at the annual general meeting. Other committee members include vice-president Lisa Potts, treasurer Tiffany Hughes, minute secretary Maree Eakin, correspondence secretary Wendy Boshor, fundraising coordinator Tammy Whyte and uniforms/clothing pool Wendy Boshor. The election saw some changes to the executive from last year. The P and C canteen committee for this year has also been elected.

They are president Maree Eakin, treasurer Wendy Boshor and minute secretary Selena Gregory.

21 ambassadors baying for blood

TWENTY-ONE high school students from Manning Valley have joined a national youth initiative aimed at saving lives through blood donation.

The Youth Ambassador Program encourages community contribution and is a fun, educational way for schools to introduce blood donation to students.

Schools participating in the challenge are Wingham High, Taree High, St Clares, Manning Valley Anglican College and Chatham High and this week they gathered at Taree Visitors Information Centre to learn about the program.

Blood Service spokesman Greg French said students were encouraged to donate as a group with their friends, and many students found this an excellent way to overcome any nerves surrounding donating, especially for the first time.

"Students can start to donate blood at 16-years-of-age and the Red Cross Blood Service.

Greg said student donors were an inspiring example to community members of all ages. "These young donors are only young but their generosity and community spirit make a life-saving difference to blood recipients from all over the county," Greg explained.

"The Youth Ambassadors provide great support to the Blood Service throughout the year. The Schools Blood Challenge helps to encourage and educate our youth about Australia's need for blood and how as students, they can save lives.

"They are our new generation of blood donors, and the future of our blood supply."

Culture highlighted through music and dance

MANNING Gardens Public School's Harmony Day celebrations highlighted culture through music and dance as well as inclusion and teamwork.

The special assembly saw Matt Zarb sing a song in Spanish and the school's koori dance group performed along with a girls dance group.

The school had a belonging tree in the middle of the hall and each class hung a mobile full of people that represented all students at the school working together as a team.

A soccer match with staff and parents versus kids went ahead even with a bit of rain.

Koori dancers Malouc Paulson and Ashton Sortwell at Manning Gardens school.

Clare Cattell helping two Manning Gardens kindergarten students, Millie Sortwell and Luana Leonard, hang their mobiles on the belonging tree.

Dancers Lacey Mills, Sarah MacDonald, Paige Bramble and Sarah McDonald.


Simon McMillan of the Red Cross Blood Service teaches a new generation of donors the facts about blood and plasma donation. The high school students are encouraged to donate annually and to promote and encourage donation in their schools and wider community.

Holden, 4/ST Tanas Clarke, 5/ST Webber, 5/ON Katatayl Murphy and Jake Conway.

Infants maths awards were Jakob Woodhouse, Felicity Co Hayleigh Harris, Danni Loukha Tyler Eagles, Bella Rose Sprin and Mia Daves.

Cross country results

THE Cundletown Public School cross country saw some impressive results from students with a number heading to the carnival in May.

Age champions were: 8/9 boys James Wright, 8/9 year Brooke Hosgood, 10 years Lachlan Gregory, 10 years Ella Stone-Strahan, 11 years Rece Wright, 11 years girls Hayley Manusu, 12 years Andrews and 12 years girls Carliisa Sower.

The sporting house to win champion house trophy was Worimi.


The cross country for kindergarten to year two students will take place at Friday, April