It is hard to believe that Week 5 is here already. The term is definitely buzzing along with many exciting things happening. I must start with another huge THANKS to Kellie Noske, Tracey Lieschke and Katherine Noske who volunteered their time on Friday and got the library completely back together! I couldn’t believe what they had achieved and so for now we won’t be needing any parent help with this task. Feel free to pop in and have a look, it is fantastic!

Also thanks to everyone for making the time to come and speak with Jess and I at the Parent Teacher interviews this week. We hope you found the meetings worthwhile and please remember to come and talk with us if you have any concerns, no matter how small you feel they may be. We want to ensure we are working together with you to maximise your child’s learning outcomes.

Work hard, be kind, smile often…

Jenni

Principal’s Conference

Last Thursday and Friday I attended the Principals conference in Wagga. There were many informative speakers and I was particularly excited about hearing more about the How2Learn strategy that we will be involved in. This professional learning will build teacher capacity to create a learning culture that ensures all students are engaged, confident and successful learners.

Clean Up Australia Day

Clean up Australia Day will be held this Friday. Students are asked to bring a plastic bag and disposable rubber gloves for this activity.

Mathletics

We have a 2 week free trial of the Mathletics online maths resource. Each student has been given a user name and password. We will be familiarising the students with the resource at school and encourage them to use it as part of their learning at home. Have a look if you get the chance and let us know what you think. After the two week trial we will need to make a decision about whether to purchase it based on student, staff and parent feedback.

Tell Them From Me- student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Wednesday 4th March. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

UNSW Global University Tests

If you would like your child to participate in the University of NSW exams, please return to school your form and payment by Monday 16th March, 2015.
KIDS READING BOOKS IN NEW LIBRARY

Calendar – Upcoming events

**Week 5**
- Friday, February 27th  SR Swimming Carnival, Albury
- Clean Up Australia Day

**Week 6**
- Thursday, March 5th  SR AFL trials, Howlong

**Week 7**
- Monday, March 9th  Riverina Swimming Carnival
- Friday, March 13th  SR netball trials, Henty

**Week 8**
- Tuesday, March 17th  P&C Meeting
- Friday, March 20th  Greater Kengal Harmony Day

**Sporting News**
Good luck to our swimmers who are off to the Southern Riverina Swimming Carnival tomorrow.

**ICE-CREAM SALES**
Ice-creams will be available each Friday for $1.00. Unfortunately we won't be able to have IOU's anymore.

**TAKE HOME TIPS…**

**Numeracy - Help your child learn to count at home**
- Count with your child the number of buttons as you do up a cardigan or shirt
- Encourage your child to count the number of pegs used to hang out the washing
- Count the number of steps from the front door to the letterbox
- Count the number of eggs in a carton, and again after some have been removed
- Count the number of times you and your child can throw a ball to each other without dropping it
- Read and talk about stories and rhymes that use numbers

**Numeracy - Helping your child with mental calculations**
Most calculations that we carry out each day, we do in our heads. It is important for your child to learn to do mental calculations for things such as shopping, sharing costs, watching sport and even preparing dinner!

What can you do at home to help your child learn this skill?
- Ask your child to work out how much change they will get when paying for an item at the shops.
- If your child is saving to buy an item, ask how much more money they will need to save before being able to buy it.
- Encourage your child to estimate the cost of two items when shopping.
- When playing games that use two dice, replace dot dice with ones that have numbers on them.
- If watching a game involving two teams, ask your child to work out the difference in the scores in their head.
- Involve your child in working out costs associated with holiday travel. For example, we will stay five nights and the cost per night is $70.