This is the last newsletter for Term 3! Another very busy and productive term for everyone. Thank you to all parents/caregivers, volunteers, staff and students for your contribution and commitment to making Term 3 at Tweed Heads Public School run happily and smoothly for everybody.

School Audit
Tweed Heads Public School has recently been through the DEC audit process and has recently received a 100% satisfaction report following an audit of Financial and Work Place Health and Safety processes and practices. Congratulations to our wonderful office staff for the work they have put into making sure our administrative processes are exemplary and faultless. The auditor was very impressed with their work. Well done Carol and Yvonne!

Staffing
Last week the school received a revised staffing entitlement report indicating that the official staffing entitlement has been increased to 10 classroom teachers. We were all very excited at this announcement. Our challenge is to now maintain our enrolments at 231+ to keep the 10 class groupings for the start of the 2015 school year.

Early Birds (Kindergarten orientation) is happening very soon! The special program for our new Kindergarten students for 2015 begins in Week 1 of next term. We currently have 50 Early Birds registered and hope to see them all at our first Early Bird session on 10th October.

‘CampOut with Kids’ - Cancelled
The CampOut with Kids has been cancelled and will not take place tomorrow night. We have not had sufficient response to the change of date. It is planned that the CampOut will take place in Term 1 2015. Our sincere apologies to everyone who replied to take part.
**Murder Under the Microscope**

We are proud to announce that THPS participated in this activity and has been awarded first place across a large number of schools including high schools. Well done!

*Murder under the Microscope* is Australia’s largest online educational, environmental activity. Typically, *Murder under the Microscope* hosts an interactive mystery game for students in Years 5 to 10.

This year, from 23 June to 10 October, *Murder under the Microscope* provided online investigative tasks to support student learning. The tasks supported students in developing their understanding of ecosystems, environmental problems and solutions. They had opportunities to develop their understandings and skills in analysing environmental issues.

**Uniform Fire Sale**

On **Friday 10 October** (Week 1) the uniform shop will be holding a fire sale. Items with the previous school logo and discontinued lines will be heavily discounted. These items include pleated skirts, jumpers etc.

**‘Red Day - Sausage Sizzle’**

The canteen will be holding a ‘**RED DAY - Sausage Sizzle**’ at the canteen on **Wednesday 17 September**. Sausage Sandwiches will be $2.00. Please place your orders at the canteen on Wednesday morning as no sausage sandwiches will be sold at lunch time. Also available will be lollies, fizzers, chocolates and cakes for $1.00.

**Canteen News**

The canteen will **NOT** be opening on Friday 19 September (the last day of school).

**Public Speaking Finals**

THPS had three students who all progressed to the District Public Speaking Finals held at Banora Point Public School on Thursday 11 September.

Holly (6/5R) who spoke about ‘Up’s and Down’s of Being a Kid’, Isaac (3S) who spoke about ‘How Good I Am at Annoying My Parents” and Reuben (3/2F) who spoke about ‘Sharks’.

**Congratulations and great effort!**

**University of NSW English Competition**

Three students recently completed the University of NSW English Competition achieving excellent results. Annabelle - 3/2F received a Distinction Award, Holly - 6/5R received a Credit Award and Havannah - 3/2F received a Participation Award.

Well Done!

**Kerry Underwood**

**Teacher**

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**Reminders to parents/caregivers**

If parent/caregivers have any concerns about a student enrolled at our school the parent/caregiver must not communicate with the student. Parent/caregivers are not permitted to approach students directly to question the student or to express their concerns. Contact and communication with the school must be made through the teacher or the principal and any concerns notified to the school will be addressed appropriately following school policy protocols and processes.

**REMEMBER, REMEMBER, REMEMBER - Term 4, Daylight Saving (5 October) and student attendance.**

Please remember that Term 4 begins on **Tuesday 7th October** with all classes resuming as normal on this day. Don’t forget that at this time Daylight Saving will also have started on Sunday 5 October. This change at the start of the term may impact on your morning routines, especially if you live or work over the border. Please make sure your children are ready for this change and they are not late to school during Daylight Saving Time.

The last day of student attendance in Term 4 is **Wednesday 17 December**.

Have a happy and safe holiday. Enjoy the time with your children and family.

**Jacquie McAllum**

**Principal**

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**Kerry Underwood**

**Teacher**

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**End of Day Procedures**

**Students not collected/miss bus:**

If a student is not collected by parent/caregiver or misses transport home, the duty teacher will accompany the student to
the office and organise for parent/caregiver to be contacted. Student/s waiting to be collected are not to be left ununsupervised. Duty teachers are to remain with students waiting to be collected (by parent/caregiver/emergency contact person) until 3:15pm.

An executive staff member is to remain with any student/s waiting to be collected (by parent/caregiver/emergency contact person) after 3:15pm.

If contact is not able to be made with parent/caregiver or a noted emergency contact person, an executive member of staff should make contact with other agency support organisations. (Police or DOCs).

An Executive is to remain on site until all students have safely departed the school grounds.

Duty of care cannot be transferred to Office Administration Staff at the end of the day for students.

**Missing**

Recently a student has had a white shirt (with a small round Australian Defence Tactics logo on the front) go missing. If you have found this shirt could you please hand it in to the school office. Thank you.

**School Photos**

Additional school group photos are available at the office for viewing and ordering.

These groups are:
- Year 6 Fun Photo
- Year 6 Photo
- SRC
- Rugby League
- Dance Group
- School Captains
- House Captains
- Netball
- Swimming

$14.00 for one or $26.00 for 2 etc.

**School Zone Offences**

Law Rule 167: Disobey no stopping sign (school zone)
Fine: $304 and 2 demerit points

Law Rule 172 (1): Stop on/near pedestrian crossing (school zone)
Fine: $405 and 2 demerit points

Law Rule 183 (1): Stop in bus zone (school zone)
Fine: $304 and 2 demerit points

**Late Arrivals / Early Leavers**

Students who arrive at school after 9am must report with a parent to the school office for a late arrival note. This note must be presented to the class teacher upon reaching the classroom. For early leavers parents must first come to the school office to receive a note which must be presented to the class teacher before a student may depart.

All parents are reminded that they must sign in at the school office after 9am. This procedure is for the protection of students, staff and volunteers.

**Exercise for All**

Exercise and food go together; both are needed for healthy development. Just as we need good food to build a healthy body we need exercise for our bodies to develop and reach their full potential.

Walking, swimming and cycling are great forms of exercise. Parents can support a healthy attitude by joining in exercise times such as walking the dog, walking to school, walking to do the shopping, cycling or playing in the backyard or park. Combine a bush walk or swim with a family picnic. It’s a lovely family time together as well as a chance to talk about your child’s thoughts and feelings!

**How you help your child**

**You help your child learn in many ways during everyday life....**

You help improve your child’s *literacy skills* when:
- you encourage reading for information in newspapers, TV guides and magazines,
- You take the time to read with your child.

You help to improve your child’s *numeracy skills* when:
- you talk about “Half here! Half over there!” It is about fractions,
- you talk about “Grouping things together”. It is about comparing.

You help to improve your child’s *social skills* when:
- you allow each person in the family to be excited about their own interests, to show respect for others and be patient,
- you encourage everyone to be included and no one is left out.

**Community News**

**COOLS SWIM SCHOOL**

# 5 Day Intensive Swimming block in the school holidays

When: Monday 22 September to Friday 26 September
Where: 1 Frances Street, Tweed Heads
(Only 20 positions available)

# 10 Week Swimming block

When: October to December
For more information on these swimming blocks please call 07 5533 4920.

**LITTLE GROMMETS**

Little Grommets Vacation Care is a Government approved centre and is open to all primary school aged children. School holiday times are 7am - 6pm (excluding public holidays). Bookings are essential. For bookings or more information please contact (between 7am - 9pm Mon - Fri only) Carol on 0411 199 049, Paris on 0478 150 931 or email littlegrommets@hotmail.com

Start Daylight Saving

Don’t forget - Daylight saving starts on Sunday 5 October 2014, at 2:00 am