Dear Parents and School Community,

It was great for Rosalie and I to catch up with parents at last week’s Parent Teacher Interviews. Our students have all set individual learning goals for the Semester in the areas of Literacy, Numeracy, Science and Social and Emotional Learning. We are looking forward to a very fruitful Semester with a focus on our Primary Connections Science Program, the Big Write, Spelling and improving our knowledge of Times Tables facts.

I am very happy (and relieved) to announce that we have a new school uniform Polo Shirt. This process began in Term 3 and I would like to thank Kat for all of her hard work. It was a battle to find a School Polo Shirt in Navy and Emerald that was available in all sizes, but we were eventually able to source one through Red Back Promotions in Shepparton. Due to the discounts available by ordering in bulk, the school will handle orders for this initial batch only (All future orders will be made directly through Red Back). Please see the attached order form and return it by next Monday 23rd February at the latest. There are sample shirts at school to try on but Rosalie and I have fitted each student if you are happy to go with our suggestion. We have allowed a little ‘growing room’ for each student of course!

I have also included prices for embroidered School Jumpers and Jackets which will be available in either a ‘Softshell’ Jacket or Fleece. It is up to parents and students as to which they prefer, as both will be deemed acceptable School Uniform. It would be wise to order these now in this initial batch as they will also be available at a discounted rate for this order only.

I can also confirm that we have purchased a school set of embroidered Science Laboratory coats. Not only will this make students and teachers ‘look the part’, we should also be safer and cleaner while conducting scientific experiments!

I would also like to take this chance to thank Lee and Rosalie for their hard work over the school holiday period. It is no coincidence that the school looked great upon the student’s return. Not only were most plants saved from a dry January, our new Science Laboratory had a complete clean out and facelift, shelving was painted, our Art Supply shed was reorganised, our outdoor timber seating was sanded and treated, hedges were clipped, gardens were weeded, paths and courts were blown, sandpits were tidied, etc. etc. We are very lucky to have these two ladies care so much about our wonderful school so next time you see them, please say thanks!

We are continuing with our next School Council Meeting this Wednesday afternoon at 3:30pm. It is not the AGM and I have already received some apologies for this meeting. Our AGM is later in the Term on Wednesday 18th March and we will schedule this for 6pm in an attempt to maximise attendance. Thanks for reading.

Adam Cleary – Principal.
CALENDAR

FEBRUARY
- Mon 16th - MACC Art
- Wed 18th - AFL Visit - Congupna PS
- Wed 18th - School Council Meeting @ 3pm
- Wed 25th - MARC Library

MARCH
- Mon 2nd - MACC Art
- Mon 9th - Labour Day Holiday
- Tues 10th - Responsible Pet Ownership
- Wed 11th - MARC Library
- Mon 16th - MACC Art
- Wed 18th - School Council AGM @ 6pm
- Wed 25th - MARC Library
- Fri 27th - End of Term 1

APRIL
- Mon 13th - First day of Term 2

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) has had a name change to Department of Education and Training (DET). They still offer all the same services.

AFL CLINIC
We will be attending an AFL Clinic at Congupna Primary School on Wednesday, February 18th. A permission note is attached and needs to be returned tomorrow.

FORTNIGHTLY SCIENCE FACT

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM
The School Council Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00pm. All office bearer positions (President, Vice-President and Treasurer) will be declared open for nomination and an election will take place.

BARR REMINDER
Currawa Primary School is in the Northern Country Fire District and listed on the Department of Education and Training (DET) Bushfire at risk register which means that on days that are declared Code Red, the school is required to close. The DET will notify the school one to two days prior to closure so all families are informed and are ready to put in place their Fire Action Plan. On school closure days due to Code Red, children must not be left home alone.

SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDER FORM
An order form for each student for the new school uniform is attached. Please return it by next Monday 23rd February at the latest.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE
Also attached to the newsletter is the School Timetable (back to back) outlining the daily curriculum program.

The Evolution of AVA AND ANDY

Friday 30th January

Friday 6th February

Friday 13th February
SCHOOL UNIFORM OPTIONS (All Embroidered)

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<td>Full Zip Polar Vest</td>
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More information about Winter Dresses for girls will appear in the next Newsletter.

The Role of School Council

Roles and Responsibilities: the function of School Council. The role of school council is outlined in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In essence, the role of school council is one of helping to set the long term future for the school and maintaining oversight (not management) of the school’s operation. It is not about running the school – that is the job of the principal. The responsibilities of school council include:

* contributing to the development of the school strategic plan (the document that tells people what the school wants to achieve in the future and how it plans to get there)
* approving the annual budget (the financial plan for the calendar year that tells people how the school is going to provide money so it can implement its strategic plan in that year) and monitoring expenditure
* developing, monitoring, reviewing and updating policies (guiding principles designed to influence decisions, actions that the school makes)
* developing, reviewing and monitoring both the Student Engagement Policy (how the school expects students to behave, how bullying will be managed and the school’s approach to managing student behaviour) and the School Dress Code (this includes how students are expected to dress during school hours including traveling to and from school, if the school has a uniform and what that looks like, and any arrangement with clothing suppliers that the school might enter in-to)
* informing itself and taking into account the views of the school community when making decisions regarding the school and the students
* arranging for the supply of the things needed for the conduct of the school (such as goods, services, materials and equipment), including pre-school programs
* providing meals and refreshments for students and staff and charging for this
* raising money for things that the school needs
* making sure the school’s grounds and buildings are maintained
* entering into contracts for things like cleaning the school or a school council building project
* regulating and facilitating the after hours use of the school premises and grounds
* creating interest in the school within the community
* making a recommendation to the Secretary regarding principal selection

Reference: