance records were satisfactory for the vast majority of students the school still needs to focus on improving punctuality for a large number of students and families. The school has been requested to monitor closely student partial attendance. This includes students arriving after 9:00am and leaving before 3:00pm. The attendance monitoring graph for “partial attendance” is included in this newsletter. It is hoped that in Term 2 the students and families of Kindergarten, Year 2 and Year 3 will make a greater effort to arrive at school on time.

A new sandpit play area
The P&C has funded the purchase of a new sandpit play area (with cover) for the playground. This will provide another area for our students who enjoy passive, creative play. We look forward to seeing this welcome addition to our playground environment. We are confident that this new play area will be well used by many of our students during recess and lunch. Thank you to the P&C for assisting with this project and also thanks to Mrs Jorritsma for initiating this playground improvement project.

Mrs McAllum’s charity bike ride
Well I made it! I finished the charity ride! And I’m happy to say I managed the 517km ride quite comfortably. The endurance ride was a great personal challenge and experience. Through the generous sponsorship of family, friends, colleagues, and THPS school community members I raised approximately $2200 for the Children’s Cancer Institute Australia. The support and encouragement I received from staff, students and members of our school community was very much appreciated. Thank you everyone.

Jacquie McAllum
Principal

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'Smoothie Club'
When: Every Thursday morning before school
Begins: Thursday 8 May
Time: 8.25 - 8.40am
Where: School Canteen
Cost: $1.00 per smoothie

All money raised will go towards new school sports equipment.

Thank you to our sponsors:
- Greenmount Beach Club
- Tweed Discount Fruit & Veg
- Woolworths Tweed Centro
- Tweed Growers Wholesale Fruit & Veg
Anzac Day School Ceremony and Anzac Day March

Our school Anzac Day Assembly was held on the last day of term and was attended by two ex-servicemen from Twin Towns. They were touched by our ceremony and have donated books to the school and wish to establish a new memorial to servicemen from the Tweed area in our school grounds.

Our school turnout to the 2014 Anzac Day Parade was, as always, a proud sea of blue. We had nearly 60 students from Kindergarten to Year 6 present, dressed beautifully in their school uniforms. We marched down Chalk St to the Cenotaph and were seated near the fountain. This year, our Senior students were selected to take cool cups of water to the distinguished guests and veterans. It was lovely to see our students receiving warm, grateful looks from the senior members of our community. Jarrah, our school Vice Captain and Lily from the SRC are pictured here in a photo taken by Bryson Coverdale, laying a wreath of blue and white flowers.

Thank you to Steve Badger, (Samantha and Floyd’s uncle) for the beautiful photos taken on the day. Thank you also to all parents who brought their children down to participate in the event, as well as Mrs Robinson and Mr Regan for attending the march, and Mrs McCabe for attending the march and lasting through the heat with me during the ceremony!

Miss Cutler
Coordinator

K-2 Rewards Day

During Week 10 of last term, K-2 students who had displayed consistently good behaviour throughout the term participated in an excursion to Jack Evans Boat Harbour. Students were involved in a whole range of activities on the foreshore including, exploring, building, playing sports and using a variety of sports equipment. It was a very enjoyable day for all. Thank you to the many parents that accompanied us, this really added to the day.

We are looking forward to having just as many students at our next reward day at the end of term 2.

Voluntary School Contribution 2014

Our school needs to be supported and encouraged by parental commitment to paying their 2014 Voluntary School Contribution. It is stressed that payment is a matter of decision by individual parents/guardians and is entirely voluntary. We truly value your support and encourage you to support our school through the payment of this small fee.

$45 - one child
$80 - two children
$100 - for a family of three or more

P&C News

The Billy Tea Bush Family Dance

Thank you to the Canteen team for supplying light refreshments for the Billy Tea Bush Family Dance. We would also like to thank all the families who attended, it was a great night!

P&C Meeting

No meeting was held in April due to school holidays so the next P&C meeting will be held earlier on Monday 19 May 2014 at 6pm in the library. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Mothers’ Day Stall

A Mothers’ Day Stall will be held on Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 May. Gifts can be purchased from 50c to $5.00.

Canteen News

Canteen
The canteen will be opening every Thursday at lunch time only to sell ice-creams and drinks starting on Thursday 15 May.

Canteen Volunteers
The Canteen is looking for volunteers on Wednesdays and Fridays. If you can give 1 day this term please speak to Fine in the Canteen.

Insert - Stranger Awareness

We have included an insert with the newsletter this week on Stranger Awareness for any interested parents.