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Term 2 Week 3

Principal's Report



This term, we have endeavoured to make the most of the brief fine weather moments to ensure all students are prepared for the Finlayson Sports. On Wednesday, we will all be travelling to Chandler Public School for this traditional event, and one that students perceive to be a highlight in their sporting calendar. The opportunity to learn the skills and techniques for

long jump, shot put, and discus from a young age, as well as the various running events, prepares our students for the Primary School Sporting Association (PSSA) events that students are eligible to participate in when they are 8 years of age.

Best wishes to Thea, who is representing our school and the small school's team at the Mid North Coast Cross Country Carnival next week.

As well as sporting opportunities, all students benefit from our unique creative arts learning experiences with the New England Conservatorium of Music. Our weekly music lessons via Zoom with Mrs Mackson have created a culture of a love of singing at our small school. All students have been preparing for the Armidale Eisteddfod and are looking forward to being members of the audience as we view the performances of other small school choirs.

Students have once again submitted artworks in the University of New England's School Acquisitive Art Prize "Let's Hang It!" I thank Miss Curr for ensuring that our artworks have been sent to the New England Regional Art Museum.

Whilst I am taking leave for the remainder of Term 2, Mrs Bingle will be our Relieving Principal. Miss Curr and Ms Arnold will be working in collaboration to ensure continuity of teaching and learning programs, with the invaluable support provided by our school administrative and support staff. I wish to thank and acknowledge the fantastic team that Hernani Public School is so fortunate to have. I know that I can step aside and trust that all will be well.

Classroom Chronicles - Friday 2 May

A Day Full of Fun, Learning, and Creativity!

While some of our Year 3–6 students were off participating in the cross-country event, the rest of us enjoyed a wonderful day full of exciting activities back at school.

Science – Material World

This term, our science unit is called Material World, where we're investigating how different materials can be changed. On Friday, we explored how materials like candy can be stretched, twisted, and squished. Students then rolled, folded and twisted playdough to make imaginative characters and then brought them to life by creating their very own **stop-motion animations**—a definite highlight of the day!

ANZAC Cookie Baking In the middle session, the classroom was filled with the delicious smell of ANZAC cookies! Students

were hands-on in the kitchen, helping with mixing, shaping, and baking. Of course, the best part was **tasting their creations—yum!**

Let's Hang It – Sunflower Art

Although the afternoon rain kept us indoors, it didn't dampen our creativity. We began working on another art piece for the upcoming Let's Hang It competition. The students started a sunflower artwork, and they're already looking stunning. We can't wait to share the final masterpieces!

Learning in the 3-6 class

On Monday, 12 May, students in Years 3-6 enjoyed a special visit from Jim Fahey, who shared his poetry with our students, showcasing his love of singing and talent for telling a story from a unique perspective. As a follow up students will be writing their own poems about Hernani. We look forward to sharing these with Jim and our wider community.

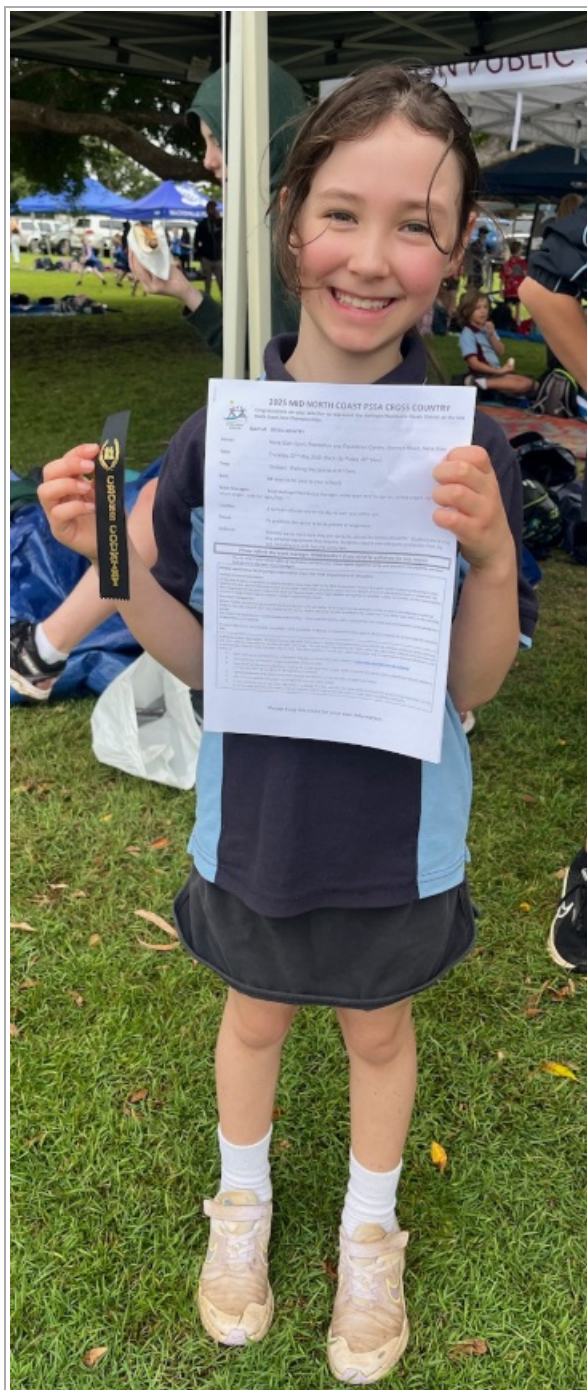
District Cross Country

Our representative cross-country team attended the District Cross Country at the Urunga Foreshore on Friday, 2 May. The intermittent rain did not deter our runners as they arrived after a long drive to complete the gruelling course. The start of the race saw the students run straight up a hill, meaning they had to 'dig deep' right from the start to keep going, with tired legs and puffing chests. All students finished the event, some even in the top 20! A massive achievement at this level of competition. A special congratulations to Thea, who is off to represent our school at the Mid-North Coast Cross Country Championships on Thursday, 22 May, to be held at Nana Glen Sport, Recreation and Equestrian Centre, as a result of her 8th placing at Urunga, which is a huge achievement in itself. Well done Thea!

A really big thank you to the parents who transported their students to the event, and congratulations to all of our students who competed on the day. These experiences are not only resilience-building, but show us strengths within ourselves we don't even know exist until we have to push through mentally and physically. Thank you, students, for making our school so very proud and giving your best on the day.

Hearty congratulations to all students for finishing the course and for their great sportsmanship.

Ms Galletly



Mother's Day

In the lead-up to Mother's Day, our students had a wonderful time creating heartfelt gifts to celebrate the incredible women in their lives.

Our K-2 students were busy with a hands-on project where they painted one side of a wooden love heart, then used bright new paint pens to decorate the base of their picture holders. With the help of our amazing Sammi—our resident wood-burning (pyrography) expert—they added a special touch by burning the word "Mum" into the other side of their hearts. We finished the project by placing

a photo in the clip, ready to be gifted with love.

Meanwhile, our 3–6 students took on a more intricate project, crafting personalised wooden chopping boards. With guidance from Sammi, they carefully etched beautiful, delicate designs into their boards using wood-burning tools. It was a task that required patience and precision, and the results were truly stunning.

To finish off their creations, all students chose and made a special card to accompany their gift.

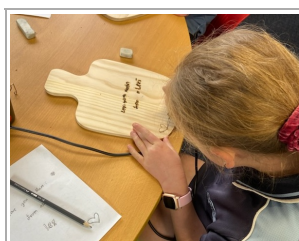
We hope these keepsakes brought a smile to your face and as much joy as the students had in making them.

Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful mums—we hope your day was filled with love!



Birthday Lunch

Today, we all thoroughly enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by Tic to celebrate her birthday. In testimony to Tic's culinary talents, many of our students went back for second and third helpings. Thank you Tic from all students and staff and Happy Birthday!





Visit from Dorriggo RSL Sub-Branch - Bernie

Honouring History with a Special Visit

Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 were fortunate to welcome a special guest from our local Dorriggo RSL Sub-Branch—Bernie. She visited both our K-2 and 3-6 classes to share her knowledge and teach the children about the important role animals have played in wartime.

The students were fascinated to learn how pigeons were used to carry messages across battlefields and how dogs helped by sniffing out landmines. Bernie's engaging presentation included a colourful poster that captured the students' attention and is now proudly displayed in Mrs Winkel's classroom.

As a thoughtful gesture, each student received a small badge featuring either an army or navy bear, which was met with great excitement. We are grateful to Bernie for her time and for helping our students connect with history in such a meaningful way.



Gymnastics & STAR Program Term 3

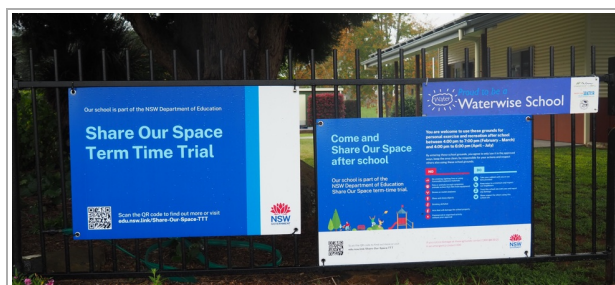
Our School Transition and Readiness (STAR) Program commences in Term 3, from Week 3 on Thursdays for

7 weeks, with double sessions at the Armidale Gymnastics Club. Transition students will be joining our school students for gymnastics. Consent note will be sent out later in this Term.

Thursday 7 August - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
 Thursday 14 August - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
 Thursday 21 August - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
 Thursday 28 August - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
 Thursday 4 September - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
 Thursday 11 September - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
 Thursday 18 September - 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Share Our Space

The sun shone on the first afternoon of our Share Our Space Term Time Trial, and it was wonderful to see everyone embracing the opportunity to be physically active. Special thanks to Jess MacDougall for consummate organisation of this initiative.



Upcoming Events

Week 3

Wednesday 14 May - Finlayson Cup Sports Day
 Friday 16 May - Walk Safely to School

Week 4

Thursday 22 May - Armidale Eisteddfod

Week 6

Monday 2 June - Combined schools' day at Ebor Public School - Zoomobile

Week 10

Tuesday 1 July - Small Schools Athletics Carnival at Bellingen 8 Years and above
 Tuesday 1 July - Small Schools Athletics Fun Day at Raleigh Under 8 Years

Term 3

Wednesday 30 July - NAIDOC on the Plateau
 Thursdays from 7 August for 7 weeks - Gymnastics, including the School Transition Readiness Program

Also, keep an eye on the School Bytes calendar for upcoming events.

Flyers

Ross Waugh from Promised Land Produce has offered to deliver orders to the school each Thursday. Orders will need to be placed either on the website or the app by Tuesday evening. Hernani Public School will be the drop-off point.

