**From the Principal’s Desk**

Hi everyone and welcome to Semester two! We hope the winter break was relaxing and enjoyable for both you and your children. By now, all parents and carers would have received your child’s Semester One reports, and remember to contact the school if you have any questions. This week we will celebrate NAIDOC, with Education Week, the Stockland Concert and class excursions to Aussie Bush Camp and Billabong Park to follow for the students. It promises to be an exciting time at our school and we hope to see you soon.

**NAIDOC Week Celebrations**

This week, students will participate in a number of activities celebrating NAIDOC. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society. This year’s theme, We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate – highlights Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ strong spiritual and cultural connection to land and sea.

**Activities**

**Wednesday afternoon**
A group from the Buudja Marrung Catering and Culture Education Centre will conduct a Bush Tucker Talk and Tasting as well as art lessons with the children.

**Friday afternoon**
Biripi Aboriginal Children’s Service will clay-make Australian animals with Dream Time story references and demonstrate to the students how to make Jonnie cakes on the barbeque.

It should be an enjoyable time for our students and we hope as many parents and carers as possible can join us for our Friday activities starting at 12pm.

**Pyjama Day**
On Thursday 14th July (Term 3 Week 1), our school will participate in National Pyjama Day. The Pyjama Foundation helps children in foster care enjoy a brighter
future through reading, education and encouragement. The National Pyjama Day event is a fun way to highlight the importance of reading and to raise funds for children in foster care at the same time through a simple gold coin donation. On Thursday, students can wear their pyjamas and are asked to make a gold coin donation. Students will also participate in special library lessons focusing on ‘Pyjama Day’.

End of Term assembly - Silver Awards
Thank you to the parents who attended our final assembly for Semester One in the 3-6 classroom. The afternoon was a great success and at this time I would like to congratulate the first of our ‘Silver Award’ winners for 2015 who were announced at this assembly. Receiving 20 points and gaining their Silver award were Tyler, Adam, Laylaa, Kaliyah, Cameron, Katelyn, Emma, Taylee and Shayla. The students should be extremely proud of their achievements and I look forward to monitoring their progress towards the ‘Gold Award’ during Term 3!

Caltex Fundraiser
On Friday 26th June (last day of term), we held our Term 2 fundraiser at the Caltex service station in Coolongolook. It was once again another wonderful fundraiser for our school with over $240 raised for our P and C. Could I take this opportunity in thanking the many parents and carers who donated cakes and fresh produce and an even bigger thank you to Lee Beyer and Michele Gordon for operating the stall on the day. Well done everyone!

Education Week – Stocklands Concert
This year, Education Week will be held from Monday 27th July to Friday 31st July (Term 3 Week 3). 2015’s theme is ‘Celebrating Local Heroes’, and schools are encouraged to develop their alumni networks and celebrate their ‘local heroes’, including their local ANZAC / military heroes. On Wednesday 29th July, our school will hold an open day in which parents and carers will be invited to visit our learning groups and participate in one of the lessons. This will also be a wonderful time to sit with your child and learn of some of the amazing work they are completing in these groups. Our Open Day will start at 10 a.m. with parents visiting classes, followed by an assembly at 11 a.m. and a barbeque lunch at a small cost to parents. On Thursday, students will travel by bus to Stocklands Mall, Forster, to participate in the ‘Education Week’ Concert. Students will once again sing their Taree Eisteddfod songs ‘Happiness’ and ‘Cruella de Vil’ and finish the concert with a special skipping display. I encourage all parents to come along and support our students on the day.

Aussie Bush Camp – 3-6 Excursion
Rapidly approaching is our 3-6 excursion to the Aussie Bush Camp. On Wednesday 12th July (Week 5), students in our 3 to 6class will join with students from Krambach Public School for their 3 day excursion. It promises to be an exciting time for the students. The total cost for the excursion is $225. All monies are due to be paid by Friday 7th August. Once again if you have any concerns with payment or questions regarding this excursion, please contact me at the school.

P&C Meeting
Our next P and C meeting will be held this week on Thursday morning starting at 9.15am. On the agenda will be a summary of the Caltex Fundraiser and Term 3 Fundraising. We hope to see you there!

Canteen
Thank you to the many parents and carers who have supported our school by helping with the operation of the canteen. We are now currently seeking further volunteers to assist for the remainder of the year. If you are able to help, please contact Trish at the office.

A closer look at our 2015 Level System
In 2015, students have been given the challenge of attaining four differing levels at our school. By earning assembly, playground and homework points, students will each term climb our ladder of achievement. During Term 1, students needed to gain 20 points to earn their ‘Bronze’ award, with the same amount of points being
required to earn their ‘Silver’ award in Term 2, ‘Gold’ award in Term 3 and their ‘Coolongolook’ award in Term 4. Students who didn’t receive their Silver award during Term 2 will continue to work towards this goal during Term 3. After gaining the 20 points required to gain their Silver award, students will then start working towards their Gold award.

To find out more, please visit the front office where additional information sheets can be found.

**Head Lice and School Sores**
Just a quick reminder to all parents and carers to check your child regularly for head lice and school sores and to take appropriate action if found. Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

**3/4/5/6 Term 3 News**
Welcome to Term 3. This term, I will continue to teach the class Monday to Wednesday with Mr Davy teaching the class on Thursday and Fridays.

Groups will continue to run 3 days a week this term, and we will hopefully see the same success evident in results from Semester 1. Our H.S.I.E topic this term is ‘Australia, uniquely created’. In this topic, we will be covering the unique environments that we are lucky enough to have in our backyard.

Homework activities this term will be the same as those completed in Semester 1. Students will be asked to revise weekly spelling words, complete a maths sheet and practise their reading. Homework will need to be handed in each Friday to earn a point towards their current level. Those who don’t complete their homework by Friday, will need to finish their work on Monday at lunchtime and will not earn a point towards their level.

*Jason Tindall – Teaching Principal*

**K-2 News**
Welcome back to another busy term. I hope everyone had a lovely and relaxing holiday.

This term we have the pleasure of having Ms Cindy Wood working in the K-2 classroom. Ms Wood comes to us from Curtin University and is in her final year of her teaching degree. We look forward to having you develop your skills as a teacher and hope you enjoy your time here.

While Ms Wood is here she will be taking on many teaching roles in the room. One of these roles will be teaching the history unit that has replaced the existing HSIE KLA. For this unit Ms Wood requires a recent family photo as well as the earliest baby photo you have. These photos can be sent via email to me at Anne-Maree.Clark@det.nsw.edu.au, inboxed to the school Facebook site or brought to school for copying. Students will be referring to these photos throughout the unit so it would be beneficial for these to come to school this week.

All other aspects of class will be running as normal. LIPI only has 6 weeks remaining until the completion of the program. After this time we will be looking at tricky and confusing sounds, blends and diagraphs. More information will be sent home closer to this time.

We are also eagerly awaiting a new home reading set for K-2. This is expected to be delivered to school this week. The program requires a parent information session as the books are designed to improve the comprehension of students reading. Again, more information will be made available when the program arrives.

*Anne-Maree Ross*

**Great News!**
Ex-student Lilly-May Brown has mastered the arts of the wild west, recently taking out the NSW Single Action Shooting title.

She is now determined to claim the top prize at this year’s national championships where last year she was placed second.

We are very proud of you Lilly!!!

**Kindergarten News**
Learning about our family will be a focus in our literacy activities this term. We will be reading about families, writing stories and words, as well as handwriting activities.

Reading aloud every day at school and at home will be a continued focus this term.

Happy Reading!

*Louise Donnelly*