What’s On at Hastings …

Sunday, 30th
Choir performances at Port Panthers and St Thomas’ Church

Monday, 1st
Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm

Wednesday, 3rd
Year 6 Port High / Westport High Orientation

Thursday, 4th
K-2 Aquathon
Student Banking
Class 5/6J Night of The Notables
Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm
K-2 Aquathon
Student Banking
Class 5/6J Night of The Notables
Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm

Friday, 5th
\textbf{CLOSING DATE for ALL CLASS PARTY PAYMENTS}
Year 1 Fairy Tales Day
Uniform Shop open 8:30am to 9:30am
2015 School Fete Planning Meeting

HASTINGS HAPPENINGS

\textbf{HASTINGS HAPPENINGS}

\textbf{Respect} - Responsibility - Initiative - Resilience
\textbf{Commitment} - Courage - Achievement

\textbf{MATHLETICS MARVELS}

At the district Mathletics competition held at The Westport Club last Friday Tom Gallagher and Kai Marino showed great skills in their respective age groups. The pictures above show Tom giving 100% concentration and both boys bearing the prizes awarded them following their impressive performances. Tom came first in the K-3 section and Kai second in the Year 4 to 6 section. The boys were up against students from all schools in the Port Macquarie district so have a bright mathematical future ahead.

\textbf{CHRISTMAS HAMPER DONATIONS}

Donations for our Christmas Hamper raffle are now being accepted at the office. If you are out shopping over the weekend please pick up something for our family hampers. A book of raffle tickets will be sent home one to each family next week. The raffle will be drawn at our Rainforest Carols on Friday, 12th December.
Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to be our parliamentarians for next year:

**Girls**  
Mirren Campbell, Estelle Cassegrain, Isabelle Champion, Alani Cockshutt, Mackenzie Dawson, Matilda Lindeman, Gracie Masters, Tait McIntyre, Bessie Mitchell

**Boys**  
Callum Barlow, Jesse Beard, Angus Collins, Max Dowler, Oliver Harris, Riley Johnston, Sam Jones, Declan Pitt, George Teasdell

These students will be presented with their badges and portfolios at our Presentation Evening on Tuesday, 9th December.

**ANZAC DAY CENTENARY ESSAY COMPETITION**

On Monday we held our Anzac Day Centenary Essay Competition with 14 Year 5 students testing their skill. In a close decision the judges awarded first place to Bessie Mitchell. Bessie’s entry will now be sent to the district judges who will assess her work against the winning entries from all schools in Port Macquarie. The winner will receive $500 and read his or her entry at the Town Green Anzac Day ceremony on April 25, 2015.

**REPORTS**

1. With reports going home soon, it was felt some parents are unsure of the specific meaning of the term “writing”. Some feel this refers to handwriting while others believe it means story writing. Those in the latter camp are correct. When teachers use this term they are referring to what older generations called creative writing, story writing or even composition.

2. A reminder to everyone about the ranking system used in our reports related to student achievement. Students are awarded one of the following in all subjects – Outstanding, High, Sound, Basic or Limited. If your child receives a “sound” ranking he or she has met all the requirements for the subject area. Most students at our school will receive this ranking. A “basic” or “limited” ranking indicates the student has not met all grade requirements while a “high” ranking indicates the student has achieved above grade expectations. An “outstanding” ranking is rarely given, only to students performing far above grade levels.

Regardless of achievement levels, we like to think all students are capable of giving their best so if your child receives a 5 for effort, he or she deserves congratulation for excellent application.

**YEAR 6 FAREWELL**

Our farewell is an important milestone in all students’ careers with the night structured to ensure our students have the chance to mark the end of their primary school career, appreciate the camaraderie of their grade and reflect on their time at our school. The formal aspects of the night and the overall presentation are designed to be age-appropriate for 11 and 12 year olds. For this reason, we are asking parents to remember there will be times in high school when other options may be explored such as hair appointments, hired suits and dresses or hired cars. These are not in the spirit of our farewell night so it is hoped all parents will allow their Year 6 children to participate in the manner expected. Let’s remember to let kids be kids. They will have many opportunities to engage in “adult” pursuits in the years ahead.

---

**BREAK A LEG, BOYS & GIRLS!**

A busy, busy weekend coming up for our choirs who will be performing at two community events this Sunday

**Senior Choir**

Christmas Pageant Spectacular at Port Macquarie Panthers - 2pm

**Junior and Senior Choirs**

Lighting of the Christmas Tree at St Thomas’ Anglican Church - 7:30pm

---

LEARNING - GROWING - CARING
YEAR 1 FAIRY TALES DAY
A reminder for Year 1 to dress as their favourite Fairy Tale character next Friday. A short parade will be held following morning assembly (9:10am) and parents are welcome to join us.

YEAR 6 – YEAR 7 ORIENTATION DAYS
Orientation days for Year 6 students going to Port Macquarie and Westport High Schools will be held next Wednesday, 5th December. On arrival at either school please go to the MPC / Hall. Students are to wear their school uniform and hat and take their recess, lunch and a water bottle.

Port High
Students catching the bus to Port High from Hastings must be at school by 8:35am as the bus will leave at 8:45am sharp. The bus will return to Hastings for normal 3pm dismissal. Parents taking their child are asked to be at Port High by 8:50am with pick up at 2:30pm.

Westport High
It is parents’ responsibility to take and pick up their child going to Westport High.

END OF YEAR PARTIES
The office is currently accepting payments for End of Year parties with next Friday, 5th December the CLOSING DATE for all payments. If you have lost your information / permission slip a note can be written from home stating your child’s name, class and use the details below for the activity, date and cost. If paying by credit card we will also require your card number, expiry date and CCV (on the back of the card).

- Kindergarten Friday, 12th Jumbos $11.00
- Year 1 Thursday, 11th Jus4Fun $11.00
- Year 2 Wednesday, 10th Jus4Fun $11.00
- Year 3 and Year 4 Friday, 12th Jus4Fun $14.00
- Year 5 and Year 6 Thursday, 11th Wauchope Pool $10.00

Please DO NOT leave your payment to the last minute as late payments WILL NOT be accepted.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FISH-SITTERS
Would you like to fish-sit one or all five of our goldfish over the holidays? If you have a suitable fish bowl at home and are not going away during the holidays perhaps you will be able to help us out! Please contact the office if you can.

SCHOOL BAND 2015
Last Friday, letters were given to Year 2 students who expressed an interest in joining the school’s Concert Band and Instrumental Programs in 2015. The programs target students currently in Year 1 for violin and students currently in Years 2 to 5 for band. If you would like your child to learn an instrument through our School Band program and you haven’t received a note please contact the office. It is expected students currently in band will continue on in 2015. Please let Mrs Hamilton know if this is not the case.

2015 SCHOOL FETE PLANNING MEETING
The P&C’s major fundraiser next year is the School Fete and as many of you are aware the amazing Noni Collins has retired from School Fete coordinator. Thankfully, Lisa Carter and Sandy Green have offered to take over as coordinators but need YOUR HELP as well! Liza and Sandy will hold a meeting on Friday, 5th December at 6:30pm to discuss early planning for our 2015 School Fete and would love to see all interested parents there (sorry, no toddlers). If you can attend please contact Lisa on 0400 473 839 for the address. You can also contact Lisa if you can’t attend but have an idea for a stall or would like information from the meeting.

FREE PAVERS
There are over 200 square pavers (23 cm) that have been lifted as part of our playground integration works. They are bound for the tip so if any family or families can use them around their home, please contact the office to arrange collection.
ALLERGY ALERT

Students are starting to give their friends Christmas cards and in some cases candy canes or chocolate Santas attached to the card. Could parents please be aware chocolate Santas, in particular, could harm allergic children, as chocolate contains dairy and may also contain traces of nuts. Candy canes represent a safer option.