Welcome back to term two and what a hectic short term it is going to be. Teacher Professional Development, NAPLAN revision and assessment, Thalgarrah excursion with fellow Highland Learning network schools for the Snowgum Alliance grant, athletics carnivals, cross country events, school photographs, reports, active afternoon sessions, homework centre and the continuation of our school's excellent key learning programs in English, mathematics, science, creative arts, sport and HSIE.

School Photographs
For the first time at our school's history we had to postpone our school photographs yesterday due to the inclement weather. Mrs Davidson will now take our school photographs next Wednesday. All students need to be in their winter uniform with school ties, shiny black shoes, red jumpers and school badges. We are so lucky to have the expertise of Mrs Davidson in our fabulous school. It has been wonderful to see that the majority of students have been wearing their school ties to school each day. They look spectacular! Let’s see if we can have all students wearing their ties each day.

Professional Development
Staff development is paramount in our great school. This term all staff will be attending a variety of professional development courses. Last Sunday and Monday all teaching staff attended the Small School’s Conference in Inverell. They were joined by Mrs Davidson on Monday. The teaching staff participated in a course called Supporting Teachers to Thrive in Mixed Ability Classrooms by differentiating and individualising the curriculum: The Pirozzo Model and Mrs Davidson learnt more about ERN and LIMBR.
On Wednesday the teaching staff commenced an online course called Dyslexia and Reading Difficulties and this course must be completed by the end of this term.
On Monday Mrs McIntyre will be accompanying our senior leaders to Armidale for the GRIP Leadership Program. Our students will certainly benefit from the professional development courses that our staff are completing. I am so lucky to have such a supportive, dedicated and totally committed staff.

Easter Hat Parade
Our Easter Hat Parade and assembly last term was an outstanding success with a wide variety of hats. The hats were so creative and imaginative and the students were so proud and honoured to parade and so off their creations. The students completed the term with an exciting Easter hunt. Mrs Davidson is in the process of putting together a collage of photographs from the assembly to send home.

Power Blackout
Next Wednesday 7th May there will be a power blackout at school from 8.30 until 4pm. All students need to bring a cold lunch and a large drink bottle full of water. NO HOT FOOD.

NAPLAN
At the present time students in year 3 and five are practising tasks for their upcoming NAPLAN assessments. If your child is in year three or five please ensure that you put the days clearly onto your calendars. The test dates are on Tuesday 13th May, Wednesday 14th May and Thursday 15th May.

Jessie, Kye, Patrick, Tom, Abbott, Archie, Aidan, Harry, Henry and Lettie along with Mrs Gittoes and Mrs Purvis were proud and honoured to participate in the ANZAC March last Friday.

Dates for Your Diary:
MAY
Monday 5th
Wednesday 7th
Tuesday 12th
Tuesday 13th, 14th & 15th
Friday 16th
Tuesday 20th
Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd
Friday 23rd

Group Leadership Years 5 & 6
Thursday 13th
SCHOOL PHOTOS
Active Afternoon’s Commence
NAPLAN Years 5 & 6
Ben Lomond Cross Country
Guyra Athletics Carnival 8 Years & Over
Thalgarrah Excursion
Armidale PSSA Cross Country
Homework Centre
Our homework centre commenced this week with a number of students attending. The centre is available every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Could parents please finalise fees for last term.

Active Afternoon School Communities
Our schools ASSC program will commence Week 3 Monday 12th May. This term the program will focus on gymnastics and as part of the program all students will be attending two gymnastic sessions at the Armidale Gymnastics Centre located in Kentucky Street. We have tentatively booked Monday 2nd and Monday 16th June.

Small School Cross Country Event
All students will be attending the Small School Cross Country event at Ben Lomond on Friday 16th May. Private transport will be needed. This is a great day with most parents enjoying the day out with parents from other small schools. Please see the attached permission note.

Guyra Athletics Carnival 8 Years & Over
Tuesday 20th May - Guyra Central School commencing at 9.15am. More details along with permission note in the next newsletter.

Thalgarrah Excursion K-6
As part of the Snow Gum Alliance program our 3-6 students will be attending an overnight excursion to Thalgarrah with fellow students from Chandler, Ben Lomond, Black Mountain and Ebor on Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd May. All accommodation and food costs will be covered by the alliances grant. We are still trying to organise transport. I might need to ask parents to help with transport. If we can hire a bus K-2 will be going for the Wednesday only.

Armidale PSSA Cross Country
Friday 23rd May
The team will be finalised by next newsletter.

GUYRA SOCCER REGISTRATIONS
There are still some available spots for 6 & 7 year old girls & boys for Guyra Soccer. For more information contact Brooke Brennan at the NRMA office in Guyra.

School Photos
Next Wednesday 7th May.

K-2 News with Miss Waters
Welcome back to what is going to be another busy term. Below is an outline of what students will be learning throughout term 2:

- English unit, based around the book ‘The Gruffalo’
- Writing quality procedures and information reports
- HSIE unit ‘Identifying Us’
- Science unit ‘Water’

We will also be busy learning a new song, dance and marimba piece to ‘hopefully’ perform at the end of term assembly.
Homework will continue to be handed out on Monday's to be returned on Friday's. Please continue to encourage children to read at home, including reading spelling/core words and sight words. Students who require further practice will be given a copy of their sight words to take home. Children will be tested and assessed throughout the term on their accuracy, time and fluency in recalling these words.
Feel free to come in and see me at any time if there are any questions or concerns.
Thanks,
Aimee Waters

In Class With Years 3-6
Mrs McIntyre & Mrs Purvis

I hope everyone had a terrific holiday. The students have all been working hard this week since returning to school. Already the calendar is filling up with excursions and sporting events. This week the students have started training for the upcoming athletics carnival at Guyra Central and the Armidale Cross Country. They have also started a new dance unit on Australian folk dances. During the unit the students will be exposed to some simple folk dances such as The Brown Jug Polka and The Circassia Circle.

Congratulations to all the students in Year 2-6 who took part in the Guyra Cross Country held at the Guyra Golf Course last term. All students showed excellent sportsmanship during their events. The results were as follows:

Girls 8-9 years: Alice Finlayson 1st, Lettie Kerr 2nd, Bridget 6th, Jasmine 14th, Skye 15th
Boys 8-9 years: Abbott 6th, Archie 7th, Muhammad 8th, Aidan 11th, Wylie 13th, Thomas 14th, Kye 15th
Girls 10 years: Claudia 1st, Maryam 2nd
Boys 11 years: Jessie 6th, Patrick 7th, Henry 9th, Farren 10th
Girls 12-13 years: Sophie 2nd
Boys 12-13 years: Yusef 7th

Thank you to all the parents who have replenished their children's pencil case with new lead pencils, pens and glue sticks. If your child does not have a set of headphones or
they have been broken could you please supply your child with a set for use on the computers.

On Tuesday students were given their spelling and maths homework for the week. Homework is due on Friday. If your child needs assistance with maths question we are more than happy to help them before school commences each day.
Sally Purvis

Wacky Science Wednesday’s
With Jasmine
Bubbling Egg

After surrounding an egg with hot water you will notice tiny bubbles forming on the egg shell which will eventually bubble their way to the surface. An egg contains a small air pocket at its larger end between the shell and egg white. When the air trapped inside this small pocket begins to heat up it expands and tries to find a way out of the shell!

Happy Birthday to:
Aidan Purvis who turned 8 last Tuesday.

During the school holidays on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd I participated at the Sydney Royal Easter Show for polocrosse. I travelled down on Sunday and played on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Monday we lost our game by 1 goal, Tuesday we won by golden point (which is when you have a tie at the end of the game and your other 3 players go on for extra time, 6 players in a team and 3 only allowed on the field from each team) and Wednesday we won our game final. My horse 'Banjo' got the best Australian Stock Horse.

By Sophie McKemey

Wishing all our wonderful mums a very

Happy Mothers Day for
Sunday 11th May