From the Principal’s desk

Last week I wrote to all Yr 7 & 9 parents individually in relation to the 2010 NAPLAN tests. No doubt you all would have been aware that there was a dispute between the Federal Government and the Australian Education Union about the use of the data that the NAPLAN tests generate. The AEU was implementing a moratorium on the 2010 NAPLAN tests until they received assurances from the Federal Government that the information gained from the tests would not be misused after being placed on the My School website.

I am pleased to say that the Deputy Prime Minister Ms Gillard has now committed the Rudd government to "an opposition to the misuse of student performance data including simplistic league tables." She will also establish a working party with AEU representation to address this commitment. This means that the NAPLAN tests for all Yr 7 & 9 students can now continue this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

I would like to apologise to all Yr 7 & 9 parents and students for any inconvenience this dispute may have caused. Teachers across NSW took this stand because the misuse of the My School data was damaging to students, schools and communities in ways that can and should have been avoided.

Last week we welcomed a new permanent teacher to our school, Ms Jackie Fitzsummons, who is teaching in the TAS area. Welcome Jackie. This week we have seven prac teachers at school from Southern Cross University who will be commencing a four week teaching block as part of their studies. A warm welcome to them also. I would encourage any of our senior students to consider teaching as a career. It is one of the most rewarding vocations available.

Peter King

YEAR 12 PARENTS AND STUDENTS
“Options for 2011” Program

Parent/Student Information Evening tomorrow Wednesday 12th May at 7.00 pm in the MPC

- Consider student options for 2011
- Goal setting and timeline for the remainder of 2010
- Representatives from NSW and Qld Uni’s, TAFE and Employment Agency available for consultation
- Full program will be sent home soon
- Head Teachers available to consult re half-yearly reports

Next Wednesday 19th May:1.00-3.30 pm
Individual Student Interviews (rostered)

- Each student interviewed by a senior teacher (parents welcome)
- Students will be expected to:
  - Present a study timetable
  - Discuss progress re half-yearly report
  - Present activity sheet on future options

YEAR 7 VACCINATIONS:
The Area Health Service will be continuing with the Adolescent Vaccination Program on 20th May 2010. This clinic will cover the second dose of the Gardasil (HPV) for Year 7 girls. It is essential that all girls who received the first dose continue with the recommended three dosages.

This clinic will also include the Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccination. This will be for all Year 7 students.

Consent forms will be distributed to Year 7 early week four. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Ms Kristy Collins, Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW DUE

School Contributions and Subject Fees are an essential source of funds for our school, and while these are voluntary, they play a very important part of our school budget.

When a student elects a subject with an associated fee, we take this as a commitment by the student to pay the relevant fee.

School fees can be paid at the Front Office, credit card details can be taken over the phone or by direct debit.
**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

12th May:  Year 12 Information Evening
14th May:  North Coast Touch - Port Macquarie
17th - 21st May:  Year 10 Half-Yearly Exams
18th May:  P & C Meeting
19th May:  Year 12 Interview Day
21st May:  Far North Coast Cross Country
24th - 28th May:  Year 9 Half-Yearly Exams
26th May:  School Athletics Carnival
28th May:  North Coast Squash - Yamba
3rd June:  SRC Social
9th June:  Science Competition
11th June:  North Coast Cross Country
14th June:  Queens Birthday Public Holiday
15th June:  P&C Meeting
18th June:  Far North Coast Athletics
21st June:  North Coast Gymnastics
23rd June:  North Coast Lawn Bowls
2nd July:  LAST DAY OF TERM 2

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**REAL SKILLS**

REAL Skills is coming to Byron Bay High School to deliver ‘Take a Stand’ to the whole of Year 9. ‘Take a Stand’ helps students to be aware of how they might ‘take a stand’ for themselves in relationships and to recognise when they’re own behaviour and the behaviour of others is not okay.

REAL Skills is holistic and addresses the many aspects affecting a young person’s life and their relationships. The program provides young people with the awareness and skills to conduct healthy, positive relationships and to make informed decisions around important life issues.

A team of local community and health service providers will deliver the program to the students. This whole day program will be on the 3rd June 2010. The program will be invaluable to the personal and social development of our Year 9 students. Further information will be sent out to year 9 students at a later date.

Thanks for your support - Ms Kristy Collins, Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

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**SWIMMING CHAMPION**

**Lorne Greenlaw** in Year 8 has had an outstanding swimming season this year.

At the NSW Combined High Schools Swimming Titles at Homebush he finished:
- 2nd in the 100m backstroke
- 5th in the 50m freestyle
- 5th in the 100m freestyle
- 5th in the 400m freestyle

At the NSW All-Schools Titles, his results were:
- 2nd in the 400m freestyle
- 5th in the 100m breaststroke
- 5th in the 200m breaststroke

Lorne has now been selected to represent NSW at the National Titles.

*Definitely a star of the future !!!*

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**Cadet Accountant - February 2011**

**Thomas Noble and Russell**

Year 12 students with a strong interest in information technology, law and business and with good communication skills are sought to join our Lismore office. We offer comprehensive training, mentoring and study assistance to develop a career in professional accounting.

Further information is available from Judy or Catherine on 6621 8544 or online at www.tnr.com.au.

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

Wed. 12th:  Sonya Wright
Thurs. 13th:  WE NEED HELP TODAY !!
Fri. 14th:  Paul Tischler, Rhonda Whelan
Mon. 17th:  WE NEED HELP TODAY !!
Tues. 18th:  Nikki Kempnich, WE NEED HELP TODAY !!

As you can see, we are short of helpers. If you can lend a hand, please phone Margaret or Robyn on 6685 5381.

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**NEW LIBRARY RESOURCES**

**Fiction**: *City of the Beasts*  *Anonymity Jones*  *Into the Wilderness*  
* A Girl Like Me  * Where There’s Smoke  * March  * January  
* The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time  
* Girl X Recreated: Hopes and Dreams of Young People

**Non-Fiction**: *What’s Physics All About?*  *Philosophy*  
* A Cinematic History of Comedy  * Somme Mud  
* A Visitor’s Guide to Ancient Rome: Based on the Travels of Lucius Minimus Britanicus