Teachers are encouraged to take on leadership roles as part of their Personal Professional Development. During my recent leave Mrs Jenny Wetherall and Ms Fiona Simpson worked as Relieving Principals for a brief period. They both did an exceptional job at leading and managing the school students and staff, and they also worked closely with members of the school community. The role of a Principal is very demanding and each day is totally unpredictable and I am proud to say that these two ladies were marvellous. They took to the Principal role like ducks to water! Thank you Fiona and Jenny for the work you did and a special thanks to the staff, students and the community for your flexibility in working with them. It was lovely to return to a busy, happy and productive school.

Early Bird Program
This is the 10th Year the Early Bird Kindergarten Transition Program has been held at THPS. Once again it is proving to be a very beneficial and valuable program for our new Kindergarten students and also for the new families and parent/carers. The general philosophy behind the program is to assist everyone in the transition process to big school, to make sure that the...
school is ready for our new students. Each week of Early Birds we get to know each one of them a little. It helps us to be ready for them next year. It is not too late to register for Kindergarten 2016, so if you know of anyone who is still trying to make up their mind please encourage them to contact the school so we can assist them with their decision making.

**High School Transition**

Moving from Primary to High School is another key transition point in school life. Our Year 6 students are certainly keen and ready to leave us to start their next school adventure. The transition process for Year 6-7 actually began in Term 1 with opportunities for students to attend a series of “Taster Days” at our local high school, Tweed River High. By this stage all Year 6 students should have informed the High School of their intentions for 2016 and all enrolment forms should now have been submitted. During the latter part of this term an official High School Transition day for our Year 6 students will be offered. Students are encouraged to attend.

**Grab That Gold – The Musical!**

By now you may have heard the commotion and excitement that is building up for our grand musical presentation, *Grab That Gold!* The performance will be held on Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10 December. Information on times and ticket purchases will be made available very soon. Ms Simpson, Miss Cutler and students have been working consistently on the singing, the script, the acting, the props, costumes and the scenes. Everything is coming together beautifully due to their hard work and creativity. Thank you to Rebecca Mansfield for responding to our request for assistance with painting backdrops. Your commitment and enthusiasm has been fantastic! Thanks Rebecca! We can all look forward to a very exciting and entertaining production.

**Presentation Day**

Have you marked Monday 14 December 11:30am – 1:30pm on your calendar? This is when we acknowledge and celebrate the student achievements of 2015. We look forward to seeing many parent/carers, friends, relatives in the audience on this special day.

**Student Reports**

Teachers have commenced the end of year process finalising and analysing student assessment and progress data in preparation for the Semester 2 Student Reports. Semester 2 Reports will provide information on your child’s progress since the end of Term 2. These will be distributed on Friday 27 November.

**What are your intentions for 2016?**

Please help us with our planning process for 2016. If you have any reason to be leaving Tweed Heads Public School could you please advise the office as soon as possible. Your early advice will be appreciated as it will assist us with our staffing allocations and class organisation.

**World Teachers Day – Friday 30 October**

I often hear parents/carers comment on the wonderful teachers we have here at THPS and I also hear and read comments from wider community sources on how amazing all teachers are generally. It’s not easy working with and managing so many children with so many different personalities and varying academic and social needs but teachers do it and they do it incredibly well! Teachers are an amazing bunch of people with great big hearts! I can confidently say that here at THPS every teacher on staff is here for the right reasons and their purpose is to make sure your child is happy, safe, being challenged and stimulated to learn on a daily basis.

World Teachers’ Day is about acknowledging our great teachers. Working in a school is like planting seeds. Often we don’t see the results of our work for years but we know that what we are doing now is helping to build a future for your child. Thank you to all teachers! You do make a big difference in the lives of many.

*Jacquie McAllum*

*Principal*

---

**Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age. A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and par-
Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation. Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

Let’s Ride Program - Cancelled
The Let’s Ride Program was being offered to Stage 2 and 3 students during sport. Let’s Ride consisted of 6 x 1 hour professionally instructed bike riding skills. We have not received enough students to fill the quota to start the program so we have had to cancel it.

P&C News - Survey
The canteen and uniform shop are looking to introduce online payments. We have a live survey that we would like parents to complete and share their option by Friday 30 October.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5HT5D9

‘Grab That Gold’ - School Musical
This week I was thrilled to get the backdrop finished. I am so appreciative of the help from Mrs Rebecca Mansfield, who came in to paint over two days. Quite a few students from Years 4, 5 and 6 gave a hand and they really enjoyed the experience. I am sure you will feel like you really are on the Goldfields when you come and see the production in Week 10.
The production will be held over two nights Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 November
Cast members need to finalise their costumes before our next school assembly on Wednesday 28 October. We will again be performing a sneak peek of the play. Parents are welcome to attend the assembly.
Miss Cutler

What’s Going on in 4/3S
This term, Stage 2 have been studying “The First Fleet”. 4/3S has been busy creating our ‘On the High Seas’ artworks. Students have made a great effort with these and should be proud of their hard work.
Miss Buchanan - 4/3S Teacher

Office Hours
Parents and students are kindly reminded that the school office opens at 8.25am (after the first morning bell). We ask that you observe this opening time.

Kinder Enrolments for 2016
We are currently taking enrolments for Kindergarten in 2016. If you have or know of an eligible child (who must turn 5 by 30 July 2016) please contact the school office for an enrolment package. Our school welcomed new students to our Early Bird Program which commenced on 9 October 2015.

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 provide a dictionary and talk about how to use it,
• you encourage your child to use new words.
You help to improve your child’s numeracy skills when:
• you play dominos to recognise number patterns,
• you ask your child to weigh and measure ingredients for cooking.
You help to improve your child’s social skills when:
• you remember that your child is constantly changing and therefore you need to make changes in the way that you interact with them,
• you build positive experiences with your child.

Community News

TWIN TOWNS KINDERGARTEN - VACANCIES AVAILABLE
We are advising that the Twin Towns Kindergarten have vacancies available for the 2016 year. The centre is situated on Lantham Street, Coolangatta and has proudly achieved ‘Exceeding Overall’ in the Nation Quality Standards in 2014.
For more information please call 07 5536 1940, email info@twintownskindy.com.au or visit the website www.twintownskindy.com.au

THE FAMILY CENTRE - COURSE PROGRAM
The Family will be running a number of courses and seminars in Term 4 listed below. Child minding is available on request.
Parenting: Circle of Security, 123 Magic, Triple P Seminar, Soon They’ll be Teenagers and Understanding Teenagers
Relationship: Healthier relationships: Communication, Holding successful Difficult Conversations, Anger: Making it Work for You and The Loving Relationship Seminar
Wellbeing: The Mindful Art of Stress Reduction
Women: Self Esteem for Women
Men: Pathways to Change for Men
Family Centre Playgroup: All playgroups 9.30 - 11.00am
If you are interested in attending any of these courses or workshops please see the office for an information sheet. For further information please contact The Family Centre on 07 5524 8711 (Mon - Fri 9am - 12.30pm) or the website www.thefamilycentre.org.au

Want some great tips on parenting?
Visit this great website: