I hope all the fathers out there have a special day this Sunday. On Father’s Day it’s worth reflecting on how good fathering matters. It matters to mums. It matters to men. And importantly it matters to kids. A child’s primary relationship with his or her father affects all of your child’s relationships throughout the rest of their lives. Research supports that those early patterns of interaction with fathers are the very patterns that will be projected forward into all relationships, forever more: not only our child’s intrinsic idea of who he or she is as they relate to others but also, the range of what our child considers acceptable and loving.

Stage 3 Excursion – Mrs Martin, Mr Galloway and the stage 3 students returned last Sunday from their 8 day excursion to the mainland. Everyone enjoyed the amazing experience. Thank you to the P&C for their financial contribution to support the students. A huge thank you is especially due to Mrs Martin for all the planning (which started from last year), organising and time to set up the excursion, run meetings, work out budgets, organise notes and the various experiences. I believe 8 days away from her family for the benefit of our students demonstrates a dedication that goes well beyond the ‘call of duty’. A big thank you is also due to Keith Galloway for his role and support to ensure a great experience for our kids. We will have a special Camp report in the next newsletter.

First Aid - On Sunday the 16th of August the School hosted a work shop in first aid for parents. This was followed up through the week with formal first aid training courses being run and available for all staff and community members. It is great to know that if an emergency happens we have a range of people who are ready to assist and support on hand.
Public Speaking - We held our fabulous school assembly where we were able to welcome parents and the community to celebrate our student achievements. Hearts swelled as students show-cased their public speaking skills. It was wonderful to see the students from Kindergarten through to Year 6 present their public speaking purposefully to the audience in fantastic style. Well done to all our students!

Jackson talking up a storm for Public Speaking

Welcome - I know the community will join me in providing a warm welcome to the Watson family. Harry, Thomas and Owen have temporarily enrolled and are very excited about their new adventure at school whilst mum relieves as our local doctor.

NITS – We have had some reported cases of nits again. We are asking all parents to check their children please. It takes just one infested head to infest the whole class. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Tennis Camp - In order to support the planning and details for the Tennis Camp we need all notes and money returned please. The Tennis Camp will be held in the first week of the school holidays from Monday the 21st September until Friday 25th September. There will be a small charge but most of the overall cost is sponsored by the P&C. If you would like to discuss or need more information, please contact Emily on 65632243 or emilychester@hotmail.com

Special Visitor - Today we welcomed Judy McKinty who presented a range of Aboriginal and cultural string games to the students. She also conducted an informal study of play traditions with various children. She collected descriptions of the students’ games and ideas as part of her project on children’s play.

Natasha having fun on the playground

Writing workshops - Next Thursday the school will be hosting expert writing teacher and published author Graeme Kinross-Smith. Graham will be conducting writing sessions with both classes.

Music Program - Music classes continue to be engaging and creative with both classes showing great improvement in their understanding and demonstration of rhythm, pitch and music notation. The students’ enjoyment of music is clear to all! In K-1 we have just started a unit on Musical Theatre and will be learning about the elements of musicals as well as learning some melodies from famous shows. 2-6 have been continuing with their unit on composition and layering of sound, with recordings of the class compositions, as well as a whole-class performance piece which will be utilising the new school drums. Choir has been really well attended with students singing beautifully and obviously enjoying the experience, singing songs well in to the next class. We are working on a combined piece with Island Voices from the musical Matilda which we hope to perform soon. If you have any questions about the music program please don’t hesitate to contact me. Inga Brasche

Secondary Room Report - My how time is slipping away! This year seems to have flown by and too soon it will be "Ho, Ho, Ho" time. In the Distance Ed room we welcomed Charlotte Tofaeono back, lovely to have you back with us, Charlotte; and it's also great to see Malekai Shead back-- hasn't he grown tall! I hope you both have a rewarding time in D.E. A few weeks ago we farewelled Monique Thompson and her brother, Chase, who have both gone for a short stay in Portland, N.S.W. We are looking forward to having Monique back at the beginning of next term, it will be interesting to hear all about icy, cold, foggy, snowy Portland! Aidan has been plodding away steadily and at last report from Camden Haven was on track and doing well. Soon all of the birds will be back in the nest under the watchful eye of the old crow! TTFN Pam Goyen