TERM 2
WEEK 5
27th May 2014

**MAY**

**Tues 27th**
School Captains attend GRIP leadership with Mrs Moore

**Wed 21st**
Scripture
Coffee, Sponge Cake and Strategic Planning 10am
Please DON’T forget to go to the school website and complete the online survey

Kinder – taking it easy

Sporting Stars

Captains Sam and Anthony

Athletic Achievers – Phoenix, Ella and Rosie
What a lovely morning tea we had together last Wednesday. Along with our Walk Safely to School Day the Biggest Morning Tea was enjoyed by staff, students and parents with lots of yummy goodies provided by our wonderful parents and staff.

Congratulations to all our competitors in the District Athletics Carnival on Friday. Once again the praise for our students’ participation and efforts were recognised from people across the district. Well done and thank you also to our wonderful parent helpers on the day, Kristie Smith running Shotput and everyone keeping students on track to attend their events.

If you attended the first Cross Country at Ganmain last term, please take a look in amongst your things at home for the tear drop school banner. It may have accidentally been picked up by a parent on the day as it may look at lot like a chair bag in amongst your other chair bags.

Our Coffee, sponge Cake and Strategic Planning has been moved to tomorrow, Wednesday 28th at 10am. We look forward to seeing as many as possible for our gathering to chat about our priorities in moving forward into 2015 and beyond.

Please take the time to complete the short School Survey by using the link which can be found on the front page of the school website. We value your input and would like as many responses as possible before tomorrow’s coffee meeting.

Since the idea of a ‘pre-kinder’ opportunity was floated at the last P&C meeting, we have received many suggestions about what this might, or might not look like at Matong Public School. We are considering all ideas, suggestions and concerns and will be putting out some possibilities in the near future. A couple of ideas include a regular playgroup held separately in the library, a monthly visit for 2015 kindergarten students to stage 1 out of key learning times or a monthly session for 4-5 year olds in stage 1 out of key learning areas. If you have any suggestions please do not hesitate to speak with me.

Some of our stage 2/3 students will be attending the Coolamon High School taster day this Thursday. This is a fantastic experience for our students in preparation for High School. Students will make their own way to and from this event. Please ensure permission notes have been returned.

Anne-Maree Moore, Principal
STUDENT NEWS

Last Friday on the 23rd of May many of our students competed in the District Athletics Carnival. Congratulations to all those who competed in their events.

Stage 2/3 has been studying a Science unit about minibeasts. We walked around the school to make a list of what we could find in the playground. Then we came back to class to study them. We made some posters to list them. We drew them and we tallied them up.

This Thursday is a taster day at Coolamon Central School and years 4, 5 and 6 are invited.

CALLING ALL CRICKETERS!

Matong PS is set to host the Coolamon- Ardlethan PSSA District Cricket Trials later this year. We are looking for parents/ carers/ community persons with expertise in cricket who could assist with the trials and team selections. Please contact us at your earliest convenience. We look forward to hearing from you soon!
Term 2 Reporting

Students will be receiving an end of semester report this term. Their reports will be accompanied by a lovely portfolio of their efforts which they will present to parents or carers along with their reports at a student led conference in the last week of Term 2. Conferences will be of fifteen minutes duration and it would be great if all students were able to have at least one parent/caregiver come along to hear how their child is progressing this year. Parents are welcome to request a teacher interview to follow their child’s conference. Information will be going home closer to the date to allocate times to families.

National Simultaneous Storytime – Follow Up

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the biggest National Simultaneous Storytime to date! Including Matong Public School over 460,000 adults and children (plus one elephant) took part. Our elephant mural looks super in the foyer. Check it out.

Stage One Home Reading

Everyday!

Fruit Donations

If anyone has excess fruit on their trees at home, donations of fruit for our students to share would be gratefully accepted. Thank you.

SPORT DAYS

Sport will be held on Friday again beginning this week.

STAYING SAFE SURVEY

Please complete and return the staying safe surveys in the confidential envelope provided ASAP so that we can adequately review this program.
**LOST** – New School banner, last seen at the Small School Cross Country carnival on the 20th March. *Have you seen it?*

Could all families who attended the small schools cross country at Ganmain Sportsground last term, please do a double check of their collection of camping chairs. The misplaced school banner closely resembles a camping chair. Thank you.

**HEAD LICE** – we have experienced an outbreak of these little nasties. Please be vigilant in checking and treating your child if needed.

**PEER SUPPORT**

During Peer Support next week the children will be looking at how to play in a friendly way in order to maintain friends and build positive relationships. Through various activities children will discover the importance of taking turns and having consistent rules throughout a game. This week help your child practice these skills by encouraging them to play games with siblings, family or friends.

**MY SCHOOL WITHOUT BULLYING** results were received this week. All students received a small gift for participating. The competition attracted 7000 entries from 91 schools across NSW. A massive congratulations to Charlotte McGuiness whose poster was selected for a high commendation. Charlotte received a book prize. Well done Charlotte!
AWARD WINNERS

Stage 1 Awards
Noah Kitching - *consistently outstanding attention and application*
Baxter Smith - *speedy mental addition skills*

Stage 2/3 Awards
Charlotte McGuiness - *being a positive classroom member*
Chontal Costello - *always working hard and doing her best*

RFF and Library Awards
Brodie Rudder - *always trying his very best*
Chontal Costello - *always remembering to be respectful towards others*

Principals Award
Grace Collins - *her respectful attitude always*

NATIONAL CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY - 2014

The permission note sent home last week only needs to be returned if you do not wish for your child’s information to be included.

PRE-KINDER FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS

Parents and carers of children in our local area who would be of a pre-school age are invited to indicate their interest in their child/ren participating in a pre-kinder activity session at Matong Public. This will be offered next term and would be open to all families regardless of which school their child ends up attending. Please contact the Matong Public School office if you are interested.
**CHAPLAINS THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

The first steps to solving disagreements

What do you do when one of your friends (or even someone who you don’t get along with quite so well) does something to upset you? How do you deal with this as a child? How do you deal with this as an adult?

Firstly you all need to be on the same page. We are all going to see the same situation slightly differently so being able to share how you see things is going to be high on your priority list AND high on the other person’s priority list. This is where a bit of patience and grace and hearing someone out will go a long way to ease some of the pressure on the disagreement.

May I suggest that if there is something going on between you and another person that you ask them how they see the situation and ALSO ASK if you can share how you see the situation and see if that starts you on the process of coming to agreement on how to best move forward.

Cheers

Jeremy Polkinghorne (School Chaplain)

**STUDENT DETAILS, VOLUNTEER FORMS and WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK**

Please complete and return to school as soon as possible. Thank you to those parents who have already done so.

**YEAR 5/6 BORAMBOLA EXCURSION**

If you would like to participate in the suggested fortnightly payment plan a part payment of $30 per child is due this Friday.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Biggest Morning Tea. Together we raised $50.
GRIP LEADERSHIP

We wish our school captains Samantha and Anthony all the best at the GRIP Leadership conference today and look forward to hearing about their day.

5 Tips for Instilling the Reading Habit in Your Children

Do you wish your children had the reading habit? I know I want my children to love reading because it is such an important part of education, and more importantly, learning.

But how do you instill this habit in your kids?

Below are 5 ways to help you make your home a place where your children love to read.

1. Make Reading To Or With Your Kids Part Of Your Daily Routine
2. Make Reading An Enjoyable Experience For Your Child, Not A Chore
3. Make Quality Books Available For Your Children To Read
4. Help Your Kids Learn To Read With Your Daily Interactions And Routines
5. Let Your Children See Your Reading Routinely

Read the full article at:


or go to the school website and click on the link

Get Ahead Kids - For Families on the Go

An online resource for families on the go, Get Ahead Kids aim is to promote quality educational information and innovations for students, their families and educational institutions. The website includes links to a free online magazine for parents and an activity zone for kids.

Go to www.getaheadkids.com.au or access via the school website
P&C NEWS

Willis Kefford’s 21st

The P&C are working at Willis Kefford’s 21st on Saturday evening 31st May at Ganmain. If you are able to help out and would like more information please contact Jen on 69277863.

P&C Meeting

Our next P&C meeting will be Wednesday 11th June at 7:30pm.

MATONG COMMUNITY GROUP

will be holding a special meeting Tomorrow night at 7pm in the Matong Town Hall.

Tony Kelly from the Coolamon Shire Council will be attending this meeting to seek input from the Matong Community for its review of the 2005 Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan.

The shire requires community help to identify areas that require improved pedestrian access and bicycle facilities.

Please come along and share your thoughts and ideas. All welcome.

COOLAMON LIBRARY NEWS

The library is holding an exhibition of Elyne Mitchell - A writing Life. This nine display panels gives an insight into the life of an iconic Australian author and her love of the high country. It will be on displayed from the 24th June - 3rd July, come and enjoy this wonderful display.

Our next Storytime session will be Friday 6th June @ 10.30am - theme “Pirates”, everyone is most welcomed to attend.

Our knitting mornings have commenced for another year, they are held every Thursday morning @ 10.30am. In association with the Riverina Regional Library is proud to support “Wrap with Love” annual community event. Instructions for making the squares are available at the library - everyone is most welcomed to attend. Donations of wool will be greatly appreciated.

The library is calling all Library Lovers to sign our petition for a fair deal in our public libraries. The State Government contribution to funding public libraries in NSW has now reached a crisis point. Call into the library for further details or visit the website at www.nsw.pla.org.au.

The Coolamon Library is on Facebook! News, pictures, events and opportunities are regularly uploaded - join us now!