Well what a fantastic 2 weeks we have had here at Amamoor State School. We have had Sports Days, Celebrity Chef visits, Eisteddfods, Maths Competitions, NAPLAN reports and School Opinion Surveys. As always, our students did us extremely proud with their level of respect and their attitude to their peers and adults.

Our Mathematics team led by Mrs Anderson that consisted of Lorelei, Mikayla, Lucy, Ben and Eloise were outstanding in the Maths Team Challenge. They won the small schools category (for schools under 150 students) and their points tally was the third best overall out of 60 teams. An amazing effort, well done Mrs Anderson and team!!

Last Friday we had the Mary Valley Sports Day where we again were the overall champions with a number of our students away with illness it was so heartening to see students filling in and just “having a go and doing their best”. The students effort and behaviour was outstanding on the day, they certainly did our school proud. I would like to thank the students, staff and parents for making this such a successful and enjoyable day.

Yesterday Mrs Meads and the recorder ensemble competed in the Gympie Eisteddfod. They were extremely nervous and performed beautifully in front of an audience, which was a first for a large number of them. They scored 91 points out of 100 and came second top the winning team who scored 94 out of 100.

I would like to farewell Sam Robb who has begun a position at Gympie West as a teacher aide. Mrs Robb did a fantastic job at Amamoor and we wish her the best of luck at her new school. I would like to welcome Donna Rasmussen who has come in at extremely short notice to replace Sam. She has certainly jumped in with both feet and is a welcome member of our team.

We have had a large number of our students away ill this week. On Monday we had 18 students and a staff member away. If your child is sick, could I ask that you please keep them home to stop the spread of infection. Our attendance rate is a pleasing 94.1 % and we all need to be healthy so the students can perform at their best as we strive to make improvements to our target areas of Literacy, Numeracy, U2B and Attendance.

Congratulations to Ben S, Ben S L, Shelby, Gracie and Jess who will be representing Mary Valley at the Gympie District Athletics Trials. We wish them the best of luck as they strive for selection in the Gympie District team on the 11th of August.

I also want to recognise the amazing effort of Sarah Boody as once again she has filled the roster for the Muster. This $10 000 makes such a difference to our students and enables them to have air-conditioned classrooms and participate in heavily subsidised swimming and excursion programs. Thank you also to the parents, community members and the large number of visitors to the community who have recognised this and have volunteered for a shift or two.

Finally I would like to welcome “Bree” to the Amamoor State School family. Bree is the name our 5/6 students have given to the Picasso cow as they give her a repaint in preparation for the Picasso Cow Competition.

I am extremely proud of the entire school community at Amamoor. It is a privilege and an honour to be the principal of such a fantastic school.

Adam Montgomery
Principal
The 2-3-4 Class has been participating in the annual Week of Taste. The Week of Taste is a program that was developed initially in France. The French believe that taste is something that needs to be educated and cultivated. In order to preserve their culinary heritage they introduced a program in schools which helps children to develop a vocabulary for food that extends far beyond the language of Yucky and Yummy.

Here in Australia, school children have an opportunity to explore and experience a variety of new foods and tastes in the classroom, then meet with top chefs and food industry professionals to hear them talk about and prepare exciting new dishes.

Amamoor State School has been lucky enough to have a visit from Matt Golinski who will showing us how to cook and prepare the local produce of the Mary Valley and greater Sunshine Coast area. He may even have some ideas on some delicious new dishes using our Kitchen Garden!

**The Week of Tastes allows children:**

- To understand how they use their five senses to appreciate food
- Enrich their food vocabulary
- Develop curiosity and positive attitude towards trying new food
- Discover the diverse world of flavours
- Playgroup every Tuesday 9-11am
- Tuckshop every Monday
- Craft Club every Monday at 1:15pm
Greetings everyone! I hope that you fully recharged your batteries over the holidays because term 3 is probably our busiest time of the year. As you all know, your P&C does a great job of supporting our wonderful little school with various projects throughout the year and all of their effort and time is given freely and for one reason only…our kids! It’s always encouraging to see our team turning up for meetings regardless of weather and enthusiastically putting their hands up to get things done. We understand that many folk can’t make it to meetings but are happy to help out where possible and over the next 6 weeks we will need all the willing hands we can get to ensure that our fundraising income remains healthy which then enables us to continue to invest in the education of our kids. Please take the time to look at the rosters for the Gympie Music Muster and the Mary Valley Show and put your name down to help out. The more that volunteer, the easier it is for everyone and every hour you give is directly benefiting your child.

Kitchen Garden
Well there is only one word which needs to be said and that is… Costa! What a wonderful man he is and what a fabulous visitor to officially open our beautiful kitchen garden. It was great to see so many parents joining in on the fun of the day and going by the feedback received, Costa left his mark on both kids and adults alike. We’ll all be counting down until he returns next year to celebrate our first birthday but in the meantime there are lots of projects to work on including introducing chooks into our system & establishing a bush tucker garden, as well as lots of fun harvesting, tasting and learning.

Your Inspiration At Home
By now you should have received your catalogue for these wonderful products. Y.I.A.H is a delicious range of flavours which can turn the simple everyday into something really amazing. Those who came to the free tasting were very impressed with the range and quality of these Aussie made products and for every item you order, our school will receive 40% of the price. This is a great way to enjoy some amazing flavours and help raise funds for our school. Orders need to be in by Monday 3rd August. If you would like more order forms to pass on to family and friends please see Cathy.

Gympie Muster
Not long now until the Muster gets underway and we need as many volunteers as possible to assist at the gates. This is our biggest event of the year and all it takes is for school families to volunteer some time. For each 6 hour shift you do, you will receive a free day pass to the muster for the day of your choice. Make sure you get your preferred shift times in to the office or to Sarah Boody ASAP.

Mary Valley Show
Each year Amamoor SS mans the gates for the show and volunteers are needed to help out. This is a great little show and its success relies heavily on the support of community groups such as ours. If you are unable to help out at the muster, then please put your hand up to give some time to helping at the show on Aug 22nd.

"If you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to approach the P&C team, we’d only be too glad to hear your ideas" . How to contact your P&C.

PRESIDENT
Donna Rasmussen  5488 4956
VICE PRESIDENT
Carolyn Kilpatrick 0437221355
SECRETARY
Rachel Freudenstein
0429132025
TREASURER
Sam Robb 0428 742417
UNIFORM CONVENOR
Nikki Hadfield 0407573968
TUCKSHOP CONVENOR
Donna Oxley
**From the Principal**

**Target Areas for Improvement (As stated in 2015 Annual Implementation Plan)**

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Attendance
- Students achieving in the Upper 2 bands.

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**Chappy’s Chat**

The year 5/6 students have the opportunity to go to Hope Reins to volunteer on Wednesday the 19th of August in the morning. We are also looking for parents to drive us there and back, and so if you would like to help, please let Lisa know.

This fortnight we have been looking at the behaviour expectation of Listening Respectfully to the person who is talking, and with that the value of Attentiveness. Attentiveness is concentrating on the person or task before you. It is a value that is hard in this face paced world with phones, social media and television all demanding our time when we could be spending quality time with those around us.

Attentiveness in the classroom is listening when people speak, sitting up straight, not getting distracted by others, and getting work done. I know myself with the busyness of this world I sometimes struggle to give those around me the attention and respect they deserve because I have my phone or social media. Wouldn’t it be nice for just one night to be able to truly be attentive and to also have someone else’s full attention. This is something to think about and discuss with your children especially in regards to the behaviour expectation.

Coming up at the end of the September holidays is the Mary Valley Chaplaincy Horse Ride on October 3-5 in Imbil. There will be more information about this in coming weeks, but get excited for this great event.

Have a fantastic fortnight!

Chappy Caitlin
Help us beautify our garden spaces!

We are planning on building a mural on a wall in our new kitchen garden using plastic bottle/jar lids. We need hundreds of lids in different sizes and colours, all must be plastic. The picture is just an example of what can be achieved, isn’t it great? Each classroom will have a bucket for the lids to be deposited into. Please send lids from yoghurt containers, milk bottles, jars and anything else that has a round plastic lid in with your child each day. Any queries contact Cathy Forsdike on 0487 051 075.