Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are fast approaching the end of Term 1 at school, the last day being Thursday, 2nd April. During the last week of school we will be doing an Easter Doing Things Together Day on Wednesday, 1st April from 11.30am - 2.55pm. Groups will be made up of students from K-6 and will move around to seven activities organised by staff.

Hats that are made during this time can be worn at an Easter Hat Parade on Thursday morning at 9.00am. Easter hats can also be made and decorated at home.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
Our school Cross Country will be conducted on Wednesday, 1st April from 9.00am - 11.00am. Students need to wear their Buru (red) or Wirri (white) team colours for their events. Each age group will have their own separate race, varying in distance. Parents are most welcome to come along as spectators. (A parent race can be organised if there are sufficient entries.)

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
At a recent Principals’ Network Meeting several points were made about student attendance at school. Some of the important points being made:

* Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven school days to the school. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within seven days from the first day of any period of absence.
* Principals or their delegate will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents promptly and within two school days of an absence being unexplained, if contact has not already been made. An absence is unexplained if parents have failed to provide an explanation to the school within seven days.
* Travel or holidays taken by students outside of vacation periods will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted. Parents are required to complete an Application for Extended Leave—Travel and provide it to the principal for their consideration. If the principal accepts the reason for travel the absence will be marked as “L” and a Certificate of Extended Leave—Travel will be issued.
BUSES
We have been advised by Nowra Coaches that commencing from the 23rd March the following will apply:

- All students that currently travel on Bus 16 in the afternoon will be required to travel on Bus 12. Bus 12 will travel the same route at approximately the same time.
- All students that currently travel on Bus 26 in the morning the bus will be arriving approximately 10 minutes earlier at your normal stop.
- Any students that travel on Bus 18 in the morning from McArthur Drive, Gardeners Road will be required to travel on Bus 27 which will travel around McArthur Drive approximately 7.35am then onto Gardeners Road at approximately 7.40am.
- All students that currently travel on Bus 18 from Vincentia or Huskisson will be required to travel on Bus 26 at approximately the same timetable as Bus 18 was.

Parents wishing for additional information or clarification can contact Nowra Coaches on 4423 5244.

HOT CROSS BUNS FUNDRAISER
Attached to the newsletter is a form for the Hot Cross Bun Drive Fundraiser organised by the P&C. Please ensure that your money and form is returned to the school by next Monday, 23rd March so they can order the hot cross buns.

The hot cross buns are being made by North Nowra Bakery at a very generous price, so please feel free to ask family and friends if they would also like to order.

PSSA SPORT
Best wishes to students who are participating in PSSA Sport:

1. Matthew Higham will be swimming at the NSW PSSA Swimming Trials at Homebush on Wednesday, 25th and 26th March.
2. Yasmin Willis will be attending the Southern Illawarra Zone Girls Soccer Trials at Kiama tomorrow.
3. Brodie Byrne was selected last Friday in the Shoalhaven PSSA 11 Years Rugby League team and will be playing at Kiama Football Grounds.

YEAR 4/5/6 CAMP TO CANBERRA
Notes were sent home last week with students for the Years 4/5/6 camp to Canberra on the 4th, 5th and 6th of May (Week 3, Term 2). The cost of the camp is $240.00. Please ensure that all money and notes are returned to the office by the last day of Term 1, Thursday, 2nd April. If there is a problem with payment please see Mrs Noelene Jones in the office.

CANTEEN
There will be no fried rice available tomorrow from the canteen. It will be available to order again from next week.

LIBRARY
Thank you for your support this term with library borrowing. Most students are remembering to bring their books back each week in order to borrow new books. This week is the last week of borrowing for the term. All library borrowing is on Wednesdays except for 5/6 which is on Tuesdays. “Read everyday – Lead a better life”

EASTER RAFFLE
Easter Raffle tickets are attached to the newsletter. Tickets are $1.00 each and are to be returned to the school by Tuesday, 31st March. The raffle will be drawn at school on Wednesday, 1st April.

The school P&C are still looking for donations for this years Easter Raffle. Donations of chocolate Easter eggs, baskets, ribbons or cellophane etc are to be handed into the front office.

MERIT AWARDS
Kindergarten
Eva O’Sullivan - Participating in class discussions
Rhory Jones-Newing - Being a kind and caring class member

Year 1/2
Summer King - Listening carefully in class
Madison Fish - Being a responsible class member this week
Jack Woods - Regular home reading
Tom Manwaring - Completing set tasks
Year 2/3
Devante Renomeron - Trying to always do her best in class
Jade O’Connell - Excellent effort at the 3/4 gala day (AFL)
Ethan Vicary - Showing his AFL skill at 3/4 gala day

Year 3/4
Nissa Blowfield - Excellent spelling results each week
Alyson Kettlewell - Completing her homework each week
Nicholas Iloski - Completing his homework every week and for excellent results in his timetables test each week

Year 5/6
Adrien Griffiths - Consistently working well in class
Thomas Nolan - Excellent poetry

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Happy Birthday and best wishes to Andrew Lewis, Lily Sproule, Brodie Byrne and Denzel Atkinson who celebrate their birthday this week.

UNIVERSITY OF NSW AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS YEARS 3-6
A reminder that all money is due by this Friday for the competitions below. We will not be accepting any late entries after this date.

Please fill out the slip below and return it, together with your money to the front office.

NOWRA HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF NSW COMPETITIONS Years 3-6

I would like my child to sit for the following competitions (pls circle)

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES - $4.00  MATHS - $4.00  WRITING - $17.00
SPELLING - $11.00  ENGLISH - $4.00  SCIENCE - $4.00

Child’s Name: ____________________________  Class: _________________
I have enclosed $ ____________ Signed: _________________ Dated: _______

HOT CROSS BUN DAY AT SCHOOL
On the last canteen day of term (1st April) the canteen will be selling Hot Cross Buns for just $1.00 each at recess only. If your child is interested in ordering a Hot Cross Bun please fill out the slip below by Wednesday, 25th March so North Nowra Bakery can make them fresh for us.

NOWRA HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL
HOT CROSS BUNS FOR RECESS $1.00 - Wednesday, 1st April

I would like my child _____________________ in class _______________ to order
_________________ hot cross buns for recess on Wednesday, 1st April:

       With Fruit  or  Without Fruit  (pls circle)

I have enclosed $ ______________

Signed: ____________________________ Dated: __________