We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Elders past and present of the Wijabul Wiyabal people and other peoples of Bundjalung Nation. We acknowledge that they are the first peoples of this land on which our school stands.

**Minister for Education** Last week the Honourable Mike Baird, NSW Premier and the Honourable Adrian Piccoli, NSW Minister for Education made an announcement regarding the construction of a new school in Ballina. Later that day, our local state member, the Honourable Thomas George made a surprise visit to Kadina High School, bringing Mr Piccoli with him. It is the first time Mr Piccoli had been to Kadina High School. In his visit he met with several students. Mr Williams, Head Teacher TAS was able to give both members of Parliament a tour of the Trade Training Centre.

**Music Department** Work will commence soon on the refurbishment of our music department. During the construction period, the CAPA faculty will temporarily relocate to the computer file server room in A block. The CAPA staff room will temporarily become the music class room. The timeline for the refurbishment is 10-12 weeks. The final product will include an acoustic and electronic practice rooms and a reconstructed performance space.

**Around the school** Over recent years we have continued to support our community by providing a safe, secure and positive learning environment for our students. To ensure that this occurs we have a strict but fair discipline policy. This policy was reviewed in 2014. We do not tolerate inappropriate behaviours and such behaviour will be dealt with through discipline structures within the school.

Year 7 students have settled into High School displaying respect and pride for their new school surroundings. They look fantastic in their new school uniform as does the rest of the school. Can I remind female students, the green skirts bought down town are not part of our current uniform. I would encourage students of dance and music to audition for the Rivers P-12 College production of “Aladdin, the Musical”. Information is in all three schools.
You are invited to join us at

The Rivers Secondary College
Year 7 2016
Transition Information Evening

When: Wednesday 25th February from 6:00 to 7:00pm

Where: Lismore Workers Club Auditorium

Why: To find out more about The Rivers Secondary College, how it works and the benefits for your children as they move into high school.

You’ll hear from John Baker, Executive Principal of The Rivers Secondary College and have the opportunity to meet, hear from and speak to students and other key personnel from each high school.

This evening is designed to give an overview of The Rivers Secondary College prior to each high school holding its individual session in coming weeks.

Hear some highlights from current students at each high school

Be entertained by talented students from our high schools

Have an opportunity to informally chat with high school community members

KADINA DIARY DATES

23 February
U15 & open Rugby League at Kadina

24 February
Zone Swimming

25 February
The Rivers Years 6 into 7 Transition Evening

26 February
NC Open Boys/ Girls Basketball

27 February
Zone boys/girls soccer

3 March
Zone Rugby Union

5 March
NC zone swimming

6 March
Vaccinations (Any questions see Mrs Laverty)

9 March
P&C AGM 7pm

11 March
KHS Year 6 Orientation Evening
Recently Year 7 students participated in a program called “The Great Race to Happy” which is developed in collaboration with the SOLID MOB team and a team called “The Great Race“. The race is essentially like a ‘scavenger hunt’ that is tailored to each school’s layout and involves questions and activities or challenges that need to be completed surrounding learning topics of healthy lifestyle factors such as anti-smoking messages, importance of drinking water, healthy eating, being physically active, positive thinking, anti-bullying and more (just to name a few examples).

Year 7 and their fantastic helpers from Year 10 had a wonderful time.
**Where Are My Children?**

**Marie Melito-Russell**

The day is done and the sun is falling,
Where are my children a Mother is calling?
The darkness falls and she realises her fears.
Her children are gone and her eyes fill with tears.
The White fella’s come and took them away,
Be afraid and where will they stay?
How can she find them? Where will she search?
In a Mission Station or a White fella’s church?
Her arms are empty her heart is breaking,
She has walked so far her body is aching.
She asks for her children, pleading, searching
Everywhere, desperation and anger turning
To deep despair.
The years go by and she has grown old
Yet still she pines for her children so I am told.
Her face full of pain, tears fall from her eyes.
‘Have you seen my children?’ still she cries.
Then one day three strangers came into town – two girls
And a man placed their luggage down.
‘Have you seen this woman?’ the young man enquires
With a nod of his head the old man replies.
‘Sorry, son, but last winter she died.’
Have you seen my children?’
Were the last words she cried.

**When Will They Bring My Tommy Back Home?**

**Elaine P. Lomas, July 1998**

I wandered into an old country town and in a tin shack an old black woman I found,
Sitting gently rocking in her chair, her eyes well fixed into a stare,
I stood beside her but she couldn’t see, her eyes looking,
searching for someone else-not me,
I spoke a greeting, she didn’t hear, she went on rocking as if I wasn’t there.

‘She’s been like that for forty years; a young voice broken softly into my ears
I asked what it was that made her that way; Ah well would you like a cup of tea?
Do you have all day?’

“It started back in 1948, when the Welfare man came through that gate,
A struggle broke out and the next thing she knew, her children became one,
Where it used to be two.
She screamed and she wailed as she followed the car, but with dust in her eyes
She couldn’t go very far,
She came back to this seat to sit and wait her eyes eagerly fixed on the road and the gate,

Nan doesn’t recognise me or mum, her eyes look only for her eldest son
Her once strong body is now week & frail; her once strong brown eyes are now dim & pale
Her once strong soft hands are wrinkled & worn; her once strong heart is broken & torn
Her once long thick black hair is thinning & grey, she’s been like that since they took Uncle Tommy away,
They took him away when he was five, Nan doesn’t know if he’s dead or alive,
Her once strong sweet voice now just mutters & groans, “Oh, Oh when will they bring my Tommy back home”.

I squeezed the old Women’s hand in a teary haze, and for one split second her eyes met my gaze
Is that you Tommy, she eagerly asked, and for one split second I glimpsed her pain & her past
With her life nearly over, her only request, was for her to see Tommy before she could rest.
I’m sorry I said he’s not coming today and she just turned her head and looked away.
Her image stays clear in my mind as I roam, and I still hear her say,
‘Oh, oh, when will they bring my Tommy back home?’

Piari Anderson and Dylan Kerr pictured above proudly represented Kadina High at the recent Sorry Day Ceremony in Lismore where they recited the above poems. Our Deadly Doobs dance group also performed, well done to all students and staff involved on the day.
NSW Environment Trust Award

On Thursday 5th of February, while everyone was splashing around at the Lismore Memorial Baths, Mr Davies and Mrs Jacob ducked out to the gorgeous grounds of Dunoon Public School to accept a NSW Environmental Trust award from the Hon. Rob Stokes, Minister for the Environment. Mr van den Berg successfully applied for this award which comes with a $3,500 grant to fund the implementation of a Food Garden in our School grounds.

The Science Faculty will drive the project whereby our students will design and create food gardens that supply nutritious produce, which students will then use to cook healthy meals in their food technology classes. Parents of the students running the project will be invited to come into the school and share some of these meals and the food garden will also be incorporated in our Experience Days for local primary school students. The project will focus on sustainability and cycles in nature.

Through this involvement, we envisage our students will become advocates for their home environment and the flow-on of this will benefit the local environment as well as that of Kadina High School.

By Justine Jacob

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Dignitaries pictured right are (L-R):
The Honourable member for Page Thomas George,
Honourable Minister for the Environment Rob Stokes,
Mr Davies, Kadina High Principal
Ms Jacobs, Kadina Science teacher
Brendan Pearce, Thomas Georges Media Advisor and 2012 School Captain of Kadina High
School Captains 2015

Our 2015 School Captains with Mr Davies showcasing our lovely school grounds and wearing our school uniform with pride.

KADINA CANTEEN PRICE LIST – 2015
(Prices Subject to Change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>COST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SANDWICHES / ROLLS</td>
<td></td>
<td>HOT FOOD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White / Wholemeal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cheese &amp; Spinach Rolls</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad Roll</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Spinach &amp; Ricotta Rolls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ham Salad Roll</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Chicken Nuggets (5)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salad Roll</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Chilli Tender Chicken</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satay Chicken Lavash 1/2</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Chicken Pattie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Lettuce Sandwich</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Vegie Pattie</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sushi Rolls (assorted)</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>2 Chilli Tenders on Roll</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Cheese Salad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greek Salad</td>
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<td>Vegie Pattie on Roll</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Bacon Rolls</td>
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<td>Beef Lasagne (winter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assorted Muffins</td>
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<td>Chicken Crackles (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assorted Slices/Donuts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finger Bun</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choc Chip Cookie</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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SAUCES
- Tomato                            30c
- BBQ                               30c
- Mayonnaise                        30c
- French Dressing                   30c
- Sweet Chilli Sauce                30c

PIES
- Curry Brief                       All
- Meat                              $3.50
- Cheese & Bacon                    30c
- Cottage                           30c
- Sausage Roll                      $2.50

YOGHURTS
- Fresh Norco Yoghurt 200g          $2.50

DRINKS
- Large Flavoured Milk              $2.80
- Small Flavoured Milk              $2.00
- Large Pure Juice                  $2.50
- Small Pure Juice                  $1.00
- Large Fruit Drink                 $2.00
- Small Fruit Drink                 $1.50
- Water 600 ml                      $1.00
- Pump Water 1 L                    $2.00
- Gatorade                          $3.00
- Poppers                           $1.50
- Iced Tea (all flavours)           $3.00

Uniform News
Ordering for Winter stock happens soon; If you will need track pants or jackets now is the time to come in to order, try on for size—we will order in to meet the students needs. For any enquiries you can contact Sheryl our canteen and Uniform Manager on 0435 509 273.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

LISMORE THISTLES SOCCER CLUB 2015 JUNIOR SIGN ON: Lismore Sign on Thistles Park, Military Road, East Lismore 9am to 1pm on each Saturday February 2015. Full fees are required to be paid at Sign On or by agreement on the day – however a minimum of 50% of the fees are to be paid at Sign On and the remainder no later than Thursday 30th April 2015. For further information, contact Wayne on 0401 069242.

SOUTH LISMORE CELTIC FOOTBALL (SOCCER) CLUB SIGN ON: at Club House, 2 Caniaba St South Lismore (behind the tender centre) 12pm-3pm on Saturday 21st Feb 2015. Open to all juniors to seniors so even mum and dads can join the fun. Contact Sally Bates - 0403791566 (after 3pm) for any additional information.

NORTHERN UNITED JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE SIGN ON: Age Divisions: U7 to U16. 3 SATURDAY sign on days 9.30 -1pm. 7th, 14th & 21st February – Hepburn Park, Oliver Ave Goonellabah. Positions vacant to fill for new season-For more information on all of the above contact: John Guerin, President: 0422 451 675/ Teena Brice, Vice President: 0413 434562/ Muriel Roberts, Secretary: 0478 795563/ Melinda Moran, Treasurer: 0413 819 860, Janice Kapeen, Registrar: 0423 216261

EAST LISMORE HOCKEY CLUB 2015 REGISTRATION: Come and try days– Thursday 12th, 19th & 26th February 6-6.30pm. More info; www.eastlismorehockey.net.au, Chris Clark 0466377331, Boyd Hughes 0448248441, Alison Franey 0432175396


CORAKI HOCKEY CLUB: U9, U11, U13,U15, Senior men & women's teams. Free Junior Muster 17th February 5-6pm at Coraki Tennis Courts. Free Junior & Senior Muster 24th February 5-7pm Goonellabah Turf*-must have mouth guard, shin pads & stick.

LISMORE WORKERS FC's SOCCER SIGN ON: Saturday 14th, 21st & 28th February 9am-1pm at the Club House in Brewster St. (Next to Lismore Shopping Square) Junior boys and girls 5yr to 17yrs, Senior Men and Women in all Divisions. contact Sharon Lane 0466388422 www.lismoworkersfc.org.au

LISMORE GIRL GUIDES: Would you like to get involved in your community and help girls develop skills for life? Lismore Guide District is looking for women 18 years and over interested in leadership. You will be supported in becoming a Leader of Guides: training, mentoring, resources and friendship. Challenge yourself as you enable girls and young women grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members. Call Jacki Scutt on 0427728269; please leave a message if unanswered Or email jackiscutt@bigpond.com OR www.girlguides-nswact.org.au

ARMY CADET UNIT LISMORE OPEN NIGHT: 23rd February at Lismore Army Barracks, Military Road 7.30pm start for 12 1/2 years and older.

For more Information and regular updates don’t forget to like our face book page
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences
You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order
If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court
School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team
T 131 538

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships
T 9244 5129
www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities