FEBRUARY

Wednesday 25th
Optional—Kinder
Clean-up Australia
Scripture
Mobile Library

Thursday 26th
PSSA Swimming
Carnival—Ariah Park

Friday 27th
Mrs Moore—Principal’s conference

Mandy working hard in Maths

Farewell Mr P

Stage 1 Maths
Congratulations and good luck to all our swimmers who will be travelling to Ariah Park on Thursday to compete in the District Swimming Carnival. Thanks to all parents and carers who are providing the transport and any assistance on the day.

This term each stage will take a turn each week to present an item at assembly on Friday. This week we are looking eagerly looking forward to Stage 2’s presentation.

Our school boasts excellent community support at all our events and so in inviting you to our Clean Up Australia day tomorrow we really do welcome all community members beginning at 10.15am.

Your ideas are valuable to us. I thank those parents who have contacted the school in any number of ways to provide comment regarding a range of issues. From the information and feedback we receive, both from informal means such as conversations to more formal community consultation processes, staff are able to make timely adjustments to better accommodate students’ needs as they arise.

As a community we have identified feedback as a priority to support improved student learning outcomes. One way of providing feedback to parents is through student portfolios which will be sent home at the end of this term. Please check and return any portfolio folders that might be at home as soon as possible.

Last Thursday and Friday I attended this term’s mandatory Regional Principals’ Conference in Wagga Wagga. High ranking officials within the Department of Education and Training, including the Deputy Director General, Gregory Prior, addressed the gathering on a range of educational issues. Presentations included those on legal and staffing issues, and the “How2Learn” initiative, a research-based approach to teaching and learning that we will embark on in our school this year.

The builders will be arriving on Thursday morning to take the wall out from stage 2/3 room whilst many of the students will be away at the swimming carnival at Ariah Park. Some work will continue on Friday however we can accommodate this while students are normally out of the room anyway for sport and assembly.

Have a great week

Anne—Maree Moore
Principal
**STAGE ONE NEWS**

We have been working very hard in Stage 1. We have been learning how to count by lots of different numbers. We have been having fun practicing our song “Octopus's Garden” for the assembly on Friday. Kinder is learning about words and numbers. We are also learning about ANZAC day.

By Stage 1

I am very proud of how well Stage 1 is working. I have begun a mini unit on ANZAC day early as Stage 1 will be entering writing pieces in the John O’Brien Writing Competition as part of Narrandera’s John O’Brien Festival and in Mr McCormack’s, Federal Member for Riverina, ANZAC Day writing competition.

Mrs Crocker

**NEWS FROM MRS MCGUINESS**

Stage 1: Last week in History, students investigated what 19th Century Schools were like. We watched an episode of BTN that featured Rouse Hill School. The students made excellent observations and drawings about what school life was like in the olden days. We briefly implemented our own back straightener (a metre ruler behind our arms) to stop any slouching; just like the students in the 1800’s. By the way ask your students about Miss Fox! This week we have some treasures to look at from Mrs McGuiness’ family including photos, letters and journals from her great grandparents - which will show how life used to be in the early 1900’s.

Stage 2/3: What a fantastic class we have; all students are keen to learn and have settled into our daily routine without fuss. Our Science experiment this week focussed on comparing liquids and measuring the viscosity of water, oil and honey. Students were able to record their findings using the iPods and will present this data on their blogs in the near future.

In Maths Stage 2 is looking at whole number this week, including place value while Stage 3 has been building up their strategies for problem solving. Some students have been completing Mathletics challenges at home which is fantastic and will help increase their confidence and abilities in Maths across all strands.

Happy to report that we had 14 out of 18 students hand in their homework this past week, what a huge improvement on last year! Well done to students and their families for this committed approach to home learning.

Have a great week!

Mrs McGuiness
STUDENT NEWS

Stage 1 has been learning about the olden days they have also been learning about the sea.

Stage 2/3 have been learning about the war. We have been watching videos and reading books about war. Stage 2/3 are wondering if anyone who has been to war or has medals could come in and talk about your time at war. If you want to come in just call 69277824.

Everyone age 8+ has done a great job with their swimming. Well done to the people that have made it to district swimming carnival.

District swimming carnival will be held at Ariah Park Thursday 26th of February it starts at 9:30 but be there at 9:00.

By Tegan Hatty and Jaylene McFarlane

KIDS MATTER

KidsMatter Primary is a mental health initiative that provides primary schools with proven methods, tools and support to nurture happy, balanced kids. Last year, Cathy Booth and Hannah Richardson joined Valerie and myself in Wagga to attend a KidsMatter training session. We would like to invite all interested members of our school community to come along to a briefing session on Monday 9th March 3.30-4.30pm. In this session we will explore how KidsMatter Primary can support the school community to become involved in promoting mental health and wellbeing and move forward with implementing KidsMatter at our school.

Through a blended model of online and face-to-face training, KidsMatter Primary can support schools with:

• building a positive school community
• social and emotional learning resources for use in, and beyond, the classroom
• working with families
• helping children with mental health difficulties.
PSSA Trials

Coolamon-Ardlethan P.S.S.A. Trials are to be held over the next few weeks:

AFL and Netball – Marrar – Coolamon – Wednesday, 11th March

Unless a younger student shows outstanding ability, these trials are basically designed for Year 5 and 6 students who wish to be considered for a place in a district team. Parents are responsible for transporting students to and from these trials. If your child is interested in trying out for any of these teams, please contact the school for further details.

DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

A reminder to all parents that the district swimming carnival will be held this Thursday 26th February at Ariah Park, please ensure that your child’s note has been returned by Wednesday 25th February.

I have given each family who is attending the swimming carnival a new itinerary of events attached to this week’s newsletter. Please ring the school if there are any questions about the swimming carnival before Thursday.

At district level disqualifications will occur for touching the bottom of the pool or completing an incorrect stroke, I have spoken to students about disqualifications but you may also like to ensure that your child is aware of correct stroke techniques.

I will see all our district swimmers at Ariah Park and cannot wait to see our students represent Matong Public School.

Arnika Buchanan

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Matong Public School will be participating in the School’s Clean-up Australia Day tomorrow Wednesday 25th February (Please note the change of date) from 10:15 until 11:15. Parents and community members are welcome to join us. Please provide your students with gloves and a large plastic bag if you have access to these at home. The school has a limited amount available for use.
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**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.

**AWARDS**

1. **LEARN**
2. **TO-DO LIST:**
P&C NEWS

At the recent Annual General Meeting the following people were elected into the executive positions -
President—Andrew Hatty
Vice-President—David Currie
Secretary—Kristie Smith
Treasurer—Michelle Hatty
Assistant Treasurer—Cathy Booth
Catering—Cathy Booth
Uniforms—Michelle Hatty

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday night 11th March

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

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Matong Public School P. and C. Pie Drive

The P&C have decided to hold a pie drive as a fundraiser. Pie drives are a great way to raise funds, with minimal outlay and not too much hard work.....and everyone loves a Ganmain Pie! The idea behind it is to purchase the pies at wholesale price and the P & C then makes a profit on the difference between the wholesale and retail prices.

We have attached an order form and are encouraging you to ‘think big’ with your order and broaden the people you ask. Some examples are:

- family members
- next door neighbours
- friends
- work colleagues

Orders and money need to be back to school by

Tuesday 17th March.

The delivery date is Friday March 27th.

We will need helpers to pack the pies on the delivery day. You will be reminded of this closer to the date.

Thankyou

The Matong Public School P&C
COOLAMON LIBRARY NEWS
The next storytime for will be held Friday 6TH March @ 10.30am theme "Hats and Hair". Children can bring along their favourite hat to wear for this session. We welcome new families to join us.

The Coolamon Library is hosting author Anne Flood, who will speak about the First Light Horse Regiment. Anne has published "In the Footsteps of the First", an accurate record of the horror of the WW1. The story is personalized and she will highlight the soldiers that came from our local area and present their stories. It will be held on Thursday, March 12th @ 11.00am and copies of her book will be available to purchase. Morning tea will be provided - everyone is most welcomed.

The Coolamon Shire Seniors Week program is available from the library with lots of activities for our seniors to enjoy.

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

The simplest way...

...to keep your kids safe in the sun.

Did you know that when it comes to sun protection, not all hats are equal?

We all know hats help protect against skin cancer and eye damage.

But did you know that baseball caps don't provide much protection? Baseball caps leave cheeks, ears, chin and back of the neck exposed to ultraviolet radiation, and to the real risk of skin cancer in later life.

Choose a sun-safe hat

Sun-safe hats include broad-brimmed, bucket, or legionnaire hats. These hats are inexpensive, and give your kids the best chance of staying protected in our harsh summer sun.

Finally, don't forget to apply sunscreen in the morning before school. Enjoy summer, and remember to be SunSmart!

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**Parents Congress**

Join our regional audience in Wagga Wagga at the...

Parents Congress
Be a better parent, quiz experts and get answers!

Organised by the:

NSW Parents’ Council

In cooperation with:

The Parents Congress is your opportunity, for as little as 90 minutes on a Sunday afternoon, to hear about some of the most advanced ideas about better parenting, engaging with teachers and schools, and the pathways to quality learning outcomes.

**This is a Free Event!**

Meet our well-renowned speakers and have your questions answered regarding parent engagement and educational policy and options. Register and attend the public discussion and live webcast at the Lutheran School Wagga Wagga (and receive a free parent kit).

**Date:**
Sunday 8th March 2015

**Time:**
1.30pm to 3.30pm. Doors open 12.30pm

**Venue:**
Lutheran School Wagga Wagga

Attend the live webcast with other parents and friends in the School Chapel, Lutheran School Wagga Wagga, Corner of Red Hill Road and Tamor Drive, Tatron.

This event is open to all parents, teachers and community members from the Wagga Wagga and broader Riverina region.

For any questions please email: community@parentscouncil.nsw.edu.au or info@parentscouncil.nsw.edu.au

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**“Go Fish” Kids Camp Out**

March 21-22, Narrandera Racecourse

For More information please contact:

Hannah Craig
0467 096 056
hannahgeorgina8@gmail.com

An activity of the Riverina Presbytery, Uniting Church in Australia
1. What is the name of the tropical cyclone that hit the Northern Territory?
   a. Lome
   b. Lan
   c. Lam

2. Tropical cyclone Marcia had intensified to a category five before making landfall in Queensland last week bringing severe winds and flooding in areas. What is the highest rating on the Australian tropical cyclone intensity scale?
   a. five
   b. six
   c. ten

3. In which New Zealand city were commemoration ceremonies held on Sunday to mark the fourth anniversary of a major earthquake on February 22nd?
   a. Hamilton
   b. Wellington
   c. Christchurch

4. Why has the greyhound racing industry in Victoria been in the news a lot recently?
   a. owners have been found to be doping animals
   b. footage showing dogs being mistreated has been released by animal welfare agencies
   c. some trainers have been using live animals for their dogs to chase

5. Which film starring Johnny Depp is currently underway at a secret location in the Gold Coast?
   a. Pirates of the Caribbean 5
   b. Sleepy Hollow 3
   c. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory 2

6. Fans of which English Premier League club were in the news for racist behaviour on a Paris train?
   a. Chelsea
   b. Liverpool
   c. Manchester United

7. Why was the small town of Eidsvold in Queensland in the news last week?
   a. a fire tore through the town
   b. it was hit by two earthquakes
   c. a small plane crashed in the local school grounds

8. A man has been banned from Cricket World Cup matches after being caught “courtsiding”. What is courtsiding?
   a. yelling abuse at players from the sidelines
   b. throwing rubbish on the pitch
   c. sending live game information to people betting overseas

9. What type of extreme weather conditions are hitting the eastern coast of the United States?
   a. hurricane winds
   b. heat waves
   c. heavy snow storms

10. True or false, a second brand of frozen mixed berries has been taken off the supermarket shelves?

11. What language is spoken in the city of Osaka?
    a. Japanese
    b. Russian
    c. Korean

12. Media reports have claimed that the Federal Government is considering getting rid of the census. What is the census?
    a. a gathering of statistics from all Australians
    b. a government department which determines if television content is appropriate
    c. a federal police department that is focussed on catching hackers

13. Which animal in Australia is known as a carrier of the Lyssavirus which is a deadly virus?
    a. cane toads
    b. bats
    c. koala

14. In which Australian state or territory would you find Uluru Ayer’s Rock?

15. Gunmen in war-ravaged South Sudan have abducted at least 89 boys from their school. Which continent is South Sudan in?
    a. South America
    b. Africa
    c. Asia
Weekly Quiz - Visual

1. In which Australian city was this event held on the weekend?

2. Name this Australian sportsman.

3. In which major world city did this dramatic scene occur on the weekend? a. Dublin b. Dubai c. Dallas

4. Which Australian territory has this flag?

5. What is the name of this ‘man’?
Weekly Quiz - Answers

1. What is the name of the tropical cyclone that hit the Northern Territory?
   a. Lam - Cyclone Lam crossed the mainland coast of the Northern Territory's Top End as a category four system and tracked south-west. The cyclone brought wind gusts of up to 200 kilometres per hour to the NT mainland coast and Echidna Island, where several thousand people were sheltering without power.

2. Tropical cyclone Marcia had intensification to a category five before making landfall in Queensland last week bringing severe winds and flooding in areas. What is the highest rating on the Australian tropical cyclone intensity scale?
   a. five - The scale measures from a tropical low to a category five. A tropical low has sustained winds of 63 km/h or gusts of 91 km/h or less. A category five cyclone has sustained winds of 200 km/h or more with gusts of 276 km/h or more.

3. In which New Zealand city were commemoration ceremonies held on Sunday to mark the fourth anniversary of a major earthquake on February 22nd?
   a. Christchurch - It struck on February 22nd 2011. It was the country’s most devastating quake since 1931.

4. Why has the greyhound racing industry in Victoria been in the news a lot recently?
   a. Some trainers have been using live animals for their dogs to chase. Dozens of trainers in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland were suspended and inquiries launched after the ABC’s Four Corners revealed the use of live baiting to train greyhounds.

5. Which film starring Johnny Depp is currently underway at a secret location in the Gold Coast?
   a. Pirates of the Caribbean 5 - The Federal Government spent $21.6 million to secure the production for Queensland, while the State Government also offered an incentive package. Queensland beat other Australian states and Mexico to host the production. It is believed the film will inject $100 million into the state’s economy and create thousands of local jobs.

6. Fans of which English Premier League club were in the news for racist behaviour on a Paris train?
   a. Chelsea - French and British police have launched a hunt for Chelsea football fans who stopped a black Frenchman from getting on a Paris metro train.

7. Why was the small town of Eidsvold in Queensland in the news last week?
   b. It was hit by two earthquakes - Eidsvold in Queensland’s North Burnett region was hit by two earthquakes, with tremors felt hundreds of kilometres away. A magnitude 5.2 earthquake occurred near the town, and a second earthquake measuring magnitude 2.9 hit the region about 45 minutes later. Seismologists have said the quake, whose epicentre was about 25 kilometres from Eidsvold, could have been devastating had it hit a more populated area.

8. A man has been banned from Cricket World Cup matches after being caught “courtsiding”. What is courtsiding?
   c. Sending live game information to people betting overseas - The term courtsiding refers to the practice of spectators at games relaying information to people overseas, in order to take advantage of broadcasting time delays to manipulate betting.

9. What type of extreme weather conditions are hitting the eastern coast of the United States?
   c. Heavy snow storms - Snow storms are causing roofs to collapse and making it impossible for people to get to work. Such extreme conditions can have major effects on the economy of the area.

10. True or false, a second brand of frozen mixed berries has been taken off the supermarket shelves?
    True - The recall has now been extended to Creative Gourmet mixed berries in 300 gram and 500 gram packets. Health officials have confirmed three cases of hepatitis A linked to the product in Victoria and two in New South Wales.

11. What language is spoken in the city of Osaka?
    a. Japanese

12. Media reports have claimed that the Federal Government is considering getting rid of the census. What is the census?
    a. A gathering of statistics from all Australians - The last census held in 2011 was the nation’s largest logistical peacetime operation requiring 43,000 field staff to deliver 14.2 million forms to 9.8 million households — at a total cost of about $440 million. The census is held every five years and the data collected from the census is highly valuable for demographers, social researchers and for helping political leaders frame policy.

13. Which animal in Australia is known as a carrier of the Lyssavirus which is a deadly virus?
    b. Bats - A spike in cases of a deadly bat virus in some parts of Australia’s north has sparked concern, with dying animals being found in the streets close to schools and childcare centres. Australian bat lyssavirus is similar to rabies, causing a rapid death if passed from an animal to a human. In recent months, it has been detected in 11 bats in the West Australian town of Broome in the Kimberley region.

14. In which Australian state or territory would you find Uluru Ayer's Rock?
    Northern Territory

15. Gunmen in war-ravaged South Sudan have abducted at least 89 boys from their school. Which continent is South Sudan in?
    b. Africa - The boys were taken while doing their exams. Around 12,000 children have been recruited into armed groups since the outbreak of war.

Visual Answers:

1. Melbourne - White Night festival is a free all-night art and cultural event held in the city centre.
3. b. Dubai - The 70-storey Torch building in Dubai is one of the world’s tallest apartment blocks. Amazingly, there is no reports of injury from the fire that started on the 50th floor.
4. Norfolk Island.
5. Oscar - Officially named the Academy Award of Merit, the statuette is better known by its nickname, Oscar.

Feedback: staff@classroomsolutions.com.au
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**TOTALS**

Orders due back to school on Tuesday 17th March

Delivery Friday 27th March