



# Kootingal Public School STAR NEWSLETTER

"Caring, Learning and Achieving Together."

Phone: 02 6760 3332 Email: [kootingal-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kootingal-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: <http://www.kootingal-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>



Term 1 Week 2

Thursday 5th February 2015

## Kindergarten 2015



### Gold Award

Jack Witten, Boston DeBelle  
and Amity Cork



### Silver Award

Ayisha Fernando, Jack Witten,  
Boston DeBelle, Byran Zhong,  
Braidy Cork, Amity Cork,  
Daniel Worth, Shianne Spurway  
and Shanae Roach



### Important Dates to Remember Term 1 2015

Friday 6th Feb - Swimming Carnival yrs 2 to 6

Tuesday 10th Feb - Meet the teacher night

Thursday 19th Feb - Assembly by 5/6W, Item Choir

Friday 20th Feb - Zone PSSA Swimming

23rd, 24th & 25th Feb - Life Education Van

Friday 26th Feb - Clean Up Australia Day

Tuesday 3rd March - Regional PSSA Swimming

**Executive Team** - Principal - Cara Cracknell

Assistant Principal - (Kinder to Year 2) - Nicole Chegwyn (Mon - Wed)  
and Kirsty Lawrence (Thur - Fri)

Assistant Principal (Yr 3 to 6) - Anne Doak

**P & C Executive**

President: Anne Doak

Secretary: Vanessa Johnson

Treasurer: Scott Cracknell and Jenny Caslick (Canteen)



## Weekly Bronze Awards



Emily Hatton - Beautiful neat work  
 Sophie Hogg - Beautiful neat work  
 Riley Robinson - being an enthusiastic learner, a great start to school  
 Sienna Butorac, Mikyla Phillpott and Thomas Atkins - Settling in well, trying hard to do their best  
 Ty Allen and Connor Corbett - Helping teachers and peers  
 Damika Taylor - Participating in class discussions  
 Wyanete Zhong - Settled and sensible behaviour  
 Jainah Grant - A settled and confident start to the new school year  
 Harrison Witten and Jack Chapple - Enthusiastic participation in shark research tasks  
 Chelsea Nunan - Settling into her new school and class  
 Boston DeBelle - Fantastic effort with 'Fireworks' artwork  
 William Morris - Great participation during class discussion  
 Jasmine Hogan and Lyiara Fernando - Taking such care in creative arts and producing a quality piece of work  
 James Grant - Displaying excellent manners in class and being such a respectful and responsible role model  
 Jessica Coppola-Smith - Always willing to lend a hand and for excellent manners  
 Toby Taggart and Emily Nicholls - Being an attentive listener  
 Chenoa Siemsen and Jack Howard - Being organised in class

## Mrs Cracknell's Message

Welcome back to another exciting and fun-filled year at Kootingal Public School. It has been a wonderful start to our school year, welcoming both new students and our 2015 Kindergarten students. Our children have returned to school ready to learn, with loads of stories from their holidays.

Over the holiday period, we had a number of changes to both our school and staffing. As your children may have already discussed, we have welcomed a number of new teachers to our staff team. I would like to take this opportunity to provide an overview of our current staffing situation.

Mrs Neander Walsh has assumed the position vacated by Mrs Richards. Mrs Walsh is teaching Kindergarten on a Monday and conducting the K-6 music class program. Mrs Walsh is a former Assistant Principal at Hay Public School and comes to Kootingal Public School with a wealth of experience.

We have also welcomed Ms Jillian Cook. Ms Cook has taken the classroom teaching position of Mrs Mort who has continued her leave. Ms Cook comes to us from Muswellbrook South Public School and has extensive experience both at the classroom teacher and relieving Assistant Principal levels. Ms Cook is teaching our 4/5C class.

Miss Magann has returned for the first term of 2015. At this stage, we are awaiting advice from the Department's staffing unit on our submission of the vacant classroom teaching position that was vacated by Mr Ramage and Mrs Rummery.

This year we are also offering another academic initiative to our children. We have been fortunate to engage the services of a beginning LOTE (Languages Other than English) teacher in Miss Rachael Grassy. Miss Grassy is fluent in French. She will be teaching French to students in years 3 – 6 while Mrs Walsh is teaching music to our students in Kindergarten – Year 2. This will enable an hour lesson of each per week. Students will change over in semester 2. This is exciting as research shows cognitively bilingual people are better able to switch between tasks, have increased problem solving capabilities and can learn a third language more easily.

Our community has the opportunity to meet our new teachers and all existing staff Tuesday 10th February. The evening is set to commence at 6pm with nibbles provided by the P&C and cans of soft drink for sale, followed by a brief talk in the hall from 6.30pm. Classroom teachers will present two half-hour sessions for families in the classrooms. This is an ideal opportunity for families to pose questions, learn more about the workings of the classroom and become familiar with their child's teacher.

Confirmation of the music tutors for our private music tuition program is underway. At the conclusion of 2014, our guitar tutor Beau Hatch informed our school that he was pursuing his music career further afield. As a result, our expert drumming tutor, Mr Gary Lees, is conducting both drums and guitar lessons. As Mrs Richards has not returned to Kootingal Public School in 2015, we have our vocal tutor, Mrs Sally-Anne Witten, conducting both keyboard and vocal lessons. Our lessons are scheduled to commence in Week 5.

The P&C are also pleased to announce that Ms Noni Kasch accepted the volunteer canteen supervisor position. Noni has made a wonderful start to 2015 and is working closely with the P&C committee. Keep up the great work Noni!

## Support the Businesses that support our school

### Kootingal & District Bowling Club



Friday/Saturday Meat Raffles  
 2 First Class Bowling Green  
 Undercover outdoor area  
 Excellent Chinese Meals  
 Courtesy Bus  
 Children Welcome

Station Street, Kootingal Ph: 6760 3202 or Restaurant 6760 3936



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### Kootingal Hotel

More than just a local



Lunch served daily 12 – 2pm  
 Dinner - Thursday, Friday, Saturday 6pm – late  
 Pizzas - Thursday, Friday, Saturday 6pm – late  
 Enjoy the beer garden with children's playground  
 20 Gate St, Kootingal, Ph. 6760 3203  
 www.kootingalhotel.com.au

## Mrs Cracknell's Message

Our Learning and Support team has been hard at work examining different reading intervention programs to support our students who are experiencing difficulty. We currently offer *MultiLit* (Making Up for Lost Time in Literacy) and we have investigated both *MiniLit* and *Catch Up*. Like any program, we must ensure that it suits the needs of our students, targeting areas of need.

Many of our students use electronic devices on their way to school. As our policy states, our students do not use their personal electronic devices at school. Students place their electronic devices in the cane basket located in the front office. While placed there, it is not the responsibility of the school to maintain or care for them. When bringing the devices to school, families acknowledge that they remain the responsibility of the student and are brought to school at their own risk.

Late in 2014, the NSW Minister for Education approved changes to the use of the Attendance Register codes for 2015. The changes implement the ACARA National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting. ACARA developed the National Standards to establish nationally consistent parameters for the collection and reporting of student attendance data.

There are no new register codes, but the meaning of some existing codes has changed, particularly relating to the use of the exemption code (M) and the leave code (L). Information on the revised codes can be found at the following web address:

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/intranet/lists/directoratesaz/stuwelfare/stuwelling/attendance/reg-codes15.pdf>

The revisions to the codes commenced implementation from the first day of school, 2015. Please see the above information later in the newsletter. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Student absences can be advised either through in-person, a written note or a phone call to our school. Please remember that notations of 'family commitments/reasons' or plain 'appointment' will not be accepted as sufficient reasons for student absences. Greater detail is required. Families will be notified in writing of unaccepted reasons for absences.

Mrs Simpson has gotten in early in 2015 with amazing student work. 1S, or 1 Sunshine as they liked to be known, have been learning about collating data into column graphs. I am sure you will agree that they are rays of sunshine just bursting with pride about their work and being at



Kootingal Public School.



I am so proud of Keira Madden, Ally Higgins and Reba Rammage for their citizenship in the playground. They assisted a student in need and helped others to understand their decision. Well done ladies and may you continue to do such wonderful work in our school.

Lastly, congratulations to our students who were elected as the sporting House Captains for 2015. They are:

Gill Captains: Guransh Makhija and Emily Deasey

Gill Vice Captains: Dyllan Thomas and Ashley Simmonds

Dwyer Captains: Ryan Hobden and Isabella Johnston

Dwyer Vice Captains: Chloe Bayes and Charmaine Grant

Wilson Captains: Lachlan Young and Ebony Phillpott

Wilson Vice Captains: Mitchell Worth and Shanae Roach

See you all at the Swimming Carnival!

## BANKING - Thursday's

### Banking Prizes

Sophie and Ryan Hobden

### Banking Co-Ordinator

Cath Bubb and Karen Hobden



## Sherpa Kids Kootingal

WELCOME back from your holidays!

Our children in Sherpa Kids have shared their holiday adventures and no, we are not jealous one little bit.....well maybe just a little. Who wouldn't want to go to Tasmania!

Sherpa Kids Kootingal is open each day from 7am – 9am and 3.30pm-6.00pm with permanent or casual bookings offered. We provide afternoon tea as well as homework time. New enrolments and bookings are now being taken with forms available from the Centre or the Schools' front office.

For information please call 0481 364 554 or email Vicky on [tamworth@sherpa-kids.com.au](mailto:tamworth@sherpa-kids.com.au)

## Life Education Van

Life Education Van will be visiting our school in week 5. Cost per student will be \$7.00. More information will be coming home early next week.

## Support the Businesses that support our school



Industries Pty Ltd

Splitbelt Rubber 19-45 Charles St  
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## Kootingal & District Preschool Inc



There's a Preschool in the Village

Providing a stimulating & challenging program that fosters a love of learning, allowing children to celebrate & enjoy their childhood while learning skills & concepts that will prepare them not just for school but for life.

Lot 21 Chaffey Street, Kootingal  
Ph: 6760 3861  
Email: [kooti\\_preschool@bigpond.com](mailto:kooti_preschool@bigpond.com)



8am & 5pm - Denman Ave, Kootingal  
10am - New Eng. Hwy, Moonbi





## Moonbi-Kootingal Junior Cricket Club

Moonbi-Kootingal Junior Cricket Club are now inviting players to join the club for the following aged teams:

- > 9 Years mixed
- > 10 Years mixed
- > 11 Years girls/mixed/boys
- > Open boys/mixed

Under 9 competition is modified to ensure all players bat for 4 overs and all players bowl.

10 years, 11 Years and Open competition play traditional cricket format. Teams will be selected on skill level and average age of team. All interested players will be included in teams no matter what skill level. Cost will be \$40-00. This includes 8 weeks of coaching (one day per week) and Saturday match supervision and coaching. Cost also includes new game ball each Saturday.

Please contact David George 0402356245 or your Public School if you would like to play cricket in 2015. Registration forms will be available at your school. Opening match begins on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2015 of 1<sup>st</sup> term 2015.

Parents are invited to nominate for coaching positions of teams.

**Come along and have some fun playing the great game of cricket.**



Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School  
585 Calala Lane, Tamworth



## Prospective Students & their Parents

are cordially invited to attend our

## OPEN DAY

**Wednesday 18 February 2015**

09.30am Registration and Morning Tea  
10.00am Tours commence of the classrooms, boarding facilities and farm  
11.40am Brunch  
12.10pm Tours resume  
01.00pm Address by the Principal followed by informal discussion with students & staff

Relieving Principal – Mr Clint Gallagher  
Deputy Principal Day – Mr Gus Comi  
Relieving Deputy Principal Residential – Mr David Gale

Please RSVP: Enrolments Officer 6764 8607  
Email: [kerry.hussey@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kerry.hussey@det.nsw.edu.au)

☞ Dress casual and please wear a hat ☞

Year 7 – 2016, Selective Schools Exam will be held 12 March 2015

[www.farrer.nsw.edu.au](http://www.farrer.nsw.edu.au)

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that support our school!**

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7 DAYS

## The Star Café

Term 1 Menu, 2015

**1st Break ONLY (11:30am to 12:10pm)**

### HOT Food

Cheese Burger (small bun)	\$3.00	(BBQ or Tomato Sauce)
Chicken Burger (small bun)	\$3.40	(Mayo / BBQ or Tomato Sauce)
Yummy Drummy	\$1.40	
Chicken Nuggets(5)	\$2.70	
Ham and Pineapple Pizza	\$2.60	
Cheese and Bacon Pizza	\$2.60	
Large Pie (Lite)	\$3.80	
Mini Pies (Lite)	\$1.30	
Sausage Rolls (Lite)	\$2.80	
Sauce (tom,bbq)	30c	

### Icecream

Ice Cream Cups	\$1.50
Moosies (Choc or Strawberry)	\$1.20
Monys (T n Ts)	50c

### Drinks:

Moove Milk - (Straw, Choc )	\$2.00
Water	\$2.00
Juice (Apple or Orange or Apple & Blackcurrant) 200ml	\$2.00

Red Rock and Smith Chips	\$1.40
Ovalteenies	\$1.00
Jelly Fruits	25c each



## The Star Cafe

Canteen will be open 2nd break

**Volunteers Roster for Term 1**  
Helpers are needed

Noni Kasch - Canteen Supervisor

*Tall Poppy  
Florist*

*Flowers to brighten  
your day*



Erin Wheatley  
Owner/Proprietor  
tel. 02 6761 3900  
fax. 02 6761 3911

6 Fitzroy Street  
Tamworth NSW 2340

*For all occasions*  
• bridal • balloons • funerals  
[tallpoppyfloristtamworth@myacn.net.au](mailto:tallpoppyfloristtamworth@myacn.net.au)