Term 2 has started with many new and enjoyable experiences at school. Thankfully, we have 11 weeks this term to fit in all the important learning opportunities that we have planned!

Read Every Day
I would like to encourage everyone to keep up the great work supporting students to ‘Read Every Day,’ and want everyone to feel free to come and talk to us about the reading that we do at school at any time. We are engaging in the teaching of reading across the school from 10-10:30am on every day except Fridays, and are always happy to have parents and community volunteers come and join us for these lessons if they are able to. The younger class students practice their home readers and sight-words daily, and the Year 3 students have Fast Forward readers as a part of their daily homework. The Year 5/6 students have commenced reading books from the Accelerated Reader program that encourages students to focus on the meaning they make when reading. When we add all of this effort together with the work our volunteer readers and parents do with students, it is evident the importance that reading has in our educational system. At the end of the term 1 we saw continued improvement in student reading levels and I would like to thank everyone for their efforts in helping make this happen... and encourage everyone to keep up the great work!

Cross Country
It was a wonderful day last Friday when we hosted the Central Downs Cross Country. I had a number of people comment on the way our students were so ‘Strong and Willing’ in the way they participated in this event and was very proud to see the students from our school doing their best! We had three students selected to represent Central Downs at the district competition and we wish Piper, Shane and Georgie all the best for the next level of competition. It was great to see them do so well, as well as the large number of younger students who show great potential in this event in the future.

ANZAC Day Commemorations
Please find the details of the ANZAC Day services in our area in a further part of this newsletter. Rather than holding a school service this year, we have secured tickets for the school to attend Spirit of ANZAC - Centenary Experience.

We will be attending this special event and visiting the Milne Bay Military Museum in order to make the most of the chance to teach students about the importance of the service performed by men and women from the Darling Downs in our national history.

Technology - Robotics and Coding
This term the Year 3-6 class has commenced a unit of robotics and computer programming (coding) in their Technology lessons. This is as a direct result of the introduction of these areas to school curriculum. Technology has been a subject at school for many years and the natural progression to include robotics and coding has generated a very enthusiastic response from students. We are limited to spending one hour each week on this, and want to assure everyone that this inclusion will in no way detract from the importance of traditional curriculum areas and I am planning on having an open day in the classroom for the students to demonstrate their coding and robotics learnings towards the end of term 3. Mrs. Heaton will also be establishing an age appropriate robotics and coding program for the P-2 class in term 3 after recently attending a successful professional development opportunity in this area.

Sporting Schools - Term 2
This term we will be having 2 sessions of Sporting Schools funded activities. The first will be Tennis coaching with Sarah Turner on Wednesday from 8:00-9:00am, and the second session will be Athletics training provided by Mrs. Heaton and I, targeting training at the younger and older students respectively. This will be on Thursday from 3:00-4:00pm and starts today, as everyone hopefully saw in the note sent home last Monday. These sessions will be held every week except the last week of this term. Thanks very much to Sarah and Mrs. Heaton for giving our students this great opportunity.
Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Bell

I would like to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Bell on recently being named finalists for the 2015 Equestrian Australia Sport Achievement Awards. We wish them all the best for the results of their nomination and are proud to have them as invaluable members of our school community. The awards will be finalised in June and we look forward to hearing about their experiences at the awards ceremony at the MCG!

Every Girl Program at Pilton State School

As many of you may recall, we were successful last year in achieving a federal government grant for chaplaincy services. The funding we receive has been allocated to Chappy Karl for his key role at school on Fridays and this term we are very fortunate to be able to provide our Year 5/6 girls access to the 'Every Girl' program that aims to building their leadership skills, confidence and self-awareness through fun and empowering activities. Parents of the students involved will be receiving more information about this today, and as the program is open to other schools in our cluster, we are hoping to host students at Pilton to share this learning opportunity also. For more information generally about this program please visit [https://yq.org.au/every-girl/](https://yq.org.au/every-girl/).

Thank you Miss Stewart for my Familiar Reading Box that I made into a guitar.
James, Maddy, Jordy and Hamish.

Dairy Visit

I'm really looking forward to the visit to the Rangers' Dairy next Friday morning as a combined excursion for the school students and play group families. It's wonderful for the Rangers to be so supportive of the school in many ways and we will are very fortunate that they allow us to attend their dairy and see their industry in action. Can I please remind all playgroup families that they are responsible for their own transport and supervision of their children when we are on any excursion and we would love to see as many children as we can attend this great experience.

NAPLAN – 10-12 May

Finally, I would like to remind parents of the Year 3-6 class that we will be participating in the NAPLAN testing on Tuesday-Thursday 10-12 May. There is nothing that should be daunting about this activity for students as they will be completing what are fairly routine activities in our classroom for the actual tests. If anyone wishes to talk to me about this, please feel free to do so whenever you get the chance.

All the best,
Jon Robertson
**Curriculum News Year 3-6**
The students in Year 3 will be finishing up a study into ‘characters’ in narratives next week, and the Year 5/6’s are finalising their learning about specific editing skills when they write. We will than all be using the remainder of the first 5 weeks of term to practice literacy skills essential to all English units we will be completing this year. This will include reading comprehension strategies, grammar and punctuation, spelling rules and short writing tasks. The undertaking of the NAPLAN tests will be a part of these activities, with the Year 3s and 5s completing the actual assessment and the Year 6s conducting a practice test for Year 7.

In Mathematics, we will be focusing heavily on individuals needs with numeracy skills. Some of the topics that different students will be focussing on include the ability to accurately use measurement, understand representations of numbers, complete all four operation sums successfully, build on our understanding of place and spatial awareness and use different types of fractions.

We will be starting our last units for the semester in English and Maths in week 6 of this term.

**Welcome to Term 2 in the Prep – 2 classroom**
This term in English we are investigating Stories of Families and Friends during the first 5 week unit and exploring characters in stories for the last half of the term. During the first 5 weeks of term, students will explore texts to analyse how stories convey a message about issues that relate to families and friends. Students will write an imaginative new narrative about family relationships and/ or friendships for a familiar animal character. Students will read Old Pig by Margaret Wild, Fox by Margaret Wild and Our Rooster Jack. During the last half of the term, students read, view and listen to a variety of texts to explore how characters are represented in print and images. Students identify character qualities in texts and create an alternative character description to an audience of peers. Students will read Cinderella : a Fairy Tale, The paper Bag Princess, The 3 Little Pigs and The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs.

In Maths this term, the students will continue working with number everyday, but will also have another weekly topic. This week they are working on time. They will also do measurement, number patterns, shape, giving and following directions and number sequences.

**Science, History and Geography**
This Term in Science the Years 3 -6 are "Making Changes". We are exploring states of matter and how we can change properties within substances. We have just today, looked at melting points. How long, how hot and making a fair test. In future weeks we will delve into solidification, dissolving, evaporating, condensing, reversible changes, rusting, decomposition and burning.
In the Prep-2 room we are exploring forces. What needs to be pushed or pulled, and if we do this action, what other secondary force occurs like spinning, rolling or turning. Each week we are making a toy that exemplifies this notion, so far we have had a robot that you can pull up a string. This week we made a spiral person that can be pushed up and down, as well as a Whirly Gig. The students love being hands on!

Thank you to all the parents who support my short notice equipment requirements (especially those who selflessly drank to supply wine corks). Many more cool toys to come. {FYI: a Cd with a felt pen stuck through the hole is a cheap and VERY amazing spinning top that creates art that all students loved}

History and Geography in both classrooms continue on from last term. Assessment is fast approaching so students may require support and time set aside at home.
Coming Events

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANZAC Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>25th April</td>
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<td>Mayoral Morning Tea for School Leaders</td>
<td>28th April.</td>
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<td>Ranger Dairy Visit</td>
<td>29th April.</td>
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<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>2nd May.</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>3rd May 6 pm</td>
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<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>10,11 and 12th May</td>
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<td>ANZAC Experience and Milne Bay Museum</td>
<td>18th May</td>
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Day in the Pilton Valley

The next planning meeting for the *Day in the Pilton Valley* will be on Tuesday 26 April @ 7pm at the Pilton Hall.
Please feel free to invite anyone you know to come along who may be interested in opening a garden or helping in some other way.
In the meantime I would appreciate you sending photos of your garden if you are still thinking of opening yours so that I can finish the Facebook Page.
Also if you are thinking of opening your garden you can also send me the address of your home so that I can add this.
This will not go public until after you have all seen it on the 26th so don’t worry, you are not locked into anything just yet.
These details will help me with the layout and other information.

Cheers!
Greg
Mobile: 0427969609
Home Phone: 07 4697 2169

Happy Birthday!!
May and Katelyn on the 19th and Yamuna on the 26th April.

JUNIOR NETBALL
Would you like to play Netball?
Come and join us now.
Yes we have started, but No it is not too late to still join.
Fixtures recommence Saturday 16th April & continue for Terms 2 & 3, will Grand Final day Sept 3rd.
For information see our Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/warwicknetball/](https://www.facebook.com/warwicknetball/)
Or contact Lou Bunch warwicknetball@bigpond.com or 0407 734 380
NETBALL – a great team sport for children to enjoy, learn and grow with.

Regards
Lou
Linda Bunch
Hi everyone

I would like to extend a big thank you to the staff for your efforts in organising the Triathlon at the end of last term and to the Duggan family for the use of your swimming pool. Congratulations to the students for your efforts in winning the duel despite the intense competition from the team of fine athletes representing the parents and community. Surely there must have been an error somewhere in the counting!!!

I would also like to start by congratulating the staff on doing such a great job of running the Cross Country. Thank you very much to parents and community members for all of the wonderful baking for the day. There were so many comments about how delicious the food was and what an amazing choice too. Thank you to all of the volunteers as well, it makes it so easy when so many chip in to help. I would like to make a special mention of Luke Statham and Gary Wormington who turn up to every event without fail to run the BBQ. your efforts do not go unnoticed. We made a profit of over $500 for the day, a great start to our fundraising for the year.

Thank you to John Ryan and John Ranger for helping out with the cattle a couple of weeks ago and to Meg and Tom Bazley for lending the P & C your bull. Thank you also to Peter Vernon and family for offering your bull for future use at the school.

The next P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd May. We will be discussing further fundraising for the year amongst other agenda.

Hope to see you there.

Thank you

Jacqui