Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

The first of our new kindergarten children will be visiting and participating in a variety of activities as part of our Kindergarten Orientation mornings in Week 3 and 5. A big thanks to Mrs Eggleston and Mr Guilhot for their wonderful energy in ensuring the pre-schoolers have a positive start to their schooling experience.

I was lucky enough to visit the first session of Year 6 Surfing for Sport lessons on Thursday last week at Sandy Beach main beach. The high quality instruction and safety from the instructors was outstanding. As you may already know the Year 6 surf program could only be offered through the efforts of Mr Murgatroyd securing the funding through a partnering with Solitary Islands Surf School and Surf Australia, to be able to deliver this great opportunity for our Year 6 students – at no cost to you! The positive energy from all on the beach was contagious; I wonder if anyone will notice me gone for the afternoon this Thursday?!!

Indigenous students are beginning a 6 week program “All Children Being Safe” which is being conducted by the Aboriginal Family Well Being Service. This culturally appropriate program empowers primary students with non-threatening strategies to help them feel safe in their communities.

We had a visit from Anne Shearer (Coffs Council - Traffic) to discuss possible effective solutions to the congestion of traffic and buses on Saye Close. Stay tuned, there are some positive changes coming to make the “drop off and pick up” zone safer for all.

Year 5 students returned tired but happy from their three day excursion to Lake Ainsworth last Wednesday afternoon. Big thanks to the organising teachers, Mrs Carpenter and Mrs McNab who commented that the students’ behaviour was exemplary.

The Fashion Parade proved to be lots of fun with some great bargains to be had by all who attended. Many thanks to Simmy Hayes and the wonderful team.

Please note there will be no assembly this Friday due to our Wheel ‘Athon.

We would like to welcome the four Southern Cross Uni prac students who are currently at our school and hope they have a rewarding experience here.

Jolly Bops will be performing next Thursday 29th October, don’t forget to send your permission note and money to your child’s class teacher.

Aldina Craig
Relieving Principal
**CANTENE NEWS** - don’t forget to return your **meal deal order** and money to the Canteen by next **Monday 26th October**. No late orders can be accepted as we will have to place our order to our supplier on this day.

**UNDERSTANDING LEARNING DIFFICULTIES** - are you worried about your child’s learning achievements and thinking about accessing interventions outside of school with your child’s teacher and with our Learning Support Team before you commit to outside interventions.

We would like to draw your attention to a recent statement that has been released by the Australian Federation of SPELD Associations (AUSPELD) which distributes a valuable reference book entitled **Understanding Learning Difficulties—A Guide for Parents** which includes a section outlining the criteria associated with successful intervention programs.

“For students with Specific learning Disabilities, extra support and remediation targeting their specific areas of need are often required to ensure they have the best chance of developing appropriate skills. There are many intervention programs available for teachers and tutors to use, some of these are produced commercially and others are freely available on the Internet. It is important to note that the cost of a program does not necessarily determine it’s effectiveness. One of the most important criteria linked to successful outcomes relates to whether or not the program is evidence based. It is important that the program is based on current research evidence and that it’s effectiveness is supported by independent reviews (i.e. not evaluated solely by the program manufacturers).”

It is very important that you think carefully about choosing interventions for your child and that you discuss your concerns with the school to ensure that you are selecting an effective intervention for your child.

Our annual Wheel ‘athon will be held this Friday 23rd October. A reminder that **only primary aged students are permitted to ride to school on this day**. If your child does not usually ride to school then they will need to be accompanied by a parent. Students are not permitted to ride home if they don’t normally travel home this way.

Teachers are to be notified in writing of any changes to the usual home travel routines. All students bikes/scooters/helmets etc can be dropped off to their classroom and picked up after they have completed their activity.

**ALL STUDENTS** must bring/wear a helmet and are permitted to wear Mufti clothing—no thongs or sandals please, covered footwear is compulsory.

We have extended the date to return forms and money for this event **ALL MONEY & SPONSORSHIP FORMS NOW NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE BY NO LATER THAN 9.00AM WEDNESDAY 28th OCTOBER to be included in the draw.**

Thank you for supporting our Wheel ‘athon and keep encouraging those sponsors!!

**ATHON TIMETABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>KE &amp; KG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.50</td>
<td>1C &amp; 1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.25</td>
<td>2E &amp; 2P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>3A &amp; 3W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.20</td>
<td>4HD &amp; 4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>YEARS 5 &amp; 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARENT LINE NSW** is now online if you wish to chat online with a Parenting Counsellor please go to: www.ParentLine.org.au to chat online with a counsellor or phone 1300 1300 52