Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a lovely afternoon we had on Tuesday, meeting the new Kindergarten students and their families. The weather didn’t put us off, having an indoor sausage sizzle and puzzles and games to play. Thank you to everyone who came. We are looking forward to next Tuesday when they go off to their class and meet their senior student buddy.

This week is Gonski Week, where schools are celebrating the difference the extra funding has made to our school. It has allowed us to employ Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Fry and now Mr Morris for longer hours. It has also enabled us to purchase extra resources such as readers, maths equipment and teaching resources for History, Science and Creative Arts. A pamphlet with more information is included in this week’s newsletter.

As we are now planning for classes for 2016, it is important that any families who may be changing schools let us know. If you are a family moving out of the area or know of a family moving into the area, could you please let our office staff know.

Mrs Karen Johanson - Principal

We are safe, respectful learners.
The Orchids have been busy creating a new character for their literacy text, *The Enchanted Wood*, and will be using it for their art work, creating the character as a clay sculpture. We are also working with the same text, in the area of design and technology. The children will be inventing all sorts of contraptions, all to achieve a specific purpose. Watch this space for more details.

This week the Acacias have enjoyed participating in Math groups, dancing, AFL activities, library lessons, painting, reading, writing and so much more. Our favourite part of the week was getting to play with some large boxes that we had in our class. We turned the boxes into boats, planes, hats, dog kennels and even a Jack in the Box, box.

Over the past few weeks we have been learning some AFL skills with Amelia. It is a lot of fun. We are learning how to hold and catch the ball as well as learning to kick it. We are playing some different games to help develop our skills. Some of us were a little apprehensive at first but there are smiles all around now we can see how clever we are!
BLUEBELLS
In Maths this week the Bluebells have been assessing what their partners have learnt through a series of activities.

CALLISTEMONS
This week in the Callistemons we have been learning about Patterns and Algebra in Maths. We got to play a game called *Guess my Rule!* It was really funny. We pretended we were on a game show and acted out different characters for different contestants.

By Dominic W, Dominick B, Ethan and Ashan

GARDEN NEWS
WE HAVE A RABBIT PROBLEM! As you would all know, we have a lovely rabbit habitat at our school, and they have just discovered how sweet and tasty new shoots are! We are planning to attach something to the bottom of the gate where we are certain they are sneaking in, but until that time it seems a waste to plant anymore food just for the rascals.

Once again, we are always looking for parent or community volunteers to help get our garden growing!
SILVERTAILS
HSIE - This term Silvertails are learning how to learn as 21st century learners. We know that 21st century learners learn through COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION, CRITICAL THINKING AND CREATIVE THINKING. We will be putting these skills into practise this term while we study an Asian country. Students have been awarded a promotion to the Australian Embassy in an Asian country. Their task is to make the arrangements to transport their family to the country of their choice.

SPEECHES – Students will need to present a 1-2 minute speech each week on the topic as listed on the note sent home. Time during their lunchtime will be allocated to prepare this if not completed at home.

HOMEWORK – Started Monday this week. Activities will be Spelling LOOK COVER WRITE CHECK each night. Research for their Asian country. Maths will be to practise unknown times tables OR work through the levels on their Skoolbo account.

INTERNET Access – please note all students in public schools are able to access their school accounts at home. This provides a secure environment for students to use the internet. I will be emailing students throughout the term. Please ask them to show you their DoE portal and give you a tour. There are lots of interesting topics for students and parents on the My School website.

ICE BLOCKS FOR LIBRARY BOOKS!
Return your Library books between Monday 19 October and Thursday 12 November for your class to win!!!

Students who return a library book between these dates will receive an entry for their class. A ticket will be drawn out at assembly on Friday 13 November. The winning class will receive an ice block for each student.

Week 3 Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREVILLEAS</th>
<th>WARATAHS</th>
<th>ORCHIDS</th>
<th>SILVERTAILS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zalia</td>
<td>Jacob</td>
<td>Cooper A</td>
<td>Shaylee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>Madi P</td>
<td>Hollie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>Aiden H</td>
<td>Nav</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACACIAS</th>
<th>BLUEBELLLS</th>
<th>CALLISTEMONS</th>
<th>MRS HONAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharlia</td>
<td>Olivia R</td>
<td>Ashan</td>
<td>Seth O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaiden</td>
<td>Tyrone B</td>
<td>Dominick</td>
<td>Jack D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ella</td>
<td>Ricky F</td>
<td>Flinn</td>
<td>Madeline G</td>
</tr>
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Kindergarten students of 2016 and their families are invited to:

**ORIENTATION 1:** 3 November 2015 at 10am

**ORIENTATION 2:** 10 November at 12noon

**ORIENTATION 3:** 17 November at 2pm

During our three orientation sessions, children will go into the classrooms with the Kindergarten teachers. They do not need to wear school uniform or hats but should wear **sensible shoes** (joggers) and **casual clothing** (shorts and Tee). They can bring a **water bottle** with their name on it. They can also bring some **fruit** to eat for Crunch ‘N Sip at Orientation 1.

Mums and dads will go into a different classroom to hear a variety of speakers present information to support them in their role.

_Contact our friendly office for more information._
The Hunter Life Education Van will be coming to our school in Week 7 of Term 4. It is expected that all students will attend with a cost of $10 per child. There are no concessions. Start putting some coins in a money box now so you don’t miss out!

The next P&C MEETING is

Thursday 12 November

6:30pm in Silvertails’ classroom

A movie will be playing on the Interactive Whiteboard for parents who are unable to find a babysitter.

Light refreshments will be available for both parents and children.

All parents and carers welcome.

Year 6 News
Thank you to the parents who came to the meeting last week to help organise the Year 6 farewell. The invitation went home on Monday. We would love for you to come and be part of this special occasion. This will be on Thursday 10 December 2015 at Kurri Golf Club. Photos at 5:30. Dinner at 6pm.

Dolphin Cruise – The students would like to celebrate the end of their primary school career by spending the day together on a dolphin cruise. This will be on Friday 11 December 2015.

ADVERTISING IN THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Full page (A5) $20 per issue, Half page $10 per issue

Six months Full page $350, Six months half page $180

The School Newsletter is currently distributed to 120 families, both electronically and printed copy, as well as uploaded to the school website and school app.
EVERY DAY COUNTS........

A day here or there doesn’t seem like much, but.....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses.....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is......</th>
<th>And from Kindy to Year 12 that is.....</th>
<th>Which means the best your child can achieve is....</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day a fortnight</td>
<td>20 days a year</td>
<td>4 weeks a year</td>
<td>Nearly 1½ years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 day a week</td>
<td>40 days a year</td>
<td>8 weeks a year</td>
<td>Over 2 ½ years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 days a week</td>
<td>80 days a year</td>
<td>16 weeks a year</td>
<td>Over 5 years of</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 days a week</td>
<td>120 days a year</td>
<td>24 weeks a year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 4</td>
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</table>

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!

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**Reminder about Crunch&Sip®**

Our school is part of the Crunch&Sip® program. To ensure that your child takes part in Crunch&Sip® you need to pack a piece of fruit or vegetables and a bottle of water every day.

Allowed for Crunch&Sip®
- All fresh fruit and vegetables
- Tinned fruit in water or juice
- Dried fruit in small amounts and on limited occasions
- Plain water

Not allowed for Crunch&Sip®
- Fruit products (e.g. fruit leathers, fruit roll-ups, fruit straps)
- Fruit jams or jellies, fruit pies or cakes
- Tinned fruit in syrup
- Vegetable or potato chips, hot potato chips
- Olives
- Vegetable pastries (pies, pasties)
- Baked vegetable breads
- Vegetable cakes, fritters, quiches or similar
- Popcorn
- Flavoured/carbonated water, cordial, Fruit or vegetable juices
- Any drink other than plain water

If your family is having difficulties providing a piece of fruit or vegetable every day please let us know and we will assist you in addressing this.

**Phone 4924 6499**

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**Why volunteer in the school canteen?**

Schools and community organisations are finding it increasingly difficult to find volunteers to help out. With many parents working or busy looking after children there is a real shortage of volunteers in school canteens.

Volunteering in your child's school canteen has a whole range of benefits to you, your child and the school community:
- You may be able to have some input into what food is sold in the canteen
- It gives you an opportunity to meet other parents at the school and gives you another social outlet
- You can support your child in their food choices at the canteen
- Your child is able to see you at the canteen
- You are supporting the school be able to provide a food service for the students

Our school is in need of more volunteers for the canteen so if you are interested please contact our Canteen Supervisor.

**Phone 4924 6499**
Diary Dates

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wk 4</td>
<td>26 School Banking</td>
<td>27 Triple P Program</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kinder Welcome BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 5</td>
<td>2 School Banking</td>
<td>3 Triple P Program</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kinder Orientation</td>
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<td>10 am</td>
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<td>Wk 6</td>
<td>9 School Banking</td>
<td>10 Kinder Orientation</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>12noon</td>
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<td>Settlers Ridge Visit</td>
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<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>16 School Banking</td>
<td>17 Kinder Orientation</td>
<td>18 Hunter Life</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hunter Life Education</td>
<td>2pm Hunter Life Education</td>
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Positive Behaviour for Learning

We are safe, respectful learners striving for personal best in a happy and friendly environment.

Our next whole school reward is - PARTY GAMES in class

Just For Fun!

We are safe, respectful learners.