We sincerely hope that our kindy parents feel very welcome at our school and there is an open invitation to visit the classroom or help out at school whenever you can. Students will soon be bringing home prizes and rewards promoting our three school beliefs. We will be issuing students with wrist bands to proudly show that they can follow our beliefs and be a respectful and responsible member of our school community.

Paul Sortwell
Principal

Our Kindy’s Have The Best Start

Our kindy students have started school in the Support unit and the Mainstream.

We know our kindy students have had the best start possible due to the exceptional skills of our teaching and support staff and the considerable planning that has been undertaken.

We have conducted before school testing and assessment with each child to find out what they can do in English and Maths and also what parents want their child to quickly grasp at the start of kindy.

This process is called ‘BEST START’ and it sets up the teacher and student to experience success at school in a rapid and short amount of time.

Our kindy teachers in the Support Unit and Mainstream have also conducted Personalised Learning Plans for our kindergarten students so that we can structure teaching and learning to the needs of each student. This is called individualized learning and results have been very impressive.

We sincerely hope that our kindy parents feel very welcome at our school and there is an open invitation to visit the classroom or help out at school whenever you can. Students will soon be bringing home prizes and rewards promoting our three school beliefs. We will be issuing students with wrist bands to proudly show that they can follow our beliefs and be a respectful and responsible member of our school community.

Paul Sortwell
Principal

Ready Set Go!

Our school swimming carnival for students 8 years and older in the Mainstream classes and the Support Unit, takes place at Wingham Swimming Pool tomorrow. This year the winning house will be awarded a huge trophy at Presentation Day. We welcome parents to come along, cheer on your child or even help out by being a timekeeper or a judge. See you there!
"Our school beliefs are not merely words. Our beliefs shape how we act, what we do and how we think. Our beliefs are a powerful statement about the kind of school we want to be."

**We Prefer No Nuts At MGPS**

For the safety and well-being of all students, we ask that families do not pack peanuts, tree nuts or any nut products in lunchboxes. This includes sandwich spreads, treats and rewards that may have nuts in them. As a school, we will not use peanuts, tree nuts or any nut products in curriculum or extracurricular activities such as excursions or day trips. By adhering to these guidelines, we reduce risk to students and promote a healthy and safe school environment for everyone. Thank you for your support.

**Ask Our Assistant Principals**

If you have the question, our three Assistant Principals will work their hardest to provide you with the answers. Did you know our Assistant Principals teach a class each day? Nevertheless, as school leaders they are here to help you and ensure your children are happy and safe. If you need help, who are you going to call?

SUPPORT UNIT: Mr Alex Beckton.
INFANTS: Mrs Joanne Inglis.
PRIMARY: Mrs Tracy Theophanous.

**Preschool Starts Monday**

Our preschool will be fully operational from this Monday. Aunty Donna and Uncle Ron have been helping our former preschoolers get settled in big school. This is all part of the gold star service from one of the best preschools in the Manning Valley. Our preschool is a fee-for-service preschool, possibly the most affordable in Taree. As such, non-payment of our fees will lead to immediate exclusion until all overdue fees are paid in full. Please ensure all payments are made by the due date each term.
News From Around The School

Due to a drop in the number of students participating in school banking, this program will cease until further notice. We have three sporting houses at our school. Students in Eagles wear green. Students in Sharks wear blue and our Dingoes wear red. Ashton Scholastic Book Club orders are due in by Thursday 19 February. We will confirm classes across the school in the next issue of Grapevine.

Our first whole school assembly will take place on Friday 6 March at 9:20am. Keep your eyes out for our new Precious Gems badges and school belief wrist bands. We expect all students to wear school uniform daily.

Wellbeing Camp A School First

By now you would have seen the excursion or camp permission notes for students in Years 1-6 in our mainstream department. Please return these notes promptly and with all the necessary information filled in, especially emergency contact details. These activities are part of our way to build a stronger connection with students and enhance student wellbeing. Both the day excursions and overnight camps will immerse students in local Aboriginal culture and also teach students about our precious and fragile natural environment. There is no cost for these camps or excursions and we hope they will be so successful that they will become an annual event. Parents are welcome to attend and further information can be obtained from Mr David Amidy.

Annual Meet The Teacher BBQ Breakfast

We want all parents to get to know their child’s teacher! Come up and have a BBQ breakfast with us on Friday 27 February from 9am. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and find out what your child will be learning in their classroom this term. Our BBQ breakfast has been very successful over the last few years. We certainly hope we will see you this year.

“We want to have stronger and more meaningful interactions with our students. We are committed to improving and strengthening student wellbeing in 2015.”
Manning Gardens PS is a vibrant and dynamic school, catering for students from Preschool to Year 6. We have a Support Unit and Early Intervention class for children who require specialised, additional support. Staff work tirelessly to create a caring and supportive environment where children feel safe and can develop a lifelong love of learning.

Our P&C Association is always on the lookout for new ideas, fundraising suggestions and a helping hand in order to give back to our school. The P&C supports student learning outcomes by generously donating money and resources to our school to enhance teaching and learning. They also support school activities and help to reduce the financial burden for families through their subsidies for the intensive swimming scheme and excursions. Being part of our P&C is fun and rewarding. Please attend a meeting and lend a helping hand. The Annual General Meeting of our P&C will take place on Wednesday 18 March at 5:30pm, in the school staffroom. We hope to see you there! Together we can make a difference.