



WELCOME: What a fabulous start to 2019! Students have been excited about learning and have been participating in many engaging learning opportunities both in the classroom and out in our beautiful playground. You can find wonderful photos of our students partaking in a range of activities, including their creative play during lunch break, on our Facebook page. In the afternoons while I am on bus duty I have been able to chat to many of our students. It is wonderful to get to know them a little bit better and to find out their interests, likes and dislikes. At this time I also take the opportunity to check in with each of these students about how their day has been. I am extremely happy to say that I have not encountered a single student who has not indicated that they have had at the least a 'good' day. In fact, most students give me a great big grin and a thumbs up. We have great kids at Upper Orara Public School! Over the next two weeks Mrs Clark and I will have some days out of the school to attend professional learning. During Week 6 there will be two days where we will both be out of the school. We will be travelling to Sydney to tour some exemplary schools and hope to get some great ideas to bring back to our school to improve student outcomes. Upon our return, I will then be taking some long service leave. While Mrs Clark and I are out of the school Mrs Kim Reynolds will be on K-2 and Mrs Alison Hawken will be on Years 3-6. These are both highly experienced and creative teachers who have previous experience in the Principal role. Please say hello and make them feel welcome.

What's Happening in Years 3-6: Over the past couple of weeks, students in 3-6 have been establishing routines and expectations in classroom behaviour, work ethic and bookwork expectations. Students have been learning new and interesting words to develop their vocabulary. They are being encouraged to use these words when communicating with others and in their writing. Students have been learning spelling rules to help them to spell words in their writing. They are enjoying writing and are being encouraged to use statements, exclamations, commands; simple, compound and complex sentences in their work. Students have been revising common and proper nouns, collective nouns, compound words, action verbs and thinking verbs. We have begun reading the novel *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson and students have indicated that they think the book will be interesting. We have read Chapter 1 and are completing a range of activities related to this chapter including; a story map, character map, comprehension related activities and discussions about one of the quotes in the story. During Maths, students have been focussed on whole number activities, working with and finding patterns in large numbers. Our other focus has been on problem solving. Walking students through the thinking they need to do in order to solve problems.

Finding relevant information in word problems and discarding what really isn't necessary. Identifying a methods or strategy to help solve the problem and working it out together before students are given the opportunity to solve a similar problem or problems with assistance provided when needed.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN K-2: Last week K-2 received a lovely surprise for our classroom - a bright new mat for the front of the room and some "flower" tables for the students to sit at to do their work. The students are enjoying using the new items. Last week homework, readers and sight word books were sent home. Homework is sent out Monday and should be completed and returned Friday in the plastic folder. I have already had one Kindergarten child and one Year 1 showing me how clever they are with their sight words. I love their enthusiasm and commitment to learning. Hopefully everyone parents and children will soon get into the homework routine. There are also notes that are coming home when there are events happening. Please check your child's bag daily for these. Kindergarten has continued to learn more sounds and letters and made some really amazing spaghetti and meatballs when learning the sound m. Year 1 and 2 students have continued to learn about nouns and have begun to read familiar texts and continue with L3 sessions. In Maths the students have been learning about mass and we spent time using mathematical language such a heavier and lighter. Hopefully in Week 7 we will start to have visits from the children's family members to talk about where they come from in the world and what school was like for them.



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY: Another successful Clean Up Australia Day. This year the students were not only educated on the reasons why we don't litter, they also learnt why Mr Ian McKeirnan initiated Clean Up Australia Day.





PARENT FORUM: Last year the Upper Orara Public School P&C was disbanded due to difficulty getting a committee and a quorum each month. To give parents and our community members an opportunity to get together and talk about the school with staff we are holding a casual meeting once a term. The meeting for Term 1 will be held at 6pm on Thursday 14th March. Everyone is welcome.

SCIENCE: The Kinder - Yr 2 students have been learning about 'Material World'. Through the story, 'Come Over To My House', the K-2 class have been learning to *name and describe materials* used to make structures in hot and cold climates around the World. They explained why certain materials are chosen to build things. The children designed a home, and labelled their designs with the materials they thought would be best to use for a hot climate. The class went on a treasure hunt around our school and recorded materials used to make structures and items. Each group had to explain why the materials they found were used.



The older students are also learning about "Material World". They are learning to identify the observable features of materials used to create products. The students worked in groups to list items found in their homes, identify what they are made of and identify the product's use. The students will be learning about how materials are made and their properties.





MATHS: Year 3 – 6: The Year 3-6 students have been studying LENGTH in Maths Measurement. They have been learning the measurements we use; to estimate lengths from one point to another; to measure accurately using a range of measuring devices for millimetre, centimetre and metre measurements; to use Google Maps to find well known places less than, about and more than 1 km from school; convert whole measurements into decimal notation, and how to find the perimeter of 2D shapes.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS: Towards the end of this term Mrs Clark and Mrs Goodenough will be holding parent/teacher interviews. Mrs Clark is currently organising for all kindergarten parents to attend a meeting with her either on the 8th or 13th of March. At this meeting Mrs Clark will explain the Best Start feedback sheet as well as student successes.

Years 1/2 will have their parent/teacher interviews on Wednesday 3th April between 8:30 am and 12 noon.

Years 3-6 will have their parent/teacher interviews on Thursday 6th April between 8:30am and 4:30pm.

Interviews are for a period of 10 minutes only and a note will accompany children home closer to this date. Should you require an alternate day and time it is important to contact the school to arrange an appointment as soon as possible.

MID NORTH COAST SWIMMING: Congratulations to our Small Schools Swimming Relay Team. They performed well at the Mid North Coast Carnival, placing third. This enables them to compete in the North Coast Carnival at Ballina this coming Wednesday. Well done and the very best of luck in Ballina.



DEBATING ENRICHMENT WORKSHOP: This Wednesday 6th March, four stage 2/3 students will travel to Nana Glen to participate in a Debating Enrichment Workshop. This is an amazing workshop and opportunity for our students to enhance their debating skills in preparation for the Great Debate being held at Ulong PS towards the end of this term. If your child was fortunate enough to be selected for this activity and they are unable to attend, can you please return your note so we can select another student to attend in their place. If your child can attend, please return the note as soon as possible.

YEAR 7 EOI : On Monday 11th March an EOI for High School will accompany your Year 6 student home. This form needs to be returned regardless of whether your child will be attending a private school or a public school. Please return the form to school no later than 19th March. If you have any questions regarding this form or you would like more information, please contact the school.

RESPONSIBLE PET CARE: This year, K-2 students will participate in Responsible Pet Care on Thursday 14th March. Gina will bring a member of her canine team to teach students how to recognise a happy or angry dog, how to approach a dog and how to ask to pat a dog. Students get to practice what they learn throughout the session. This session does not incur a cost. Should you like more information or have any questions regarding this program, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

HARMONY DAY: Following on from the Life Education Van on Thursday 21st March, Upper Orara Public School will be providing an afternoon of activities relevant to this important inclusive acknowledgement. Students are encouraged to wear orange (the colour synonymous with Harmony Day) on this day. Please remember to ensure your child's shoulders are covered and protected from the sun. Enclosed shoes must also be worn.

END OF TERM ASSEMBLY: PLEASE SAVE THE DATE NOW! Our end of term 1 assembly followed by our Easter Hat Parade and a Hot Cross Bun morning tea is being held on Thursday 11th April. This is a great day and we encourage you to start creating those wonderful Easter Hats now. This year we have two new sections; a s section and a parent section. Everyone is welcome.

CEDAR AND STEAM : This year the Glenreagh Memorial Museum will be holding the Cedar and Steam annual Art and Photographic Exhibition on the 29th and 30th March. Students will be entering a piece of art they will complete at school into this event. We have been very fortunate to have had students win prizes over the last couple of years.

This event is also open to anyone who wishes to enter a work of art individually. You can do this by contacting Wilma Towells on 66492136 or Honi Reifler on honireifler51@gmail.com for entry forms. This year's theme is Significant Historical Structures.



VALLEY PRESCHOOL: Valley Preschool is located on the Upper Orara Primary School grounds, a beautiful 10 minute drive from Coffs Harbour. We offer a small preschool environment, a maximum of 20 children a day with three highly trained educators. Valley Preschool is well above ratio, ensuring your child receives lots of one on one time with a natural play based program that values the importance of self-initiated play, artistic work and sensory experiences to meet the needs of what is an active and imitative stage of childhood. We offer to ferry your little ones in a warm and loving boat across the sea from home to school. We extend a warm welcome to you and your child and want you to feel an important part of our preschool community. Please come visit us, Valley Preschool is open 8.30am to 4.00pm Tuesday to Thursday NSW school terms.

We look forward to meet you and your little ones, Warm wishes, Zanna, Trista and Mandy

Term One

Calendar of Events

6 Mar	Debating Workshop Nana Glen PS
14 Mar	Responsible Pet Care 6pm Parent Forum
15	Student day against Bullying
Mar 21	Life Education Harmony Day
3 Apr	Great Debate, Ulong PS / Parent /Teacher Interviews
4 Apr	Parent/Teacher Interviews
11 Apr	End of Term Assembly

STUDENTS OF WEEK 6

Ezra (Yr K-2) and Lucy (Yr 3-6)

Jesse receives his award for "doing his best in everything."

Nicole receives her award for "excellent Spelling results"

Congratulations Jesse and Nicole!



STUDENTS OF WEEK 7

Mason(Yr K-2) and Ashlee (Yr 3-6)

Mason receives his award for "being so enthusiastic about learning."

Ashlee receives her award for "staying on task."

Congratulations Mason and Ashlee!





UPPER ORARA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Knowledge, Truth and Freedom



A BUS THAT COMES WHEN YOU CALL IT



New On Demand Public Transport starting 16th January 2019

Our school bus operator, Busways, is launching an on demand bus service in our area on Wednesday 16th January.

Called 'Cooee Busways', the service is one of 7 trials happening in regional NSW under Transport for NSW's Rural & Regional On Demand Public Transport program.

It will be a same-day return service which will run every Wednesday into Coffs Harbour in the morning and back in the afternoon, utilising our school bus between drop-off and pick-up times.

It is the same cost as a normal bus fare, with concessions also available for eligible

customers. Simply pre-book a trip by using the booking form at www.busways.com.au/BuswaysCooee or by calling (02) 9497 1870.

Busways' customer service team will call you back to confirm your booking and your pick-up and drop-off locations.

The goal of the program is to identify new solutions to improve regional transport options.

Busways are keen to hear community feedback so visit the website for more info or to leave your input.



**on demand
public transport**

Now being trialled in this area.

Valley Preschool

A small nurturing preschool in a caring natural environment



Come and see the difference for yourself!

Conveniently located in the grounds of Upper Orara Public School, 10 minute drive from Coffs Harbour.

Please feel free to come by and see our wonderful preschool. We look forward to meeting you and your family!

3 days a week: Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Ph: 6653 8600 Email:

valleypreschool@bigpond.com

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