Term 1 Week 2

Thursday 4th February 2016

Important Dates to Remember Term 1 2016

Friday 5th February - Swimming Carnival Years 2 to 6
Tuesday 9th February - Meet the Teacher night
Wed 10th February - Tamworth High GaT Information night
Monday 15th February - SRC Induction (Morning assembly)
Tuesday 16th February - P & C Meeting - School Library 6pm
Wednesday 17th February - Book Club Due
Friday 19th February - SRC - Pink Stumps Day
Monday 22nd February - Zone Tennis Trials
Thu 25th February - Assembly by 5/6W, Item Choir, 2:15pm

Executive Team: Principal - Cara Cracknell
Assistant Principal - (Kinder to Year 2) - Nicole Chegwyn (Mon - Wed)
and Anne Doak (Thur - Fri)
Assistant Principal (Yr 3 to 6) - Jill Cook

P & C Executive
President: Lauren Witten
Secretary: Vanessa Johnson
Treasurer: Scott Cracknell and Jelka Schurink (Canteen)
Vice President - Cath Bubb

Merit
Chloe Van Maanen

Gold
Emma Jarrett and Chloe Van Maanen

Silver
Chloe Van Maanen, Emma Jarrett, Emmielle Kingdom, Isabelle Price and Mikyla Phillipott

Kootingal Public School
STAR NEWSLETTER
"Caring, Learning and Achieving Together."

Phone: 02 6760 3332 Email: kootingal-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: http://www.kootingal-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Weekly Bronze Awards

Connor Hilton and Jack Gosbell - Settling in well to Kootingal Public School
Meika Haak and Menno Wallace - Quick recall of Mathematics facts
Jessie Johnson - Being a polite, sensible, caring and hardworking student in 2/3M
Codie Hogan - Being a helpful and polite class member
Cooper Scott - Settling into Kootingal Public School very well
Robert Hazard - Trying hard to listen carefully and follow instructions
Maverick Ramage - On task
Sophie Howard - Helping others
Emma Jarrett - Commitment to tasks
Ally Higgins - Being a bright, cheery and enthusiastic student
Harry Witten - Being an excellent helper and enthusiastic learner
Crystal Van Maanen - Displaying wonderful manners
Boston DeBelle - A great single point perspective drawing
Isabelle Price - Having a great start to the year and being a valued member of our class
Ashton Holland - Settling into his new class and school.

Mrs Cracknell’s Message

Welcome back to another school year at Kootingal Public School. I trust the commencement of the school year is like a relief valve for some parents, as it means things can assume some type of normality and, in my case, ease the tension between siblings and the associated stress for the parents! Thursday last week was delightful! It was a site to treasure witnessing the happiness and coupled smiles of the children as they entered our school and saw their friends. There were lots of hugs all round.

As with the start of each school year, Kootingal Public School hosts a Meet the Teacher night. This evening serves as the first official meeting of parents and families with their child’s teacher and our executive staff. Our Meet the Teacher night is scheduled for Tuesday 9th February and starts at 6pm in the hall. This is an ideal opportunity for families to meet their child’s teacher, see their classroom and seek clarification of pertinent questions. The class’s Term 1 newsletter will also be available at this event.

This week we kick off our sporting endeavours with our annual Swimming Carnival on Friday 5th February. Sporting House Captains were elected this week with plenty of house spirit evident, and this was not only present in our students! Congratulations to our House Captains:

Gill Captain - Brock Hyson and Taleah Pinnock
Gill Vice Captain - Ashton Haak and Ella Howard
Wilson Captain - Ryley Marsh and Jasmine Hogan
Wilson Vice Captain - Jack Witten and Breeanna Howard
Dwyer Captain - Riley Brown and Georgia DeBelle
Dwyer Vice Captain - Harry Loftus and Sophie Hobden

Our House Captains will be inducted along with our elected Student Representative Council (SRC) members on Monday 15th February at 9.30am in the hall. Our SRC elections are also being held this week with each class electing their representatives and students in years 2 - 6 voting for our Year 6 SRC members. Invitations to parents and families will be given to students next week for the induction ceremony.

Our Kindergarten students commenced Tuesday this week. In a change from previous years, we decided to make two Kindergarten/Year 1 classes with two teachers sharing the teaching responsibilities. We have 26 Kindergarten students and they are equally spread across the two classes. Both classes are being taught by Mrs Lawrence and Miss Magann and are ably supported by our Assistant Principals, Mrs Chegwyn and Mrs Doak. This is an exciting opportunity as both teachers are equally responsible for the teaching and learning development of the students and will enable students who require either remedial support or extension to acquire this with ease. To cater for this new teaching environment, we have moved the Kindergarten classroom to Homebases 3 and 4. These two rooms have a bi-fold door that is easily opened and closed for learning opportunities. If any parent has a question about this class, please see Mrs Lawrence or Miss Magann.

Clothing Pool will only be open on:
Tuesday and Wednesday mornings
9am to 9:30am
Please come to the office.
This year we have moved to an electronic newsletter. Our newsletter is available through email or on our website. Those families that wish to continue to receive a paper copy must advise the school in writing. We commenced this process in Term 4 2015 with enough time for families to advise as to how they wish to receive our school’s newsletter. This was further provided in the permission materials given to each student on Thursday 28th January. It is important families keep up-to-date with events at school.

The bundle of permission notes provided to our students, namely Authority to Publish, General Permission Note, Internet User Agreement and Update of Information, are essential to the operation of our school. These notes must be returned prior to the swimming carnival as students require permission to attend the carnival as it is outside the school. The General Permission note will cover students for events located within Kootingal. Parents and families are notified of events in advance so they are aware as to where their children are at all times.

During the holidays, we opened our Clothing Pool to enable parents to quickly acquire uniform items without the hassle of a busy front office morning schedule. I am pleased to say that many of our families took this opportunity and it created a smoother transition in the first couple of days. Families may wish to order items from the Clothing Pool using the order sheet on our website and either print or email it to the school. The order form is located under the P&C/Canteen icon. Items can also be ordered over the phone.

At the end of the school holidays, a report was tabled indicating the importance of reading to our children, particularly in the years prior to formal schooling. This has long been a bandwagon of mine and, for my report this week, I have taken the opportunity to outline to our community the importance.

In a report from Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, they state that the frequency of reading to children at a young age has a direct causal effect on their schooling outcomes regardless of their family background and home environment. They further state that reading to children between the ages of 4 and 5 everyday has a significant positive effect on their reading skills and cognitive skills (i.e. language and literacy, numeracy and understanding) later in life. These differences in reading and cognitive skills are not related to the child’s family background or home environment but are the direct result of how frequently they have been read to prior to starting school.

This is powerful information. From a primary school’s perspective, reading to your child and with your child is paramount to their development. As your child’s Principal, I ask you to please read to and read with your child each night for 10 minutes. Ten minutes is not a great deal of time and is easily put into a night-time routine. Not only will your child benefit but they will also love spending that precious time with you.

See you at the swimming carnival!

Mrs Cracknell’s Message

Welcome back to 2016. Classes will commence borrowing next week.
Kindergarten - Tuesday
Year 1 - Friday
2/3M - Tuesday
3S - Thursday
4C - Wednesday
4/5G - Monday
5/6W - Thursday

ALL CHILDREN MUST HAVE A LIBRARY BAG.

If your child does not have a library bag one can be purchased from the Library for $2.

Mrs Anne Doak
Teacher-Librarian

Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:
- school uniforms and textbooks
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.
You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work, and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Anne Yates your local Saver Plus Worker:
(02) 6762 9700 / 0431 651 571
or anne.yates@benevolent.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered across Australia and the nation by the Benevolent Society. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Banking - Thursday

Banking Co-Ordinators
Cath Bubb and Karen Hobden

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See you at the swimming carnival!
Players from all ages are welcome to register to play football (soccer) with Tamworth FC for the 2016 season. Online registrations can be completed at www.myfootballclub.com.au from the 1st February 2016.

Tamworth Football Club is also conducting registration days at Gipps St fields on the following dates:
Tuesday 9th February 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Tuesday 23rd February 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Saturday 27th February TBA
Tuesday 8th March 4:00pm – 5:30pm
If you would like any further information in regards to the 2016 season registrations, please contact the club via email at tamworthfc@northerninlandfootball.net.au.

Learn to Swim classes
Swimming is an important life skill that can help save a life!
Programs are available for all ages and abilities both during school terms and during the school holidays
Please contact us for further enquiries and bookings on 02 6762 2631

Wednesday 17 February
Open Day
9.00am – 2.00pm

We are the only boys’ agricultural Government selective school in Australia. Farrer has established an enviable reputation as a centre of excellence in academics, agriculture, welfare and sports programs. Catering to the education of both day and boarding students Farrer is set on 191 hectares of prime agricultural land, 10 kilometres from Tamworth, New South Wales.

RSVP: 6764-8607 – Kerry Hussey – Enrolments Officer
Wear casual clothing & bring a hat. Refreshments will be served.

Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School
585 Calala Lane, Tamworth NSW 2340
6764 8600
www.farrer.nsw.edu.au

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