7th May, 2015

Dear Parents,

On behalf of all students and staff at Coutts Crossing Public School, I would like to wish a Happy Mothers’ Day to all mothers and grandmothers of our students. We hope you enjoy a wonderful Sunday!

Cross Country
Tomorrow Friday (8th May), our cross country runners Bailey, Lachlan, Jaylah and Cheyenne will represent our school at the Clarence Cross Country. We’ll be cheering for you! Good luck and enjoy their day!

NAPLAN
On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week, our students in years 3 and 5 will sit the National Assessment Program – Literacy And Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. Students are not required to bring anything special as all materials will be provided for the tests. Students will sit the Language test (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Writing test on Tuesday, the Reading test on Wednesday and conclude with the Numeracy test on Thursday. These tests are held nationally and are sent away to be marked and student data analysed. Student results will be returned to school and sent home to parents towards the end of term three.

Happy Mother’s Day!
Pinocchio – Whole School Play
We have begun organising and practising for our whole school play this year, which is Pinocchio. All students at Coutts will be involved in the musical. Older students will play lead roles and there are several musical items performed by class groups. The performance of Pinocchio will be held in the evening at South Grafton High School Hall on Thursday 13th August.

More information will be sent home to parents later in the term regarding costumes for students and how parents can assist. Thank you for the many generous offers from parents interested in helping out and to Tanya, who has already begun organising some of the play’s props. Finally, thank you to Mr Attwater, who has taken on the role of coordinating our musical!

Grafton Show Prizes
During the Grafton Show students from Coutts were awarded a large number of prizes for their artworks. Congratulations to the following students; Highly Commended to Justyn, Monique F, Madiline, Leila, Ryan and Emily-Rose: Second Place to Lillie, Emily, Lockey, James C, Charni, Angas and Monique F: First Place to Jaylah, Jess, Jayda, Chelsea, Dylan, Georgia, Savannah, James D and Brenden. What a great effort everyone!

Responsible Pet Ownership
Next Thursday our school will take part in the Responsible Pet Ownership program with K/1 and 2/3 joining in with activities after recess (and year 3 NAPLAN) for our younger students. There is no cost for this activity.
Cascade Excursion
We wish to remind families with students attending the Cascade Environmental Education Centre that the payment for this excursion must be finalised by the end of May.

Assembly
Well done to all our award winners from Friday’s assembly. Congratulations to Sophie and Violet who read their stories as the Writers of the Fortnight from 2/3. Congratulations to our merit card winners Monique R, James D, Angas, Liela, Ashton, Haylee, Chloe, Dylan, Jess, Tamsyn, Robbie and Chelsea. We were also entertained by the 4/5/6 iPad movie on the big screen about cooking their ANZAC cookies. Great effort everyone! Our next assembly will be held next Friday 15th May.

School Photos
School photos have been returned to school and have been sent home with students. Everyone looked very smart and well presented in the photos!

Eisteddfod
Many of our students have been very busy recently practicing verse speaking and dance items in preparation for the Small Schools’ Day of the Grafton Eisteddfod. This day will be held on either 26th or 27th May and we will send a note home to parents as soon as the date is finalised. Thank you to Mrs Simpson and Mrs Leach for their work with the dance entry and Mrs Conyward for coordinating the eisteddfod efforts and the verse speaking entries as well. Thank you to all students and staff who have worked so hard getting ready for this competition and have even given up some of their lunch times to practice!

With thanks,
Matt Hankinson

TUCKSHOP ROSTER  - for week 4, term 2
Wed: Kellie Perkins & Kylee White
Fri: Kylee White & Tracy Hunt
P&C Meeting
Our next P&C meeting will be held on Thursday next week (14th May) at 9:30am in our school staffroom. Please come along!

Yesterday notes went home regarding the P&C Mother’s Day 100 Club. This will be drawn on Friday at 2:00pm. Buy a number between 1 & 100 for $2 to be in the running to win.

School Fees
School fees are now due for payment. The cost is $50 for the whole year or can be paid by the term $12.50 each term. These fees are to be paid at the office.

Cake Raffle
We thank the Simpson family who are supplying the cake tomorrow. Next week on Friday 15th May the cake will be supplied by the Brotherson family. We thank the parents for their support with this P&C fundraiser. Please note, any family who does not wish to be included on this roster please phone the office.

Stewart House
Last week Stewart House Donation Drive envelopes were distributed to the eldest child in each family. If you wish to make a donation to this very worthy cause please ensure that your envelope is returned to the school office by tomorrow (Friday, 8th May).

Toolbox – A Parenting Festival
The Clarence Valley Council is presenting Toolbox – A Parenting Festival with 27 events in the Clarence Valley from 31st May to 18th June. Special guests include Steve Biddulph, Garry King, Susan McLean and Geoff Munroe. We have received a 12-page booklet about the festival, if you wish to have a look. Further information may also be found at www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/parentingfestival.