What a fantastic term we have had so far. Students are continuing to demonstrate personal improvement in reading, writing and maths. Our Year 3 and 5 students participated in NAPLAN testing in May. They concentrated well, had a positive attitude and worked very hard for the three days. Thank you, to Miss Timmins and all of our wonderful teacher aides in ensuring our students were exceptionally well prepared.

**Breakfast Club:** A reminder that Miss Catherine is now operating a breakfast club each Monday morning commencing at 7:45am. Thank you, to those parents who have been volunteering their time to come and assist. More help is required so if you can spare a Monday morning every now and then, we would really appreciate your help.

**District Cross Country:** The Mareeba District 12 and under Cross Country Championships were held on Thursday 30th April, 2015 at Dimbulah State School. Congratulations to Patrick Cockburn, Jade Diamond Lee, Caitlin Lowmow and Kira Lowmow who represented our school admirably.

**Athletics Day:** Will be held on Friday 5th June 2015. If you are available to volunteer to help on the day, please see Miss Timmins and let her know how you may be able to assist us on the day. All help is greatly appreciated.

**P&C Day**—Friday 29th May 2015

Friday 29th May 2015 is P&C Day. This day each year allows us as a school community to pass on our thanks to all our wonderfully committed P&C representatives. On behalf of our school community I would like to thank Tess, Margaret, Melissa, Rebecca and Jodie for all their hard work and dedication.

I would also like to remind our community that we need more help with running our P&C. Even if you only attend one or two meetings a year, we would greatly appreciate anyone in our community who would like to come along and help to provide opportunities for our students. The more people involved, the more opportunities we can organise for your children.

**Attendance:**

CONGRATULATIONS! The following students are currently on 100% attendance for this term.

- Kelly Crossland
- Danika Diamond Lee
- Kira Lowmow
- Patrick Cockburn
- Lynette Diamond Lee
- Robert Todd

A reminder that for this year, our end of year awards (Trophies) for attendance will include students who have achieved the individual student target percentage of 95% or higher. Students who achieve 100% attendance for the year will receive a trophy and a gift.

Currently our school’s attendance rate has fallen to 88.9%. This is well below the regions minimum expectation of 92.3%. Please take some time to read the enclosed information on Regular School Attendance.

An individual attendance percent for your child will appear on their report card. It is expected that a child’s **minimum** attendance over a year be higher than 85%. Students with attendance lower than this percentage are affected academically and fall behind very quickly.

Report Cards will be issued by the end of week nine. Parent Interviews will be offered during the last week of this term (week 10). We look forward to discussing your children’s progress with you.

Dean Hardy
**Junior Class**

**A Special Thank you:**

I would like to take a moment to pass on our thanks to Wendy Hay. Wendy has been giving up more and more of her personal time to volunteer in our school. She is working tirelessly to help our students improve in their reading, writing, spelling and English skills. Thank you, Wendy we all really appreciate all your time and commitment.

**Welcome to our new staff members**

We would like to warmly welcome our two new staff members. Stalena Booth who has joined our teaching staff and Catherine Cockburn who is now also working as a Teacher Aide. Both team members are predominantly working within our Junior School area with Stalena also implementing Literacy and Numeracy intervention programs school wide.

**Curriculum:**

In English this term, students have been listening to, reading and viewing a range of narratives. Students were required to use descriptive language to construct a character and retell a familiar narrative to an audience.

This term, we have undertaken our Semester One History Unit: Remembering the Past. For this unit, students were required to explore how people commemorate past events which are important to them; explore the way in which stories of families and the past can be and have been communicated and describe past events.

In Science, we have been looking at the properties of materials, how the properties influence a materials use and ways of changing the properties. Students are learning to describe materials and purposes of objects and how they can be physically changed and combined.

**Parent Interviews:**

Parent Interviews will be conducted (school wide) between Monday 22nd and Wednesday 24th June 2015. I would like to encourage all parents to please make a suitable time to discuss your child’s progress.
Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Firstly I’d like to give a big congratulations to our Year 3 and 5 students for completing their NAPLAN exams in week 4. I have been working towards preparing them for the content involved in the exams all year and if they know they tried their best that’s a great outcome for all of us.

It’s that time of year again where assessing is a priority so that we have enough evidence to guide us to report accurately on their progress for semester one. Here is a brief overview of some units students have completed and are working towards completing:

ENGLISH – Year 3/4s have written a response to the narrative Tangled and given their opinion on a main character. The 5/6s have chosen an ethical dilemma to integrate into a short story in the format of a comic strip.

HISTORY – 3/4s are writing a narrative on the important commemoration of ANZAC day. 5/6s are completing a booklet on Federation and creating a Poster about the experiences of citizenship and democracy for women in Australia during the twentieth century.

SCIENCE – 3/4s have conducted an experiment on melting chocolate and ice and are investigating whether their predictions were correct or not and why. 5/6s have been learning about reversible and irreversible changes and are conducting an investigation around a claim that all materials that change as a result of heating can be reversed through cooling.

Keep up the home reading and support with your children’s homework, every little bit extra helps.

Happy Week 6!

Elise Timmins
Well Women’s Clinic – Chillagoe Hospital
Wed 10th June 2015
(This clinic is available to Medicare eligible clients)
Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Bowel Health, Domestic Violence, etc. All services are provided by a specially trained Women’s Health Nurse.
For appointments phone 4094 7500

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SCHOOL AWARDS

Student of the Week

Week 1: Corrine Lee Cheu for effort in English. Kira Madgwick for great detail on her 5 point persuasion.
Week 2: Imogen Fox for effort in English and Josey Gill for great effort in Maths Plus.
Week 3: Robert Todd for effort in reading groups and Lynette Diamond Lee for great effort in Maths Plus.
Week 4: Dominik Fred for trying his hardest in everything he does. TeAwhina Kotlowski for an awesome effort in NAPLAN.
Week 5: Kelly Crossland for an awesome effort in completing her comic strip.

GOTCHAS

Week 1: Norwina Diamond and Chloe Crossland
Week 2: Chloe Crossland and Lynette Diamond Lee
Week 3: Justine Johnson and Lynette Diamond Lee
Week 5: Damian Lee Cheu and TeAwhina Kotlowski

P&C ANNOUNCEMENTS

P&C Meetings: The next meeting will be held on the 16th June at 2.30pm in the library.

Our School has been invited to run the canteen for the Walsh Office Race Day on Saturday the 15th August. Our school will receive a $500 donation if we accept this offer.

At this stage we require at least 4 volunteers. Currently we have no one available. If you are available please contact Dean Hardy no later than Friday 5th June. If we do not receive enough volunteers, we will be unable to participate.