Principal’s Message

It's hard to keep up with all the social media platforms and apps our kids want to use. Instagram is currently one of the most popular social networks for school-aged children at the moment. It's a free, photo and video sharing mobile application and social network for people aged 13 years and over. There's no age-verification process though, so younger children can create an account pretty easily, sometimes without parents even knowing. Instagram say they'll remove under-age users' accounts if they are reported.

Instagram has just published "A Parent's Guide to Instagram", and it's a great place to start if you want to know more about how it works and how it can be used safely.

The simplest way to stay informed is to ask your child what apps and social media they know about and ask them to show you how they work.

It's a good, non-threatening approach because:
- kids and teens find out about new apps, games and social networks long before we do
- even less chatty teens tend to enjoy the chance to share their expertise
- you'll narrow your focus down to only those social networks and apps your kids use
- it opens up the conversation about social media tools and their social life in general
- if you ask your child to show you how to "block" other users, "report" abuse, "delete" their own posts and change their privacy settings, you'll learn how it's done but also know they're able to use those options if they need to.

The good news is we don't have to be social media experts to keep our kids safe, but we do have to be good communicators and talk to them regularly about their social lives – both on and offline.

School Leaders Investiture

This Friday is our School Leaders Investiture where our Captains, House Captains and Leaders accept their badges and sign their Position of Responsibilities statement.

All families are welcome to attend our ceremony which will begin at 1:30 pm

Sydney Swans Visit

This Tuesday morning our school will receive a visit from the Sydney Swans to promote Australian Rules football in our local area. We currently have a number of local clubs boys and girls from our school can join.

Meet the Teacher Evening

This year we will be running this event over 2 nights. K-2 will be on Tuesday February 16 (Kindergarten 4:30 pm, Year 1 5:30 pm and Year 2 6:30 PM) and 3-6 on Wednesday February 17. (Years 3 & 4 5:00 pm and 5 & 6 6:00 pm)

We will be running a free sausage sizzle for you to stay and have a chat.

It would be great to see many parents there to meet the teachers.

School Values

This year we will be introducing a behaviour program called ‘Positive Behaviour for Learning’. The cornerstone of this approach is the proactive explicit instruction of expected behaviours and the
highlighting of school values. At Narara Public School we have 3 simple values under the premise of ‘WE CARE’. They are:

We care for ourselves.
We care for others.
We care for our school.

Text Book Sales Day
Friday, 19th February – cost for K-4 students will be $13.50 and Years 5 & 6 $31.50. Please note if paying on the day it is cash only.

Car Park
A reminder that the upper car park is for staff and deliveries only. You may use disabled spaces if you have the correct identification. All car park spaces marked in yellow are free spaces which permit holders can use. Gates will be closed at 8:15 am.

Mrs Parker
Mrs Parker recently has fallen under ill health. Currently she has been undergoing a series of medical tests in an attempt to get to the bottom of the cause. We are expecting her to return either on Thursday or Monday of next week. Mrs Tyrrell will continue to take 1P in the meantime.

Playgroup
I would like to highlight a great opportunity within our school. We are currently working with PLAYGROUP NSW to organise a playgroup session within our school. Our thoughts are that it would promote a higher sense of community, build on positive pathways into our school and provide an opportunity for our young families to make earlier connections. Information on how to enrol will be forwarded soon.

Food Alert
At NPS we have several students who have severe reactions to nuts. These reactions range from skin rashes to acute anaphylactic shock requiring an EpiPen or AnaPen. Please do not send any nut products or food containing nuts to school.
We also ask that if your child is allergic to or has intolerance towards certain foods, you speak to your child about not sharing any food with other students.
Students identified with having anaphylactic reactions, food allergies or intolerances are provided with an individualised Heath Care Plan.

Thank You
A BIG thank you to Carolyn Young and Kate Thompson, who runs the uniform shop, for going out of their way to be of assistance to new parents enrolling their children at school. Thanks to these wonderful ladies, new students have been able to start promptly in full school uniform as well as many of our other students.

Students are not to be on school grounds before 8.10 am.
There is no supervision provided by the school before 8.10 am and students should not be on school grounds before this time, unless they are in Before School Care.

Photo Day
Please note that Photo Day for 2016 will be held Tuesday March 1st.

Bus Behaviour Matters
Please remind students that free travel is a privilege that can be taken away if official Codes of Conduct aren't followed. In summary, students should remember to:
• Tap on and tap off every time.
• Offer their seat to paying customers without being asked.
• Respect transport staff, transport property and fellow travellers.
• Be mindful of safety at every stage of a transport journey.
• Always travel with a valid ticket.
• Student Codes of Conduct are available at transportnsw.info/school-students.

Update Information for Class Teachers
Could the parents of any students who have special medical requirements, dietary needs or change of circumstances please send a note to your child’s 2016 class teacher to keep them updated on your child’s condition and needs. We endeavour to pass all information on file to the new class teacher, however a note from the parent is recommended.
Also, if there are any updated custody forms or family issues, please keep the class teacher and office informed.

Till next time
Dave Stitt
Principal

Uniform Shop
It would be greatly appreciated if any uniforms you may have at home that are no longer needed be dropped off at the uniform shop or left at the office. Thank you.
We are also looking for volunteers to help out on Tuesday and Friday mornings, if you have time to spare please come and see Kate or Carolyn.

The Snack Shack
Ph 0418 238 775 Nicola or MWF 0421 430 050
Please find attached the new canteen menu
Mrs Ford
NARARA PUBLIC SCHOOL CUBBYHOUSE
Out of School Hours Care
Care is provided before and after school on each school day and pupil-free days
Hours: 6:30am to 8:30am; 2:30pm to 6:00pm
Permanent and Casual bookings available
On site for over 20 years, experienced Cubbyhouse staff provides high quality, safe, secure and enjoyable care for our children.
Activities for the children include sport, indoor and outdoor games, reading, electronic games, board games, art, craft and homework supervision.
*Commonwealth Childcare benefits apply providing substantial reduction in cost.*
Enrolment Enquiries: 1300 553 583 (Head Office); 0419 164 647 (Centre Supervisor)

Blue Gum
PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE CENTRE
Exciting things have happened at Blue Gum Preschool & Child Care Centre! A fresh coat of paint, a new, outdoor playground and exciting resources and toys, just to name a few, so come in and discover us today and join the Blue Gum family.
To book a tour, please call Helen on 4329 3197, email us at info@bluegumchildcarecentre.com.au or check out our website www.bluegumchildcarecentre.com.au and find us on Facebook.
We pride ourselves on creating a home-like atmosphere for children, in natural and exciting environments. Our centre is open from 6:00am to 6:30pm, daily, and we cater and provide care for children from 6 weeks to big school. Blue Gum also uses an interactive e-portfolio, Story Park, so you can keep updated with what your child does throughout the day and our new Life Long program for all children. We look forward to meeting you at our centre soon!

Niagara Park Ourimbah Dockers
Lisarow Sporting Precinct, Lisarow
We Play Sunday Footy
Auskick (Boys and Girls 5-7 year olds)
Boys: U9’s, U11’s, U13’s, U15’s, U17’s
Youth Girls: U16’s

For further information please contact Ben Surwald on 0439 431 503
Or head to play afl.com.au

P and C News

Ourimbah Tennis Academy
Monday to Saturday lessons available.
All ages and standards welcome.
Junior competitions
Holiday coaching clinics.
For more information call Angela Nagle on 0402 021 159