Dear Parents and School Community,

It has been a very busy two weeks with all students well and truly settled into the normality of Term One.

**Cluster Activity:** Last Friday saw our first Cluster activity with the students and staff from Lemnos Primary School visiting our wonderful school. The students had a great afternoon at the Melbourne University pool on site. We completed a variety of small challenges and the students also had some free time playing with the Lemnos students.

**Music lessons** with Helen Rankin also commenced last Friday and I was very impressed with some of the musical talent on display.

**Homework Routines:** All students have completed some testing and the recommended daily home routine is as follows:

* 10 minutes reading to an adult.
* Practice spelling words that are tested every Friday.
* At times, some science activities may require a little bit of home research.

When listening to your child read, the important routine is the conversations about the text before, during and after reading.

In order to develop higher level literacy, it is important to spend some time making predictions about the text or new chapter. Ask your child some questions about what they think may happen in the story or in the next chapter. Looking at the pictures, what sort of person do you think the main character is? These are inferential questions that develop higher level thinking. The question time is almost as important as the actual reading – the oral conversation is essential.

**Emergency Management:** Last Thursday I attended a very productive meeting with the OHS staff at Melbourne University, Police and other tenants of Dookie Campus. Our detailed Emergency Management plan will be updated to reflect the outcome of the meeting. After the meeting I invited the Melbourne University Emergency Management consultant to inspect our school. He assured me our building was very well modified should we need to remain in school if a fire started and we did not have sufficient time to evacuate offsite. Thanks to Julie McNiece for ensuring this visit occurred.

**Shrove Tuesday:** On Tuesday 9th of February, all students participated in a short research task about the history of Shrove Tuesday and then spent time cooking up a storm. The smells in the kitchen were almost irresistible and every student took their turn cooking delicious pancakes. Some students even had room for 2nds or 3rds.

**Welcome Barbecue:** This Friday, 19th of February the School Council has organised a welcome to 2016 BBQ at school commencing at 6pm. It will be BYO meat and a salad to share. Hopefully everyone has received an invite email from Sarah with more specific details.

**Term One Sporting Schools Activity:** Currawa and Dookie Primary Schools will be traveling to Shepparton to participate in a five week Ten Pin Bowling program that commences on Tuesday 23 February. The other dates are still awaiting confirmation due to clashes with Art and the Star Bowl availability.

In Term Two, students will be completing a modified golf program with Dookie Primary School. The venue will be finalised closer to the end of Term One.

**Parent-Teacher Interviews:** Interviews will be on Wed 24th of February from 9:30 till 11am and Thurs 25th from 3:45 till 5:30pm. Please nominate two preferred times and we will do our best to accommodate you. Booking times are 15 minutes and it is appreciated if families are prompt for their appointment. If these dates do not suit, please make contact with the school and we will make an alternative booking.

**School Bus Reminder:** A friendly reminder from the School Council to all bus users that this service operates on a user pay system. Should families experience difficulties with payments, please make contact with the office and a payment plan can be easily organised.

**Brendan Kenna – Acting Principal.**
CALENDAR

FEBRUARY
- Tues 16th - MACC Art
- Fri 19th - Welcome barbecue
- Mon 22nd - Book club orders due in
- Wed 24th - MARC Library
- Wed 24th - Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Thurs 25th - Parent/Teacher Interviews

MARCH
- Tues 1st - MACC Art
- Wed 9th - MARC Library
- Fri 11th Cluster Day - Aquamoves
- Mon 14th - Labour Day Holiday
- Tues 15th - MACC Art
- Wed 16th - School Council AGM @ 6:00pm
- Wed 23rd - MARC Library
- Thurs 24th - End of Term 1

APRIL
- Mon 11th - First day of Term 2

SCHOOL FEES
** Please note that outstanding fees for 2015 need to be paid as soon as possible.

At the final School Council meeting last year, school fees for 2016 were set. For 2016 fees are $170, and all bus travellers will pay $125 per term per family. Fees can be paid directly into the school account at:
BSB: 033 209
Account No: 14 1753
Account Name: Currawa Primary School Official Account
Please put family name and details on payment so information can be linked.
If parents find it easier we are quite happy to organise a payment plan so families are not burdened with a large one-off payment. Please see us at the school to make these arrangements.

CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION
Thank you to those families who have returned this form. We still have a couple outstanding and will attach a copy to the newsletter of those families who need to return them.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
Issue 1 of Scholastic Book Club is going home today. Could all order forms and payment be returned to the school by next Monday, February 22nd.

STUDENT WORK

Lemnos Cluster Day
On Friday, 5th of February, Lemnos Primary School came to Currawa to go to the pool.
Before we went in the pool we talked about: rules and water safety. Some of the rules were: NO RUNNING, NO BOMBING and NO DIVING.
We had some water safety races, Currawa VS Lemnos. Do you know who won? It was Currawa!!! We were so happy and amazed that we were able to beat Lemnos.
It was fun playing with some friends from Lemnos as well as learning about water safety.
We’re going to do it again.

From Jessica

Shrove Tuesday
On Tuesday, 9th of February, Mr Kenna talked to us about Shrove Tuesday.
Nobody knew about it so for five minutes as collaborative working teams we went on the computers and considered 3 hints Mr K provided us.
We were given the word history, Shrove and a type of procedure.
We then looked up the words. It had to do with history, Tuesday and pancakes that are the hints Mr Kenna gave us.
The things we learnt were that Shrove Tuesday is a traditional day to eat pancakes and back in the old days people would eat all the perishable items.
The perishable items were milk, eggs and flour and all of it went out of date so they wanted a food that they could and would last long.
So for Shrove Tuesday we made pancakes and ate them it was a fun thing to do because everyone learnt something.

From Gabi
Cluster activities afternoon with Lemnos

Shrove Tuesday cooking