Central Downs Sports.
Congratulations to all Pilton students on their efforts at Allora last Monday and Wednesday. Every student competed to the best of their ability. As well, I can’t remember an occasion when it was necessary for a staff member to speak to a student about poor behaviour. Congratulations also to Lizzie, Billy-Rose, Casee, Georgie-Kate and Levi on their selection in the Central Downs team to compete at the Southern Downs athletics carnival next Friday. We wish them all the best.

Excursions.
As we have already notified, we have two excursions next week. On Tuesday, the whole school will be going to the Hermitage Research Station for the awards presentation for the Hermitage Schools Research Project. I know all the students look forward to this day. I like to think it is because of all the science they learn when they tour the research facility to have various research projects explained to them. But, something tells me it is actually the pizza and sandwiches they are given for lunch that creates the most interest.

Then, on Wednesday next week, the Prep to Year 3 students will go to the Empire Theatre to see a stage production of that classic Australian children’s book, Wombat Stew. If the stage production is even half as good as the book, our students are in for a wonderful morning.

Book Week.
Don’t forget that next week is Book Week. The trip to see Wombat Stew is part of our celebration of Book Week. As well, by tomorrow, every student should have brought one of their favourite books to school to share with other students. The books will be displayed in the Library and some of them will be read to the students through the week.

Students have also been asked to dress up next Friday as a character from a book. I’m looking forward to seeing some very creative ideas. The staff have suggested I dress as Tinkerbell from JM Barrie’s Peter Pan. I thought that was a great idea until I found it was impossible to find a set of wings capable of lifting me off the ground 😐. Perhaps I will come as Alecto Carrow from the Harry Potter series.

He and his sister knew how to run a school. They were both Death Eaters and were sent to Hogwarts as Deputy Headmaster and Deputy Headmistress to keep control over the school, maintain a reign of fear and to take charge of punishment.

That’s my kind of school!!!!!

Hermitage Awards 19th August
P-3 Empire Theatre 20th August.
S Downs Athletics 22nd August
Book Club Orders 25th August

As well, Book Week will be celebrated by guest book readers, dads from our community who have volunteered to spend some time reading with our students.

We are most grateful for their time and are really looking forward to their contributions.

Don’t forget, everyone is invited to the Book Week parade next Friday. The parade will commence at about 10am and will include Playgroup children as well as the school children. The parade will be followed by a morning tea so please stay and have a chat.

Reading – a school priority.

Community support. The school has been incredibly lucky with the support we have had from our community. A number of people turn up regularly to listen to students read. So much so that on some days we have the wonderful problem of trying to work out where to put everyone.

Accelerated Reader. Next week, some students will commence reading through Accelerated Reader. Students have already been tested to determine the range of difficulty the books they read should be at. Accelerated Reader (AR) has levelled many thousands of books and have a system that allocates points to a book based on length and difficulty. We have in excess of a thousand books in our library students will be able to choose from. As well, AR has set an online comprehension quiz for each book. Students will attempt the quiz after they complete a book. I will be able to access their results and determine if they are reading books at the correct level, or need to adjust the level.

We are most grateful to the P&C for purchasing our access to Accelerated Reader. I believe most of you will see your child’s reading improve noticeably by the end of the year.
School Behaviour Plan.
Pilton’s School Behaviour Plan is overdue for review. At the last P&C meeting, we discussed part of the plan. It was decided Pilton would not have positive reinforcement strategies in place as many schools do. We believe we can do this because the excellent usual level of behaviour of students. It doesn’t seem appropriate then, to reward them when they have not done something special. But, we will continue to thank students for exhibitions of great behaviour such as we have done for the sports days. And we will continue to have days such as the Red Day at the end of last term as a reward for students.

The draft Behaviour Plan does include processes for dealing with poor behaviour but these processes have been included so they are there if needed.

A draft Behaviour Plan is ready for parents to review and will be sent home next week. I would appreciate your comments.

Regards,
Stuart Fuller

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PLAYGROUP will meet tomorrow 15th August.  All welcome!!

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BOOK CLUB

Book Club catalogues are attached and orders are due on Monday 25th August.

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Active Parks - School Holiday Kids Karate Sessions

Looking to try something new these school holidays? Get together with friends and join in a karate session at Queens Park this July! 30 minute karate sessions will be held at Queens Park (Cnr Margaret & Lindsay Sts) on:

- Tuesday 30 September, 9am and 9:45am
- Wednesday 1 October, 9am and 9:45am

Thursday 2 October, 9am and 9:45am

Sessions cost $3 (gold coins please) and are suitable for young people between the ages of 5 and 15 years. Bookings are essential and parents or guardians must accompany children at sessions. Maximum of 10 participants per class. To book or find our more contact Moneta on 0407 756 332 or sharpekidsparate@gmail.com.

Active Parks - School Holiday Kinder Fun Sessions

Head down to the park and get your little ones moving at a new Kinder Fun session! 30 minute kinder fun sessions will be held at Middle Ridge Park (Stenner St) on:

- Wednesday 24 September, 9:30am, 10am and 2pm
- Wednesday 1 October, 9:30am, 10am and 2pm

Sessions cost $3 (gold coins please) and are suitable for young children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. Bookings are essential and parents or guardians must accompany children at sessions. To book or find our more contact Kylie on 0468 921 595 or wholisticenergy@yahoo.com.au.

Melinda Covey-Hansen
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All the students from Pilton SS enjoyed competing at the Central Downs Athletics Carnival. It was really cold on Monday but we still tried our best and on Friday everyone achieved a lot of success. We cheered loudly for our team mates. The younger students had a lot of fun running in their sprints and relays. It was nice to have such a lot of parents there to cheer us on as well. By Leon and Natasha.
Hi all,

I hope you received a note about the Working Bee for the cattle on this Sunday the 17th of August at 9.00am. Please let me know if you can make it on 46964508 or jacq.gill@yahoo.com.au. The forecast is still looking good for rain, so there is a high chance we might have to postpone. I will give you a call if this is the case.

Brooke is still taking orders for the personalised plates, so please let her know if you would like to order one. The payments for the plates are due on September 9th.

The local Hall Committee is holding a garden day on Saturday the 4th of October called ‘A Day in the Valley’. As part of this, the school grounds will be open and the P & C are running a cake/bric-a-brac stall on the day. As the days gets closer, I will be in touch with more information.

Thank you for your continuing support.
Jacqui

**Book Week 18th-22nd August**

*Just a reminder for BOOK WEEK next week.*

- We have Dad’s ready to read on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday…..I’m looking for a volunteer for next Friday…..any takers….the children would love to hear you read aloud….any book of your choice….maybe even a favourite from your own childhood!

* Book Week Parade next Friday, with the Playgroup kids. Come dressed as your favourite fictional character. Bring a book along to share with us all.

* Book Week celebration Morning Tea. We will have a shared Morning Tea on Friday. (Even if you are not a playgroup Mum, but are free, come along and see the kids Dressed UP!)

Enjoy planning your costumes!!

Rebekah Turkington

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**P & C Bank Account Details**

Bank account name: Pilton State School P & C
Account number: 508683666
BSB: 084-610