Hi everyone,

Thank you to everyone who supported us on Sunday at The Channon Markets. It is certainly wonderful to see the commitment the parents and community have to help our school fundraise so that we can make a difference for all our students. Our total profit from the day was $1700. Thank you all once again for your ongoing support.

This newsletter has important information regarding two events that need your support.

Cogmed is a fun, interactive computer program that we will be completing over next Term. It is centred on Working Memory and Learning.

Cogmed is an evidence-based, cognitive training program that can be effectively implemented in the school learning environment to strengthen students’ working memory. Working memory is essential for learning and supports many of the activities that children routinely engage in at school, including:

- Controlling attention
- Remembering instructions
- Organising information
- Focusing
- Resisting Distractions
- Complex thinking
  Students participate in online activities

➢ Tell Them From Me Survey

The Tell Them From Me student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students. The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information is attached as well as the consent form, which needs to be returned to school by MONDAY 16th March.

Alison Bath
Excursions

On Tuesday 24th March, we will be going by bus to visit the Lismore Heritage Centre as part of our History unit. Travel will be by bus and we will be leaving at 10:30

Cost is $10 per student or $15 for 2 students in the same family.

Yesterday students went on a virtual tour to Calthorpes House in Canberra. It is house from the 1920’s. Students were able to listen to one of the daughters tell her memories as a little girl; look at a variety of artefacts, including an ice box and read a story that Dawn told about her sister’s birthday surprise. We compared the similarities and differences we found about our own families, houses, toys and activities.

Please sign the attached note and pay for the excursion by 23rd of March.

➢ As discussed at our P and C meeting earlier on this year (and in the newsletter), due to changes in our budget system students who have not paid for the excursion by this date will not be able to attend and will stay at school.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, please feel free to contact the school for further information.

This Friday we have Stage 3 students from Whian Whian, Dunoon, Modanville, Corndale and The Channon Schools coming to our enrichment day. Students will be working with Christine Freeman from Doroughby Environmental Education Centre, Tuntable Creek Landcare and myself. We will be looking at our project on The Giant Barred Frog, frog habitat, dipnetting, water testing, plant propagation, toad traps and frog houses. The end result is for students to take back information to their own schools on sustainability and make a difference in their local school environments.

Alison Bath

Everything that is past is either a learning experience to grow on, a beautiful memory to reflect on, or a motivating factor to act upon.

— Denis Walley

Succeeding in science

Encouraging your teen to ask questions and helping them find the answers is top of the list in helping them to succeed in science.


Facts about tutors

Private tutoring to give kids a helping hand in their schooling is a growing business. However, it’s also an area where parents can be vulnerable to bogus offers and misleading advertising.


Public speaking

Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child’s next speech a success.


Science starters

Did humans live with dinosaurs? Does the moon disappear in the day? Kids love to know the answers to life’s mysteries but there are a few facts they often get wrong in the name of science.


Year 10 subject selection

In Year 10 students are asked to select subjects for Years 11 and 12. Here are some tips to help your teen choose well.


A crash course in poetry appreciation

Understanding why an author uses certain words or structures in their poetry can help your teenager enjoy the English subject and give greater depth to their writing and language skills.

Wednesday, 11 March 2015

LISMORE HERITAGE CENTRE / MUSEUM
TUESDAY 24TH MARCH 2015

As part of our History Unit, students from Tunttable Creek Public School will be participating in an excursion to Lismore Heritage Centre and Museum.

Total cost for the excursion will be $10.00 per student, $15.00 for family (2 students)

Travel to and from the venues in Lismore will be by bus. We will be departing the school at 10.30am.
Please do not have lunch orders or heat ups on the day.

Alison Bath
Principal

__________________________________________

TUNTABLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL – LISMORE HERITAGE CENTRE/MUSEUM
TUESDAY 24TH MARCH 2015

I give permission for my child/ren ____________________________________ of Tunttable Creek Public School to attend the History Excursion to Lismore Heritage Centre/Museum on Tuesday 24th March 2015. I understand that travel to and from the venues will be by bus.

I enclose ___________________ ($10.00 per student/$15.00 per family)

Signed: ____________________________ Date: ________________________

Name: __________________________________
Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child’s school by Friday 27 February.

More information about the survey and the research is available on the CESE website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Alison Bath                                      Dr Jenny Donovan
Principal                                       General Manager
Tuntable Creek Public School                    Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation
Tell Them From Me
Student Feedback Survey
Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

What is the Tell Them From Me student survey?
The Tell Them From Me student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

What kind of questions will the survey ask?
The survey will ask students questions about:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation in Sports</th>
<th>Homework Behaviour</th>
<th>Expectations for Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Rigour</td>
<td>Participation in Clubs</td>
<td>Behaviour at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experiences of being bullied</td>
<td>Positive Teacher-Student Relations</td>
<td>Sense of Belonging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and Motivation</td>
<td>Effective Learning Time</td>
<td>Positive Learning Climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Relationships</td>
<td>Effort</td>
<td>Teaching Relevance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How have schools been selected to take part?
The survey is open for all NSW government schools to participate in at no cost to them. Your school has taken up this offer.

How will taking part in this survey benefit my child’s school?
The Tell Them From Me student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?
The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, The Learning Bar. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

Does my child have to participate?
No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time. Parents/students have a right to apply for access to, and correction of, a student’s information.
Will the school be able to identify my child from their responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will not be made available.

A small number of staff in the Department’s Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) will have access to individual student responses for the purpose of statewide analysis. Individual students’ data will be held on a secure server with access strictly limited to CESE researchers. The researchers are interested in trends only – not in individual student responses. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publication.

What sort of analysis will be done on the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders may use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the Department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between wellbeing, engagement, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE’s analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the Department’s continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

Can all school students participate in the survey?

The primary school survey is designed for students in Years 4 to 6. Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in these Year groups to participate.

When will the Tell Them From Me survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 9 March and Thursday 2 April 2015 (Weeks 7-10 of Term 1).

What is the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE)?

CESE is part of the Department of Education and Communities. It has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in NSW.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all education sectors.

What is The Learning Bar and what is their role?

The Learning Bar is an international education company, with offices in Australia and Canada, that specialises in school surveys and student assessments. They have been contracted by the Department to run the surveys for NSW public schools. Its survey, Tell Them From Me, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada’s ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years.

The Learning Bar has conducted surveys in Australia before, with schools helping to adapt surveys, ensuring they are appropriate to an Australian context. For purely administrative purposes, The Learning Bar will also have temporary access to identifiable student responses to the survey questions. Other than The Learning Bar and CESE researchers within the Department, identifiable student responses will not be disclosed to any other person or body other than as required by law.


Contact Details

For more information about the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, please contact us:

êsse@det.nsw.edu.au

www.cese.nsw.gov.au
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 27 February 2015.

I (print name) ........................................................................................................... DO NOT give consent
for my child/children (print name/s) ................................................................................
of class/es ......................to participate in the Tell Them From Me
student feedback survey.

Signed................................................................. Date..................................
SURVIVING ADOLESCENCE TOGETHER

Are you a parent or carer of a teenager?
Are you looking for some information or support in parenting your teenager?
Are you concerned about how your relationship with your teenager is changing?

WHAT’S THIS COURSE ABOUT?
Surviving Adolescence Together is a parenting course that aims to support parents/careers through one of the greatest transitions a family faces. This course is designed to help you understand and respond positively to the challenges of adolescence, and to help strengthen your relationship with your teenager.

We all went through adolescence safely and to develop into great adults. Yet, there are many factors that influence our teens for good and bad. Extensive research has shown that the most protective factor in helping teens develop into resilient adults is a strong, supportive relationship with a parent or carer.

Even though you may not feel it now, we believe the parent-teen relationship is key in helping families survive adolescence together.

TOPICS COVERED
Through information sharing, exercises and group discussions we will explore:

- Adolescent development and changes in the brain
- How are relationships protective?
- The role teens face and how it can go wrong
- The struggles parents face in coping with all this
- Reflecting on parenting styles
- How parents and teens push each other's buttons
- How to positively influence your teen and the roadblocks to this
- Practical strategies to reduce conflict, increase relationship connection and build your ‘relationship bank account’ to influence your teen and help them make wise choices.

COURSE INFORMATION
COST: Free
DATES: Monday 30th March – Tuesday 7th April 11am to 12.45pm
TIME: 10.30am to 12.45pm
ADDRESS: Tweed Community Centre, 20 Margaret Road, Tweed Heads South 2486

CONTACT
Please call or email Rhona or Monica, 2 weeks before Monday to Fridays.
Booking are essential
Rhona – reconn.com.au
02 6670 2790
Monica – rhona@tweed.nsw.gov.au
0417 028 196

ABOUT US
Rhona and Monica work with youth and families through the Reconnect and Getting It Together program of the Northern Rivers Social Development Council

Meet the Candidates Forum
ELECTION 2015

Northern Rivers Social Development Council (NRSDC) is holding a pre-election forum in each state electorate in the Northern Rivers region - Ballina, Clarence, Lismore and Tweed. All nominated candidates in each electorate have been invited to attend.

This forum is your chance to hear the candidates talk about issues relating to social and community development in your community and to ask them questions about your concern.

FORUMS:
Tweed: Monday, 9th March, South Tweed Surf Club
Minjungbal Drive, Tweed Heads
6.00pm to 8.00pm

Ballina: Wednesday 11th March, Ballina Surf Club
Lighthouse Parade, East Ballina
6.00pm to 8.00pm

Clarence: Tuesday 17th March, South Grafton Ex-Services Club
292 South Grafton
6.00pm to 8.00pm

Lismore: Wednesday 18th March, Lismore Workers Club
231 Keir Street, Lismore
6.00pm to 8.00pm

Be heard!
Email your questions to the candidates at election@nrscd.org.au or go to our Facebook Page http://www.facebook.com/events/140782915856808

Northern Rivers Social Development Council
NSW Family Energy Rebate
$150* TOWARDS ENERGY BILLS
2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM
APPLY ONLINE NOW!

NSW Government
Trade & Investment
Resources & Energy

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
PHONE: 132 850
EMAIL: trade@nsw.gov.au
WEB: www.nswgovernment.nsw.gov.au

2 Mistral Road (Cnr Tweed Valley Way) Murwillumbah South NSW 2484 | PO Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484 | ABN: 90 178 732 496
Open 10am - 5pm Wednesday to Sunday. Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day. Admission free.

Honey Lemon and Coconut Oil Syrup
Soothe Sore Throats and Coughs - Relieve Allergies - Boost Immune System

Recipe
3 Tbs Lemon Juice
1/4 Cup Raw Honey
2 Tbs Coconut Oil

Relax over a cup of tea and hear art historian and guest speaker David de Giustino explore the historic, subjective and decorative aspects of art throughout history.

11.00am - 11.45am Gardens in Art
Gardens are (or can be) ‘works of art’ in themselves, and many artists have included gardens in their paintings.
Come and learn the many ways that gardens have been depicted over the centuries.

2.00pm - 2.45pm Food in Art
We all enjoy food, and some of us like preparing it. But why have so many artists chosen to depict through paintings, mosaics and sculptures the things we eat? Come and learn about the many ways that food has been celebrated over the centuries.

Cost $5 per talk (first 5 seniors per talk are free)

If you’d like to attend please phone the Gallery on 02 6670 2790 to book.

David di Giustino is a distinguished lecturer of Modern History, who has had an eminent career teaching in universities. He now divides his time between Port Macquarie and Port Sanilac, Michigan.
David enjoys sharing his cosmopolitan knowledge of art and architecture in an engaging and informal manner.

Image: Margaret Olley. Bananas from the garden, Farndon 1974 oil on board 74 x 100cm
Gift of Wayne Kratzmann, 2014. Tweed Regional Gallery Collection

Anouk Beck | Curator - Public Programs
(02) 6670 2799 | artgallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au
(02) 6670 2797 | anouk@tweed.nsw.gov.au
2 Mistral Road (Cnr Tweed Valley Way) Murwillumbah South NSW 2484 | PO Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484 | ABN: 90 178 732 496
Open 10am - 5pm Wednesday to Sunday. Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day. Admission free.