TERM 1

WEEK 8

19th March 2013

Tuesday 19th March
School Banking

Wednesday 20th March
Mobile Library visits

Thursday 21st March
P. and C. Meeting - 7.30 p.m.

Students enjoyed last week’s netball clinic

Our Riverina swimming carnival representatives

5649 Canola Way
Matong NSW 2652
Phone: 02 69277824 Fax: 02 69277877
Email: matong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web: www.matong-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Last Tuesday Alison Johnston, Consultant Aboriginal Education Riverina Region, conducted staff training in the formulation of personalised learning plans. Alison plans to visit again later to assist with this task.

Last Wednesday, a large number of students represented our school at the District AFL & Netball Trials. Congratulations to Rosie Currie who was selected to attend the Western Riverina Pre-selection Netball trials in May and also to Nick McCorry and Mick Curry who were successful in their bid to be part of the zone AFL team.

Yesterday, as part of our Science studies, Stage 2/3 students were treated to a special visit from Casper and Amber Rowland. Casper, a bearded dragon, helped teach students about his particular diet and habitat needs. He also taught us a bit about food chains! Thanks to Amber Rowland for bringing Casper to visit.

Today Wendy Hughes, Assistant Principal Learning Support, visited to provide support and discuss issues relating to the Every Student, Every School initiative. Tomorrow, Mrs Leonie Stephenson, Principal Beckom PS, will visit our school before staff head off to Narrandera East Infants School for an in-service on Mathletics and Reading Eggs. The staff is again very busy this week with after-school training and meetings on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The next P & C meeting will be held on Thursday 21st March at 7:30 p.m. in the Stage 2/3 classroom. We look forward to seeing as many families represented as possible. P & C is an important forum for giving input into your child’s educational experience.

This Friday is Ride to School Day. To honour Mr Lucas and his love of riding, we are holding a Shorts, Crocs and Long Socks Day. Thanks to the Steward family for this idea. A gold coin donation can be made, with all proceeds going to Stewart House. As in recent years, students, staff and interested parents and siblings are invited to ride (or walk) all or part of the way to school on this day. We will leave it to individual families to organise what they wish to do on this day with regards to travelling to school but if your child will not be travelling on their regular bus, please ensure the bus drivers know what is happening. If your child is travelling along a public road, please ensure all necessary precautions are taken to ensure their safety. We will be having a shared school breakfast after the ride. Please ensure you have returned your RSVP so we can cater for everyone. Thanks to Mrs Lea McGuinness for helping coordinate the day.

Speaking of Stewart House, I am very pleased to advise that Anthony Rudder and Kasey Rowland have been selected for a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend Stewart House next term.

Lilian Dowell visits on Friday to assist with the finalisation of our annual school report.

This Sunday and Monday I have the pleasure of accompanying our school leaders – Kiarah Lenord and Rosie Currie – to Sydney for this year’s Young Leaders Conference.

Next Tuesday, Miss Walsh and Mrs McGuiness will participate in an Early Career Teachers Workshop on Road Safety. In their absence, classes will be taken by Mrs Annie Crocker and Mrs Toni Campbell.

Mrs Judith Gawne is on leave next week.

Regards,
Valerie McKelvie
Relieving Principal

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home-made Easter chocolates, with proceeds going to the school. Profits will be publicised in regular Leader’s Group reports. Easter chocolates will be available for sale direct to parents and caregivers at the Ride to School Breakfast on Friday 22nd March. Bags of chocolates will sell for 50c and $1. Get in quick as only limited numbers of chocolates will be available. Please support the students in this initiative.

**Stage 2/3 News Report**

*News Report by Nick and Kasey*

This week Kasey’s family brought in Casper James the bearded dragon. They did this so we can learn about what eats crickets and also about bearded dragons/lizards. He has already had lots of attention and we are having Amber, Kasey’s sister, come in to talk about the lizard “Casper James”.

We are also going ahead with EnviroChamps this year. Kiarah, Nick, Laith, Daneka, Rosie and Amelia are all excited about being our delegates and are also excited about going to Griffith for the EnviroChamps Day. We have also made a Student Council for Year 6. We will hold meetings on Fridays. We are going to fundraise by making chocolate easter eggs which will be on sale on Friday!

**Stir-fry**

*Insect Description by George Hatty*

My insect is called Stir-fry. It has six legs (beans and tomatoes) and the body is a zucchini. The eyes are made up by a little baby squash and the stinger is at the back is a chilli. It is called stir-fry because it is made by two squashes, one chilli, twelve beans and six tomatoes. It is stuck together by tooth picks and skewers. Stir-fry is coloured green, red, yellow, orange and white.

**Animorphs**

*by Aidan Bensch*

The Animorphs had no missions. Just then a yeerk crawled into jakes head! So now they had to morph Jake. I hope no one gets stuck in Jake’s body and loses theirmorphing power!

The yeerk in Jake’s head was reading his secrets like a book, when Jake had an outburst of mental strength and pushed the yeerk right out of his head. But then it went into Cassie’s!

**2014 Year 7 Students**

Last week, parents and carers of students who will be going to high school in 2014, received an information package titled “Moving into Year 7 in a NSW government school in 2014”. Please ensure the return of these forms by Friday 22nd March, 2013. Any questions, please contact us.

**Coolamon Central School Info Night**

CCS will soon be holding their annual information night for families who may wish to visit and consider Coolamon Central School as an option for their child’s secondary schooling. If you have a child in years 4, 5 or 6, you will find an invitation attached to your newsletter.

**Parent and Carer Tips**

**Sounding out aloud**

Making phonics fun. Help your child learn to read by sounding out their words. Here are some tips to help your child gain confidence reading.


**Facts about fractions**

If you’ve forgotten 3/5 of primary school maths and 7/8 of high school maths, what’s left? Ah ha! Kids need help learning how to add fractions too. The only thing left is to print these fact sheets.


**Upcoming Events**

**Combined Scripture Easter Service**

- Wednesday 27th March at 10 a.m.

**P. and C – Pie Drive Packing Day**

- Thursday, 28th March. More details next week.
This week’s riddle
What is in seasons, seconds, centuries and minutes but not in decades, years or days?

Answer to last week’s riddle
Q: What happens when you throw a yellow rock into a purple stream?
A: It makes a splash

Mobile Library
The mobile library will be here again tomorrow. Please ensure all resources have been returned to the box in the office. A mobile library membership form attached to your newsletter indicates that your child/ren have asked to become members of the library. The mobile library visits fortnightly. If you are happy for your child to join, please complete and return the form ASAP. If you wish your child/ren to borrow items with a rating higher than G, this needs to be notified in writing to the school. You can just attach a note to the membership form.

Lunch Orders
Don’t forget that lunch orders are due in by Thursday each week.

EnviroChamps Program
Tuesday marks the commencement of the EnviroChamps project for 2013. Laith Kitching, Kiarah Lenord, Nick McCorry, Amelia Altoft, Rosie Currie and Daneka Hatty will travel to Griffith with Mrs Evans for the first of two forums. As has been the case since its inception, the EnviroChamps program selects a limited number of students to participate each year. Due to larger student numbers in 2013, not everyone in Year 6 is able to attend the off-site leaders’ days. It is important to note however, that the EnviroChamps program is not, and never has been, an exclusive leaders club. The students attending the off-site days are delegates for the wider student body. It is their responsibility to lead their school mates K-6 through environmental initiatives and then report back to the EnviroChamps forum in the form of in-depth projects and public speaking presentations. Year 6 students not attending the off-site days in 2013, will still have the opportunity to be involved in school-based initiatives and will help lead the younger students through the environmental tasks chosen by the group.

Stage 2/3 Classroom Helpers
Calling on volunteers to help out in the Stage 2/3 classroom.

Volunteers will help children with literacy or maths activities.

Helpers would be of most benefit during the following timeslots:

- Tuesday 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. or 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Wednesday 9:15 to 11:15 a.m.
- Thursday 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. or 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

If you are interested in becoming a helper, please indicate your preferred times on the attached note and return it to school.

Coolamon Library News
The library will be conducting a free learning session called “Embracing e-readers”. The session will look at three main types of e-readers, how to borrow e-books and e-audio books from the library. It will be held on Wednesday 27th March @ 10.30am at the library with morning tea provided. Please phone the library for further details. – 69272492.

Also the International Women’s Day Scarf Appeal is still running with a lot of scarves being bought into the library. The scarves will be sent over to the Addis Ababa Hospital in Ethiopia to give to women in need. Donations can be left at the Ganmain Providore or here at the library.

The Premiers Reading Challenge has started again for another year. The books have been sorted into the different levels, so it is easier to find them.

Our next storytime will be this Friday, 22nd March @ 10.30am, theme “Easter”.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>TODAY</td>
<td>University of NSW Comp note &amp; money</td>
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<td>TODAY</td>
<td>P. &amp; C. Pie Drive order and money</td>
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<td>FRIDAY, 22.3.13</td>
<td>Moving into Year 7-2014 forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASAP</td>
<td>Mentoring Program Expression of Interest</td>
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<td>THURSDAY, 21.3.13</td>
<td>Ride2School Permission Note</td>
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<td>ASAP</td>
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**Community Corner**

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**Matony Public School Scripture**

Parents, Grandparents & Community Members are invited to attend our special Easter Service to be held at:

10.00 am on Wednesday 27th March at Matony Uniting Church Hall

Please join us for a Cuppa & hot cross buns to follow

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**Australia's First Coloured Commemorative Coin!**

**LIMITED EDITION**

For a $10 donation the $2 Poppys Coin will come with a Certificate of Donation

Australia’s first commemorative $2 coin in colour has been unveiled by the RSL and the Royal Australian Mint. A unique Australian legal tender, this ground breaking $2 coin is simply an outstanding keepsake for every Australian.

The coin depicts the red Waders Poppys which is synonymous with Remembrance Day and the sacrifices made by Australians in conflict.

All funds raised go to support our vital RSL program helping thousands of Veterans and serving Defence personnel and their families in homes and communities across Australia.

Available from the RSL National Office at Level 5, 65 Constitution Avenue, CANBERRA ACT

Please note coin can also be made through the National Office on 02 6203 2195.

Please note there will be a minimum postal charge of $5 per coin.

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**International Women's Day**

**Scarf Appeal**

Every year 100,000 women across the developing world find their lives destroyed by Fistula, an injury sustained during difficult, obstructed labour.

Our 2013 IWD gathering’s focus is an appeal for the Addis Ababa Hospital in Ethiopia. Every woman discharged from the hospital is given gifts when they leave, including a scarf. Scarves don’t need to be new, although they may be. So please have a look at home and if you have any you haven’t worn for a while please consider donating them.

Appeal will run until Easter @ Ganmain Providore or Cooma Library

Something so very simple could give a woman on the other side of the world hope and let her know she is not forgotten.