FEBRUARY

Tuesday 10th
Welcome BBQ & Information Night
5.30 pm

Wednesday 11th
Optional—Kinder Scripture
Mobile Library

Friday 13th
Small School’s Swimming Carnival—Ganmain
Mrs Moore & Miss M—inservice course

STAGE ONE - WORKING HARD, HAVING FUN
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Our annual information night for parents will be held at the school tonight. It would be great if at least one parent from each family would be able to attend to hear about school and class routines for 2015. There will be a steak and sausage sizzle to enjoy together. Please bring a plate to share at the end of the evening.

This Friday, Miss M and I will be attending an in-service course at Wagga on The School Plan. This day will be looking at where to from here in the school planning process. Following the in-service I will be meeting with the school community to discuss a variety of issues with the aim of progressing our school plan.

At the first P. and C. meeting for the year held last Wednesday evening it was lovely to see so many families represented. Congratulations on our returning and new office bearers for 2015.

Many thanks to those who have already returned their voluntary school contributions and the permission notes that were attached to last week’s newsletter. If you haven’t returned yours yet, it would be greatly appreciated if this could be done as soon as possible.

Thank you to Mrs Jen Hatty who assisted at swimming for sport on Friday last week. The small Schools Swimming Carnival is at Ganmain Pool on Friday, 13th February for those students who turn 8 years this year and over, with the Coolamon-Ardlethan PSSA Carnival being held at Ariah Park on Thursday, 26th February. Please ensure that the notes are returned promptly so that transport arrangements can be finalised. We are all looking forward to what should be a great day on Friday.

Anne—Maree Moore
Principal

STAGE ONE NEWS

Last Tuesday, we watched the tress being cut down at school. We have been making maths games out of egg cartons. We have been measuring lots of things with paddle pop sticks, paper clips and Unifix blocks. Kinder made letters with play-dough. We are enjoying being with our friends.

Welcome back Stage One to a new school year. Our three new kindergarten students and Year 2 student have settled happily into our classroom routines. We have begun our new unit of study—Exploring the sea. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Welcome BBQ and Parent Information night.

Mrs Crocker and Stage One
NEWS FROM MRS MCGUINESS

Stage 1
Every Tuesday I have the pleasure of teaching History to Stage 1 while Mrs Crocker has her Release time and this Term we are looking at Families – Past and Present. Last week we began to investigate schools and toys from the “olden days”; I’m sure the children will be amazed at some of the differences and similarities between the daily lives of our ancestors and ourselves.
If any parents, grandparents or caregivers would like to share information or items from their own childhood, Stage 1 would love to have visitors or items to investigate.

Stage 2/3
Every Monday to Wednesday, I am part of the teaching team in the Stage 2/3 classroom along with Miss Buchanan, Mrs Moore and Mrs Fisher. Our morning literacy groups are now in full swing with students rotating in small groups throughout six literacy stations during the week covering spelling, grammar, comprehension, writing, reading and technology. This week we are also beginning the Focus on Reading (FoR) program which teaches students skills and strategies while they are reading to help them to improve their vocabulary, comprehension and fluency. In regards to Maths, our class is split into Stages and I teach Stage 3, while Miss Buchanan teaches Stage 2; we are finding that the students are benefiting from the smaller groups.
On Mondays I teach Science to Stage 2/3 and this Term we are investigating the “Properties of Matter”. We have some exciting experiments to conduct, so I am sure the children will let you know what interesting things we learn. On Tuesdays, Miss Buchanan teaches History with the focus on “Australians at War” and if anyone has items of interest or a keen passion for studying our history we would love for family or community members to help us with our studies.
Just a final note on homework, it is being sent home every Monday and needs to be returned by Friday.
Hope everyone has a great week!

STUDENT NEWS

This week Stage one had to go outside when the tree next to stage 1 came down. In drama they played and pretended to be bubbles, They did handwriting and did some learning about the sea and family history. They played spelling games. They love their new class room!!!
This week stage 2/3 have been doing maths, handwriting, learning about the war, literacy groups, getting new books, doing reading boxes and Excel on the computer
SMALL SCHOOL’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL
We still have a number of permission notes outstanding for the swimming carnival at Ganmain this Friday. Please send in your note tomorrow so that transport can be finalised.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS
Each year the school provides all students with their textbooks and stationery needs. To assist with covering the cost of these items, we ask that family pay a voluntary contribution of $40.00 for each student, $80.00 for two students or $115.00 for three or more students. It would be appreciated if this contribution could be paid as soon as personal funds permit, either as a whole payment or in instalments.

SAFETY ALERT
Parents and carers are requested not to send nut or nut products to school with your children. As a school community we are advised not to use peanuts, tree nuts or any nut products in any way in teaching and learning activities, including as rewards or treats to help reduce the risk of anaphylaxis for students who may be allergic to nuts.

UNIFORM ORDERS
Please place your uniform orders on a piece of paper, including size, and enclose, with payment in a school envelope and place in mailbox in School Office. Orders will be organised and sent home with your child on Thursdays. No uniform will be sent home without payment. If unsure of size, items can be returned and exchanged for correct size. A School Jacket order will be placed early Term 2. Clothing pool items are available in most sizes, with a donation to P&C as payment. Blue Polo shirts continue to be available at Robinsons Department store in Narrandera.

UNIFORMS
Sport Polo Shirt
Children 6 to 12-$25.00
Sport Shorts
Children's 6 to 14 - $16.50
Sport Track Pants
Children's 4 to 14 - $23.00
Fleecy Jumpers
Children's 6 to 14,- $30.00
Hats -$15.50
AWARDS

Stage 1
Charlie Malone—Being an enthusiastic participant in all class discussions
William Beard—Enthusiastic reading

Stage 2
Brodie Rudder—trying his best to construct a timeline
Gus Richardson—great effort in classroom activities

Stage 3
Connor Smith—creating a well structured narrative
Albert Booth—Asking great questions during classroom discussions

Behaviour Awards
Julia Walsh—Always being a kind and helpful member of the class
Florence Meier—supporting her peers during learning time
George Hatty—supporting and working cooperatively with others

Principal Award
Tyler Smith—Excellent manners
Come and learn how to bowl like Mitchell Johnson and bat like David Warner at the

Milo Cricket
Taster Morning

For Primary school aged kids this Saturday, 14th February at the Gannain Sports Ground from 9:00 until 10:30am.

Wear a hat and bring a water bottle!

For more information contact Kristie 0429311277

COOLAMON LIBRARY NEWS
Our first “Heart and Soul” gathering for the year will be held Tuesday, 24th February @ 10.30am at the Coolamon Library. The Theme is “Moving into Aged - Cared Facilities”. Matt from Commins Hendriks Solicitors will be attending to offer advice and answer any questions. Everyone is most welcomed to attend.
The next storytime for the month of February will be held on Friday 21st February @ 10.30am theme “Under the Sea”. We welcome any new families to come along.
Another year well on its way the library has many resources available. The library has three public computers with free internet, free wifi, printing services and photocopying all available. Also the library offers Inter Library loans and Inter Branch loans for those items which are not available in the library. We are continuously receiving new books, DVD’s,
Ian Lucas Memorial Bike Ride And Hike

It is time again to dust off the bicycle and bring out the walking shoes for Grong Grong and Matong’s annual contribution to building a fitter healthier Australia. March 29th has been set down for the 25km bike ride from the Grong Grong Sports Club to Matong then back to Grong Grong, with a 10km walk to Bundigerry Creek and back held concurrently for those that prefer a stroll to a ride. A delicious morning tea is provided at the half way mark of the ride and the walk with a BBQ lunch served at the Grong Grong Sports Club following the event.

Whether this event is something that is well within your comfort zone or a challenge that will stretch you to the limit, it is a great day out to share with family and friends in a safe friendly atmosphere. SO LET’S GET OUT THERE AND DO IT!

This event was initiated to salute one of our greatest and most loved citizens, Ian Lucas, who was himself a great advocate for personal health and fitness and both the Matong Public School and the Grong Grong Sports Club are proud to present this event for his family, friends and the wider community.

Registration is from 8.00am with the event starting at 9.00am.
1. Who won the mens singles in the Australian Tennis Open?  
   a. Andy Murray  
   b. Novak Djokovic  
   c. Roger Federer

2. The term "spill" has been used a lot in the news recently. What is a "spill"?  
   a. an early election  
   b. when a party votes to change its leader  
   c. when a deputy leader becomes the new leader

3. Australian journalist Peter Greste has been released after 400 days behind bars. Which country was he being held in?  
   a. Syria  
   b. Egypt  
   c. Iraq

4. Which chocolate company has announced it will be downsizing some of its chocolate bars to cut costs?  
   a. Nestlé  
   b. Haigh’s  
   c. Cadbury

5. Why was Perth's Scarborough Beach in the news last week?  
   a. there was a shark attack there  
   b. there was a stranding of over 60 pilot whales  
   c. there was a mass rescue due to a flash rip

6. The island of Bali has been in our news a lot lately. What country is Bali part of?  
   a. Papua New Guinea  
   b. Indonesia  
   c. Malaysia  
   d. Bali

7. True or false, you are not allowed to sell raw milk (unpasteurised) as a food in Australia?

8. What is the name of the Environmental activist group that has been chasing illegal fishing boats in Antarctica?  
   a. Sea Shepherd  
   b. Ocean Rescue  
   c. Sea Warriors

9. In which sport did the South Sydney Rabbitohs play against the Cronulla Sharks in the Auckland Nines tournament last week?

10. What happened last week at the Morley Galleria shopping centre in Perth?  
    a. there was an explosion  
    b. Kim Kardashian made a surprise visit  
    c. it was hit by lightning

11. The guitarist from which iconic Australian band, was in the news recently after he severed a finger while working on a boat?  
    a. Cold Chisel  
    b. INXS  
    c. AC/DC

12. What language is spoken in the city of Amsterdam?

13. Why has the Western Australian town of Northcliffe been in the news?  
    a. it is hosting a large country music festival  
    b. it was evacuated due to nearby bush fires  
    c. a small tornado hit the town destroying several houses

14. Which Pacific nation is removing the UK's union Jack from its flag?  
    a. Tonga  
    b. Fiji  
    c. New Zealand

15. Which Australian state or territory is the largest?
1. In which country did this dramatic scene happen last week?

2. This woman has been in the news a lot lately. What is her name?

3. What is the name of this Australian sportsman?

4. Which country has this flag?

5. Name the woman shown in this photo.
1. Who won the mens singles in the Australian Tennis Open?
   b. Novak Djokovic - Novak Djokovic won his fifth Australian Open crown after prevailing in a titanic four-set final against Andy Murray on Rod Laver Arena on Sunday evening. Djokovic has now won the most men's singles titles at the Australian Open.

2. The term "spill" has been used a lot in the news recently. What is a "spill"?
   b. When a party votes to change its leader - Prime Minister Tony Abbott is set to face a challenge to his leadership of the Liberal Party this week. Mr Abbott said he and deputy Liberal leader would "stand together" and ask that the motion be defeated.

3. Australian journalist Peter Greste has been released after 400 days behind bars. Which country was he being held in?
   b. Egypt - Greste was imprisoned for seven years on charges of defaming Egypt and aiding banned Islamists. There has been no official word on the fate of his two Al Jazeera colleagues - Canadian-Egyptian Mohamed Fahmy and Egyptian national Baher Mohamed - who were also jailed in the case that provoked an international outcry.

4. Which chocolate company has announced it will be downsizing some of its chocolate bars to cut costs?
   c. Cadbury - Cadbury has said it could no longer absorb increasing costs into the price of its chocolate blocks. So the decision had to be made - up the price, or chop the chocolate? The company said it wanted to keep its chocolate "affordable for families" and reduce its family-sized 220g blocks by one row.

5. Why was Perth's Scarborough Beach in the news last week?
   c. There was a mass rescue due to a flash flood - More than 20 swimmers, including some children, were rescued just south of the flagged swimming area on Scarborough Beach after they were caught in the fast-moving water last Thursday.

6. The island of Bali has been in the news a lot lately. What country is Bali part of?
   b. Indonesia - The island is one of Indonesia’s 34 provinces with around 4 million of the country’s 252 million people.

7. True or false, you are not allowed to sell raw milk (unpasteurised) as a food in Australia?
   True - About 150 people rallied recently in Melbourne to protest against new requirements to add a bittering agent to raw milk. Raw milk can be sold in Victoria as a cosmetic product, not for human consumption.

8. What is the name of the Environmental activist group that has been chasing illegal fishing boats in Antarctica?
   a. Sea Shepherd - Sea Shepherd Conservation Society says it is chasing two illegal fishing boats that were spotted sailing just 50 nautical miles from Australia's Mawson Base in Antarctica. The New Zealand navy pursed the Yongding and the Kunlun for about a week last month before returning to New Zealand.

9. In which sport did the South Sydney Rabbitohs play against the Cronulla Sharks in the Auckland Nines tournament last week?
   Rugby League - Over 43,000 tickets were sold for the Auckland Nines this year which the Rabbitohs won in the final against Cronulla 18-14.

10. What happened last week at the Morley Galleria shopping centre in Perth?
    a. There was an explosion - Two men lost their lives and several more were injured in an explosion at the Morley Galleria shopping centre in Perth’s north-east. It is believed a power transformer exploded.

11. The guitarist from which iconic Australian band was in the news recently after he severed a finger while working on a boat?
    b. INXS - Guitarist Tim Farriss, severed a finger on Australia Day after catching his hand in an electric anchor winch while working on a boat. There are fears that Farriss may never play guitar again after permanently damaging his left hand.

12. What language is spoken in the city of Amsterdam?
    Dutch

13. Why has the Western Australian town of Northcliffe been in the news?
    b. It was evacuated due to nearby bush fires - The Northcliffe area in WA's South West was declared a natural disaster zone as a massive bushfire swept through the area posing a possible threat.

14. Which Pacific nation is removing the UK's union Jack from its flag?
    b. Fiji - PM Bainimarama, a former coup leader who was elected last year in Fiji's first elections in eight years, said it was "time to dispense with the colonial symbols". The Commonwealth Pacific nation gained independence from Britain in 1970.

15. Which Australian state or territory is the largest?
    Western Australia - is the largest with 2,529,875 km², while Queensland is 1,730,846 km². The Northern Territory (1,349,129 km²) is larger than fourth placed South Australia (983,482 km²)

VISUAL ANSWERS

1. Taiwan - the plane clipped a taxi and a bridge before crashing into the river. Emergency services worked hard to rescue the 18 survivors

2. Julie Bishop - Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party

3. Jamie Whincup - was bitten by a snake during a V8 Supercars promotion at Sydney's Taronga Zoo. Luckily, the angry black python wasn't venomous.

4. South Africa

5. Katy Perry - performed in the Superbowl half-time show

Feedback: staff@classroomsolutions.com.au