DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**OCTOBER**

- Friday 9th: Responsible Pet Day K-2
- Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th: Mrs Gittoes at TEN Training; P&C Meeting 7pm
- Wednesday 21st: Miss Waters at Soccer Training
- Friday 23rd: Mrs Gittoes at Principal’s Conference
- Wednesday 28th: Mrs Gittoes & Mrs McIntyre at Principal’s Meeting; NO TRANSITION; Blast Cricket at Glen Innes for years 3-6

**NOVEMBER**

- Tuesday 3rd: Life Education Van
- Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th: Thalgarrah Excursion
- Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th: Mrs Gittoes at Training
- Friday 13th: Mrs Gittoes Away
- Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th: Mrs Gittoes at Conference; CONCERT
- Friday 20th: Last Day of Transition

**DECEMBER**

- Wednesday 2nd: Swin School
- Monday 7th to Thursday 10th & Monday 14th: LAST DAY OF TERM

Welcome to Miss Bonnie Lofberg who will be completing her practicum with Miss Waters and Years 3-6 for the next four weeks. I wish her every success and I hope that she enjoys her teaching experience at our great school. Congratulations to Patrick Hickey who will be attending the graduation ceremony for EGATS at Thalgarrah on Friday. Patrick is an exceptionally gifted student and he is a worthy recipient because he always sets himself the highest standards and never gives up until the task is completed to the best of his ability. He is an outstanding role model for his peers and our school is so lucky to have him as a school leader. Well done Patrick.

New Look

WOW!!!! Doesn't our main school building look spick and span with its new coat of paint. It only took sixteen years to have the whole building painted all at once.

A warm welcome to term four and it is certainly going to be an extremely busy term with a practicum teacher Miss Bonnie Lofberg, a Japanese assistant teacher Mai Kawamoto, concert rehearsals, report writing, sporting schools, an overnight excursion, teacher professional development, working bees, swim school, responsible pet visit, our celebration of learning and concert and Halloween celebrations. It was wonderful to see all of our students proudly wearing their summer uniform from day one. Some students are even wearing their school ties. Fantastic!!! With the temperatures rising, it is essential that all students remember to bring their wide brimmed hats and a full bottle of water. Our school has been donated a number of tubs of 50+ sunscreen by Banana Boat and all students are encouraged to slip, slop, slap a regularly basis during the day.

Homework Centre will continue this term between 3.30pm – 5.30pm. $7.50 per student per hour.
Snakes
Yesterday we had our first encounter with a red belly black snake at the front of the school. The snake escaped so now we all need to be very vigilant. All students were reminded about snakes and what to do if they see or meet a snake.

McKemey Fundraiser
On Wednesday the 16th September the McKemey family held a highly successful fundraiser for Spinal Muscular Atrophy. Teachers, students and parents thoroughly enjoyed the delicious country-style sausage sizzle, fruit, drinks and chocolate cake. $400 was raised. Well Done!

Spelling Bee
Congratulations to Miss Waters for organising our fabulous schools first Spelling Bee and the competition was sizzling. All competitors are to be congratulated on their outstanding confidence and participation in this academic event. Many thanks to Miss Waters and Mrs McIntyre for staging the preliminary heats and then the finals.

Assembly
Many parents, grandparents and friends attended the end of term assembly and they were thoroughly entertained by the finals of the Spelling Bee, dances, artwork, writing and the afternoon concluded with the staging of our school's Book Week parade. There were cowboys, princesses, wizards, Where's Wally, Mr McGee, Spiderman, Iron Man and the list goes on. All students and staff looked spectacular in their amazing and creative costumes. The assembly concluded with Mrs Wright presenting each student with a book from the P&C.

Overnight Excursion
The Snow Gum Alliance Schools (Ben Lomond, Black Mountain, Ebor, Chandler and Bald Blair PS) will be staging an overnight excursion to the Environmental Centre at Thalgarrah on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November for all students in years 3-6. The K-2 students will only participate in the activities on Monday. While at Thalgarrah all students will participate in a Creative Arts Camp with a resident artist coming to extend our students artistic skills. There will also be dancing, circus skills, singing and drama.

We are still finalising costs so stay tuned.

Play Rehearsals
Our school community is extremely busy rehearsing for our musical "The Little Mermaid". It should be amazing!!! Our main rehearsal day is Wednesday mornings so please try to ensure that your child/children (including transition) are at school on these days.

Library Update:
There will be NO borrowing from the library this term as Mrs Purvis is updating our library to the OLIVER computer system. Could you please ensure ALL library books are returned ASAP.

News With Miss Waters
Spelling Bee
A huge thankyou to all the students who participated in our first spelling bee competition, if it wasn't for your participation we would not have been able to hold one. All students practiced their words and tried so hard on the day, so well done.

There were 3 stage winners:
Stage One winner - Mosie Wright
Stage Two winner - Wylie Wright
Stage Three winner - Claudia McKemey

We look forward to next year's spelling bee!

Classroom News:
This term we welcome another prac student from the University of New England Bonnie Lofberg. Bonnie will be working with years 3-6 for the next four weeks.

3-6 are still busy learning their scripts for the end of year concert, so please if they could also be learning and practicing these at home as well that would be great.

Homework will still be given out on Monday's to be returned to school on Friday.

I look forward to another busy and great term in 3-6.

Aimee Waters
K-2 News

Other busy term begins
This term students in K-2 are busy learning songs and dances for the concert and presentation night.
For HSIE this term, we are learning about transport focuses the different types of transport and how it has changed over the years. In addition, we will be looking at road safety.
In Science we are learning about information technology, focusing on how communication has evolved through the years. Students will be learning about Morse code, telephones, emails, etc.
For a science activity in a few weeks, we are in need of small and large tin cans (eg. Corn or pea tins). So if you have any at home could you please send them in.

Our literacy unit topic this term is ‘Being Different’ and we are learning that it is ok to look, act or speak differently and understanding that it’s great that everyone is unique and possess different qualities.
We continue to work on our speed and accuracy with basic number facts and are working through mentals each day, as well as expanding our understanding through both written and hands on activities.
Out & About

Mrs Davidson will be away on leave next week. If you need to ring the school please ring during break times.

Don’t Forget the P&C Meeting next Wednesday 14th October at 7pm