Dear Parents, and Community Members,

I hope you all enjoyed the warm weather over the weekend. We’ve had a positive start to the school year with staff and students getting back into the weekly routine. This year promises to be filled with fantastic learning experiences for our students, as well as lots and lots of fun for everyone.

Swimming Carnival

Our small schools swimming carnival will be held this Thursday at Bellingen Pool. Thanks to those parents and carers who have already returned the permission note. Please remember that we are asking each family to make arrangements for transport to and from the pool on the day. Our younger students will not be participating in organised events, but will have the opportunity to support the older children as well as some time swimming in the smaller pool. Kate Lemmes and I will be supervising students on the day but we are also looking for as much family support as possible. It will be a great day that gives our students the chance to meet and mingle with students from other small schools in the area. Entry is $3 payable at the pool.

Cooking

Cooking will take place on a fortnightly basis this term commencing this week. A $3 per week charge will be invoiced to parents to assist in covering the cost of this valuable program. I will endeavor to remind families via the newsletter about cooking each week.

Hats

Hot and sunny weather has been forecast for this week. Please ensure students come to school with their school hat each day. We have a no hat-no play policy that we would rather not have to enforce. The children have so much fun in the playground at break times and it is unfortunate when we have to restrict the activities they are able to participate in.

Timetable Changes

Further to my email last week, a reminder that library has moved to Tuesdays, and piano lessons will now be held on Thursdays. Please ensure students come to school with all the necessary equipment (library bags and books on Tuesday, piano book on Thursdays). Piano lessons will commence in Week 3 due to our swimming carnival being held this week.

Voluntary Contributions

Families are being asked to contribute to the costs of text books, online subscriptions for Reading Eggs and Mathletics and cooking. Invoices will be sent home shortly. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you are unable to make these payments in the near future. We are very flexible and our first priority is that all students have access to necessary resources. A regular payment plan can be put in place to ease the financial burden.

Senior Camp

Accommodation has been booked and dates confirmed for our senior camp in Week 11. Students from Years 4 to 6 will spend two nights at Point Lookout (New England National Park) and participate in a number of educational and enjoyable activities. John McQueen from Cascade Environmental Education Centre will be gracing us with his expertise and it promises to be a fantastic experience. Please note that I will require the support of one female adult. Please let me know if you are interested and available on the dates. More information will be sent home soon.

TERM 1 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th February</td>
<td>Small Schools Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th February</td>
<td>Book Club Orders Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5, 6, 7</td>
<td>Senior Camp, Point Lookout</td>
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Our junior students need not feel like they are missing out. Miss Lemmes will be coordinating an excursion to Urunga boardwalk and lagoon, as well as other enjoyable experiences at school.

**Homework**

Homework will be sent home this week and will be due for return to school on Fridays. In addition to spelling and reading, a worksheet will be sent home alternating each week between literacy and numeracy. Kindergarten homework will be slightly different and obviously less demanding. Please take some time each night to support your child by listening to them read and assisting them with homework tasks. Students who complete all of their homework receive a small reward from Mrs Peart on Fridays.

**Book Club**

The first catalogue for Book Club will be going home today. If you would like to order any books please return your order and cheque (made payable to Scholastic Book Club), or cash to the school by no later than Wednesday 17th February. Alternatively, you can order and pay online by credit card using LOOP (as described on the order form). By nominating Crossmaglen Public School when using LOOP, the points will be allocated to the school for the purchase of free books in the future.

I hope you all have a fantastic week!

Peter Rundle
Principal