



Pilliga Public School Newsletter

The little school that's BIG on learning

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Term 1, Week 5

Zone Swimming Carnival; Congratulations to Tallen Robinson, Bryan, Jai and T'ea for their participation in the Zone Carnival. I was very proud when I received a number of comments from the outside community remarking on their levels of sportsmanship and effort in every race. Well done.



Assembly: Last week at our monthly assembly all of our kindergarten students were given a lovely library book bag, a picture book and an invitation to join Narrabri library. Thank you the Lioness Club of Narrabri all of our students were extremely pleased with their bags and have already been using them on Fridays our library day.



Visiting American Teacher:

Last week we had a visit from an American teacher Charlie Jackson who taught for two years at Pilliga in 1976 and 1977. He met up with some of his past pupils and came over to see what education looks like at Pilliga nowadays. He was amazed at how switched on our students are and their grasp of technology.

Preschool: All five of our pre-schoolers are attending regularly they are learning to read and write their names, learning all about native animals and counting to five. They have been completing many different craft activities that develop their cutting and small hand-eye coordination skills.

Small Schools Camp: All students apart from Kindergarten will be going to the small schools camp from Monday 1 April to Friday 5th April. More information to follow shortly.

P&C: A successful P&C AGM was held last week, with all office bearer positions filled. Thank you to all those who attended. Please check out the P&C letter to find out all the activities that will be taking place this term.

COMING UP:

- 13/3 Mrs S & Mrs W TPL
- 14/3 Mrs W, Fran & Shellie PL
- 20 & 21/2 Miss W -TPL
- 22/3 Mrs S PPA
- 27/3 Assembly 1:30 & P&C Meeting @ 2pm
- 01/04-05/04 Small School Camp, Nyngan
- 7/4/19 Daylight Saving Ends
- 10/4/19 School Photos

STEAM Lessons:

Our students have been going full STEAM ahead this term, applying themselves with enthusiasm in a range of projects.

Students explored a program called **Tinkercad** to design a key ring and plant markers for the garden, which were then produced on the **3D printer**. This provided an opportunity to employ our critical thinking skills and reflect on the reasons why, and what we could do to improve our design. Important skills for the 21st century learner!

We have been lucky enough to have access to a **film making kit** this term as well, as part of the STEMShare Community program initiated by the Department of Education.

Primary students are learning about the important features of film production and are working hard on producing a movie trailer based on the novel we are reading this term called "The Spiderwick Chronicles". Students are looking forward to getting their creative juices flowing and becoming real life film directors!

Infant's students have also been busy this term, coding projects using a program called Scratch Jr. We are learning how to code to create animated stories and other creative projects, improving our IT and communication skills, essential for future employment opportunities. Scratch Jr is a free app which parents and carers are encouraged to download onto their mobile or ipad (www.scratchjr.org) to further develop their child's skills in this area.

We are also excited to begin our **robotics journey**. Primary students are exploring the **Lego Mindstorm EV3** robot which has capabilities only limited by the imagination. We are learning basic engineering skills and the importance of teamwork and collaboration, sprinkled with a rather large dash of resilience. These robots are not for the faint hearted, but our students are demonstrating enthusiasm and persistence which will hopefully lead them to attending a competition at Sydney later in the year. Students have been told that they may need to attend lunchtime and/or after school lessons in order to be ready for this competition and parents and carers are asked to encourage their child to participate in this worthwhile program.

Infant's students are also loving learning about the Lego WeDo Robot. We have begun to build a robot to model to represent the relationship between a bee and a flower during pollination. Again, students are demonstrating determination and enthusiasm on their robotics journey and are looking forward to showing their parents the finished product!

Miss Keenan



P&C Update:

The P&C have moved a new raffle ticket sales policy to take effect in 2019.

Raffle tickets will no longer be sent home with individual students. Families wishing to sell tickets with the students will be asked to provide a deposit to the P&C prior to being issued with a raffle ticket sales book.

Two raffles are likely to come into effect this term. Booklets for the Easter Raffle will be available to families once a deposit of \$40 has been received by the P&C Treasurer. Please see Cherie on Wednesdays if you would like to assist with this fundraiser.

Easter Raffle

All school families are now being asked for donations of Easter Eggs to be combined into raffles that will be drawn at the School Easter Hat Parade. Tickets for this raffle will be on sale at the School on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and some Fridays. Get your tickets now for \$2 each!



Pilliga P&C is hosting a Street Stall and Sausage Sizzle at the State Election being held on the school grounds on Saturday the 23rd of March.

School families are asked to assist to man the stall and cook the BBQ.

Street Stall donations are being gratefully accepted for resale, all members are asked to abide by the Food Safety Service Guidelines. All donations should be clearly marked with ingredients to avoid any possible allergy issues.

Stall times 8am to 1pm!

The Next P&C Meeting:

Will be held at
Pilliga Public School
On Wednesday 27th of
March at 2pm.
Join us if you can!

\$2 Memberships are now payable

Assembly Awards



Pre-school Art



