DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

NOVEMBER
Friday 13th Mrs Gittoes Away
Monday 16th &
Tuesday 17th Mrs Gittoes at Conference
Wednesday 18th Full Concert Rehearsal
Friday 20th CONCERT

DECEMBER
Wednesday 2nd Last Day of Transition
Monday 7th to
Thursday 10th &
Monday 14th Swim School
Wednesday 16th LAST DAY OF TERM

Our fabulous school is looking amazing after the wonderful rain last week. The last couple of weeks have been extremely busy with play rehearsals, costume gathering, prop design and making, professional development for staff, the Snow Gum Learning Alliance Creative Arts Camp, Halloween activities, year 6 fundraiser, life education van visit, report writing and finalising class assessments. Many thanks to our GA Mr Ted Deeks for painting our wall in the Creative Art Hall for our play.

Educational Excellence - Snow Gum Learning Alliance
I had the privilege to attend the Annual Memorial Awards and the Annual Memorial Lecture at the Armidale Bowling Club on Friday night the 30th October. This event also coincided with World Teacher’s Day Australia.

The five principals from the Snow Gum Learning Alliance were awarded:
The HTB Harris Memorial Award
The Australian College of Educators (ACE)

This award, honouring the life and work of HTB Harris, FACE, is made to a school or community organisation for a significant program or co-ordinated approach leading to the fulfilment of an educational need or the solution of an educational problem.

Mrs Sue Brown, Director Public Schools NSW, Northern Tablelands nominated our SGLA for this prestigious award and we were so proud and honoured to accept.

SGLA Creative Arts Camp
The SGLA Creative Arts Camp last Monday and Tuesday was outstanding with all students participating in a variety of creative activities including reader’s theatre, dance, singing, drawing, painting, movie making, lantern making and fitness games.

All students were extremely well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed the activities, socialisation with fellow SGLA students and staff and the meals were sensational.

Many thanks to Mrs McIntyre and Miss Waters for presenting the dance activities and a big thank you to Miss Waters for giving up her valuable time to stay overnight with fellow SGLA principals.

A special thank you to our generous P&C for paying for the bus to and from Thalgarrah.

Christmas Hamper
Yes it is that time again. Could all parents please send in two items for this year’s Christmas hampers? Christmas items can be left at the office.
Japanese Assistant
On Friday our school community said goodbye to Mai. Mai thoroughly enjoyed her experience at our great school where she engaged in many conversations with students, staff and parents, answering their questions and talking about Japan and her home town. She helped to further enhance our students Japanese language, teaching students the Japanese words for common vegetables, fruit, greetings and flowers and she helped teach the students “Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes” in Japanese. On Friday Mai presented each student with either an origami heart or crane with their name written in English and Japanese.

Life Education Van
Last week students from K-6 enjoyed a visit to the Life Education Van. Life Education is the largest, independent, Australian, health and drug education provider for school students aged 5-13 years. The primary school program consists of various curriculum based modules focusing on issues around food and nutrition, personal safety, physical activity, cyber safety, safety with medicine and legal drugs, tobacco, alcohol and caffeine.

By taking a comprehensive approach to drug and health education our modules help children to develop relationship skills, positive communication (both face to face and online), problem solving and decision making skills.

The program provides students the opportunity to develop strategies and practice the skills required to avoid the harms associated with an unhealthy lifestyle. Teachers were also provided with resources for use before and after the visit.

The K-2 students were so excited to meet and greet Harold.

Year 6 Fundraiser
All students and staff had an excellent day dressing creatively for this year’s Halloween year six fundraiser. The students and staff came dressed as ghosts, goblins, Frankenstein and Frankenstein bride, skeletons, bats and other imaginative creations. Everyone enjoyed their lunch and then they participated in a variety of Halloween activities including pin the wart on the witch, wrap the mummy, limbo, guess how many lollies were in the jar and tattoos.

Awards
Cutest – Ashlee Morgan
Most original – Zoe Kelly
Grossest Maddison Wood
Our leaders, Jessie and Patrick raised $ 101 for their year six gift to the school.

Play Rehearsal
Our musical is looking spectacular and all students are looking forward to presenting “The Little Mermaid” on concert night. Next Wednesday there will be a full dress rehearsal so hopefully all students from transition to year 6 will be present.

Hamper goodies.
The P&C would appreciate all families donating two goodies for the Christmas hamper.

Painting
Many thanks to Mr Deeks for painting the Creative Arts Centre front wall for the upcoming concert and presentation night. WOW, it looks spectacular!

Who’s behind the mask in Transition!

Dishwasher
Our school has recently purchased a dishwasher from the Drought Assistance Funding obtained last year. Thanks to Mick Purvis for installing it.
News With Miss Waters

3-6 have been busy learning about sustainability and the impact rising salt has on our environment. We have observed experiments to compare plant growth with fresh water and salt water. We are also waiting patiently for our tomato seedlings to germinate. Students have been watering the seeds using three different methods: spraying, pouring and soaking.

In maths students have been learning perimeter and area. Students created their own new school playground by measuring the school equipment and then planning their work on grid paper according to scale. Students converted measurements from metres to centimetres and then arranged the equipment to suit the new school area.

Please a reminder to have all concert and dance costumes into school as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Miss Waters

e-GATS with Patrick

On Friday the 9th of October, my Mum and I went to the e-GATS 2015 Celebration Day to end my second and last year of this brilliant program at Thalgarrah Environmental Education Centre. I am a bit disappointed that I can’t do it again.

e-GATS is a local program for gifted and talented students in stage three of primary school with seven different subjects and areas. This year I was lucky enough to be selected for the subject Computer Programming. I had to code specially assigned games with block-based coding, JavaScript and Batch script. I learnt so much about what I had no idea about. I thoroughly enjoyed e-GATS and I encourage my fellow students to give it a go. I’m sure they will cherish it as well.

Happy 10th Birthday to Nakita Hoffman who turned 10 Tuesday 27th October.
New Cubby House & playgroup