

## PRINCIPALS REPORT

Week 4 is promising to be another great week of opportunities for our students. Our noticeboard message for this week, *'Opportunity for Excellence starts here'* is very true.

## SCHOOL REPRESENTATION

Well done to Imran, Dylan and Kayla who performed in front of Premier Barry O'Farrell as part of the ACMF choir on Monday.

Good luck to our students who are heading off to PSSA Touch Football trials on Friday.

## HANDBALL COMPETITION

Our week 3 Mars Bar handball competition was won by our school captain, Joshua Cochrane. Well done Josh! It has been wonderful to see such a large number of students participating in the handball competition. Students are consistently displaying good sportsmanship and our school values of pride, respect and safety.

## FISHING FOR SPORT

Our weekly 'Fishing for Sport' reward activity was well attended. Students are reminded to continue their positive behaviour to ensure that they remain eligible to attend.

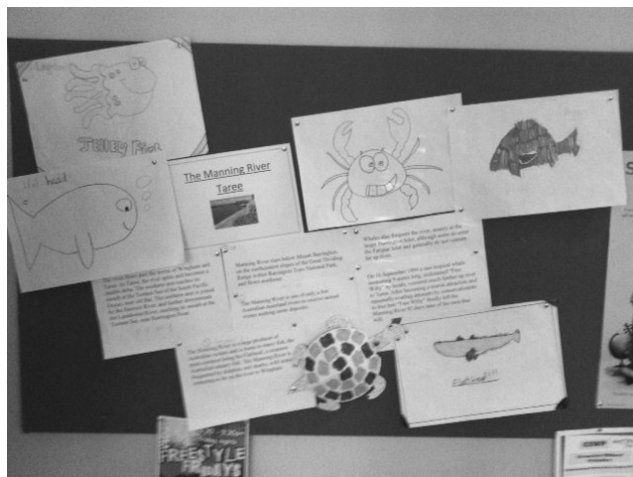
## PARENT COFFEE GROUP

Our first parent coffee group meeting will take place next Wednesday at 2.30pm in the Koori room. Please let Alice our canteen supervisor know if you are interested in attending.

Have a fabulous week!

Matthew Royan  
Relieving Principal

## Artwork and stories by Mikiri



## Sorry Day Excursion 27 May 2013

Taree Public School has a proud tradition of participating and supporting the celebration of Sorry Day since its inception in 1998.

Sorry Day is an annual event held every year within the Biripi community at Purfleet.

The day is a drug and alcohol free event, with entertainment throughout the day for all to enjoy.

10:00am – Welcome to Country  
School performances  
11:30pm – Touch Football match  
12:30pm – Black Arm Band  
Local artist throughout the day  
Children return to school at 1:00pm  
4:30pm - finish

All welcome

Permission notes will be sent home this week.  
There will be no cost for the excursion.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge the Biripi people who are the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Biripi Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginals.

# CONGRATULATIONS

On Monday 20 May 2013 three pupils from Taree Public School were invited to participate in a choir to sing the National Anthem at Club Taree for the Premier of NSW and members of the Cabinet and public.

I was extremely proud of Dylan, Imran and Kayla, their behaviour and their performance were a great reflection the school.

The opportunity to take part in this event was offered to us by The Australian Children's Music Foundation, the organisation which sponsors our music lessons. There were approximately 200 people present and several members of the public commented on the quality of the performance.

Well Done Dylan, Imran and Kayla!

Our thanks to Matt Zarb who accompanied the children on the guitar and who does a great job every Tuesday teaching drumming and ukulele to all our children.

Narelle Clapson  
Class Teacher



**"Our School's a Great School"**

## **Biripi AMS National Sorry Day**

National Sorry Day is a very important day for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people all across Australia. It is a day for us to come together, with deep respect, to remember our Stolen Generations and painful history our Australian Indigenous people have endured. National Sorry Day is an Australia-wide observance held on May 26 each year. This day gives people the chance to come together and share the steps towards healing for the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. Stolen generations refer to Indigenous Australians who were forcibly removed from their families and communities.

The first National Sorry Day was held on May 26, 1998, which was one year after the tabling of a report about the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. The report, known as Bringing Them Home, acknowledged that Indigenous children were forcibly separated from their families and communities since the early days of European occupation in Australia. Governments and missionaries were responsible for this forced separation.

Australia's Prime Minister Kevin Rudd tabled a motion in parliament on February 13, 2008, apologising to Australia's Indigenous people, particularly the Stolen Generations and their families and communities, for the laws and policies that inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss. The apology included a proposal for a policy commission to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in matters such as life expectancy, educational achievement, and economic opportunity. This event is seen by many as a step forward in reconciliation.

Biripi AMS was proud to hold an event last February to acknowledge the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apology, and is hopeful our event on Monday 27 May 2013 will be a day full of respect, remembrance, education and reconciliation for all in attendance.



## **PARENT COFFEE GROUP**

Ms Alice Gillett, our canteen supervisor has proposed that a parent coffee group be started so that parents can engage in an informal chat with myself and other school staff. Topics such as our upcoming school excursion, reward activities and curriculum initiatives would be examples of possible discussion topics at the meetings.

If interested in attending our coffee group it is going to be held on Wednesday 29 May at Taree Public School at 2:30pm. Everyone welcome.



**"Our School's a Great School"**