

SAWTELL PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

"A member of the Bongil Bongil Learning Community"

14 February 2018 — TERM 1 WEEK 4

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Last Thursday and Friday executive members of the Bongil Bongil Community of Schools met at Boambee PS to discuss how our schools can collaborate more closely, build stronger partnerships with the Southern Cross University, in driving our schools forward aligned with the School Excellence Framework. SCU Associate Professor, Marilyn Chaseling, and Professor David Townsend (The University of Lethbridge, Canada) led valuable discussions for ongoing planning. Sawtell PS looks forward to collaborative partnerships across our community to build the capacity of staff and increase student learning outcomes.



Year 6 Leadership camp

Mr Burkitt is currently organising the Year 6 Leadership camp to North Beach. The date and cost (anticipated to be less than \$100 per student) will be communicated once finalised.

Scripture and Ethics Classes

Scripture and Ethics classes will commence next Thursday (Week 4).

School Planning

On Monday 2 Parent School planning sessions were conducted to develop direction for the 2018-2020 School Plan. Approximately 20% of Sawtell PS families were represented. Thank you everyone for your input and valuable comments. On 'Skoolbag' is an overview of feedback provided by parents as well as a combination of parent/staff priorities for the school plan aligned with the School Excellence Framework.



Big Screen on the Green

Please support this wonderful community event to fundraise for Sawtell PS.

Class/School Structure

Schools often take for granted that our communities know about aspects of school structure. Below is an overview of which grades/year groups fit within 'stages'.

Kindergarten – Early Stage 1

Year 1 and Year 2 – Stage 1

Year 3 and Year 4 – Stage 2

Year 5 and Year 6 – Stage 3

Year 7 and Year 8 – Stage 4

Year 9 and Year 10 – Stage 5

Year 11 and Year 12 – Stage 6

This is universal across NSW schools.

Have a great end to the week!

Michael Hepi – Principal

THURSDAY EVENING BABYSITTING

Laurel Astle and Sally Wilson have offered a babysitting service again in the hall from 5.30-7pm on Thursday to help facilitate parent attendance at class meetings. Students will be watching a movie. Students please bring a pillow/blanket/beanbag (maybe even wear their pyjamas) Students are welcome to bring and be responsible for personal devices. Students will not be permitted to leave the hall until they are collected by parent/carer. **Laurel Astle**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 15/2 Stg 1, 2 and 3 Parent Teacher night
Stg 1 – 5:30-6pm includes class 2/3G
Stg 2 – 6-6:30pm, Stg 3 – 6:30-7pm including 4/5CE
- 15/2 Opera House Choir Parent Info – 5:30-6pm in the old Library
- 16/2 NRMA bus safety visit for Kindergarten
- 19/2 Parent Teacher night for Kindergarten
- 20/2 Toormina District swimming
- 22/2 Scripture and Ethics Classes commence
- 23/2 3/4K assembly

P&C NEWS



Let's find out more about our new Principal, Mr. Michael Hepi

Tell us about your own family. My wife's name is Rebekka. We have 4 children - Maddi (22 years), Alexandra (21 years), Amy (20 years) and Charlie (16 years). I am currently in my 4th and final phase of supervising a Learner Driver. Can't wait for it to be complete. It is only a myth that once your children learn to drive that they become your taxi. It is a fact that supervising Learner Drivers contributes to baldness.

What do you like doing when you're not at school? I enjoy surfing my favourite breaks along Park Beach and Diggers Beach. Dining out with family... I love food. Crossfit is my equilibrium.

What has been your biggest achievement to date? This is a tough question. Since the birth of my eldest I have always wanted to be the best dad I could be. We raised our girls to be strong independent young women who could stand on their own 2 feet. Our son would have to be one of my best mates. I have experienced many personal achievements both family and career related. I consider myself to be very fortunate. Being successful at interview for the Sawtell PS principal is certainly one of my greatest career related achievements. It is an absolute privilege to be a leader in our public schools.

Your funniest experience being a Principal? Funny enough it was with Mr Cheers It involved split pants, locked out of a house and barking dogs. Enough said

3 words to describe your Principal style? Driven, passionate, integrity

Did you always plan to be Principal - did you follow a career map of your design? I have always wanted to make a difference I think this is fundamental to teaching. Throughout my career I have been actively involved in various professional and industrial associations within public education This involvement certainly fuelled my competitive streak for public education and provided me with a greater depth of knowledge of department policy I strongly believe in the current direction of public education and I am committed to school excellence.

Why did you choose Sawtell PS? A combination of being a local school leader and a local to the area it just seemed natural for me to apply for the principal's position Sawtell PS has an outstanding reputation The Sawtell community are very passionate about their town and school. As a principal I find this very appealing.

What are your short term goals for Sawtell PS? Build trust with students, staff and families. To lead the school community through the development of an innovative 2018-2020 School Plan which is focused on the needs of students and staff and is owned by students, staff and parents.

Something few people know and you're happy to share? years ago I met my birth father for the first time in Phoenix, Arizona.

AGM Reminder - P&C AGM will be held next Monday, 19 February at 7pm in the Staffroom. All P&C executive roles for 2018 are open for re-election. Those wishing to stand or vote for any roles must be present and be a financial member of the P&C (which is \$2, payable at the meeting).

Thinking of buying or selling real estate?

For all your real estate needs, contact your local professional today on **0431 011 913**
Howard Nicholson – Sales Agent

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We're on the Web!

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