Welcome back to Term 2. This term is slightly shorter than last term but when looking at the calendar I can see that we have just as much happening in and around the school including many sporting events, Eisteddfod and the Fete. There are quite a few important messages for this week’s newsletter.

This is my last newsletter as the acting Principal of this fantastic school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents, staff and students for their ongoing support over the past two and a half years. It has a privilege to be a part of a school community that values learning and where a culture of success is encouraged. I would like to make special mention of the office staff, the school executive and the P&C who have been invaluable throughout my time as acting principal. I look forward to handing over the school to Mr Matthew Hobbs next Monday and stepping back into the classroom. I know all members of the school community will welcome Matthew and continue to support the school.

It is only 10 days to go until our annual Mother’s Day Fete. The P&C and Fete Committee are working very hard to prepare for this big event. This week's Fete Bulletin has all the news about what is happening and lists some areas where help is still needed. Parents who can provide even just a few hours of help on the day would be most welcome. Hopefully this week lots of beautiful bags will come in. Attached to the Blue and White are the flyers for children to hand to friends and put in local mail boxes. Don't forget those raffle tickets.

This Friday is a MUFTI DAY and the price for coming out of uniform is a bottle for the bottle stall. All children are encouraged to fill a bottle with goodies. The bottle may have anything in it such as sweets, toys or crayons, practically anything that can be sold as a part of the bottle stall. K-2 students' bottles will be collected from classrooms or at assembly and 3-6 will be collected on lines on Friday morning.

**BOOK CLUB**
Due back to Front Office before Wednesday 14 May 2014

**Tuesday 6 May 2014**
2pm
ASSEMBLY WITH A DIFFERENCE
PLEASE COME ALONG

**BOOKS TO COVER**
If any parent has a few hours to spare we have some new books for K-2 which require covering. Please see Mrs Paterson if you are able to help.
A reminder that the green shed is open every morning from 8.30am to receive donations of all kinds.

Thank you to all the wonderful students, staff and parents who marched or assisted in the ANZAC March last Thursday. ANZAC ceremonies are always quite moving and it was great to see our students getting into the spirit of the ceremony.

Great News!
The orchestra will be starting again in Week 3 thanks to the support of NECOM.

Over the past years our school has been privileged to have great music teachers to help support our music programs, orchestra and choirs. Mr Laurie Pulley is one of those amazingly talented people whose love for music and teaching has been the reason our school has had such a strong music focus and an orchestra and many orchestral groups. Unfortunately, Mr Pulley is unable to continue leading the orchestra. We thank Mr Pulley for his skill and passion over the past years in supporting music in our school. Mr Pulleys expertise will be dearly missed.

In partnership with NECOM, two new music teachers will be working with students in our school to form a new orchestra. April and Ben will be at next weeks assembly to introduce themselves and talk about the exciting new orchestra that will start in Week 3. Students who play or are learning an instrument are welcome to join the orchestra. April and Ben will be seeking new members to play a range of instruments within the orchestra.

I would like to thank Mr Greg Johnson who is one of our very generous parents for his willingness to fix the basketball nets before last terms big game. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.

Reminders
~Next Thursday is the School’s Cross Country. A note was sent home today with the details of this event.
~The Stage 3 leadership conference is next Monday. This is a great opportunity for our school leaders to further develop their leadership skills ready for our vertical groups this term. I encourage all Year 6 students to attend the conference next Monday.

ADVANCE NOTICE
Monday May 19 is the AGM for the school council. The meeting will be held in the Principals office.

Mrs Cherrie Paterson
Acting Principal

Congratulations

BRONZE AWARDS
KR Kaelem Thapa
1/2S Seb Brotherson

SHEEP POO
Saturday 12 April saw a motivated group of parents and children putting in an afternoon, volunteering to ACPS fundraising, in the fresh country air.

On behalf of the Sheep Poo fete stall a big thank you to the following for all the shovelling and bagging of approx. 400 bags.

Jen, Hugh and Leo Watson-Rote, Margie, Rob and Clancy Roberts (big thanks for organizing the shed access), Wayne Gaw, Simone, Phil, Aaron and Finlay Coop, Pauline Sindel (thank you for helping to organize bags etc), Andrew, Elaine, Lachlan and Tom Simpson, Katrina Llewellyn and Damien Tyers, Leanne Cooper, Rob Trendall and Felix Bowles, Angela, Phoebe, Heather and Marcus Girard.

A reminder that bags of sheep poo can be ordered, from the front office or by email beemer_au@yahoo.com.au. Bags will be on sale at the fete.

Mr Andrew Simpson
Sheep Poo Coordinator
SCIENCE FAIR 2014
During Term 2 all students in Years 3-6 will be participating in our biannual Science Fair. This will involve students choosing a topic that interests them, developing a related question/hypothesis, testing their hypothesis and drawing conclusions. The expectation is that the students will bring a display or poster (not the whole experiment—just the poster or display) to share their findings with their class during their science lesson during Week 6 (2-6/6/14).

This is an assessment activity and will involve parents assisting their children (not doing it for them I) to test their hypothesis at home so they are able to present it at school as a finished poster presentation during their science lessons. A selection of the most interesting items will be on display in the hall foyer during Weeks 7/8.

I have included some video links below which will show exactly what is expected. I will be showing the children these same videos as part of the planning process during the first two weeks of the term. The students will also be given a detailed outline of how to complete this activity. The most important aspect is that the children have an interest in what they are experimenting with and my advice would be to keep it simple. If children have issues with accessing the internet at home they are able to do this during 2nd half lunch in the library. Printing off information is not possible, they will need to take notes or bring a USB stick to save information to.

http://youtu.be/60__fHx9NFU Science Fair Project Demo - Matt Johnson
http://youtu.be/3mXS30n40Fo What is a science fair project—Thescienceclassroom.org
http://youtu.be/UcAIwuJ7O-c Science fair ideas and tips - Steve Spangler - National fairs

I look forward to seeing some great scientific experiments and hearing about them from our students.

Craig McGrath
Science Co-ordinator

Best Dressed Toy Competition
Gold coin required for entry, parents, grandparents & friends vote for the best dressed toy and the toy with the most amount of votes wins a voucher to the value of $50 at Prue & Olive Café.
- Best Dressed Toys can be dropped off outside Kinder rooms at pick up time, each afternoon until the fete.
- Please meet up with Jules who will tag your special toy and collect the gold coin entry fee.
- Good luck! And remember to vote at the fete for the Best Dressed Toy.

NRMA Science & Road Safety Day – Thursday 22 May at 2:40pm in the School Hall.
Our school will be hosting an NRMA Science & Road Safety Day, a new road safety program delivered by NRMA Motoring & Services as part of its commitment to road safety. Our school was chosen to take part in this free program that will visit 100 schools across NSW and ACT and educate 40,000 students.

This program looks at road safety from a science perspective so that children better understand the forces that act on humans when in motion so that road safety messages such as "Wear your seatbelt" or "Wear your bike helmet" become more relevant.

Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe and so we would like to invite you to a workshop where we will review the key road safety messages that were covered on the day and also learn more about what you can do to keep your children safe on the road.

Mrs Sue Kelly
Coordinator

Application for Opportunity Class Placements
Parents of Year 4 students who may be interested in applying for a Year 5 Opportunity Class Placement in 2015 are advised that this process is now open. Please note that there is NO Opportunity (OC) Class in Armidale—the closest class is in Tamworth. Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an online application or a written application by 16 May 2014. Generally students are in Year 4 in 2014 when applying for Year 5 entry in 2015. Online applications opened on 28 April 2014. All other applicants must complete an official printed application form. Application packages will be available in schools from 1 May 2014. Any enquiries by parents regarding opportunity class school placement should be directed to the Selective High School and Opportunity Class Placement unit on 9707 6262.
**Basketball is Back!!!**

Armidale Minibasketball begins the new term on Monday 5 May with new teams and new activities. So don't forget to turn up, otherwise we won't know you want to play.

Miniball is basketball for primary school children and this term we are going to try something different. We are bringing back the younger age group of Kinder to year 2 - all by themselves. This session will run from 4pm - 4.50 and will include a training session followed by a mini game. If they want, they can stay back for an extra game with the next group.

Players in years 3 & 4 can turn up at 4.50 for their game. The first few weeks are dedicated to forming teams and getting new players in. Year 5 & 6 players turn up at 5.40 to have their game.

Games are held on Mondays at The Den, located at AHS. The first round for term 2 will be on Monday 5th May. Come along and try it out for a week to see if you like it; new players are always welcome. Game cost is $5 per game or $35 per term with the Annual Registration $25.

We have a free training session on Wednesday afternoons at 4.30 - 5.30 beginning 7th May at The Den and this is open to all students, even if they do not play basketball. There is no cost to this training.

If you would like to participate in this fabulous game, please contact Judy Monaghan on 67727771 or 0417622859 or catch us on email at armball@bigpond.com. We put all children into teams with as many friends as possible.

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### 2014– Clothing Pool Winter Uniform Orders

The clothing pool is currently taking orders for raincoats and winter trousers. The raincoats have a polar fleece lining. The girls' pants are a warmer thicker style and excellent quality. A sample of each garment will be on display at the front office. Please fill out the order form below and return with your exact payment to the front office. Orders will be taken until Friday 23 May. Or you may want to place your order at the School Stall at the fete. Thank you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; class</th>
<th>Raincoats Sizes 4-16 @ $32</th>
<th>Boys double knee pants Sizes 4-18 @ $24</th>
<th>Boys Cargo pants Sizes 4-14 @ $26 Sizes 16-18 @ $30</th>
<th>Girls bootleg navy pants Sizes 4-14 @ $30 Sizes 16-18 @ $33</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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**Bush Dance**

In June 2014 a group of volunteers from Armidale will travel to Pentecost Island in Vanuatu to assist with building a new classroom at Ranwadi College.

Please join with us to raise the funds required to purchase building materials

**on Saturday 3rd May, 6.00pm**

**at NEGS Multi Purpose Centre**

Tickets $20 Adults, $10 Children (5-12yrs) & $15 Students

Various items will be up for grabs in a silent auction!

Includes BBQ dinner, dessert and music By Patterson's Curse

RSVP required for catering purposes. Tickets available from: Warren: 0401 248 391 or Linda: 0423 329 775 lagnews@une.edu.au
MUFTI DAY is Friday this week for the Bottle Stall!

2nd May is Mufti Day. All students are invited to wear mufti this Friday – just bring in a clean jar or bottle filled with small goodies for the bottle stall (Some great bottle fillers are soaps, hair scrunchies, stickers, pencils, small toys or bouncy balls). The bottle stall is ALWAYS a sell-out! Bring in more than one bottle if you can, thank-you for supporting the fete and your school!!

IT’S TIME TO BRING IN DONATIONS!

DONATIONS can be dropped off at the Sports Shed each morning from Thursday 1st May between 8:30 – 9:30am … STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN HOUSE POINTS FOR DONATING!

What can you donate?
- Second-hand items in good condition: clothes, books, CDs, magazines, games, toys, household items ...
- Potted plants for the plants stall.

Volunteers needed to accept donations – can you spare half an hour?

STAGE DONATIONS to be given to class teachers (each stage will focus on collecting for a particular stall. See class teachers with any questions):
- Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 – small prizes for Lucky Dip etc (bags will come home soon for you to put a special prize in)
- Stage 2 – Cake Stall (bags and trays will come home soon, so think about what you might cook!)
- Stage 3 – Beautiful Baskets (details and bags soon to be sent out)

CAN YOU SPARE HALF AN HOUR TO HELP ON A STALL?
The stalls we need helpers for are: Beautiful Baskets, Choc Or Not Stall, Hook a Duck, Toy Stall, Book & Bottle Stall and the Used Baby Goods Stall.

If you can contribute a small part of your day to help on a stall, contact Leanne on 0488 559 928 or Katrina on 0424 402 622.

IS YOUR PET READY FOR THE PET SHOW?
The very popular fete pet show is on the program again this year. Show off your special pet – furry, feathered or finned is fine. Special categories for best dressed and even stuffed toy pets!

**New stall**

**BEST DRESSED TOY COMPETITION**

Gold coin required for entry, parents, grandparents & friends vote for the best dressed toy and the toy with the most amount of votes wins a voucher to the value of $50 at Prue & Olive Café.
- Best Dressed Toys can be dropped off outside Kinder rooms at pick up time, each afternoon until the fete.
- Please meet up with Jules who will tag your special toy and collect the gold coin entry fee.
- Good luck! And remember to vote at the fete for the Best Dressed Toy.
SELL SOME RAFFLE TICKETS ... and bring them in!
Mother’s Day Fete Raffle tickets went home with the last Blue and White. (If you need more tickets, they are available from the front office)
There are some fantastic prizes on offer for raffle winners ... There are also prizes for the children who sell the most tickets!
While we don’t encourage children to sell tickets door-to-door ... family, friends and anyone who walks in your door are fair game!
Ticket stubs and collected money should be returned to the front office prior to fete day. Don’t forget to write your child’s name and class on the front of the booklet so that they can have a chance at winning a prize!
(It is fine if you prefer not to sell tickets, but could you please return your unsold booklets to the front office)

DON’T FORGET TO PRE-ORDER YOUR SHEEP POO
... it always sells out quickly!
The order form was attached to the last week’s Blue and White or stop by the office for another copy if you need one.

Hand out fliers
Attached to the B&W are fliers for the fete, these are for distributing in letterboxes in your street, please hand out to promote our Mother’s Day fete!!

GET INVOLVED ...
by dropping the slip below into the front office or contacting this year’s fete coordinators: Leanne Cooper coops.4@bigpond.com or 0488 559 928 ; and Katrina Llewellyn: katrinallewellyn3@gmail.com or 0424 402 622.

I can help! Name: __________________________ Contact Details: __________________________
Child/ren: __________________________ Class/es: __________________________
All help is voluntary but very gratefully received!