### Dates and Events…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29th Feb</td>
<td>Kidnect IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st Mar</td>
<td>Regional PSSA Cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd</td>
<td>Kidnect IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd</td>
<td>Rugby League Blitz Talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th Mar</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Next Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri-Sun</td>
<td>Art Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14th</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd</td>
<td>School PHOTO Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25th</td>
<td>Good Friday - School closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28th</td>
<td>Easter Monday - School closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31st</td>
<td>RRE Disco</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st</td>
<td>WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd</td>
<td>School PHOTO Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25th</td>
<td>Good Friday - School closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28th</td>
<td>Easter Monday - School closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31st</td>
<td>RRE Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8th</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that every effort is made to include all activities on our calendar, but some activities may change to circumstances beyond the school’s control and planning.*

### 2016 Art Show

**18th March Friday:** 6:00pm-8:00pm (Adults only $10.00 entry includes wine and light catering)

**19th March Saturday:** 10:00am-4:00pm

**20th March Sunday:** 10:00am-3:00pm

Our Art Show for this year will be held on the 18th, 19th and 20th March 2016. Last year’s Art Show was a huge success and the students enjoyed the opportunity to display their work. This year’s theme is “Surrealism” and there will be some special student artwork on display from the students for sale for just $3.00. Our opening night will be held on Friday at 6:00pm and all parents and community members are welcome to come along to view the art works and buy some of the children’s and artist’s work. Tickets for opening night are available at the door or from the school office.

### Art show raffle

All students will bring home a book of raffle tickets to sell to family members as part of the P&C fundraising efforts. This is our fifth year hosting the art show and the children are busy preparing masterpieces for display and sale on 18th-20th March. This year’s first prize in the raffle is a painting by Gaye Shields who is a member of the Maitland Regional Society of Artists and has donated the valuable prize. Parents are asked to support the fundraising effort so valuable resources and school ground improvement can be realised.

All raffle ticket monies need to returned to school by Friday 18th March. Good luck!

### HAPPY SNAPS FROM LAST WEEK AT TENAMBIT……..

1. Some of our Zone swimmers
2. Football training underway
3. Star Struck dancers preparing their audition tape
4. Some students get involved in World Read Aloud Day
Collection of students during school hours

All children should be at school each day and appointments between school hours should be avoided. Where students have to be collected during school hours, parents/carers are required to report to the office to sign their child out of class. Students will be called to the office and parents can take their child from the office area. This saves parents wasting time trying to find the class (e.g. classroom, library, hall, sporting fields). Thank you for helping us ensure the safety of all our students.

Mornings and afternoons

All schools are busy places in the morning and afternoon. Teachers must start their classes on time to maximise student learning and settle children. Teachers do not have adequate time to discuss student progress or more complex issues as the class is lining up to go into class. PLEASE make an appointment with the class teacher through the school office if you are concerned about your child’s progress or have an issue you would like to discuss.

Afternoons are also busy! It is the teacher’s responsibility to ensure all students are dismissed in an orderly and timely manner. Parents are asked to keep away from classroom doors and hallways so children can be dismissed on time. Children can become distracted from their work and not listen to the teacher giving important directions and information if they can see parents waiting.

Tenambit Public School prides itself on the relationships between staff and parents. Our staff are always available for interviews and give many hours outside of school time. Thank you for ensuring the smooth running of morning and afternoon routines.

Coming Up To Big School (CUBS)

Our CUBS Program is a school readiness program for children starting Kindergarten in 2017. The Program will operate each Wednesday morning from 9.00am to 11.00am in the school library. The cost each week is $1.00. There will be an information session at 2.30pm on 4th April in the school hall.

The first intake of children will be on Wednesday 27th April at 9.00am.

To register your interest please call at the school office to complete a CUBS enrolment form. To be eligible to attend CUBS children must be enrolling for Kindergarten 2017 at Tenambit Public School.

School Photos

Our school photos will be held on Wednesday 23rd March. All students will bring home an MSP envelope with payment options and packages. Students should bring their money to school on the day of the photos.

We ask that FULL school uniform be worn on the day. We request that the new school polo or the girls tunic be worn on the day.

Easter Hat Parade - save the date!

Our traditional Easter Hat Parade will be held under the COLA on Thursday 24th March at 12:30pm. All students are encouraged to make and decorate a hat for the parade. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to view the hats and even give out an egg or two! All parents and community members are most welcome to come along and join with us! Some parents have offered to make additional hats for students who may not be able to supply one on the day. These hats can be left at the school office. Thank you for your support!

Clean Up Australia Day And Love Your Garden Project

This Friday, 4th March, our school will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day. Students are asked to bring gardening or disposable gloves for the day. We will also launch a school "love your garden" project where each class will be allocated a garden area to look after throughout the year. Classes and students are encouraged to keep the garden area clean and weed free, and may also think about ways to improve the area. We hope to have our gardens looking as best they can be over the next few months! Watch our gardens grow!

School Contribution Fee

All families in NSW public schools are asked to make a contribution to the ongoing costs associated in providing a quality education. Unlike some schools, Tenambit Public School does not have text book fees or ‘book pack’ fees. All families will be invoiced for the one-off fee and it would be appreciated if the fee/s could be paid by the end of Term 1. Thank you to all parents for your ongoing support for our school and students. Our fees have remained unchanged for three years.

2016 Contribution fees are

First Child: $40.00
Second Child: $40.00
Third Child: $30.00
Additional children: Free

AWARDS WEEK 5

Respect


Responsibility

Xavier Ellenor, Layla Smith, Riley Murray, Dominic Harper, Zarli Apthorpe, Joseph Doherty, Lionel Barry, Darcy Evans, Jasper McClay, Dominic Brown, Ruby Willett, Max Carter, Savannah Wilson, Deagen Hampton-Jackson, Jayden Green, Khira Lynch, Hayley Delfmege, Riley Patten, Chloe Lord, Jye Davies, Lily Field

Excellence


Staff Changes

Our school counsellor, Mrs Nardia Craven-sands, has been transferred to Kotara High School from the beginning of Term 2, 2016. Mrs Sands has been a counsellor at the school for over 5 years and has done an amazing job supporting our students. Ms Emma Foran will replace Mrs Craven-Sands from Term 2. Any parents/students who have any concerns about the transition phase can contact the school on 4933 7196 or email tenambi-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

RRE Disco 31st March

Our Term 1 disco will be held in the school hall on 31st March. This is a disco for students who have shown Respect, Responsibility and Excellence (RRE) throughout the term. The Year 6 student leadership team will run this disco. Entry is $2.00 per child and children need to be supervised to and from the school by a responsible adult. Students should wear sensible footwear and neat comfortable clothing.
Full supervision is provided in the hall - but parents must ensure adequate supervision to and from the school. Parents are welcome to stay. This disco is only for students of Tenambit Public School.

**Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)**

**PBL Affirmation for the Week**  
*I can control what I do or say*

**School Council taking a break**

Our school council met last week to discuss the future of the Tenambit Public School Council. The Department of Education has rescinded all policies relating to the operation and governance of school councils in NSW Public Schools. This means that the School Council has no policy or procedural status at this point in time. Our school council has operated since 1991 (25 years!) and has supported many of the strategic directions of the school and the many principals who have led at Tenambit Public School. Efforts will now be focused on making the P&C the peak consultative body for the school. We thank the current and past School Council members who have served diligently on the council and have made a significant contribution. A special thank you to Mr Ray Scanlon who has served on the council as a parent and community representative for many many years. We are sure Ray’s association with the school is not over just yet!

**Tenambit Public P&C Assoc**

**AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of Tenambit Public School P&C Association will be held on Monday 15th March at 6.00pm.  
All positions will be declared vacant at this meeting and new office bearers will be elected. 
Please see the attached form for more information and nomination forms.

**P&C Day**

On the 2nd March 2016, it is P&C day. This day is to acknowledge the contributions made by P&C Associations in NSW Public Schools.  
Parents and citizens volunteer their time and resources to schools and students to ensure great outcomes for all students.  
We would like to thank everyone involved with Tenambit Public School P&C Association for their great work – whether that be by actively being involved in the P&C Association or supporting the work that they do.  
Thank you everyone!!

**The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey**

We are delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at:  

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

We want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9th March and 2nd April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

**Stage 1 Excursion to Shortland Wetlands**

Notes went home last week for the Stage 1 Excursion to Shortland Wetlands on Tuesday 22nd March. Money and notes need to be returned as soon as possible. The cost is $20.00 per student and $8.00 per adult. All money (including parents) needs to be paid at the front office. Each class is encouraging parent helpers but due to the limited number of seats on the bus we request that parents make their own way to enjoy the day with the children. Parents are required to complete a school induction if you have not already. This can be done each Wednesday morning at 9.00am up until 9th March 2016. If you are unsure please ask your child’s classroom teacher or the office staff.

**National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in the local area**

The NDIS is a new way of providing individualised support for people who have a disability. The NDIS is not connected to Centrelink and their income testing directly. Support is based on the level of disability and how much help is needed to take part in activities. It is also focused on getting help as early in a child’s life as possible (early intervention).

Funded supports are negotiated with individuals and their families but can include therapies (Speech, Occupational, Mental Health, Behaviour), respite, social activities, family counselling and many more. There are set levels of funding the NDIS will cover for each individual.

Maitland area was one of the first areas to trial the NDIS. If you or your child have a disability and have been living in the local government area of Maitland since 2013, you may be eligible now. Everyone else in the Hunter with a disability will be able to apply from June. So if you’re eligible now, it would be a good idea to beat the rush and fill in the forms now. Otherwise have your forms and specialist reports ready to go in June. There is lots of information available on the website [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au). The Hunter Area fact sheet is available here: [http://www.ndis.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/participating_ndis_hunter_0.pdf](http://www.ndis.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/participating_ndis_hunter_0.pdf).

You will need to call the NDIS access team on 1800 800 110 to get a form, or you can pick one up and get some help filling it in.
at their local office at 226 High Street, Maitland. You submit the form to the NDIA, they assess whether you can get this support, and you meet with a case manager to figure out which supports would be most helpful for the person with a disability and their family. There are a few meetings to get the plan in place, but once established it is just a case of reviewing it every one to two years.

**Sports News**

**Training Squads**
Our weekly training squads are gaining momentum with students continuing to participate and learn skills in new sports. Students are reminded that if they wish to be in contention to be picked for representative teams they must turn up to training in order to be considered.

**Zone Swimming Carnival**
The Zone Swimming Carnival was held last Tuesday. Our school team competed extremely well with everyone showing great sportsmanship whether they won or lost. All students showed excellent behaviour out in the community. Unfortunately nobody made it through to the regional carnival.

**PSSA Cricket.**
The PSSA cricket match was postponed due to the high temperatures that we experienced last week. The game will be replayed at 10.00am on Tuesday 1st March at Metford Oval. Students will return to school after the game has completed at approximately 12.30pm. If students require a lift due to the change please let Mr Manning know as soon as possible and he will organise transport. We wish the team the best of luck in the game.

**NRL Blitz**
On Thursday the school is lucky enough to welcome some NRL staff and Newcastle Knights players into our school to have talks about football, life and other key issues such as health and nutrition. We look forward to hearing what they have to say.

**Cross Country**
The school’s annual Cross Country Carnival will be held on Friday 4th March. The carnival will start at 9.15am and age groups will run one by one starting with the 8 year old boys and girls. Students will remain in class while their age groups are not running. Any students that are away on the day and are serious competitors will be able to complete the course at a later date, but will be ineligible for the Cross Country Age Champion. We are looking for any parents or carers that wish to volunteer their time to assist in marshalling the course. The carnival will run from 9.15am to approximately 10.30am. Please see Mr Manning if you are able to help on the day.

**2016 ICAS Competitions**
Entries are now open for the ICAS Competitions. These are external tests coordinated by the University of NSW. Students may sit the tests at the school. Parents receive an individual report on their child’s performance and a comparison to other students across Australia. These tests only run for approximately 40 minutes and are valuable for parents wanting more information on their child’s performance in each subject area. The table below outlines what is available this year and the cost of each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>ICAS Sitting Date *</th>
<th>Prices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tues 17th May</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tues 31st May</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Mon 13th Jun – Fri 17th June**</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wed 15th June</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tues 2nd August</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Tues 16th August</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* Sit ICAS on the official date to be eligible for medals or sit ICAS any time and still receive reports and certificates.
** Students can sit ICAS writing anytime in the week beginning Monday 15th June and still be eligible for certificates and medals. If you would like to enter any of the competitions, complete the slip below and return it, with payment, to the office, no later than 24th March, 2016.

![ICAS Testing 2016](image.png)