We have enjoyed a terrific start to the term! The students have come back refreshed and there is a real buzz happening in the classrooms. Looking forward to a fantastic last term for 2015.

Earn and learn vouchers! Thank you to everyone who collected Earn and learn vouchers on behalf of Laguna PS. These have been redeemed and have been used to buy classroom resources such as magnetic letters, dice, science kits and dominoes. Very handy!

Selective Schools 2017 Applications. For students starting Year 7 in 2017 (currently Year 5), applications open for selective schools open on October 13 and close on November 16. The test takes place on 10 March 2016. Applications are on-line only. More information can be found at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. Please complete and return the attached Intention to Apply letter attached to this newsletter and contact me for any further information.

Our thoughts are with Ms Sewell as she gamely battles both a chest and a throat infection. A huge thanks to Mr Cagney who has stepped in to continue delivering the 2/3 learning program and is doing a great job!

Kindergarten Orientation resumes this week. Dates for the term are 16th October, 6th, 13th and 27th November.

Swimming Notes! A reminder for all notes and payments to be made to the front office for this very important program.

Let’s Get Physical. Sport over the next four weeks will include some Zumba sessions with Brody and Jade’s mum Milly. This promises to be a lot of fun and highly physical!

Students enjoyed a fantastic day with Adam exploring elements of Aboriginal culture.

2015 Presentation Night. Pop it into your diary—Tuesday 8th December is Laguna Public School’s Presentation Night. Planning is underway. Any parents who are able to help with costuming prior to, and during the night, please let me know.

Chess Competition. The chess competition is drawing to a close with Trevor, Lochee, Ryder, Ben and Harry playing off in the finals to decide the 2015 Chess Champion. Thanks Mrs Baker for running this competition throughout the year.

Have a great week! - Mr Howe
School Matters!

School attendance.
Thank you parents for notifying the school if you know in advance that your child will be absent for the day. In instances where your child is ill please send a note, email or phone the school to enable our attendance records to be updated.

Updating Details.
A reminder to parents to please inform the office if any of your details change ie: emergency contacts, phone no, medical issues.

Glass dishes—There are still a couple of glass dishes and some plastic containers in the front office that need collecting by parents please.

Senior News

This term in the senior classroom we are studying Rainforests. Rainforests cover about 6% of the Earth’s surface but contain roughly 50% of all known plant and animal species. Students will be studying the rainforest ecosystem through an in-class research project and a library project to go home later this term.

Our students have expressed a strong desire to house chooks up in our vegetable gardens, and Tess and Hunter’s dad Scott has offered to help. First step is the timber, and on Monday morning year 4/5/6 students will travel down Watagan Creek Road where Scott will demonstrate his milling machine as he turns logs into building timber. Permission notes have gone home.

Students have sent their short stories off for the second writing competition this year. They have also submitted poems for the poetry competition. Prizes will be announced at Presentation Night.

Year 6 students will spend a portion of the next four Wednesdays at Paxton PS participating in Newcastle University’s highly regarded Careers Through Science program. On the 2nd December, Year 5 and 6 students will participate in the Careers Through Reading program, also to be held at Paxton PS.

Our grammar focus this week is on prepositions, words that tell you where the noun in the sentence is, eg. I found an amount of money inside the purse. Great for improving sentence writing. This week in maths Year 4 students are starting work on reading time, year 5 students are finishing off decimal addition and are moving into multiplying decimals while Year 6 students are working with large numbers and algebra.

Busy times!

October Reminder!
Reduce fuel around your house: remove leaves, twigs and firewood.
**K-1 News with Ms Fitz**

What a lovely start back in K/1!
We have started on our K/1 blog which you can access at home. I have sent home instructions on how to do this but if you need help, just let me know!

K/1 began their celebrations topic with a trip to Australia. We flew to Sydney airport with the help of our hostesses, Jade and Georgie and our immigration officer, Ruby. Students got their own passport, had them stamped, were seated on the plane and landed safely. During our time in Australia, we wrote information reports and an animal report on wombats! The kids are very excited for our next journey – China!

We have also been revising counting backwards (especially with kinders) and you can help them at home by counting **everything**! Count backwards from different starting places and get your child to count along with you.

In science, we’ve started our unit on mixtures. Lots of experiments to come!

Until next time,

Ms Fitz

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**News From The Garden!**

Our sixth and final garden bed has been completed and new soil has been delivered to fill three beds. Thanks to a successful grant application by Harper’s mum Sally, a watering system will be installed this term so that we can plant seedlings that hopefully will be bearing fruit when we return in the new year—thank you John (Harper’s dad) for organising this. In the meantime, all parents are **very welcome** to pick any leaves or herbs that can be used in cooking at home!
Positive Behaviour for Learning Awards

Ruby—K/1 award for Respect.

Phoenix—K/1 award for Responsibility, and the Sports Award for concentration and skills!

Tamsyn—K/1 award for Responsibility.

Trevor—4/5/6 award for Respect, and the Sports Award for leadership!

Annabelle—4/5/6 award for responsibility in learning!

Bela—4/5/6 Playground Award for honesty in games.

Skye - Sports award for Compassion, and showing kindness and leadership in sport.

Nirikai - K/1 Playground Award for Compassion—being a great friend in handball.

Congratulations to all of our PBL Award Winners. You make a difference!