



Michael Lord
Principal

Pilliga Public School Newsletter

The little school that's BIG on learning

Term 4, Week 5
Monday 2nd, November 2015

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Book Week

What fantastic parent support we had last Monday at our Book Week launch and parade. I want to thank all parents for the effort in getting their children dressed up. Some very creative and also simple, yet effective ideas were on display. We absolutely smashed our book selling target of 10 books and sold 60+ Which provided the school with \$210 to spend on books! Again, thank you to all parents for your support and purchases, all the students wanted to do was to sit and read their new books. This is the main goal of Book Week and that passion for reading is something we all love to see.

Congratulations to the following students who won Best Dressed!:

Transition—Sonia Pagett
Infants - Jai Doolan
Senior - Kira Moore & Luana

Rescheduled - WAMS Healthy Eating and Keeping Fit Day

After having to postpone due to the state of the roads, Daniele has rescheduled her health day for this Friday 6th November. This Friday, Daniele Graves from WAMS will be visiting the school to deliver a series of health talks relating to appropriate diet and exercise for kids.

Daniele has extended an invitation to parents to attend the 12:00pm session on nutrition. Included in the day will be an exercise morning session, nutrition session and even a smoothie making session!

Coming and going from School

It is great to see more and more students beginning to either walk or ride to school. It is a great way to be active and add to the fitness we do at school. A reminder that supervision begins at 8:15am and concludes at 2:30pm—or when students leave the school grounds. **All other times** are under the care and supervision of the parents.

Kinder Transition Hearing and Screening tests for starting school in 2016

This Wednesday, 4th November the hearing and Screening tests will be operating in the school @ 9am for those transition students starting Kinder in 2016. Please come along with your child to answer any questions you or the health nurse may have.

Parent Meeting

A parent meeting will be held this Friday, 6th @ 2:45pm. Agenda to be sent home later this week.

After School Dance Group

Starting from Wednesday this week, all students involved in the dance group will be practising Monday and Wednesday afternoons @ 2:30pm to 3:00pm. While we do a run through at lunch times, more time is needed to get the dance ready for presentation night. A note will be sent home for permission.

Those that volunteered to be in the dance group are: Lill and Lu, Jordan M, Kira, Ashton and Samual.

Presentation Night

A reminder that presentation night will be held on 26th November. While it is still 4 weeks away, time is moving fast and the night will be here before we know it.

To prepare for the night, the students have been practising 2 dances (One is a whole school dance, while the other is from the dance group), 2 poems and a song.

EA4S conference

Last Wednesday I attended the Early Action for Success (EA4S) conference held in Dubbo. These meetings are held each term and is a time where we look at the progress data of our K-2 students and have training around areas that need more focus. This data takes in schools that are also part of EA4S from the Macquarie, Dubbo and Bourke Network of Schools.

The pleasing aspect for our school is the continual growth across all students in K-2, which shows all of Kinder and Yr 1 are now on track in their reading, writing, comprehension and numeracy. A huge congratulations to Mrs Lord and support staff that have facilitated the learning for our infants to thrive.

The other pleasing aspect is our school's first Strategic Direction is to 'raise expectations and enhance the quality of learning'. This data shows this happening in our K-2 students which is a great sign for the future learning of these students as they are where they need to be and ready for the next year.

Western Plains Principals' Conference

Also, last week I was in Dubbo for the termly Principals' Conference for the Western Plains Network. This was my boss, Paul Loxley's (Director of Public Schools—Western Plains) last conference as Director due to his retirement commencing after this

year.

For those that have not met Paul, he is very passionate about schooling in Western NSW having spent most of his principal career in Western Schools before becoming Director of the region. He always comes into the classroom to say hello to the kids and knows my family by name, having made the point to meet them and ask how they are going each time I see him or speak with him. Paul will be missed in this region and network of schools and I, on behalf of Pilliga Public School wish him and his wife Julie, all the best in his retirement.

School Excellence Framework (S.E.F.)

The School Excellence Framework is a benchmark for schools to measure how they are going in relation to 3 main areas of schooling : Learning, Teaching and Leadership.

We will be doing a self assessment of our school in relation to these areas and identifying areas of strength and areas that need strengthening. From 2016, schools will be 'Validated' by external assessors who will analyse evidence and validate where schools sit in alignment to S.E.F.

Coming Up

Presentation Night - Thurs 26th Nov

Yr 6 transition to high school

Wk 8 – Mon 23rd Nov Whole day & Parent Info night starting at 5:30pm

Swim School - Wk 9 & 10 (30th Nov to 11th Dec)

Mrs Duddy's Christmas Lunch - Tues 15th Dec





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