



Michael Lord
Principal

Pilliga Public School Newsletter

The little school that's BIG on learning

*Term 1, Week 2
Thursday 4th, February 2016*

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Welcome to 2016!

2016 - A Great Year Ahead!

Welcome back everyone to another exciting year! This year we have three awesome Kindergarten students enrolled and eager to learn. I know they are going to enjoy their time at school and settle well as they all have come through the transition program last year.

Mrs Lord's room has changed from the library to the double classroom which will have Kinder, Yr 1 and Yr 2. My class is in the library and will have Yr 3, Yr 4 and Yr 5.

We will continue the 8:30am start and 2:30pm finish for this term as it is still very warm during the day – and change back in term 2.

School Assemblies will be held on Wednesday mornings at 9:15am. I encourage all parents to attend each week and open the invitation for Playgroup parents to attend before Playgroup starts.

Staff 2016

Mr Lord—Principal/primary class teacher

Mrs Lord - Class teacher for infants (Mon, Tues, Wed)

Mr Dunlop - Class teacher (Thurs)

Mrs Wilkins - Office (Tues & Fri with every 2nd Thurs)

Mr Currey - General Assistant (Thurs)

Mrs Phelps - Teacher Aid (Thurs, Fri)

Miss Simmonds-Cutts Class aid/tutor (Tue, Wed)

Playgroup

Fran Doolan - Coordinator (Wed)

Shelly Phelps - Assistant (Wed)

Swimming Carnival

Next Wednesday, 10th February is our combined Swimming Carnival with Gwabegar. It will be held, as normal at the Baradine Public Pool beginning at 9:30am. I strongly encourage all parents to attend and cheer on their child and the school. We will be taking the school bus but if you intend to watch, feel free to transport your child to and from the carnival.

Cricket, Cricket, Cricket!

Next Friday, 12th Feb we are joining with Gwabegar to be involved in a Cricket development session. We will be guided through the various skills by a qualified coach. This will be followed up by another day of coaching the following week (Wed 17th) and then the training will be put to the test as we join Burren Junction at their Pink Stumps Cricket day on Friday, 26th Feb. This event is put together to raise money for cancer and will be a great opportunity for our students to interact with peers from different schools.

PILLIGA PUBLIC'S SCHOOL PLAN IN ACTION!

Here are some of the goals Pilliga Public has in our Strategic Directions being fulfilled this year...

Speech Therapy - Strategic Direction 1

This term (15th Feb) we will be starting speech therapy via Video Conferencing through the Royal Far West speech therapy program. 4 students will be assessed and provided speech therapy one day per week for 4 terms. This is one of our goals in our School's Strategic Directions and will be a great opportunity for these students.

Kamilaroi Language Lessons - Strategic Direction 3

Over the Christmas break, Maddie completed her Cert 1 in Kamilaroi Language offered by Dubbo TAFE run by Aunty Beth Wright. Maddie underwent an intensive week long course and will now pass on her knowledge to our students through weekly in-class tutoring. This will be a great inclusion to our students learning and knowledge of Kamilaroi culture.

Collaborative Classroom - Strategic Direction 2

After the community and parent consultation meeting (December), a proposal was put to the community for a restructure of the way our classrooms were set up. The new proposal of having a 'Collaborative Classroom' was brought up and the purpose of the change is to create an engaging 21st Century learning environment to marry with our current teaching style. The idea was met with enthusiasm and was placed into our school's Strategic Directions (School Plan) as an additional goal to achieve. Through funding from Early Action for Suc-

cess (EA4S) we have purchased the new furniture and it will be delivered and installed at the end of February.

This is very exciting news and something that will enhance student learning and engagement.

Here are some pictures of the type of learning spaces we will see with a Collaborative Classroom. *Please note that this is not our set up but example photos.

Interactive Cultural Walk - Strategic Direction 3

We will be receiving our Indigenous Advancement Strategy funding this year which means our Interactive Cultural Walkthrough will be completed this year. It will include a landscaped walk full of Kamilaroi information, sculptures and local plants. The idea is to create an outdoor learning space that promotes local knowledge of the Kamilaroi people.

Language, Learning, Literacy (L3) Stage 1

Last year, Mrs Lord completed her training in L# Kindergarten and this year she will undergo training for the final phase of L3 which is the Stage 1 component.

Coming Up

Swimming Carnival- Wk 3 - 10th Feb (Next Wednesday)

Cricket day - Wk 3 - Friday 12th

Follow up Cricket Day - 17th Feb

Pink Stumps @ BPS - 26th Feb



Our Kindy's First Day!