Welcome to Term 3!

It is great to be back at school! I trust that all families have had a relaxing break and are ready for an exciting and engaging term.

Many students have been working hard on preparing a speech for the upcoming Public Speaking competition. We welcome Ms Davey back to the school on 24th July to select two students from each Stage to represent Laguna PS at the competition.

Also coming up this term is the Premier’s Spelling Bee. Our school will send two representatives each from Stages 2 and 3, who will be chosen through an in-school competition. Spelling lists for Juniors (Yrs 3-4) and Seniors (Yrs 5-6) are attached for students to study. The lists can also be accessed on-line at https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/2014-premiers-spelling-bee.

The Art Show is not far away, and we are very pleased to have feature artist and ex-school parent Albert Kraan coming to our school to do some work with our students on Wednesday 23rd July. Any contributions of cordless drills for the day would be very welcome!

Please find attached to the newsletter a job sheet for the Art Show; please indicate where you can help and return to Greg Kelso or to the school office.

Looking forward to a great term! Mr Howe

Sport and Library News!

After School Activities re-commence next Tuesday at Laguna. Juniors (K-2) students will begin at 3.00pm, with the older students commencing from 3.30.

Zone Athletics will be held on Friday 1st of August at Turner park in Cessnock. Laguna has quite a contingent of athletes who have qualified, and they will be honing their skills over the next fortnight. The Regional carnival is on the 29th August.

August 18-22 is Book Week, and we will be celebrating with a Gala Day on Tuesday 19th August. There will be book and art activities, a special luncheon and a dress-up competition based on a favourite book character.

Congratulations to Charlotte, Rudi and Kyah Swan for completing the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2014. A reminder that if your child is still working on completing the PRC, all entries must be in by the 31st July.
School Matters

**Week 3 is Education Week!** On Tuesday 29th July we are having a Parents/Grandparents morning at school. We will start with an assembly at the Library, and hear some students present speeches on a chosen topic. Grandparents and parents will then be invited to join with students in their classrooms and see how children learn in the 21st Century. The students would also love to hear about how their parents and grandparents learnt in the past! The morning will conclude with a morning tea and a marimba performance under the new library awning. Keep your eyes peeled for the invitation!

**On the Thursday of Education Week** students from Years 3-6 have been invited by Millfield PS to attend an author visit by Gus Gordon. These visits have been fascinating in the past - see the attached permission note.

**Thankyou parents for taking care** in our school car park. Cars should be reversed in, and parents must accompany their children through the school gate and across the car park. Please note the no-standing signs in the RFS driveway, the RFS has asked to make sure the driveway is clear at all times.

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**Year 4-5-6 News**

**Due to the short week,** including Friday’s NAIDOC celebrations at Wollombi PS, homework will recommence in Week 2. Year 6 students will have a homework diary and several homework tasks to manage through the week as preparation for high school.

**This term we welcome Chris Davey** to our classroom. Chris has long nurtured a passion for drama and she will run a drama session in the classroom each Tuesday!

**This semester** we will be studying electricity in our science studies. We will look at the sources, transfer and transformation of electricity and how this understanding helps us to make decisions about it’s use.

In our HSIE studies we are looking at Cultural Diversity, and will take an in depth look at a range of cultures through art, food and geography.

**During the term** students will have the opportunity to represent the school in the Premier’s Spelling Bee, Public Speaking Competition and Athletics. Year 5 and 6 students will also sit the Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition in August.

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Students from our school recently undertook an educational tour of the national capital and were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of this excursion the Australian Government contributed funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program and this was deducted from each student’s costs.
Welcome Back to the K-1 Room!
Our animal menagerie has expanded again! (and no it is not more bones) On Monday 'Henny Penny Hatchery' delivered 4 live chicks and 12 incubated eggs to watch hatch and grow over the next two weeks. It is a wonderful experience and we look forward to lots of learning opportunities from watching our chickens hatch and grow. At the end of the fortnight the chickens are able to be rehomed. If you would like any chicks please come and see me. It will be on a first serve/first enquiry basis.

Homework will continue to go home on Tuesdays and returned on the following Monday. Homework has been slightly altered but should be self explanatory. Kindergarten please continue to practice sight words at home and your sounds. Don’t forget the importance of home reading and the nightly consistency. I’m looking forward to a busy and exciting term.

Year 2-3 News

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a fabulously relaxing holiday ready for a great term three!

This term in the 2/3 room we are looking at the cultural diversity that makes Australia such a wonderful place to live from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. We will research cultures through sport, dance, art, film, music, storytelling and cooking and would love to hear from any family members or guests that have experience to share about their own culture!

There is no homework or spelling this week but please return your homework folders ready for next week and don’t forget your home readers!!

Ms Sewell.
Canberra Diary

By Lochee

Day 1. I woke up very early and got ready. Mum, Rudi, Dad and me drove to school and waited for the other students. They arrived and then we got on the bus and drove to Canberra. When we got there we went to the National Gallery of Australia and saw pictures, carvings and sculptures. Then we went to the National Museum of Australia where we did lots of hands-on work. Then we went to Parliament House and saw Joel Fitzgibbon and Kate Lundy. After that we went to the Bush Capital Lodge. On Tuesday we visited the Film and Sound Archive and saw ads and movies and then went to the National Capital Exhibition where we saw how Canberra was made into a city. We went to Ainslie School for lunch and relays and then went to the Australian War memorial and looked at a lot of things. My favourite was a plane called the Mosquito. Then we had dinner and went to i-Play to play dodgem cars and laser tag. On Wednesday we got ready to leave and went to the CSIRO and did a lot of things like playing with magnets, turtles and electricity. Then we went to Questacon and had so much fun! Then we went home and I went to sleep really fast.