**Important Dates to Remember Term 1 2016**

Friday 19th February - SRC - Pink Stumps Day
Monday 22nd February - Zone Tennis Trials
Thursday 25th Feb - Assembly by 5/6W, Item - Choir, 2:15pm
Friday 26th February - Tamworth Zone Swimming
Monday 29th February - K/1 Bus Program
Friday 4th March - Clean Up Australia Day
Monday 7th March - North West Swimming
Tuesday 8th March - Zone Boys and Girls Soccer Trials
Thursday 10th March - Selective High School Placement Test

**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
- Vice President - Cath Bubb
- Secretary: Vanessa Johnson
- Treasurer: Scott Cracknell and Jelka Schurink (Canteen)
**Merit Award**
William Morris

**Gold Award**
William Morris and Aaleyah Atkins

**Silver Awards**
Alexander Cracknell, Dylan Dow, Megan Johnson, Emily Hatton, William Morris, Maverick Ramage, Aaleyah Atkins and Lilly Thomas

**Uniform Awards**

**Clothing Pool**
Will only be open on:
Tuesday and Wednesday mornings
9am to 9:30am
Please come to the office.

**Banking - Thursday**

Please attend the next major assembly (Thursday 25th February) if you would like to open a bank account for your child. There will be a Commonwealth Bank Representative on hand to open new accounts.

10 banking deposits will gain a Commonwealth Banking prize.

**Banking Co-Ordinators**
Cath Bubb and Karen Hobden

**Weekly Bronze Awards**

Menno Wallace - His very detailed portrait of his family,
Jahmarli Fields-Waddington - Being a helpful class member
Kayden Hobden - His beautiful family drawing and self portrait
Kara Gregory - Being more willing to take risks and try new things
Deakan Keven-Faulkner - Being a helpful student
Hayden Cook - Settling back into Kootingal Public School
Charli Hogg - Neat and careful work
Liam Symons - Listening attentively
Thomas Atkins - Effort to complete all tasks
Sienna Butorac - Being a great classroom helper
Naomi Maybury - Excellent presentation of bookwork
Joseph Barber - Working well in Spelling and Mathematics
Damikah Barwick-Taylor - A positive role model
Zoe Reid - A great helper in the classroom
Jentzen Haak - Working well in Spelling and Mathematics
Xander Murray - Showing maturity and responsible behaviour in class
Desean Allen - Striving to be a great learner at his desk
Jack Chapple - Helping others in the classroom, very considerate and generous
Sophie Butorac - Trying new things and working well at her desk
Megan Bubb - Showing persistence during Mathematics lessons
Kelsey Burrell - Fantastic efforts during Mathematics lessons
Jainah Grant - Great participation during discussions about Fox and Fine Feathers
Breeanne Howard - Neat work and detailed answers in literacy
Jasmine Hogan - Showing independent work habits and initiative
Sophie Burrell - Her settled work habits and kind nature
Savannah Barber - Always doing her best and helping others

**The Star Cafe**
Open Fridays

**Volunteers**
Friday 19th February - Kelly Tull
This week is our last week to place your vote for the logo of our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program. PBL is a school-wide initiative that provides a structure of support and promotion of positive behaviour and effective learning in a safe environment. PBL is underpinned by a set of core values as determined by the school community. Kootingal Public School’s core values are SAFE, SUPPORTIVE, EFFECTIVE LEARNERS. The logo is symbolic of our school community’s beliefs and expectations of our school.

The two options for our logo are a star and a tree. In our PBL newsletter column, I have outlined the reasons for each option for consideration. Please take the time to think carefully about this logo. Over the past week, students have completed their voting and it is extremely close. If you would like to participate in the logo design survey please come to our front office or see our School Captains at the front gate in the afternoon.

This Monday, we conducted our SRC Induction ceremony. Congratulations to all our students who were elected to this leadership group, as well as our sporting house captains and vice captains. Byron Lees spoke beautifully of the honour and privilege when representing your school, family and community as a leader. Good luck to all our leaders and I look forward to working with you throughout 2016.

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.

Kootingal Public School is again coordinating the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) tests. ICAS is an independent, skills-based assessment program that recognises and rewards student achievement. This program is an international program that has operated for the past 30 years. Students from years 2 to 6 are eligible to participate. Nomination forms are available from the front office area and on our website under Latest News and Features. I coordinate the tests and the dates for each test are located on the form and on our school website calendar.

Our families are reminded that Kootingal Playgroup is again operating from Homebase 1 every Monday from 9.30am to 11.30am. This is a lovely opportunity to meet other parents with small children in a fun and creative atmosphere. Please see the advertisement later in the newsletter.

Congratulations to Jasmine Hogan, Jessica Coppola-Smith, Ellie Caslick, Chloe Burch and Taleah Pinnock who were selected in the Tamworth High School Gifted and Talented Creative Writing and Public Speaking program for Term 1. These students will attend three workshops at Tamworth High School in the lead up to the Debating and Public Speaking competition held later this term. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to hone their skills in writing and public speaking, learning from the best in Dr Katherine Bricknell-McCrohon, my hold high school English teacher! Look out for photos and progress reports in the coming weeks.

Congratulations to Zane Hyson, Sophie Howard, Joseph Barber, Emma Jarrett and Maverick Ramage of 3SW for their beautiful handwriting. The commencement of cursive writing is a difficult skill to master, but these students are demonstrating wonderful progress. Keep up the great work!

Happy birthday to Jaeda Symons of 4C! Jaeda turned 9 this past week and presented me with a lovely cupcake. It was delicious! I hope you had a wonderful day Jaeda.

This week our staff continued their professional learning in Personalised Learning and Support. Our Learning and Support teacher, Mrs Kerrie Ardill, is delivering this training. Mrs Ardill trained in 2015 with the sole purpose to assist the development of our teaching staff in personalised learning and support during the Music and French teaching time. This training requires both face-to-face and individual delivery modes. It is envisaged that through this training, our processes for Learning and Support continues to improve along with the educational outcomes for our students.
Kootingal Public School is continuing its implementation of the program Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) in 2016. PBL is a school-wide initiative that provides a structure or support and promotion of positive behaviour and effective learning in a safe environment. PBL is underpinned by a set of core values as determined by our community. The core values of Kootingal Public School are Safe, Supportive, Effective Learners.

As a part of the PBL program, Kootingal Public School is seeking the opinion of our school and broader community about the logo. The PBL team has decided upon two options. They are a tree and a star. Below we have outlined the reasons why and ask our community to consider which option is best for Kootingal Public School.

Why choose a tree?
• In our crest
• Historical significance for Kootingal
• Represents growth and opportunity
• Roots provide grounding/stability

Why choose a star?
• Kootingal means star
• We have the Star Café
• Historical significance for Kootingal
• We have the Bright Star Moment which is a positive communication to families
• Koolangarra

Please advise the school as to which option you prefer.

Escape Travel, in Tamworth are proud to be in partnership with Kootingal Public School.

Family and friends of the school can be a part of the Kick Back Club, that will see 1% of the cost of any holidays booked in our office in Tamworth go back in to the P & C to benefit the school.

Anyone enquiring and booking an airfare, holiday, travel insurance or accommodation just needs to mention at the time of enquiring that they are a part of the Kootingal School Kick Back program, and we will set aside 1% of the value of their holiday aside to go back to the P & C. Just remember, we don’t know if you are a part of the school, so you need to tell us.

Chicken, Prawns, salads and dessert
Price: $35.00 per person or $250 per table of 8

Kootingal P&C Prawn & Chicken Night

Saturday 19th March 2016

Raffles
Games
Lots of prizes
Music
... And lots more.
So get a table organized and come and have some fun!

6:00 pm til late
BYO—Drinks/Alcohol and nibbles

Kootingal Public School Hall

Tickets available from:
Kootingal Public School Administration Office, Denman Avenue - cash only
By phone on 67603332 - payment by direct deposit

For further enquiries, contact Lauren Witten: 0403 193 955
Playgroup NSW—Kootingal

Playgroup is a lightly structured, informal gathering where parents, carers, babies and children up to school age come together in a relaxed and friendly environment to connect, play and learn. Essentially, it is one of the first, and most important, social networks for children and families.

Sessions are usually held once a week and may involve craft activities, outdoor play and morning tea.

The goal of playgroup is to give children an opportunity to socialise and connect with other children. Creative and unstructured learning through play is essential to children’s development, helping them explore and understand their world. Playgroup helps children develop their social skills, make friends and get ready for preschool and school. Playgroup enables parents and carers to spend quality time with their children while creating their own social networks, making friends and sharing ideas and experiences. Playgroup creates stronger communities by bringing local families together and creating grass roots connections.

Kootingal Playgroup is coordinated by Kimberley Capel and is held every Monday morning during the school term in Homebase 1 at Kootingal Public School. Interested families can contact Kimberley about the program on 0403552220. We would love to see you there!