DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**OCTOBER**
- Friday 23rd: Mrs Gittoes at Principal’s Conference
- Wednesday 28th: Mrs Gittoes & Mrs McIntyre at Principal’s Meeting

**NOVEMBER**
- Tuesday 3rd: Life Education Van $10.00 per student
- Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th: Thalgarrah Excursion
- Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th: Mrs Gittoes at Training
- Wednesday 18th: Mrs Gittoes at Conference
- Friday 13th: Full Concert Rehearsal

**DECEMBER**
- Wednesday 2nd: Last Day of Transition
- Monday 7th to Thursday 10th & Monday 14th: Swim School
- Wednesday 16th: LAST DAY OF TERM

Week three and the weather is warming up nicely and so is the intensity being put into our end of year concert practice. Under the expert guidance of our school’s highly professional staff all students are refining and polishing their dance, singing and drama routines. This year’s musical “The Little Mermaid” should be spectacular on the night.

Could all parents please read the costumes list attached to this newsletter? All students need to bring their costume to school by Wednesday 11th November. Any issues please contact the school immediately.

**Creative Arts Camp**
All students in the Snow Gum Alliance will be participating in the upcoming Creative Arts Camp at Thalgarrah. All students will be participating in dance, singing, lantern making, circus skills, drumming, drawing, and clay movies. The P&C has kindly offered to cover the cost of the bus. Many thanks.

**Tennis**
Exciting news!!! Last night I had the opportunity to talk to Peter Cole, pro tennis coach from Glen Innes. He is really keen to do tennis sessions at Bald Blair. At the present time we are leaning towards Tuesday afternoon from 2.15 until 3.15. K-2 and 3-6 will have thirty minute sessions.

More information will follow with our definite plans.

**Gardens**
Our school gardens are looking so beautiful with vivid green spring growth and gorgeous blossoms and flowers. Many thanks to Mr Deeks for keeping our school grounds looking spick and span. A special thank you to our year six leaders, Patrick and Jessie, for watering and caring for our new claret ash trees in the top playground. Thanks Skye for constantly watering our young pansies, pot plants and precious rhododendrons.

**New Recycle Bins**
Our new recycling bins with their foot pedals means that small pieces of plastic are not blowing around the playground because someone forgot to put the lid on the bin.

It is fantastic to see that a number of students are reducing or eliminating plastic from their lunch boxes. I would strongly encourage all parents to try and lessen the use of plastic in lunch boxes.

Also great to see some delicious salads and fruit dishes arriving in school lunch boxes. As a school community we all need to consciously try and remove the amount of junk food in each lunch box.

**Christmas Hamper**
Yes it is that time again. Could all parents please send in two items for this year’s Christmas hampers? Christmas items can be left at the office.
P&C Working Bee
Friday afternoon
6th November from 2pm. All families are encouraged to participate. Remember many hands make light work.

TEN Training
Last Tuesday and Wednesday I had the opportunity to attend the TEN (Targeting Early Numeracy) training program. It was fabulous!! All teaching staff will be trained once I have completed my training.

Library Books
Please return all library books so Mrs Purvis can include them on our Oliver system.

Responsible Pet Ownership Education Program
Last Friday, Robyn Lewis and her beautiful dog Indie spoke to our K-2 students about the responsible pet ownership, what to do when approaching a dog, how to identify different body languages and what to do if you are approached by an unknown or angry dog. The students learnt that having a pet comes with an enormous duty of care. As pet owners they need to provide a safe and secure environment, the animal needs to remain in their yard, you need to provide basic needs like food, water, daily exercise, regular visits to the vet, your pet needs to have a microchip and you must register your dog with the local council.

The program was amazing and all the students were totally engaged for the 45 minute lesson.

At the conclusion all students got the opportunity to practice how to safely approach a dog.

1. Walk up slowly and stop.
2. Stop three big steps away and ask the owner’s permission.
3. Let the dog smell the back of your hand.
4. Step to the side of the dog and stroke gently from the collar to the tail.

Hopefully our students will also remember “No Owner, No Lead, No Touch.”

News With Miss Waters
Outside the classroom we have all been very busy practicing for the school concert, dance and songs. Inside the classroom we have been busy with our learning. In mathematics we have been learning about fractions and whole numbers. In grammar we are working hard on paragraphs, commas and speech marks.

We have started our new trial Primary Connections science unit called ‘Rising Salt’. This unit revolves around sustainable living. Students have started an experiment to determine what water practice (spraying, soaking or pouring) will assist in the best growth of the tomato seeds. In geography we have been using world projection maps to locate the location of Australia and Asia.

Please remember to bring in our school dance costumes in a plastic bag with your name clearly visible.

If you have any questions please give me a call at school!

Thanks,
Miss Waters

K-2 News
Busy Busy Busy
Another busy week for K-2 students. We have started and finished a new dance to perform in the school show. We will spend the next four weeks rehearsing.

Our Japanese visitor has started teaching a few lessons to the class. Last week the students learnt the names of fruit in Japanese and really enjoyed it.

For Science this week, we looked at the history of the camera and created a picture timeline to show the changes that have occurred over the last 400 years. Students found this activity intriguing.

In HSIE, we continue to look at different types of transport, this week’s focus was emergency vehicles.
We read texts both fiction and non-fiction about the role emergency vehicles play in people’s everyday life.

In maths, we have been looking at fractions, in particular halves and quarters. We have looking at how fractions are written, as well as ordering fractions from smallest to largest and representing fractions as a picture. It has been a really great week.

Students in K-2 have been busy earning signatures for their You Can Do It booklets and some are getting close to finishing their Blue booklet and will be ready to move along to Bronze next. Exciting times ahead.

Mrs McIntyre

Happy Birthday

To Bridget Foster who turned 6 last Monday 19th October,
Maryam Elyassa who turned 11 on Tuesday 20th October & Nakita Hoffman who turns 10 next Tuesday 27th October.