**Principal’s Messages**

**A great Start**

All new students have settled in well to school and to our routines. It is very pleasing to see so many students in full school uniform each day. Thank you to parents and caregivers for making the effort to have the uniforms for the students to wear; and a reminder that hats are still very much required in the playground, even on dull days as the UV index is still extremely high.

**New Director-PS NSW**

The new Director of Cootamundra Network is Jenene McGrath, who most recently was principal of West Wyalong High School. Ms McGrath takes over from Toni MacDonald, who has taken up a Director’s position in the Bathurst area.

**Calendar**

We have included a full term calendar for your information in this newsletter. As you can see, even at this early stage of the term we have a huge number of events and activities already planned. As usual, we will print the next few weeks of calendar in the newsletter, but this full version may be useful to put on the fridge or noticeboard.

**Awning over Hall Doors**

You would have noticed that the new awning has been built over the hall doors in the school holidays. This awning will provide protection to the doors from the rain and also allow us to leave the doors open when the weather is inclement.

**Early Action for Success**

Mrs Smith and Miss O’Connor are attending the L3 component of the Early Action for Success program at Tolland Public School today. As previously mentioned, this training and development will continue for the year and generally teachers will be out of their class for a day every two weeks to attend the training sessions.

**Swimming for Sport**

Swimming will take place tomorrow for sport. Please make sure your child has everything required for swimming, including their sunscreen. The bus will take students from school at the end of lunch and there is no cost to travel on it; just the cost of entry to the pool for those without season tickets.

**New Interactive Whiteboard and Projector**

The kindergarten room has been supplied with a new interactive whiteboard and a new projector as the old system had collapsed, projecting only static. Also, all primary students have received their new laptops; we are in the fortunate position of now being able to ‘shuffle’ down some of the older netbooks so that students from the 1/2 class will have access to a device each, and so that kindergarten also get devices for their room as well.

**Student Equipment**

Students from the primary class will need to have with them at all times at least one blue pen, one red pen, a pencil and a ruler. It is sometimes the case that students do not have the correct equipment, which causes delays in getting started with lessons. If parents could ensure that students have the required equipment it would be most appreciated.

With my best regards

[Signature]

Term 1 Week 2 Thursday 4th February 2016

INFANTS NEWS
Year 2/3 News
Year 2 and 3 have settled back into their routine and are as busy as beavers working hard. Home reading has started this week and students are aiming for 50 nights reading this term.

Reading is still really important and needs to be practiced each night. This year, I am encouraging year 3 to borrow novels from the library to vary and broaden their reading experiences. They can also include in their home reading; newspapers, magazines and comics. Home learning will begin in week 4.

Vegetable Patch
Our veggie patch survived the holidays! Thank you to everyone who came and watered it. We have lots of veggies to sell. We also have plenty of pumpkins hiding in the grass, as well as rockmelons on the way too.

We have so many tomatoes; year 2/3 will be making some tomato chutney in the next few weeks. But we need some jars. If you have any small cup size jars preferably with a metal lid we would love to recycle them and use them for our chutney.

SPORTS NEWS
Swimming for Sport
Swimming for sport will start this Friday and run until 4th of March. Students will travel by bus each week and can be picked up will be from the pool at 3pm. Please return the permission slip ASAP.

Binalong Swimming Carnival & Small Schools Swimming Carnival
Binalong Swimming Carnival will be held next Wednesday 10th February, starting at 11:30am. Then on Friday 12th February Binalong Public School will be hosting this year’s Small Schools Swimming Carnival. All students from Binalong are encouraged to participate in both events.

A note for each event is attached to this newsletter containing all the details for the day. Please read it carefully and return the permission slip to school before the event.

Parents are very welcome to stay and cheer the students on. We will also need parents to help out as time keepers, starter and recording for our carnival and 3 time keepers for every race at the Small School Carnival. Please see Miss O’Connor if you are able to help.

Sporting Schools
This year, we have been successful again in receiving a government grant to run Sporting Schools on a Wednesday afternoon from 3-4pm. This term, we will be offering 6 sessions of orienteering starting Wednesday 17th February 2016. Please complete the attached note and return to school if you which your child/ren to participate.

Miss O’Connor

KINDER NEWS
Year 1 News
Welcome to our new kinders. We have had a great start to 2016 with only a few tears (by parents) and lots of laughter and happy smiles from students.

This week we have been looking at the letter T, tea pot tipping and starting to write sentences.

Home play and readers will be sent out and returned each Monday.

Each morning we have a short fruit break for hungry tummies and to keep our mind active. We only have a short time enough for a small container of fruit, big apples and bananas are too big for this time slot and get wasted.

This term, in HSIE all students are studying cultures and celebrations from around the world. We would love to give our students some first hand experiences of other cultures. If you or someone you know can help us out, please let us know. At the end of this term we are looking to have a multicultural day sampling foods from around the world. More information will go out closer to the date.

Library News
Library this year will be on Fridays for the whole school.

This year I am setting the challenge for the student in both infants and primary who borrows the most each term and then overall for the whole year. There will be book prizes for the winning students.

Mrs Smith

P&C News
We would like to welcome everyone back to school. It is amazing to see so many students at school and all in school uniform which looks great.

We have our swimming carnival on Wednesday and lunch orders will be available or students can bring their own lunch.

Friday is the Small Schools Carnival which the P&C will be catering for the day, around 100 students!! We would like as many helpers as possible for time keeping and also to help in the canteen. If you can help with either please let Madaline know.

Our AGM is set for Monday 7th March 6.30pm Binalong Hotel. All Welcome.

School Lunches
Also school lunch orders will now be on a Wednesday. They will be available next Wednesday for our swimming carnival. Orders to be left at the office on Tuesday’s.

Madaline