

Pilliga Public School

Regina Stoltenberg, Principal

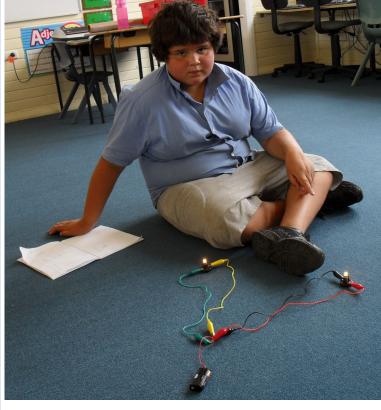
The little school that's BIG on learning

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Term 1, Week 4 Friday, February 22nd, 2013

CALENDAR

Monday, March 11th: Active After School Activities Tuesday, March 19th: Scripture; Homework Centre Wednesday, March 13th: Community Conversations Monday, March 18th: Grandparents and Friends Open Classroom and Morning Tea Tuesday, March 19th: CSIRO Science Show Thursday, March 21st: PBL Team Meeting Friday, March 22nd: Cross Country, Gwabegar

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"Miss! I got the power!"

Our students are turning on to the excitement of electricity in Science. A "light bulb moment" when the circuit was completed. Our Science in a Box is bringing hands-on, practical learning into our classroom.

We will be joining with Wee Waa and Burren Junction Public Schools on the 19th for the CSIRO Science Show. Details next week.

The generosity of Variety the Children's Charity (Newcastle) is allowing us to have some fantastic learning experiences in Science. Mrs Currey is teaching about electricity and the hands-on opportunities are creating brilliant moments of insight. Learning for the 21st Century is different and exciting. If you would like to hear more about current educational practices and the new National Curriculum please come along on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 13th, for Community Conversations. I'll be in the Library from 2.00pm.

Families will have received their School Photos pack this week. The photographer will be in the School on Tuesday, March 26th. I have yet to have an approximate time of the arrival of the group. Please return the packs, with your money, on or before that day.

Please read the notice on page 2 of this Newsletter very carefully. If you need to discuss this please contact me, or an executive of the P&C. It's important that information going out from our School is complete and reflective of the true facts.

We are halfway through the Term (can you believe it?) and there will be a lot happening before holidays begin. Please stay in touch and don't hesitate to talk with me about any concerns you may have.

Regina

Sustainable learning...



Our resident "chook whisperer" had no trouble catching one of our little roosters for the chopping block on Thursday...



Thanks to Mr Knowles and Mr Currey, and with lots of help plucking the feathers, there were soon 2 little birds ready for the pot. Mrs Currey is planning something special as the days become cooler ...



...but the boys had more trouble than they baraained for!

P & C News

At a Special Meeting of the P&C Association on Monday, March 4th, the motion "that the Pilliga Public School P&C Association be dissolved" was ratified, and the organisation ceases to function. While this was, in some ways, a sad move for our school community, it was necessary, in that our support-base is very small and the constitutional requirements of the P&C Association could not be met.

However, parent and community input to the collaborative processes for managing our School is vital. A previous proposal to form a Pilliga Public School Community Support Group will be upheld, and this will be the interested and involved group from whom I will seek support and consultation. There will be no obligation on this group to conduct any fundraising, or provide any extraneous services to the school; it will be exclusively for consultation and support that moves our School forward in the best interests of our students and their families.

Please feel free to discuss this with me as you have a stake in how our School is managed. However, the responsibility for this decision lies with the membership.

What's happening in the kitchen classroom?







Mrs Currey is teaching students about nutritious alternatives to red meat, and the meals have included fish, chicken, legumes and tofu. One of our super taste discoveries has been haloumi, but none of us is really keen about tofu...





A big "thumbs-up" for this week's Four Bean Salad with Haloumi!

Menus have also included Hot and Sour Fish Soup with Broccoli (green food), French Toast with Caramelised Pears (red food) and Chocolate Dipped Strawberries (red food). All recipes are within the guidelines of the Department's Healthy Food policies and documents.





We were all pretty pleased by our efforts with *hashi* (chopsticks) ... some of us even got the food to our mouths! Next excursion Japan?

Lunching in our Kitchen Classroom is developing into a pleasant social experience. The resources and facilities at our School are amazing and contribute to the healthy overall development of our students.





Dipping strawberries in chocolate is not as easy as it sounds... how do you get the strawberry off the fork? How do you not lick your fingers? And how do you keep the chocolate from setting before you've finished the job?!