From the Principal’s Desk

I am constantly amazed by the amount of outstanding things that happen in our school every two weeks. The teachers constantly being creative and coming up with new and innovative ideas to educate and motivate our students. Our parents are supportive, interested and incredibly helpful. The students themselves are responsive enthusiastic and talented. I can’t think of a better place to be.

Motivational Media

We started the fortnight with a visit from the motivational media team who each year put together a video and audio extravaganza based around the theme relevant to our students. This year’s theme was Jigsaw - putting the pieces together for a successful life. It was as usual an amazing experience and one which provoked a lot of thought and discussion from our students. We quite often, in our youth, do things without thinking of the consequences. The Jigsaw presentation made our students stop and think. Hopefully this will have long-lasting and positive effect on their lives.

Rugby league

We had some students go to football trials last week. From primary we had Isaac Hooper and Jack Barrett successful in being selected to represent in the regional team. We had Rylan Simms and Nathan Lenord selected to represent in the secondary team. Good luck to these guys as they prepare to go off and represent our school while having a great time playing sport.

Moorambilla choir

A training workshop was held last week for all students in Years 3 to 11. As well as having the opportunity to participate in a creative, cooperative and motivating training session the students were also looked at for their talent to participate in the choir later in the year. It will be a few weeks before we know the successful students because Michelle, who leads the choir, runs the same process in schools all across the west of New South Wales and selects only the very best most talented students to represent their schools in the choir. Last year Lightning Ridge had a huge number of talented students represented. This year I suspect it could be even more because the level of talented engagement is higher than ever.

Student safety

For the last few weeks we have been targeting the safety of our students by encouraging parents to follow our requirement to sign in whenever they visit the school. We have been encouraging parents in primary to wait in the shade rather than to approach classrooms while lessons are still in progress and I have been going out to stop students from walking between the buses which is a very dangerous thing to do as visibility is very limited for unsuspecting drivers in Kaolin Street. I did not realise at the time but the police have also been targeting the safety of our students and had a blitz on illegal parking around the school in the mornings and in the afternoons. Congratulations to the police for enforcing the parking regulations to protect the safety of our young students.

2015 School Newsletter now available online, check out our website on www.lightningr-c.schools.nsw.edu.au
It’s really important that vehicles moving along Kaolin or Brilliant Street have full view of areas where students may be crossing to avoid any accidents. Although some people have found out the cost of a parking fine, I’m happy to say we haven’t had to deal with the cost of a serious accident in front of the school. Let’s keep it that way by encouraging parents and students to behave safely by behaving safely ourselves.

A farewell to Mr Forbes.

At the end of last year Nathan Forbes was successful in applying for the job of Principal at Goodooga Central School. Last week, Nathan came to Lightning Ridge for the day to allow his students to work with the Moorambilla choir and while here he worked with other principals on his school plan. What Nathan didn’t know was that we had organised a farewell function to officially congratulate Nathan on his appointment and farewell him from our school.

I’m pleased to say that, although he is the Principal of another school, Nathan will continue a strong involvement with Lightning Ridge Central School and I’d like to thank Nathan for his contribution to our school plan and also his generosity in allowing us to use his school bus when our school bus was unavailable to take students to Sydney. I look forward to a continued strong relationship between our two schools.

Soccer stars

Although soccer is not a game that is played very much in Lightning Ridge it was really pleasing to see Abby Loiterton and Madyson Drew being selected to represent our school as soccer players in our area.

Attendance - arrive at school on time

As you can see opportunity is the thing that we offer students regularly at Lightning Ridge Central School however to take advantage of these opportunities students must attend school and one of the things which make it makes it difficult for students is if they come to school late. Wednesday last week we had our first session where all students to arrive late were recorded, spoken to by our Home School Liaison Officers who are Education Department staff from Coonamble. 25 students were late and each of the students and their families will be contacted.

It is important to remember that school begins at 8:40 AM for secondary students and 9 AM for primary students and anyone arriving after this time is late and is missing out on learning and other opportunities. We will continue to monitor and encourage all students to be at school on time.

Lightning Ridge Rotary Club - Volunteering in Nepal

The response from our expression of interest for students wishing to participate in a volunteering excursion to Nepal was tremendous. We have around 25 students who are interested and while all may not be committed enough to actually go to Nepal, there will certainly be a good number of students who will accompany us in April of next year to work in a Nepali school. The Excursion is being supported by the Rotary Club of Lightning Ridge who do a fantastic job supporting the whole community so a big thanks to Lightning Ridge Rotarians. If anyone is interested in being part of assisting our community, the Rotary Club meets in the John Murray room at about 7 PM every Monday evening. Any new members are welcome whether you can commit to being an active member or just someone who would like to help whenever they can.

Mother’s Day luncheon

On another page in the newsletter you will find information about the Mother’s Day luncheon being held at the school. The cost of the three course lunch is $25 for adults and $15 for students. All money being raised by the luncheon will go to support students who are selected to represent our school at Moorambilla choir.

A lot of effort goes in behind-the-scenes to give our students such a vast range of opportunities. I would like to thank everybody who supports the children of Lightning Ridge Central School - it is that support that makes our community and our school as great as it is.
Wow! How quickly the term passes! Already the kids have been working hard for nearly a quarter of the year, with lots of progress being made in each of the classrooms. Teachers and kids are totally focussed on making their learning count.

**Diving and Swimming Report**

Congratulations to our amazing swimming and diving team who have successfully competed at the PSSA/ CHS State level. We have had so many kids achieve personal bests and some of our diving students were placed first in their divisions. Such an awesome result for these kids, their coaches and their families. Well Done!

Tallulah Chesworth and Lilia Taylor both competed well in the All Age Relay representing the North West team. Tallulah Chesworth competed in Open 100m free, 11 Yrs 50m Free, 50m Backstroke, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly and the Senior Individual Medley and received Personal Bests.

Lilia Taylor competed in 10Yrs 50m Free, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly, the Individual Medley and the Junior Girls Relay. She received Personal Bests in her Freestyle, Breaststroke and Butterfly.

Chris Jones competed in 12Yrs Butterfly and received a Personal Best.

The students representing the Girls Junior relay team were Ava Seaton, Jada Seaton, Savannah Chesworth and Lilia Taylor. These swimmers took 10 seconds off their time!

These swimmers represented our school and district with great sportsmanship and enthusiasm and this was a magnificent achievement and experience for the students. Well done!

Sadly, this week we need to farewell two members of the primary staff. Miss Sami Gifford, who has been one of our Teacher Relief scheme people, has been offered a permanent position at a school on the Southern NSW border. Good luck Miss Gifford, we hope you enjoyed your time with us at Lightning Ridge Central School.

Miss Fagan will also be leaving our school for an extended period of time. At this stage we are unable to give a return date for Miss Fagan. She is leaving Lightning Ridge Central School to take up the relieving instructional leader role for Collarenebri’s Central School. We have only just recently found out about Miss Fagan’s appointment to this critical role at Collarenebri. It is very sad to lose a teacher of such high calibre. Miss Fagan has demonstrated total professionalism, she has pushed her class to maximise all learning time available and she has made a significant and positive impact on a great many students during her time at Lightning Ridge Central School. Miss Fagan will be replaced by Mrs Naomi Slater. Mrs Slater will come to us from Kempsey South and has been highly recommended by her current Principal. We are doing everything we can to ensure a smooth transition from Miss Fagan to Mrs Slater for the class of S2F.

A couple of reminders:

**Students K-6 are not to be on the school grounds before 8:30am.** There is NO SUPERVISION and we are very concerned about the safety of all students.

Thank you for going through the front office rather than going to classrooms. If you need food, money or messages to get to your kids, then please see the ladies in the front office. This minimises the disruption to learning time.

**Lunch orders:** Parents/Carers need to help their children fill these out at home. We are finding that kids are taking too long to get this done in class and this is impacting on learning time. If you need lunch bags, please get your child to pick some up from the lunch basket.
Primary Student of the Week

Week 9  S2/3MA

Billy Thompson

Billy Thompson has been selected as Student of the Week for consistently applying himself to all areas of his schooling and being an excellent role model to other students. Well Done Billy!

Primary Student of the Week

Week 9  ES1M

Rodney Cobb

Rodney has been awarded Student of the Week for his positive attitude in all learning activities. He always strives to produce quality work and follows all school rules. Congratulations Rodney!
Secondary Student of the Week
Week 9  Year 11
Trent Taylor

Trent has shown great improvement towards his schooling this year. He has begun his senior study with a positive attitude and his effort to follow the school goals has been noted by his teachers.

Congratulations Trent!

Secondary Student of the Week
Week 10  Year 12
Amanda Morriss

Amanda has committed herself well to her HSC year. She is attentive in class and often stays back after school to continue working on her major projects. Amanda is a commendable role model for her peers. Well done Amanda!
The English and HSIE Faculty has had a busy and productive Term One.
The junior English students have been reading a wide range of stories and studying narrative structure to help them develop their own creative writing pieces. Students have improved their ability to describe events, emotions and places and sought to entertain their readers, which are all skills that will support them in their senior studies. The fear of public speaking and performance has challenged Stage Five students, who have studied dramatic techniques to improve throughout their play rehearsals. It was clear we have some budding actors when all students took part in performances over the past week.

Year 11 and 12 students are stepping up to the challenge of Senior English. With the HSC approaching quickly, Year 12 English (Standard) are applying their knowledge of visuals and film to their analysis of the alternative German film, “Run Lola Run”, in their first HSC Module. Year 12 English Studies have been investigating the impact of digital technologies on our lives and connecting their work in English to their lives outside of school. Year 11 English (Standard) are working hard on completing their portfolios for the ‘Belonging’ Unit, which acts a practice run for the HSC ‘Discovery’ Area of Study in Term Four this year. The preparation for the workforce that many Year 11 English Studies have already received at school is evident in their comprehensive resumes and confident cover letters in the ‘English in the Workforce’ Unit.

Meanwhile, in the HSIE Faculty, Stage Four were introduced to the geographical skills they will need over the next three or four years. They have been focused on the importance of protecting our world through a close study of World Heritage Sites, such as the Great Barrier Reef. The unique qualities of Australia’s physical environment have been the focus of the Stage Five students, and the impact of natural hazards on Australia have given them an insight into the issues that occur as a result of bushfires, floods and drought. Students of History have also been looking at the impact of natural hazards in the ancient world with a study of the volcanic eruptions in Pompeii and Herculaneum, while Year 11 Modern History have gained insight into the recent past of our region by looking into decolonisation in Indochina.

Looking forward to an equally creative and industrious Term Two ahead.
Hello,

This is the last newsletter for the term and the term has gone quickly. Mostly when time goes quickly it is because it has been fun. I have enjoyed so much reading of quality literature and the talking and listening that has followed on from this. I really get a buzz out of students enjoying a good book and glad that my choices have “hit the mark” with students. Having good websites from which to search for an appropriate book has helped.

So reading has become print and screen. As long as stories are being read then it is always worthwhile. Well known Australian Children’s Laureate and Senior Australian of the year 2015 Jackie French says, “There are a million ways to share a story. To read to a child on your lap; to have a child read to you while you cook dinner; to read to the dog when it has to go to the Vet to calm it (or you!) down; to join a storytelling session at your library. You can also tell your grandchildren what life was like when you were young over the phone or SKYPE or read to thousands of people via video conferencing. Stories tell us who we are. They teach us empathy so we understand who others are. They give us the power to imagine and create the future.”

The LRCS Reading Challenge had a finish date of Thursday 26th and the party will be on Monday of the last week of term. At the time of writing we have less students than usual finishing the challenge, but there are still a few days to go and I am hoping for a big pile of recording sheets come in on Thursday. Kindergarten will begin the challenge next term. I encourage you to start the recording of books read in the holidays to get a start for Term 2!

We had our first Quality Work Award this term. Brandan Boney – Morris (S3D) loved his book cover for Little Brother so much that he took it away and did further work. This is great and I hope that this attitude to completing work in your own time continues for students. Next term Mr Kotlash, Ms Smith and myself will run a Homework Centre in the library on Thursday afternoons so this is an opportunity for students to do work in their own time.

The library turtle draw recently went to:

**Week 6**

ES1 Rodney Cobb ES1T
Stage 1 Lily Lohse S1W
Stage 2 Rianna Haverhoek S2S
Stage 3 Stevie-Lee Scott S3MA

**Week 7**

ES1 Aiden Brown ES1G
Stage 1 Tayla Flint S1S
Stage 2 Lateisha Torrens S2F
Stage 3 Cliff Peterson S3D

**Week 8**

ES1 Sharlize Masters ES1T
Stage 1 Brandon Dos Santos Hall S1S
Stage 2 Lateisha Torrens S2F
Stage 3 Tallulah Chesworth S3M

Have a great and safe holiday, having fun and enjoying what you like to do most.

Best wishes

Penny Fahey Teacher—Librarian
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th</td>
<td>Games Day</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Choose a physical game or a chill out board game lots of games to choose from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th</td>
<td>Movie Madness</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Choose a movie from the wide selection available or bring along a movie to share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9th</td>
<td>Giyaali Van Visit</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Youth and young people have fun with police liaison officers and have a go at the mad games in the engagement van</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10th</td>
<td>Master Chef Competition</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Cook up a storm with the youth team be creative make a healthy meal on a budget to be crowned Grawin's master chef.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th</td>
<td>Monday Madness</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Sponge races, balloon rockets and much more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th</td>
<td>Creative Cardboard construction competition</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Make the animals with patterns supplied, or build something out of cardboard of your choice Between centre Challenge (Make the biggest animal construction to win a party day at the centre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15th</td>
<td>Flowerpot Magic and Anzac wreath making</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Gift making for Mum and wreath making for ANZAC day parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 16th</td>
<td>Youth and Community Festival Walgett</td>
<td>10am - 3pm</td>
<td>Music workshop, Tri sport competition Fan Dancing workshop and performance, Scavenger hunt, Mad Munch plus lots more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 17th</td>
<td>Chillax Day</td>
<td>9am - 2pm</td>
<td>Kids choose activities for the day-your day your play</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Great attitude and ready for fun a requirement for all youth week events

For more information contact Marilyn team leader youth development Grawin: 0428341834
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th</td>
<td>Games Day</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Choose a physical game of table tennis, cricket &amp; or a chill out board game, lots of games to choose from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th</td>
<td>Colour my world</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Messy day with colour crazy banner making.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9th</td>
<td>Kite Making &amp; Flying workshop</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Construct a mad kite to support counterparts suffering from Cancer. Work together to review our current youth strategy. Your say make it count.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Council Forum</td>
<td>10am–1pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Strategy Review WSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10th</td>
<td>Master Chef Competition</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Cook up a storm with the youth team, be creative make a healthy meal on a budget to be crowned Lightning Ridge's master chef.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 11th</td>
<td>Clean up our act Highway Overhaul</td>
<td>9am–1pm</td>
<td>Young people are calling on Community to help them clean up the first 5km into the township BBQ lunch will be supplied (Equipment will be supplied for clean up)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th</td>
<td>Monday Madness</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Sponge races, balloon rockets, and other mad competitions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blue Light goes West</td>
<td>6pm–9pm</td>
<td>Mad dance party with the Youth development team and PCYC Blue light team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th</td>
<td>Creative Cardboard construction challenge</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>From Patterns supplied work with youth workers to recreate the largest animal out of cardboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Culture connections” Emmanuel Youth group visit</td>
<td>1pm – 4pm</td>
<td>Fan Dancing, Martial Arts and drumming workshops and performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Back of Bourke excursion (contact youth team leader for permission note 12–18 yrs)</td>
<td>7am – 6 pm</td>
<td>Mix it up with other youth and young people from another LGA at the SKS, 2840 Day out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15th</td>
<td>MMAD crew workshops and talent quest.</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Dance &amp; Music workshops + Skate demonstration with the MMAD team. Be crowned the Lightning Ridge rising star.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 16th</td>
<td>Movie Madness</td>
<td>9am–2pm</td>
<td>Choose a movie from the wide selection available or bring along a movie to share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth and Community Festival Walgett (contact youth team leader for permission note 12–18 yrs)</td>
<td>8:30am–5pm</td>
<td>Music, Crownng of Walgett shires got talent, Tri sport competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fan Dancing workshop and performance, Scavenger hunt, Mad Munch plus lots more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 17th</td>
<td>Chillax Day</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
<td>Kids choose activities for the day—you say your play.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“MMAD®Coonamble” (contact youth team leader for permission note 12–18 yrs)</td>
<td>8:30am–5pm</td>
<td>Mix it up with other youth and young people from another LGA at the SKS, 2840 Day out.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Great attitude and ready for fun a requirement for all youth week events

For more information contact Kylie team leader youth development Lightning Ridge 0412805322
Last Week Divers from Lightning Ridge Central School travelled to Sydney and represented the North West Region competing in State Diving. This event was held at the Sydney Olympic Park in Homebush. All students did exceptionally well, considering they were up against tough competitors from across the state. The results from all divers made our school proud.

Some of the students were lucky enough to meet Olympic Gold Medalist Mathew Mitchem and they got to have some photo time with him.
# RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Years Girls</td>
<td>Allira Bleasdale</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>72.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amelia Hackett</td>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>66.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Years Girls</td>
<td>Indi Tishler</td>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>61.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Girls</td>
<td>Jane Crutchley</td>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>86.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Years Girls</td>
<td>Chloe Brain</td>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>117.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Years Boys Springboard</td>
<td>Sean White</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>146.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dyami Bleasdale</td>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>123.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feli Ciprian</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>138.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Open Platform</td>
<td>Feli Ciprian</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>125.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dyami Bleasdale</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>92.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sean White</td>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>90.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Years Girls Springboard</td>
<td>Jasmine Tooth</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>166.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Years Girls Springboard</td>
<td>Catherine Sisa</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>236.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Girls Platform</td>
<td>Catherine Sisa</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>179.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Well done to all divers! Ms Parsons.
This year we have twenty students from across all grades in Secondary representing their peers on the Student Representative Council. The SRC meets every second week to discuss any issues or ideas that the student body would like addressed.

This group has already begun revolutionising the school in positive ways. One of these has been introducing SRC run Monday Games to start the week in a fun and active way. This is put on entirely by student representatives and involves them deciding what game will be played, sourcing the equipment needed for it and then running the activity themselves. So far students have participated in skipping, cricket and netball. The SRC members who have assisted in these games have done an excellent job and have demonstrated blossoming organisational and umpiring skills.

Another way in which the SRC have already had a big impact this year is through the Freaky Friday Disco, which was put on by the committee on Friday of Week 7. The disco was put on to raise funds for items needed throughout the school, such as speakers in the Primary Cola. Volunteers from the SRC helped run the night, and these students went above and beyond to ensure that all attendees had the best night of their lives. The SRC showed an amount of initiative and leadership skills that left all who witnessed their work extremely proud and impressed with the way they conducted themselves. They were great examples for the school’s goals of respect, responsibility and pride.

Remember, if you have any issues or ideas that you would like raised, please speak to an SRC representative so that we can discuss them at our meetings and we can continue to make our school the best one ever!
Please join us for a Lightning Ridge Central School

MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON

FRIDAY 8TH MAY
12.00PM - 1.30PM

Three course luncheon
Adults $25, Students $15
Students must be with an accompanying adult
Tickets for sale in School office until 6th May.
Tickets cannot be sold on the day for catering purposes
There will be prizes & games on the day

Mother’s Day Luncheon :)
Tickets are for sale in the front office.

Students will have an opportunity to purchase gifts for their mum or grandma the week leading up to the luncheon.
HOME SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICERS WILL INTERVIEW STUDENTS ABOUT FREQUENT ABSENCES AND LATE ARRIVALS

In the next few weeks Home School Liaison Officers will be in the school to interview students whose attendance is of concern. This is part of an ongoing program to improve attendance and reduce truancy in the district. Parents, teachers and young people share concerns that students are at risk of being victims of crime when they are out of school during school hours. Frequent absences are of concern because they often affect a student’s ability to reach their academic potential and to maintain school friendships. The Education Act of 1990 states that it is the duty of parents and carers to see that their children of compulsory school age attend school on time every day the school is open for instruction. Some absences are unavoidable because of sickness, a family emergency, or attendance at a religious ceremony. All absences must be explained within 7 days. If you have any concerns about attendance or truancy at this school please notify Kerry Adamthwaite, Principal on 68 290 511.

DUBBO WAGGA WAGGA TEAM
Coonamble High School, Aberford St Coonamble, NSW 2829  T 02 6822 1522  F 02 6822 2313
E tammy.baker1@det.nsw.edu.au  gillian.mckenzet1@det.nsw.edu.au

Certificate III in Horsemanship
(RIDING, HANDLING AND BEHAVIOUR) 69797
1300 EQUINE www.horsecourse.com.au  Enrol & Complete Online
**Professional Learning**

In week 8 I attended a Kitchen Garden workshop and a Live Life well@School sharing session. The Kitchen Garden workshop focused on growing, harvesting and cooking fresh produce. The training had a strong focus on integrating Kitchen Garden lessons into all learning areas in the classroom. Live Life well@School is a joint initiative between the NSW Department of Education and Communities and NSW Ministry of Health that aims to get more students, more active, more often, as well as improving students’ eating habits at school. Our school was fortunate enough to receive a garden resource kit from the Live Life Well @ School team. SIW was very excited to use this kit for the first time. I look forward to sharing my learning with the school community.

*Carissa Walmsley*

---

**Lightning Ridge Easter Festival 2015**

**FLOAT PARADE**

“HOME GROWN”

Now taking entries for the 2015 float parade

Any theme goes...walk, cycle, drive, push, sit, stand, make noise, sing, juggle

**Prizes:**
- Overall best float in show $500; 2nd prize $200, 3rd prize $100
- Best decorated pushbike $100; Best Easter hat in parade $100
- To be eligible for prizes, must fill out entry form, entry fee $25

**Contact:** Gaz Peters 0488 219 444 before Friday 27th March

---

**Sunday 5th April**

**At 1:30pm**
The NSW University Competitions 2015

The NSW University has competitions for students from Year 2-12. They are now known as ICAS. (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) Students who participate in these competitions gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared to the rest of the students tested.

I am available if you would like to discuss the competitions further. Money and permission notes need to be at the front office by Wednesday 22nd April, 2015.

Ms T Parsons
NSW University Competitions Organiser

...........................................................................................................................

2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Permission Slip.

Please return this section to the front office with payment by Wednesday 22nd April, 2015.

I give permission for my child ................................ in year ............. class ............. to participate in the following competitions.

(Please tick the competitions you would like your child to enter and attach the appropriate money)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of competition</th>
<th>Date of Competition</th>
<th>Entry fee per student</th>
<th>Year level of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>19 May 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 3 to 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 June 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 2 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>19 June 2015</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>16 June 2015</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>Years 3 to 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>28 July 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 2 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>11 August 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 2 to 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previously known as Computer Skills

Please find enclosed total payment $...........

Name of Parent/Guardian ...........................................................

Signature of Parent/Guardian ...................................................

Date .................................................................
Wednesday 22nd, 2015 is the final date for the University Competition Entries.

I give permission for my child .......................... in year ............ class ............... to participate in the following competitions.

(Please tick the competitions you would like your child to enter and attach the appropriate money)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of competition</th>
<th>Date of Competition</th>
<th>Entry fee per student</th>
<th>Year level of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>19 May 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 3 to 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 June 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 2 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>19 June 2015</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>16 June 2015</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>28 July 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 2 to 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>11 August 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 2 to 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previously known as Computer Skills

Please find enclosed total payment $........... Name of Parent/Guardian ........................................ Date ............

Signature of Parent/Guardian ........................................ Date ............

Wednesday 22nd April, 2015 is the final date for the University Competition Entries.

I give permission for my child .......................... in year ............ class ............... to participate in the following competitions.

(Please tick the competitions you would like your child to enter and attach the appropriate money)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of competition</th>
<th>Date of Competition</th>
<th>Entry fee per student</th>
<th>Year level of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies*</td>
<td>19 May 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 3 to 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 June 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>19 June 2015</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>16 June 2015</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>28 July 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 3 to 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>11 August 2015</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Years 3 to 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previously known as Computer Skills

Please find enclosed total payment $........... Name of Parent/Guardian ........................................ Date ............

Signature of Parent/Guardian ........................................ Date ............
Need support, but don’t know where to go?
Call the Western Family Referral Service

Are you a parent/carer of a child aged 0-18 years, a young person aged over 16 years, a pregnant woman?

We can support you to find services that will help you or your family.

Telephone, Drop in, and Outreach to your home or community can also be arranged.

Please contact us on:

1300 339 016
Head Office: 213 Brisbane Street, Dubbo
Operating Hours: 8am and 6pm Monday - Friday (except public holidays)

westernfrs@unitingcarenswact.org.au

Info provided on:
- Housing
- Centrelink
- Mental Health
- Medical Services
- Drug & Alcohol Services
- Counselling
- Early Intervention Services
- Legal Services
- Domestic Violence Services
- Education
- Youth Services
- Parenting Programs
- Other services, as identified by you
LOST PROPERTY

There was a great Kid’s Club at the Community Church before Easter! But if you think you might have left something there, then please give David a call (6829 0597). We’ve returned whatever had names on it but we still have unidentified items like drink bottles, caps and toys.

Thanks
David Piper
Minister, Lightning Ridge Community Church
02 6829 0597
Tips for Keeping Safe Online - from Bravesharks (1800 272 831)

Safety for children and young people on the Internet is front-page news and Bravesharks is committed to doing all we can to ensure that young people and their parents or carers are informed on how to ensure the Internet is a safe experience. Technology is opening new opportunities for everyone, promoting creativity and effective learning. Children and young people are using the Internet more and more, and from an ever earlier age. The Internet is more accessible than ever before, with around 60% of Australian children and young people going online via mobile devices (Green, Brady, & Layton, 2011).

To use technology effectively requires an awareness of both the benefits and the risks. This in turn, has created a world which can be both fun and enticing as well as providing potential dangers and harm. It is important that parents/careers and young people are aware of these risks and of the steps you can take to minimise them.

What are the Risks?

Information for Young People

Information for Parents/Careers

Internet Safety Contacts

Other Useful Site Links

What are the risks?

- Exposure to inappropriate material, such as pornography or violence
- Grooming
- Physical danger, such as meeting up with strangers met online
- Unwanted advertising & marketing towards children
- Exploitation
- Sexting
- Harassment & bullying
- Exposure of personal information & privacy
- Financial risks
- Unreliable information
- Spam
- Viruses

Information for Young People

Safety for young people like you is important, whether it is about being safe offline or online. None of us can live without our smartphones, tablets or computers. We use them every day to chat with friends and family, take and share photos, do our homework, listen to music, play games, and shop.

And just like in the offline world, the online world has risks and dangers. We need to keep ourselves and other younger people safe from the ‘creepers’ who troll through our space.

We have all seen stories about people who have been harmed online or who have gotten into trouble for sending a text that might have been considered inappropriate. We know that because people can easily set up fake accounts and remain anonymous, some people who use the sites, games and apps you use, are adults pretending to be young people.

5 Quick Tips

Remember:

1. Private stuff needs protection
2. You can only really know someone if you know them in real life
3. What you share will always be there
4. Not everyone online is who they say they are
5. If something doesn’t feel right, tell a trusted adult (you can use this app to report anonymously).

Steps to Staying Safe

There are some easy things you can do to keep yourself safe and avoid being targeted by creepers or trolls.

- Be as anonymous as possible. So avoid giving out your full name, your address, your phone number, the name of your school or any other information that someone might use to find out who you are and where you are. You should also not reveal any information about this to your family or friends.
- If you are creating your own e-mail, avoid using your name in the address (e.g. john_doe@...). These types of names will attract some people who might put you at risk.
- Never get together with someone you meet online. This is one of the most dangerous things you can do. Even if you think you know someone because you have talked to them online, remember that people on the Internet may not be who they seem to be. It is easy to pretend to be someone you are not. If you do want to meet someone, make sure you discuss it with your parents, never meet the person alone and make sure you meet in a public place. Depending on your age, the safest thing you can do is ask your parents to speak to the other person’s parents first and for both of you to bring your parents along when you meet for the first time.
- Think about it before you post any photo. Remember, that whatever you upload to the Internet can be downloaded by someone and passed around (even from sites like Snapchat where photos you share can be taken as a screenshot). One tip is that before you post a photo think about how you would feel about people seeing it.
- Don’t respond to abusive, inappropriate or bullying comments, texts, or instant messages. If someone sends you a message that is clearly abusive or makes you feel uncomfortable in any way, don’t answer it. People who send these types of messages want you to respond and they will just keep doing it. Show it to your parents or an adult that you trust so that they can alert the appropriate people.
- Talk to your parents or carers about the Internet. Remember that it is most likely that your parents did not grow up with the Internet and they may not know much about it. They might have concerns about what you do and see on the Internet and it can help you both if you sit down together and talk about how you can avoid dangerous or risky Internet situations.

Who to Talk to?

If you want to talk to someone about what is happening online:

- If you are in immediate danger, please call 000
- If you are worried about your safety, you can call PoliceLink on 131 444
- If you are not sure who to talk to, you can call Bravesharks on 1800 272 831
- There are also organisations like Headspace (1800 650 890) and Kids Helpline (1800 555 180)

You can report any worrying online activity to Bravesharks through Join the Dots and we will pass the information on for you. Remember you don’t have to tell us your name if you don’t want to.

Information for Parents/Careers

Pre-School Aged Children

This age group is just beginning to learn how the computer works and the joy it can have. This includes visiting children’s websites and joining them with friends and family. Be sure to sit with your child during this learning stage on the computer and choose websites which are suitable for your child’s age group.

Primary School Aged Children

Increasingly primary school aged children need access to the Internet for school work. Children of this age feel more confident using other services provided by the Internet such as chat rooms, with some deciding to search for prohibited material. Your children will also notice marketing material. It is extremely important for your children to know not to give out personal information or details. Spend some time researching the Internet and how to keep your child safe. By making their time on the Internet a family activity, you will be able to maintain close supervision, while teaching them safe online behaviour.

High School Aged Children

This is the age group where the Internet is a necessity to assist your children with research for projects and homework. Your child will want more independence and freedom while using the Internet, while their email and instant messaging contacts will grow. This age group may also feel they want to explore prohibited material. While it is more difficult to keep tight supervision on what your teenager is doing online, it is vital that you stay in touch with them and discuss any issues that may occur. Keeping the computer in a public area in your home
can assist with this. Get to know the services your teenager uses, and develop reasonable computer usage rules with them.

Phones with Internet
Children with mobile phones give their parents peace of mind knowing they can contact them at any time, but there are some dangers with certain phones on the market. Many mobile phones have access to the internet, just like a computer. This creates the same internet safety issues, except that situation makes it near impossible to supervise your child at all times.

If you decide that your child needs a mobile phone, make sure the device you purchase for them is appropriate for their age and experience. Consider purchasing a phone without an internet access or plan. There are also certain blocks you can put on the phone to stop the user accessing the internet and Bluetooth. This in turn will protect your child against hackers who can track your child’s location as the phone is ‘always on’.

Sharn Gallacher from Queensland Police Service’s Task Force Argos shows Robin Bailey from 97.3FM how to set up your QBS devices to ensure QBS child-friendly. [Watch here]

What can I as a parents do?
- If you don’t already, get to know the Internet. It’s important to familiarize yourself with what is available to your child online.
- Talk to your children about the importance of safety online & show them how to implement this.
- Connect to a family-friendly internet service provider & use a family-friendly search engine.
- Set up the computer in a public area in the home - making supervision easier.
- Install safety software (anti-virus, filter and spyware software).
- Teach your children that you are there if they need help.
- Create a contract or online rules with your children.
- Take your child seriously if they report anything unsafe on the Internet and forward your concerns on. These can be sent to your Internet Service Provider as well as to the relevant authority (see ‘Internet Safety Contacts’ below).

Tips to share with your kids
Additional information for your child:
You SHOULD NEVER:
- Tell anyone your name, address, phone number or school.
- Send a photo of yourself to anyone that you don’t know.
- Tell anyone your credit card or bank details.
- Make plans to meet anyone you find online - people you meet online aren’t always who they claim they are.
- Talk to anyone who is nasty or makes you feel uncomfortable.

You should ALWAYS:
- Be careful who you talk to in chat rooms or on instant messenger.
- Ask permission to use chat rooms.
- Tell your parents or carers if someone says something to you in an email or chat room that makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- Stay away from websites that are not meant for children.
- Remember that people are not always as they seem online.

On-Line Rules
One of the most proactive steps you can take in protecting your child on the Internet is to sit down with them and come up with your family’s on-line safety rules. As important as defining the rules is, this process also opens up a communication line between you and your child to discuss concerns and unsafe situations.

Rules may include, for example:
- I will never agree to get together with someone I “meet” online without first checking with my parents.
- If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring my mother or father along.
- I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.
- I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away so that they can contact the service provider.
- I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online. We will discuss the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.
- I will not give out my internet password to anyone (even my best friends) other than my parents.
- I will check in with my parents before downloading or installing software or doing anything that could possibly hurt our computer or jeopardize our family’s privacy.
- I will be a good online citizen and do not anything that hurts other people or is against the law.
- I will help my parents understand how to have fun and learn things online and teach them things about the Internet, computers and other technology.

Internet Safety Contacts
When a child is in immediate danger of abuse:
Phone 000 or Commissioos on 1800 333 000 or your local police station
Report suspected cases of child exploitation or contact with paedophiles to:
- Australian Federal Police Online Child Sex Exploitation Team
- Virtual Global Taskforce
Report inappropriate or illegal online content to:
- Australian Communications and Media Authority
- If you have concerns and are not sure who to report them to, please contact Safesnet.

Other Useful Sites Links
The Australian Government’s Easy Guide to Socialising Online provides information on how internet users can protect themselves and their information when using social networking sites, search engines and online games.
- Check out the Easy Guide
- There are some exceptional sites that can help parents and young people learn more about safe internet use:
  - CyberSmart
  - ThinkSmart
  - CyberWise
  - Anti-Zeppelin Anti-Cyber
  - WebAlert
As advertised in last newsletter, Easter treats will be available to buy over the counter or ordered for recess and lunch on the last day of term, 2nd April, 2015. Please find listed below: (the Canteen is allowed 2 RED days per Term ie. Confectionary etc)

- Hot cross buns (toasted or fresh) - $1.00ea
- Easter Maltese choc bunnies - $1.00ea
- Easter iced cup cakes (butter cakes / choc icing / sprinkles muffin size) - $1.00ea

A note will be sent around to classrooms in the Canteen Baskets as a reminder. Please note that all profits made by the canteen go to the P&C for the students.

The usual sandwiches, rolls, wraps and small and large salad boxes are available all year round. Please pre order salad boxes, some sandwiches, rolls, and wraps are ready made to sell over the counter, ordering is still the best way of getting exactly what you want for recess or lunch.

**CANTEEN RULES**

- **MORNINGS:** CANTEEN OPENED FOR ORDERS AND TO BUY DRINKS ONLY – 8.30am – 8.40am
- Year 5 & 6 and High school only allowed to buy drinks in the mornings during the above times!
- Parents can order until 9.30am for students. Canteen screen will be closed from 9.30am until Recess.
- Kindy to Stage 2 (Red shirts) all orders can be placed in canteen baskets (menu and bags available in each stages baskets) and sent around to canteen for Recess and Lunch orders.
- Please when ordering students Recess and Lunches please put R or L on separate bags with students name and class and items to be ordered any icecreams ordered for lunch will be put in separate bag with students name on bag and sent with lunch orders, change will be sticky taped to bag.
- Year 5 & 6 to year 12 students can buy over the counter at recess and lunch.
- Icecreams are sold or ordered at lunch only.
- Please note that the Canteen will close 5 min before bell time. Roller doors will be closed. Students will not be served outside of Recess & Lunch times.
- Over the counter hot foods and snacks always available and an assortment of sandwiches and rolls also available, Beefburgers and Chicken Burgers.
- wraps, salad boxes please pre-order these items always best to order as you get what you want!

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter break!

Thankyou,

Susan Chapman