



# Murrurundi Public School

*Pride in our Heritage, Confidence in our Future*

*Be Respectful Be Responsible Do Your Personal Best*



## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Term 4 — Week 5**

**Monday 11 November 2024**

Date	Event/Activity	Who is involved	Further Information
20-22 November	Great Aussie Bush Camp	Years 2-6	Please completed final payments
25-29 November	Dance Workshop/Camp		More info to come
2-13 December	Swimming	All students	More info to come
3 December 2024	Last day of Kinder Early Birds	Kindergarten children enrolled for 2025	
4 December 2024	Presentation Day 2024— 9.30am	Whole School , Families and community	More information to follow
16 December 2024	Year 6 Farewell Dinner - Murrurundi Golf Club	Year 6 - Invited family and staff	More information to come
16 December 2024	Whole School Disco 7.00pm – 8.30pm - Murrurundi Golf Club	All students	More information to come
18 December 2024	MUGS Cup - T-Ball	Year 6 students / parents & carers	9.00am

### Welcome to Additional Staff

Last week, we welcome Teahn Crump and Molly Gould into our school. Both ladies are in their third year of study and will work with our classes over the next three weeks. Students were excited to have new people in the room to assist with their learning.

We also welcome Ms Emma Craswell who has been appointed as our new school counsellor. This news has been received with eager anticipation as we have not had access to counsellor services all year. She has scheduled three visits before the end of term, so if you would like your child to access her services, please speak to your child's classroom teacher this week.

### Changes to Staff Development Days in 2025

It was announced last week as part of the new salary agreement for teachers that there will be nine staff development days (pupil free days) in 2025. There will be four in term 1, two in term 2, two in term 3 and one in term 4. Some of these days are earmarked specifically for professional development, while others have been left to the discretion of the school. The days are scheduled by the Department of Education and not individual schools.

So, what does this mean for families? Families will need to be aware that they will have to provide or find suitable supervision for their children on these days.

### 2025 school development days

- Term 1:
  - Eastern division – Friday 31 January to Wednesday 5 February
  - Western division – Friday 7 February to Wednesday 12 February
- Term 2: Monday 28 April and Tuesday 29 April
- Term 3: Monday 21 July
- Term 4: Monday 13 October

School in 2025 will begin on Thursday 6 February for all students in Years 1 – 6. Kindergarten's start date is yet to be determined. We will notify parents of this as soon as we can. Our office, however, will be open from the 31 January if you need to pick up uniforms etc.

## **Principal Visit**

Last week, Mr Sean Andrews (Director of Leadership) and 14 principals from the Upper Hunter visited our school. This was a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase what is happening in our school. Mrs Belinda Denning, vAPCI spoke to the group about the work she has been doing with staff round collecting and analysing student data, then using that to drive explicit teaching. She talked about the amazing impact we are having in number talks and close reading.

During this visit, I was lucky enough to be presented with my 30 years of service award. Hard to believe that I have been working for the Department of Education for 30 years, supporting the growth of students and helping them to achieve their potential. I look forward to the next 30 years and what that is going to bring.

I would like to thank the P&C, specifically Rob, Nikki and Kylie, for providing lunch to the visiting Principals. We had lots of positive comments about the steak!

## **Absences**

It has been wonderful to see so many families accessing Schoolstream and email to notify the school of their child's absence. Please remember that stating your child is away for the day is not enough. You need to include a reason so that we can enter it on the roll. Any notifications that do not contain a reason for the absence is marked as unjustified.

## **High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE)**

Last week, I attended the second of professional learning for HPGE. We looked at some school data, that included attitudes and practices of teaching staff and set out a plan for implementing the new policy next year. We will be working with the other three small schools in our area to share resources and personnel as we do this. This will become a focus area for the Department of Education in 2025.

## **Last day of term**

The last day of term for both students and staff will be 18<sup>th</sup> December. This means there will be no staff at school after this date. Please make sure you have finalised payments, ordered uniforms etc prior to this date. We thank everyone for their cooperation in this.

## **Great Aussie Bush Camp**

Our excursion to the Great Aussie Bush Camp is coming up at the end of next week. Thank you to all families who have finalised their payments. Places for camp have now closed and all payments must be finalised this week. A big thank you to the P&C who have funded the full cost of the bus for the excursion. This has saved all families quite a bit of money. We are appreciative of their efforts to reduce the cost of the excursion.

**Mrs Darlington  
Principal**

Assembly Awards Term 4 - Week 5

*Merit Award*

Lilly  
Max  
Alyssa  
Briella  
Patrick  
Hunter

*PBL Award*

Mia - Responsible  
Isabelle - Responsible



*Principal Award*

Bianca—Lee



*Gold*

Matilda T  
Violet

*Silver*

Alyssa  
Cooper

**Advanced Notice**

Wednesday 4 December - Presentation Day 9.30am

Monday 16 Dec - Year 6 Farewell 5pm

Monday 16 Dec - Whole School Disco 7pm - 8.30pm

Wednesday 18 Dec - MUGS CUP—Year 6 students  
verse parents in T-Ball— 9.00am

**The next P&C Meeting to be Tuesday 12 November at 4.00pm**

**Everyone invited to attend. We need to discuss end of year celebrations.**

**Please enter the school via the back gate and the meeting will be held in the  
3/4/5/6 classroom.**

## K-1-2 Class News

We have moved back into our usual classroom. While it was nice to have a larger space to work, the room was very noisy. Last week we welcomed Miss Crump from Newcastle University to our school. She will spend three more weeks with us. She has been familiarising herself with the classroom and students, and teaching a few lessons. This week her workload will increase as she teaches Kinder maths, drama, writing, and PE. She will also help with reading groups and online assessments which will start this week.

In literacy, we have been reading the book *Iggy Peck Architect*, and some other texts about bridges. We are using what we have learnt to build a bridge, write a set of instructions and have someone else test our instructions out. This should be lots of fun.

In maths, we have been learning about a wide range of topics. Kindergarten have been consolidating their understanding of numbers 0 -20. Putting them into order, stating the number before and after any given number and trusting the count when adding on. Year 1/2 have been learning about rounding to the nearest ten, adding on and taking away tens, and sharing into set groups. E.g. share 15 into 3 groups. They have already put this learning to good use, problem solving.

In Science we are learning about the Earth's resources and how we can use them wisely.

Mr Leayr has been joining us every Wednesday for singing. This has been a highly engaging and much anticipated activity through-out the week. We ended the week on a high with a visit from Healthy Harold.

Next week (week 6) will be our last whole school assembly for the year. Students will only have until next Friday to earn any thumbs up needed for awards.

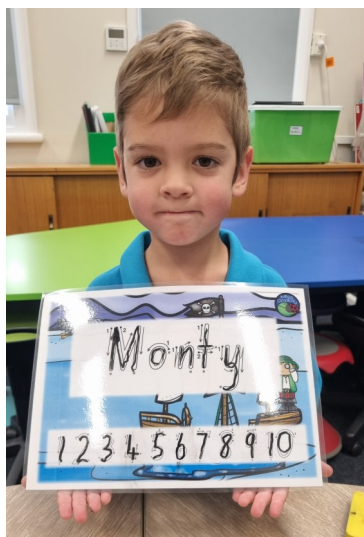
**Mrs Darlington, Mrs Leayr and Miss Crump**



K-1-2 Class News Cont..



Our Early Birds Pre Kinder Program



## Class 3/4/5/6

This past fortnight has continued the busy start to term 4 for 3-6. We have continued our close reading sessions online with our APCI Mrs Denning, where students have been analysing texts which explore the Aboriginal seasons. During our sessions we have a key focus on comprehension, spelling and vocabulary, where students are annotating the texts to draw out information and make connections to their prior knowledge. Our Maths has focused around the concepts of Multiplication, Area and Volume with students furthering their ability to use a range of multiplicative strategies to solve different problems flexibly.

In Week 3, some of our Years 4-6 girls travelled to Denman to play in the Debbie Carroll League Tag Gala Day. Despite joining with St Joseph's of Denman, the girls were a player down with no subs for the 4 games across the day. Putting up a fighting effort in all games, the girls showed great skill and sportsmanship and thoroughly enjoyed their time on the field. Thank you to the parents who were able to organise lifts for the day on short notice to allow the girls to participate in the day.

I would also like to welcome Miss Gould to the 3-6 class. Miss Gould is joining us for weeks 4-7 whilst she completes her prac as part of her university studies. Throughout the 4 weeks she will be in the classroom teaching a range of lessons. I wish her the best for the rest of her time with us.

Keegan  
Pulik  
**Classroom Teacher**  
**Murrurundi Public School**

