Students of the week

Coco – for being an alert, careful and helpful new class member

Dylan – Respectfully settling into a new school

Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to Fern who celebrated his birthday this week.

Calendar

Week 2

| Friday 6th February 2015 | Swimming Carnival – Years 4-6 |

Staffing

I have been offered the relieving position of principal of Ballina Public School for just over the next two weeks. Ms Noble will be acting as principal in my absence. We are aiming to have as little disruption as possible so the same faces will be around the school including Mrs Close, Mrs Langdon and Mr Shepherd. I will be away from Wednesday 11th February to Thursday 26th February. Any queries during this time please contact Ms Noble.

Homework

The Opals are doing homework each week. They all have their individual spelling list words to learn along with a times table. A ‘look, cover, write, check’ is to be completed in their exercise books and kept in their homework folders. Next week contract 2 is also due in their homework text books. Homework is due on Friday and will go home again with new words and timetables on Monday. I encourage all students to get into a habit with their homework. This will help them develop the
self-discipline to independently sit and concentrate. I encourage students to sit and do some homework each night for no more than half an hour to develop these learning habits which will come in handy for high school and university. To encourage students to remember their homework and to place importance on this habit - development, class raffle tickets are given when it is handed in and if students do not return homework on Friday they will need to complete it during their lunch time. Of course there are sometimes extenuating circumstances which prevent them from doing homework occasionally. If this is the case for your child they will need a note from you.

Thanks for your support.

Learning and Support
This year teachers are going to be starting weekly learning and support meetings to discuss student learning progress. We are aiming to discuss each child on a 5 weekly cycle. We will discuss what learning areas your child needs assistance in and devise strategies for support. We will then phone you and discuss our thoughts and ask for yours. Our focus is to target learning and help improve student individual results. Every child will be on an individual learning plan collaboratively developed by all teaching staff and parents.

Swimming
Our swimming carnival is on tomorrow. Please ensure your child has everything they need including sunscreen, towel, goggles, swimmers, money for entry, food or money for the canteen, hat etc. Mrs Close will be attending the carnival for me. I will be preparing everything for Ms Noble to ensure a smooth transition during my absence.

Fitness
We have been starting the day with some excellent fitness sessions thanks to Mrs Close.

Fruit break
We have fruit break after fitness so please ensure your child has a piece of fruit.

New family
Next Monday we welcome a new family to Jiggi School. Jacob is in year 5, Seth year 4 and Asha in year 3. We hope their time at Jiggi Public School is an educational and enjoyable one.

Fruit trees
Mrs Close will be planting fruit trees next Tuesday afternoon. She is asking for any parent volunteers to come and help with the digging of holes. If you are able to help out please meet Mrs Close behind the school after 3pm. Thanks

After School Care
Ellisa is going to be doing After School Care three days a week starting next week. Her days now are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Drumming
Whole school drumming will start on Friday 13th February. At next week’s P&C meeting we need to finalise how this will be funded.

Parent teacher interviews
Ms Noble and Mrs Close will be available for parent teacher interviews next week. With our new 5 week cycle of learning and support we plan to contact you twice a term to discuss your child’s progress. If you would like an interview before that time please contact your child’s teacher.

P&C Meeting
Our next P&C meeting will be on Thursday 12th February at 5pm. At this meeting we will continue to look at our planning process.

Diamonds
Happy New Year to all!! The wonderful Diamonds are off to a flying start. We have set our goals for the term, completed some tasks to determine our groups for rotation mornings and organised our timetable, class routines and expectations. Most importantly, we have welcomed our new kindies, Livinia, Coco and Askel into our class. They are proving to be most capable and are settling in very well.
A purple folder went home on Monday containing a homework book, spelling list and reader. I have asked the children to return the folder each day with the reader in it so I can listen to your child read and change the reader daily. The homework book is returned on a Friday for correction. May I ask you to assist your child by sharing the reader, reading through the list words each night and packing the reader in the purple folder into their bag each morning.

I hope to meet as many Diamond parents as possible during the next few weeks so we can discuss informally, your child’s specific needs and goals for the term.

Please remember however, that I can be available at any time in the future to talk about and support your child – just call the office to organise.

In an effort to help Diamonds keep track of their pencils/rubbers etc. and to encourage responsibility of belonging, I have asked Diamonds, if possible, to bring a pencil case to school in the next week or so. Looking forward to promoting life learning, confidence and happiness within your child.

Kind Regards
Ms Noble
Classroom teacher