Week 5! Almost half way through Term 1 already. It has been a very busy start to the term with children attending Life Education Van, the first round of the cricket knockout, district swimming, photos, boys basketball trials, Korean visitors and Clean Up Australia Day later this week. Every week at Armidale City provides amazing opportunities for our students to learn and achieve, thanks to the commitment of our great staff and parents.

Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent Information Evenings. It was great to see so many parents actively involved in their children’s education and eager to find out how they can support their children’s learning. Parents who were unable to attend can obtain the information sheets from their child’s teachers.

Congratulations to all students who braved the cold weather last Thursday to participate in the District Swimming Carnival. All children represented our school with pride and can be proud of their achievements. I would like to congratulate Mrs Kelly on her hard work at the carnival. As District Coordinator, Mrs Kelly was responsible for the organisation of officials and events. Congratulations also to all the students who have made it to the regional finals. We are fortunate enough to have 14 students who will go on to compete at the North West Swimming Championships on 10 March 2014. The students will be included in next weeks sports report. We wish them all the best of luck.

A reminder that tonight is the P&C’s Welcome BBQ which is followed by their AGM. Come along and enjoy meeting other parents. Joining the P&C is a great way to meet new families and attending the meeting does not mean you have to take on a job or leadership role.

**Parent-Teacher Meetings**
This year, we have made the decision to move our parent teacher meetings from the end of Semester 1 to Term 1. The reason for this is to give teachers and parents an opportunity to make contact early in the year and to share information about each individual child’s learning and social needs. Many teachers and parents have found that having meetings half way through the year does not enable them to share important information about each child which is valuable in establishing learning goals for children.

The Parent-Teacher meeting is intended to be a short informal chat and will take place in Weeks 7 and 8 of this term. Teachers will not have a written report or formal assessment data to share at this time. However, kindergarten parents will receive the Best Start report which is generated from the initial testing at the start of the year. Next week children will take home a letter outlining each teachers available times to meet. I would encourage all parents to take this opportunity to meet with their child’s teacher to establish a positive relationship and discuss
your child’s strengths and areas of need.

Good luck to the girls cricket team who are playing in the first round of the knockout and the students participating in the tennis trials this Friday.

Cherrie Paterson
Principal (A)

Winter Hockey Registrations: City Hockey Club is looking for players for teams in the Friday evening junior competition. Teams are U11, U13 and U16s divisions. PH Paul 6772 4089 AH for further information.

DENTAL CARE
Have you heard? There is an exciting new dental care initiative available through Medicare, the Child Dental Benefit Schedule! Eligible families receiving Tax Benefit A or B with children 2-17 years old are entitled to $1000 over 2 years for dental treatment to spend at their private dentist. Phone your private dental practice for more information or 132 150 (Medicare)

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
- Family Relationship Centre
- Exchange Students Families needed
- Stamps
- Tuition
- Babysitting
- After School Care
- Mini Basketball
- Hockey
- Uralla Market Day 8 March
- Campus Canter
- Blue Light Disco

If you would like more information on these events please call into our office and check out our Community Noticeboard.

Getting Along Key
Over the next few weeks students will be completing lessons on GETTING ALONG. Here are some helpful hints to use at home.

Things to say to encourage Getting Along behaviour:

- “You co-operated well!”
- “Sharing helps you be a good friend.”
- “You are a helpful person.”
- “Solving this problem without fighting shows you are really getting along.”
- “You have a real talent for getting along.”

*Teach being tolerant of others. Accept people who are different and do not judge people who act wrongly.

*Think first: when someone treats you badly, think about the best way to act and how your actions may affect another person’s feelings.
Inter-School Visit  Chorim Elementary School

During Week 4 a group of 17 students and 3 teachers from Chorim Elementary School in South Korea visited Armidale City Public School. The students are from the global class that has weekly lessons with one of the Stage 3 classes. Each Friday throughout 2013 these students had classes together and presented a range of lessons from geography, history, culture and schooling to everyday life. Students prepared and presented the lessons themselves. They were also paired up with an Armidale student and kept in regular contact via email.

The South Korean students arranged for a week long visit to Armidale to enable them to stay with their ‘e-pal’ and experience what an Australian student experiences. They were able to participate in a range of lessons, presented items at our school assembly and spent a day at Thalgarrah Environmental Education Centre. Here they got to fish, bushwalk, light a fire, cook their own lunch and handle a range of creatures. These experiences were all very new and different for them. Evenings were also organised with a session of ten-pin bowling and a trip to the movies.

This week proved to be a valuable experience for all students and teachers involved and has continued to strengthen our partnership with Chorim Elementary. I would like to thank all of the families who so generously provided accommodation for these students and made them feel so welcome and a part of the family.

Mrs Maria Russell
Class Teacher
Harmony Day March 19th 2014

On Harmony Day we celebrate living in a community that strives to live in peace and harmony by showing respect, understanding and kindness towards others.

On Wednesday 19 of March, 2014 students are asked to try and wear something orange as a symbol of peace and harmony. If any student wishes to wear their traditional national dress we encourage them to do so.

We are planning to hold a multicultural food tasting event for the students in each classroom at 1:00pm, and would appreciate it if families could send along a labelled dish of finger food in the morning to share at lunch. If you do wish to make a hot dish, please assist by bringing it up to your child’s classroom by 12:30pm as we have limited heating facilities. Children are asked to bring a plastic/paper dish or plate and spoon to use on the day. Parent helpers to assist with sharing lunch on the day would be greatly appreciated. If you can help, please indicate below.

After lunch the students will be doing activities with a language focus relating to Harmony Day and its importance.

We hope you will help us to celebrate Harmony Day and promote peace!

Harmony Day March 19th 2014

Please indicate below, if your child can bring a dish to share with his or her class members for lunch on Harmony Day. Notes are to be given to class teachers, thank you.

My child will / will not be able to bring a dish to share on Harmony Day.

I can/ cannot help with serving lunch between 1pm and 1:45pm on the
day (Parent/Carers name) _______________________________

Yours sincerely,

Alison Cornall
EAL/D-English as an additional language or dialect Teacher