Welcome to Week 4 as we really begin to get into the swing of term 1.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our school carnival on Friday. It was a wonderful day with kids participating in a full range of aquatic activities and swimming races. To all of those parents who gave of their time to help out with various jobs on the day, to Tina and Shawna Maxwell and Geoff Manson, Kylie Edwards and Keshia Strano THANK YOU! We will be announcing the winning house and age champions on our morning assembly today. House captain and vice-captain badges will be presented at our assembly on Friday.

We will be hosting the District Swimming Carnival on Monday the 4th March at our local pool. All students involved will bring a note home later in the week. Please remember that final places and points were awarded on times at our carnival. Many events were run in heats and we took the best two times from all heats, in that stroke, combined. Students were reminded of this at morning assemblies and also at the marshalling on the day. We try to keep our carnival focused on fun and participation. We do not disqualify kids but if a judge or supervising teacher observes a rule being broken that effects the outcome of places then we will adjust the place records accordingly. Two simple examples are with wall touches and walking on the bottom of the pool. At the District Carnival the rules are enforced far more stringently as our swimmers need to be prepared for the Regional Carnival where expectations are strict and to the letter. Once again, Miss Strano and Miss Edwards will be organising this event and we will have a few staff in attendance as we are joined by Berrigan, Barooga, Jerilderie and Tocumwal swimmers. Please let us know if you can help out with the starting, time keeping, or judging.

**HOMEWORK**
With the dreaded homework starting this week it may be prudent to revisit our homework policy and the theory behind this activity.

- Homework is a chance for all students to review various concepts that they have learnt in class ranging from reading fluency to Numeracy strategies. It helps students to build a routine that supports their learning and will continue to do so right through their schooling life.
- As a result of parental feedback over the years, our homework is set in two parts, compulsory and optional. Compulsory homework is the minimum amount expected of the student and optional is for those who would like to extend themselves.
- All students should be able to complete their homework independently. If at any stage they say that they do not know how to do an activity simply write a note next to the activity informing the teacher. Their teacher will be sure to address
the problem whether it be extra student instruction or an assurance for the parents that their child actually does know how to complete the identified activity.

- Parents can help out by making homework as fun and stress free as possible. It is not designed to be completed at the last moment under duress. It is designed to be completed in small stages throughout the week. Choose your homework time carefully to ensure that your child is both able to engage in the activity and is open to practicing the skills in a positive and confident frame of mind.

- Homework will come home each week and be marked each week so please be sure to let us know if your child does not have their homework. If for some reason your child is away then there will always be extra homework sheets available in their classroom. Most of the time teachers will be on top of this but occasionally students may need to ask.

**LOST PROPERTY**

Once again our lost property box is overflowing with quality uniform items that need a home. My recess helpers will go through the box this week, looking for labelled items, and we will hand them out at morning assembly. Any unlabelled items will be transferred to a box in the office for parents to go through at their leisure.

**STUDENT MEDICAL DETAILS**

As part of our welfare policy it is important that we are aware of all the medical needs of your child. We have a specially designed form where we record this information and make it available to those who may need the knowledge. Please see the note attached to this newsletter for more information and let us know of any medical issues as a matter of urgency. The same goes for phone numbers. With parents and carers quite often changing phone numbers it is vitally important for you to let us know where you can be contacted so that we can inform you should there be an incident at school that requires your attention.

**PRINCIPAL’S TRAINING**

This Wednesday and Thursday I will be in Albury for mandatory Principal’s training. I do not like to be out of our school too often but these days are invaluable in keeping me up to date in what is expected of our schools, various policies and other initiatives that could be beneficial for our students.

I will be in contact with our school throughout each day so if for any reason you need to speak with me simply leave a message with the office and I will get back to you.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS**

With all of our students settled into their classrooms it is time for a reminder of our Voluntary School Contributions. This is a voluntary fee, paid by parents, that helps us to supply all of our students with pens, pencils, textas, exercise books, rulers etc. the fees are set at $30 per student and $60 per family. Please pay these fees at the front office when convenient.

**PERMISSION NOTES**

Just a reminder that when sending in permission notes please enclose any money in a sealed envelope or bag clearly marked with the student's name and roll class.

**DISTRICT TENNIS TEAM TRIALS**

Best of luck to Luke Bramley, Duncan Clarke and Cooper Burke as they trial for the Deniliquin District Tennis Team. The boys will be heading over to Deni with their parents on Wednesday 20th and I am sure that they will do themselves and their school proud.

Have a great week.

Todd Potter
Principal

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Cooper Sutton  KL  21 February
Lenny Dattoli  2-1T  23 February

Birthday calls are announced each morning, during school terms, at 7.45am on Deniliquin Radio 1521QN and on Classic Rock 102.5 at 6.55 am and 8.25am.
Canteen
Friday 22 February Sophia Ingram
Thursday 28 February Kate Steel
Friday 1 March Tracie Doohan

Wednesday Meal Deal
Chicken and cheese toastie
Juice
Paddle pop $5.00

Swimming Carnival Friday 15 February
Thank you to those who helped out on the barbeque. It was a very successful day.

Uniforms
The new school dresses have now arrived.

Glenda Rogers
Canteen Supervisor

Meet & greet your teachers!
Kindergarten information session today at 3:30pm in Miss Lewis’ classroom.
Stage 2 (years 3&4) today at 3:30pm in Mrs Cole’s classroom.

Tuesday 19 February
Help your child to read at home
Mrs Amanda Lyons is running two sessions to help interested parents and carers know how to help their child to read at home.
There are two session being held in the Library.
Choose from 3:30-4:30pm or 7:00-8:00pm

Swimming Carnival Results

Jnr Girls
Champion - Olivia Hayes
Runner up - Jennah Maraldo
Meg Marsden

Jnr Boys
Champion - Shadeau Brain
Runner up - Riley Weekes

11yrs Girls
Champion - Sarah Orro
Runner up - Savannah Wilson

11yrs Boys
Champion - Ben Ashley-Cooper
Runner up - Nick Gray

Snr Girls
Champion - Johannah Tessier
Runner up - Kim Montgomery

Snr Boys
Champion - Nik Burns
Runner up - Zec Cuppens

House Places
1st Murray
2nd Finley
3rd Coree
4th Tuppal
Unfortunately, Harvey Sneddon's name was given to the SRN incorrectly for last week's Kindergarten photo special. Our most sincere apologies to Harvey and his family.

In Terms 1 and 4
It is compulsory to wear a hat in our playground.
No hat... Play in the shade!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

NSW Government Health

Amendments have been made to the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 to make the following settings smoke-free from 7 January 2013:

- In public playgrounds within 10 metres of children's play equipment
- In open areas of public swimming pools
- In major sporting facilities and at public sports grounds
- At public transport stops and stations
- Within 4 metres of the pedestrian access point to a public building
- From 2015, commercial outdoor dining areas

ALL Public School grounds are smoke-free areas.

NSW Government Education & Communities

FPS P&C
Our February meeting will be held at 8:00pm on Monday 25 February at the Tuppen Hotel. The committee would like to invite all interested persons to join us for a meal before the meeting. We will be ordering at 7:00pm so that we are finished in plenty of time. Our AGM will be held on Monday 25 March. Please come along!

U Can Dance

CLASSES IN TOCUMWAL
JAZZ TAP BALLET HIP HOP
3YRS-ADULTS
TUESDAYS AT THE TOWN HALL TOCUMWAL

www.ucandance.com.au
Email: aliesha@ucandance.com.au
Ph: 0419398230

RIVERLINKS Arts Entertainment
Conventions Conferences
Plays, performances, musicals and other family entertainment.
2013 Season Summary is available from the school office.
Further information can be found at www.riverlinksvenue.com.au
Any students who will be participating in this event, parents please let the school know ahead of time.

Thank you.
18 February, 2013

Dear Parents,

We welcome information from parents about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter’s health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Yours sincerely,

Todd Potter
Principal