Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been fantastic to see everyone in K/1/2 working so hard. Our literacy and numeracy groups are transitioning very smoothly, which is wonderful. Please ensure that your child’s hat and any other items are clearly labelled with their name. This makes it easier to find the correct owner should something be misplaced. We have had a number of students away sick of late. If your child is away, please phone Mrs W in the office and advise accordingly.

I have been impressed with so many of our students who are carrying their own school bag up the steps and into school and then taking their home reading folder out each day. What big, independent students you are. Well done!

Have a wonderful fortnight,

Brendan.

A Visit From Matrika

Last Wednesday we were fortunate enough to receive visit from Matrika Baral, who is the Principal at View Point School in Pokhara, Nepal. Matrika gave the students an amazing insight into school life in Nepal, in addition to his communities living conditions through the viewing of a power point presentation. We were impressed with the well thought out and intriguing questions that our students asked. Below are some interesting facts that Matrika shared with us:

- Nepal is the third poorest county in the world.
- Students in Nepal attend school from Sunday through until 1.15 pm on Friday. Friday afternoon and Saturday is their time off. School starts at 10 am and concludes at 4 pm.
- Students eat their lunch at 9 am. There is no break for recess or lunch and dinner is usually eaten at 6 pm.
- Most of the students in the small village of Pokhara walk to and from school and for most of these students, this is a two hour return walk.
- Students walk approximately 15 minutes each way to collect drinking water.
- In Nepal, students leave school at the age of 14. The current labourers wage for a 14 year old converts to between 80 – 90 cents for each full day’s work.
- In Nepal, the average monthly wage for a government employee converts to $160 per month.

Matrika could not believe how beautiful our school was and he was impressed with our bright, colourful classroom, not to mention our fantastic students. This is a timely reminder to really appreciate our family and the quality of life that we actually have.
Student Awards

Principal’s Award:
Marley Fountain—A fantastic start to Year 2 and for being so responsible in groups.

Merit Awards:
Joel Townsend — For approaching all tasks with a positive attitude.
Tabitha Ford — For trying her hardest in reading groups and great sounding out of words.
Kindergarten — For their fantastic start to Kindergarten!

Star of the Fortnight

Noah Bowden ~ An outstanding commitment in all areas

★ Noah’s favourite Star War character is Luke.
★ Noah’s favourite part about Japanese today was doing the worksheet—symbols to 10.
★ His favourite food is burritos
★ Noah’s favourite colour is green.
★ His favourite animal is a python.

School Photos

Our school photos will be taken on Wednesday 27 February. Thank you to all the families who have returned the photo envelope. To ensure your family doesn’t miss out on this years school photo by returning the photo envelope with payment inside the envelope to the school office as soon as possible. Please contact Mrs W. if another envelope is needed.

Voluntary School Contributions

Thank you to those families who have paid the voluntary school contribution. Our voluntary school contributions for this year once again remain at $25 per child or $40 for two students. Voluntary school contributions can be sent into Mrs W at the office in an envelope with your child’s name on the front or you might like to pay by electronic funds transfer. Thank you for your understanding and support.

You can now pay for any excursions and school contributions by direct debit.
BSB: 032-001
Account Number: 148732
Account Name: Murwillumbah South Infants School
Please put child’s name for payment.

Interested in receiving the newsletter by email?
Please advise Mrs W in the office of your email address and we can organise for you to receive your newsletter by email.