"I'm back!!": Just a quick hello from me – I am back!! Can I express a big thankyou to Lisa Brookes for filling in so competently as the leader of the school while I was away. I am very lucky to have such a strong leadership team in the school, and so many amazing staff. Thanks to my P&C and parents for their support. I missed being here and am quite excited about the great opportunities our children will experience over the next few months.

Voluntary School Fees: Thanks to all families who gave us their voluntary fees. Our teachers are having a great time utilising these amounts to buy resources for their classrooms.

Many parents wonder about leaving children home alone: when is it OK? You can start by thinking about your family circumstances and the age and maturity of your child.

There’s no one law in Australia that says at what age you can or can’t leave your child home alone. In most states in Australia, the law says you’re legally obliged to make sure that your child is properly looked after. You’re expected to provide food, clothing, a place to live, safety and supervision. You can be charged with an offence if your child is left in a dangerous situation, not fed, clothed or provided with accommodation. This means that you need to use your own judgment about leaving children home alone.

This involves thinking about whether your child could cope if you weren’t able to get back, or if something happened. For example, leaving a baby or toddler asleep while you pop out to collect older children from school poses a significant risk.

If you think it’s OK and you’re confident your older child is ready, your older child can spend some time alone without parental supervision.

Deciding if your child is ready to be left at home alone

You’re the best judge of when your child is ready to be left at home alone. It’s not just about your child’s age – her maturity is also important. You might feel confident leaving a 12-year-old who’s very responsible, but quite worried about a 15-year-old who takes a lot of risks.

Here are some questions you can ask yourself to decide about leaving your child home alone:

- Does my child usually make sensible decisions?
- Can my child stay alone for a while without being frightened?
- Would my child be able to cope in an emergency, such as a fire or a break-in?
- Does my child know how to use the telephone?
- How safe is our home and neighbourhood?
- Does my child know important information such as phone numbers?
- Can my child follow the house rules, whether I’m there or not?
- Does my child feel confident about being left alone?
- How long will I be away?
- How often would my child be at home alone?

If you’re not sure your child is ready, trust your judgment and wait until he’s a bit older. If your child is unsure or feels frightened about staying home alone, be patient and reassure her that she’ll feel ready as she gets older. There’s no need to rush into it if she’s not ready.
2015 Classes: Any parents who have concerns for the class placement of their child/ren for 2015 are able to put these concerns in writing in order for requests to be considered. These concerns need to be in writing to me personally before 1st December this year. Emailing to the school’s email address is the best way to get this information to me. However, please do not request a particular teacher as we have not matched teachers to classes yet. Just inform us about the needs of your child or information that you feel we may need to know more about. We would prefer to hear from you now rather than after children are already in classes. Last year, after a lot of planning by the executive and staff, we were able to support most requests. I encourage parents of twins to make recommendations as to whether you feel it best for your children to be together or apart. In general, twins will be separated unless we hear from you. Please feel free to talk to your child’s teacher about your ideas first, but the request must come in writing to Mrs Wellham. We place enormous value in our class placement of students.

One of the best feelings in the world is knowing that your presence and absence both mean something to someone.

Kerry Wellham
Principal

CALENDAR
8th and 10th October and every week till the 5th Nov inc – Kindystart 9-30 am to 12 noon
17th Nov to 28th Nov- Learn to Swim Program
18th November- P&C Meeting
19th Nov- Tumbi Orientation Day
2nd Dec- Home Reading Pizza Party
3rd Dec- Tumbi Gala Day
10th Dec - Brooke Idol
12th Dec-Stage Picnic Days
15th Dec-Presentation Evening (6pm to 7.30pm)
16th Dec- Kindy Graduation (9.30am to 10.30am)
17th Dec- Year 6 Farewell
17th Dec – Last day for students

World Festival of Magic: The Lions Club of Wyoming presents the world Festival of Magic. This is a free show for special needs and disadvantaged kids on the Central Coast. It is an opportunity for children and their families to enjoy a wonderful day out together. The show is on Saturday 8th November at 2:00pm and 5:00pm at the Central Coast Youth Club, Niagara Park. A limited number of free tickets will be available at the school office from Thursday 30th October.

Year 6 Mini Fete: The Year 6 Mini Fete will take place on Friday 14th November. There will be a wide range of fun stalls including face painting, footy pass, haunted house, treasure hunt and soak the teacher. Tickets will be sold before school on the day of the Mini Fete. The cost of tickets will be

- 2 for $1
- 4 for $2
- 10 for $5

All money raised will go toward the Year 6 gift to the school.
Year 6 shirts: The Year 6 shirts and jackets will be handed out to the students in the next few weeks. They will need to wait until the New Year to be able to wear these.

P&C

Year 1 Q4 Family Activation Pack: This week all students in Year 1 will be given a ‘Family ACTIVation Pack’. This is a fun resource to help parents/carers get active with their children. It’s full of quick and easy games to play at home, in the park or wherever….games that reinforce the fundamental movement skills like throwing, catching, hopping and skipping - the same movement skills being learnt at school.

By playing games together, families will be getting some of their daily requirement for physical activity as well as developing movement skills, confidence and greater potential to live an active-healthy life.

36,000 Family ACTIVation Packs have been distributed to Central Coast families through participating primary schools and other community agencies over the last seven years. We hope that our families enjoy this free resource.

Early Action for Success: KindyStart - Our transition to school program is held each Wednesday and Friday morning from 9.30am to 10.45am for 5 weeks. We have now enjoyed three sessions of KindyStart and have thoroughly enjoyed meeting our new Kindy 2015 students! Thank you to the parents and grandparents who have been attending each week. This week’s session will begin in the library followed by a fun Treasure Hunt around our school.

Our Kindy team have been visiting some Early Childcare Centres over the past term to help with the transition to school process. This week 3 of our students came along to Bright Start Preschool. Riley, Blayne and Shannon all attended this preschool and the teachers were thrilled to say hello to them again. The three boys represented our school proudly and shared their memories of preschool and beginning Big School with the
We’ve been asking lots of *questions* about *Earth & Space*.

Here’s what we’ve found out:

**Q: How was the solar system formed?**

**A:** The Solar System formed by planets, asteroids and comets in the solar system are loose objects left over from the formation of the Sun. Originally the gas and dust that would become the Sun was the core of a cloud much larger than the solar system.

**Q: How did the planets form?**

**A 1:** It all started with a tremendous bang. Somewhere in our galaxy a star exploded, throwing out masses of gas and dust. This supernova, as these explosions are called, happened about 5bn years ago. The wreckage from the explosion then crashed into a nearby cloud of gas, bringing together the ingredients for our Solar System.

**A 2:** The planets in our Solar System are believed to have formed from the same spinning disc of dust that formed the Sun. This disc, called the solar nebula, was composed mainly of hydrogen and helium, but also had other elements in smaller proportions.

**Q: What is the connection between tectonic plates and volcanoes?**

**A:** Volcanoes are formed when the lava pushes above the surface of the tectonic plates.
**Important Information for Parents**

Many children and eligible adults may be missing out on free dental care as they are not aware of the Public Dental Service. Public Dental Services have received additional Commonwealth funding and waiting times have reduced. Now is an excellent time for people to contact Public Dental Service for an appointment.

**Free Dental Care**

**for all children under 18 years**

Northern Sydney Local Health District Oral Health Service provides free dental care to all children, less than 18 years old, who are eligible for Medicare and reside in the Local Health District. Recent Commonwealth funding has enabled waiting times to be considerably reduced so now is an excellent time to request dental care.

This includes general dentistry such as examinations, x-rays, fillings and extractions. For more extensive treatment children may be referred for more specialised care to another clinic in the Local Health District, Sydney Dental Hospital or Westmead Centre for Oral Health.

Dental care is provided by teams of fully qualified and experienced Dentists, Oral Health Therapists, and Dental Therapists.

To access the service contact the Health contact centre on:

**1300 732 503**

Patients are triaged in accordance with NSW Health Policy. Those with a dental emergency-trauma, facial swelling or uncontrolled bleeding- are highest priority and will be seen on the same or next day.

Adults (18 years or older) can also access the service for dental care and denture services but must also have, or be listed as a dependant on, one of the following valid Australian government concession cards:

- Health Care Card
- Pensioner Concession Card
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Dental clinics are located at Mona Vale Hospital, Dee Why, Hornsby Hospital, Royal North Shore Community Health Centre, Cox’s Rd (North Ryde) and Top Ryde.

To make a dental appointment: Contact the NSLHD Health Contact Centre: 1300 732 503
For any other information: Contact NSLHD Oral Health Executive Unit: 02 8877 5136