School Captain Induction Ceremony
It was wonderful to see how proud our new captains and parents were on Thursday during the 2013 induction ceremony. I look forward to working with Jasmine, Mitchell, Cameron and Jessie throughout the year and have every confidence that they will be exceptional leaders.

Swimming
Congratulations and thank you to students, staff and parents who worked together to make our swimming carnival a great success. We had a lovely day and the students enjoyed participating in the events both in and out of the pool. On behalf of the school community, I would like to wish our regional swimming team all the best in Armidale. The zone team participated with great sportsmanship, and experienced an excellent standard of competition. They are to be congratulated for their efforts and exemplary behaviour.

School Council
The Annual General Meeting of the school council has been set down for Wednesday 13th March at 5.00pm (before P&C AGM). All nominations for the vacant parent representative position are to be returned to school by 3.30 pm on Friday 1st of March. Please contact the school office if you require an additional nomination form.

P&C Association
We had a fabulous number of parents attend our first meeting for 2013. It was a lively and positive meeting during which many items were discussed and decisions were made. Future directions regarding P&C priorities continue to be discussion points and I look forward to our future meetings where we can finalise our goals and targets for the year. Fundraising ideas are always welcome, as it is the funds the P&C raise that helps ensure our students have access to the latest technology and resources. The Annual General Meeting for the P&C is set down for Wednesday March 13, at 7.00pm.

Maths
Our focus on improving learning outcomes for students in numeracy will continue throughout 2013. Executive staff participated in learning walks across three classrooms this week and will visit three different classrooms next week. Mr Nigel Brito will visit our school next Tuesday to work with staff during this session and lead a staff development activity in the afternoon.

Parent Information Sessions
Parent information sessions were held last week and were well attended. Thank you to our teaching staff who willingly hold these sessions in their own time to ensure parents know what is happening in our classrooms. If you were unable to attend the sessions, you are most welcome to contact the office to organise an appointment with your child's/children's teacher/s.

New Library Cabling
I would like to acknowledge the efficient and expert work completed by Kelso Services on Monday to install new power points and run the internet cabling to the new library. Ryan Kelso has generously donated $1000 of labour to this project and his support is very much appreciated. We are applying for a significant grant to upgrade the furniture, carpet and office area. We will find out later this year whether or not we are successful.

Kerrel Haire
Principal
AWARDS

Congratulations to the “You Can Do It “ award winners from Assembly Thursday 21st February:

K Maddison Train, Robert Murphy
K-1 Macie Thornton, Jasmine Hughes
Y1-2 Forbes Murdoch, Jessica
Y2 Lucy Petrie, Jack Thornton
Y3 Abbey Greentree, Oliver Brennan
Y4 Rose Garland, Deacon Tait
Y5 Tyson Holley, Joel Kiddle
Y6 Isabella Parker, Ben Stewart

Congratulations also to Meg Lesslie and Ethan Dawson who each received a Service Award.

P&C WORKING BEE

The P&C will be holding a Working Bee on Sunday 10th March at 10.00am. The jobs needing to be done include concreting, fencing and painting. If you are able to help, please bring appropriate tools. Many hands make light work.

John Klepzig
P&C President

Expressions of Interest—Operation Art
Students Visual Arts Workshop.
A full day of visual arts workshops is available for students who would like the opportunity to be enriched and creatively extended. All workshops will be taught by specialist DEC teachers using a variety of art forms.
Cost- $42.00
Where- Tamworth Regional Gallery
Date- Stage 1, 9th April
Stage 2- 10th April
Stage 3- 11th April
Time- 9:00am -3:00pm

Parents/Caregivers will need to organise transport to and from the venue. Students will need to take a paint shirt, morning tea and lunch.
Please indicate if your child wishes to attend as soon as possible, as numbers are strictly limited.

My Child would be interested in the Operation Art Workshops
Student Name ____________________________
Class __________
__________________________________________
Parent/Caregiver Signature

The Sporting Pulse

Congratulations to Thomas Haling and Ethan Gale who competed in the PSSA Tamworth Zone Tennis Trials on Monday. Both boys played exceptionally well and qualified for the final round of six. Thomas was successful, securing third position and will now represent Tamworth at the Regional trials.

Twenty five students represented our school last Friday, competing at the Tamworth Zone Swimming Carnival. Our students are to be congratulated on their exemplary sportsmanship, behaviour and the “YOU CAN DO IT” attitude they displayed, making them all winners on the day. Well done to Lara Graham, Daniel Kelly, Mitchell Henderson, Sol Arranz, Jock Button, Thomas Gallagher, and Charlie Henderson who will now travel to Armidale next Tuesday to compete in the Regional Carnival. We wish them well.

This week boys from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have been trying out for the Nemingha PSSA boy’s cricket side. Congratulations to all those boys who came out for a run. A great deal of skill and good sportsmanship was on display by boys from each year group. The team will travel to Kootingal on Thursday morning to take on Kootingal Public in the first knockout stage of the tournament.

ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

Please send notes and money to the office in a plastic zip lock bag rather than a paper envelope. They can get wet or tear easily and the money can fall out and be lost. It also assists if the slip can be folded so that the child’s name and class is visible. Your support is appreciated.

OFFICE HOURS

Please note that if you need to contact the school, our office hours are 8.45am to 4.00pm. We cannot guarantee that the phone will be answered outside these hours as teachers are usually in rooms working or in meetings. Please leave a message on the machine and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS Term 2

The 29th and 30th May will be Staff Development days in 2013. The extra day has been gazetted for staff to work on the new syllabus documents. Parents are asked to make arrangements for their children as these are pupil free days.
LIBRARY NEWS

We have had a very busy start to the year with a HUGE move down to the old hall. It is a work in progress and it is just about organised. We have had the school cabling extended to the new library which means we can now access the network and borrowing can begin.

At the last P&C meeting we asked for donations of cushions for our learning area. I would like to thank the following children and their families for their generous donations: Joel Kiddle, Robert Murphy, Louisa Hawkins, Cooper Jones and Jamie Upton. The children love using the pillows during reading time and they make it much more comfortable for them whilst sitting on our tiered learning area. So far we have 11 cushions. We would love to have a class set so no child misses out. If you would like to make a donation, K-Mart have cushions for $5 in the colours of red, green, orange, black, green and brown. These are the colours that we already have and they match the rugs very nicely!

Scholastic Book Club has been reduced to once per term. A percentage of purchases made is returned to us in the form of books for the library. Support in 2012 was fantastic, with Scholastic Book Club and the annual Book Fair providing many resources and book awards! The first issue of Book Club for our school will be out shortly so keep an eye on your children’s red folders. If you are interested in placing an order, please send them to the school office in a zip lock bag together with correct money. If you are paying by cheque, please make them payable to Scholastic Australia. A Credit Card payment slip is another option on the order form.

Library classes have already begun. Classes will be spread over the entire week, with each class being scheduled into an afternoon time slot, so we do not to disrupt our numeracy and literacy sessions.

Library Days are as follows:

K – Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Jones
K/1 – Tuesday afternoons with Mrs Jones
1/2 – Monday afternoons with Mrs Jones
Year 2 – Friday afternoon with Mrs Diss
Year 3 – Thursday afternoon with Mr Brown
Year 4 – Wednesday afternoon with Mrs Jones
Year 5 – Thursday afternoon with Mrs Diss
Year 6 – Monday afternoon with Mrs Jones

Please ensure that your child has a library bag to protect their books on these days. During the move to the new location, we found many books that have been water damaged. If you wish, there are waterproof library bags available from the office for $4.60.

I look forward to working with you all during the year in my new role as a Library Teacher. If anyone is interested in helping out in the library anyway (covering books, helping shelf and return books) please let me know and we may be able to organise a roster! I will also be organising a morning tea shortly, where I will be holding a mini working bee to cover and organise the books on the shelves, so watch this space for more details.

Joanne Jones

KOOTINGAL-MOONBI Junior Rugby League Football Club 2013 Season

$60.00 per player, includes FREE Roosters hat, shorts and socks prior to season kick off.

WHEN Saturday—2nd and 9th March 2013
WHERE Kootingal Sportsground (Drills and Skills with our seniors)
TIME 9.00am—10.00am
All ages Welcome

For further information, Ty Taggart Mob, 0428 297874 or Sebastian Lees Mob, 0409 314658

Kelso Services P/L New England
M- 0400 551 615
P- 02 6687 5354
F- 0 267 711 949

LOST

Size 6 sports shorts labeled, Tessa Thomson, from Wombat House area the day of the School Swimming Carnival. Please check in case they have turned up accidentally with your child’s clothes.

NOTELINK

Notes sent home in the last fortnight were:
- Special Assembly
- Bach to the Future Performance
- PSSA Boys Cricket Knockout
- Meal Deal
- UNSW Educational Assessment
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- Regional Swimming Carnival Armidale
- School Council AGM 5.00pm
- P&C AGM 7.00pm
- Special Easter Scripture Service 1.20pm