



SAWTELL PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

"A member of the Bongil Bongil Learning Community"

1 February 2018 — TERM 1 WEEK 1

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the new school year! I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students and their families, as well as a number of new staff members. Due to the retirement of a number of staff I warmly welcome Mrs Reeves who will be teaching in Stage 1 and Miss Burkitt who will be teaching in Stage 3. Job sharing with Miss Burkitt, due to maternity leave, is Mrs Sullings. In my short couple of days at Sawtell I wish to express my thanks to the students, staff and parents who I have had the pleasure to meet and engage in conversation. These brief conversations are meaningful as they provide me with a broad picture of the beautiful school Sawtell PS is. As the dust settles I look forward to being a bigger presence across all classrooms.

We are pleased to announce that we are retaining our 14 classes and 2018 class structures are currently being finalised. We anticipate these classes will be formed and operating from Monday next (at the latest).

As part of a cycle, all schools begin their new 3 year School Plan this year (2018-2020). These school plans are due to be finalised by the end of Term 1. As part of the planning process I wish to invite parents/carers to a planning session. There will be 2 planning sessions taking place on Monday 12th February (Week 3). Both planning sessions will be identical. One will be presented at 9:30am in the staffroom and the other at 6:00pm in the library. I hope that many parents will be able to attend one of these planning sessions. It would also be an opportunity for me to meet you.

School safety is everyone's business. Please support the safety of all children by adhering to parking signage in and around the school.

School pride is alive at Sawtell PS. I have been very impressed with the number of students wearing the full Sawtell PS uniform. Not only does the wearing of the school uniform unify our school, it looks tidy and smart

and gives our children a sense of belonging within our community.

The school swimming carnival will be held on Thursday 8th February for students from Year 2 (who turn 8 this year) to Year 6. There will be competitive events as well as shorter races for the less confident swimmers. Students are encouraged to come in their Sporting House colours. House meetings will be held this Friday. New students will be placed in their 'house' during these meetings.

HOUSE COLOURS

Bradman – RED

Cuthbert – YELLOW

Elliot – BLUE

Fraser - GREEN

Congratulations Sawtell PS! We have again been accepted to participate in the 2018 Opera House Choir. Mrs Pollack has already begun the planning.

Who am I?

I thought I'd give a brief overview of myself. First and foremost I am a husband and father of 4 beautiful children (3 ladies/1 growing lad). I grew up in the local Coffs Harbour area, my grandfather was a Sawtell resident and my mother in-law lives just around the corner from our school. I have taught across many settings including Woodenbong CS, Lightning Ridge CS, Kororo PS, Bellingen PS (Assistant Principal), Boambee PS (Assistant Principal), Bonville PS (Principal) and Toormina PS (relieving Principal). I have also worked for the Southern Cross University as a tutor of Mathematics and PD/H/PE for the Education faculty and was a Learning and Engagement consultant for the Department of Education (Coffs Harbour). I am very passionate about student and educational leadership and public education in general. I am competitive and strive for excellence, whether it's on the field or in the classroom. Importantly, I aim to deliver the very best high quality

education for all children through providing a balanced curriculum and embracing best practice through evidence based research. This I believe is best done through engaging the entire school community, including students, staff and parents as partners in education.

Michael Hepi
Principal

ASSEMBLY:

We are currently developing the Assembly Roster for Term 1. Further details will be known next week.

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday 8:30am – 9:30am. Uniform order forms are available at the office if you are unable to visit the uniform shop at this time.

P&C NEWS

The first P&C meeting for 2018 will be held on Monday 5th February, next week. New members are most welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| 5 th February | Kindergarten begin ½ days. P&C meeting 7pm. |
| 8 th February | School swimming carnival. Kindergarten full days commence. |
| 12 th February | Parent School Planning meeting 9:30am and 6:00pm. |
| 15 th February | Parent Teacher info night. Yr 1-2 5:30pm Yr 3-4 6:00pm and Yr 5-6 6:30pm. |
| 19 th February | Parent Teacher info night. Kindergarten 5:30pm. |



PERFORMING ARTS

Over 80 enthusiastic students from Years 3-6 attended the first choir practice for 2018. Knowing that 36 students from Years 4-6 will be selected to perform at the Sydney Opera House on 30 July is positive motivation. The successful singers will be notified within the next 2 weeks. There will be an Opera House parent meeting in 5N classroom on Thursday, 15 February at 5:30pm before Parent Teacher meetings.

Mary Pollack

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[HTTP://WWW.SAWTELL-P.SCHOOLS.NSW.EDU.AU](http://www.sawtell-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)



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We're on the Web!

See us at: www.sawtell-p.schools.nsw.edu.au