**Classes**

At this point, we will continue now with our current class arrangements. Thank-you to teachers, students and parents for helping to make the first two weeks of school a very smooth and positive start to the school year. We are really looking forward to an excellent year full of achievements, and with a keen focus on learning and success for all students, whether it be in academic, musical, sporting or cultural areas.

**Student Leaders**

Congratulations to newly-elected student leaders for 2015, Amber Blanch and Zahli Schrader (School Captains), Lily Pannowitz and Taygan Schulze (School Vice-Captains), and House Captains, Emily Dunn (Bea2y), Jazmyn Palmer-Smith (Gibson), and Taleah Jarvis (Thompson). Thank-you to all students who nominated for leadership positions. A large number of Year 6 students spoke very well on assembly on Thursday.

As we have reminded all students, even though we do have some official leadership positions for the seniors, all students are encouraged to engage in leadership and participation opportunities that are encouraged on a daily basis.

The investiture for student leaders will occur at Assembly in a couple of weeks. More information, soon.

**Tuckshop Commences**

Tuckshop commences this Wednesday, 11 February. A tuckshop menu was included with last week’s Informer. Please also refer to the information regarding ordering procedure.

**Permissions and Medical Form**

Parents, please complete the permissions and medical forms and return to school by this Friday. Many thanks.

**P&C Meeting**

Our first P&C meeting for this year will be held tomorrow afternoon, 11 February, commencing at 5.30 pm in the library. The Annual General Meeting, and election of the Executive for 2015, will occur prior to the general meeting. Items for discussion include P&C activities for this year. All parents are invited to attend, and most welcome.

**Swimming**

This term, students in Year 1/2, 2/3 and 3/4 will participate in the swimming program commencing next Friday, 20 Feb. Cost this year will again be $3 per week (for 6 weeks). Next week there will be some information regarding swimming arrangements.

**Principal’s Messages**

Parents, please check with teachers if you have any worries about any aspects of school routines.

**After School Program**

Our after school program will commence next week. The registration form, which is being sent home today, must be returned to school for participation in the program.

**Bus Committee Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the conveyance committee will be held next Monday 16 February, in the library. Start time is 4.15pm. All parents with children who go on one of the buses are welcome to attend.

**Prep Information Session**

Karen White will be holding an information session for Prep parents, this Wednesday afternoon after school. It will be great if parents can attend to discuss how we can work together to deliver the best outcomes for our Prep students.

**Interhouse Cross Country**

Training starts soon for our interhouse cross country event which will be held on the last day of term. All students, Prep to Year 6, compete in age-appropriate distances. House teams and colours will be listed, next week.

**Class News**

A regular page again this year will be the Class News features. This week, we hear about what’s happening in Year 5/6. Thank-you, students and teachers.
February

10 Lacey W, 13 Cody R

Admin News & Info

In the newsletter today you should receive a 2015 Parent/Guardian Permission Form (eldest in the family only) and a Medical Details form (for each student in the family). If there are any changes to the details please return the updated form to school by Friday, 13 February. Thank you.

Also included in the newsletter is the 2015 Information Booklet. Please read the document as some details have changed from previous years and keep on hand as a handy reference.

Please advise Administration if any contact details have changed, including address, telephone numbers and email. It is important we have up-to-date information so we are able to contact you if needed.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above matters, please do not hesitate to contact Cheryl or Gail in Administration. Thank-you for your assistance.

P&C News

P&C Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Kolan South State School Parents & Citizens Association will be held tomorrow Tuesday 10 February, at 5.30pm in the library.

Following the AGM, our first general P&C Meeting for 2015 will be held.

We encourage all parents to consider attending our first meeting of the year. More interest from parents means a better working P&C, including new ideas and more support for the school. All welcome.

Cake Stall Report

The recent Election Cake Stall raised $475 for the P&C. These funds will be used to support school activities in 2015. Thanks very much to all the supporters.

English

by Lily and Chloe

In English, this term, we are doing a unit on ‘Short Stories’. Short stories can involve pun, similes, metaphors, hyperbole, onomatopoeia and alliteration.

We read a short story called ‘Mission Impossible’. We have been discussing it in class and writing an analysis about the main character.

Maths

by Tyson and Rydar

In Maths, we’ve been improving our strategies for mental computations. Other features of the Maths morning include Fact of the Day and Problem of the Day. We are improving our knowledge every day.

Last week, our learning goal was to define prime and composite numbers, and know the prime numbers less than 100. How would you do the mental computations below?

98 + 78
92 − 29
12 × 25
95 ÷ 5

Science

by Byron and Therese

Our Science unit in Term 1 is Reversible and Irreversible Changes. We have discussed the states of matter—liquid, solid and gas, and processes for changing from one state to another. These are:

- Solid to Liquid
- Liquid to Solid
- Liquid to Gas
- Gas to Liquid
- Gas to Solid
- Solid to Gas

Some of the Yr 5/6 Science teams on their melting experiment.

History

by Amber and Zahli

In History, we have been discussing Federation and Henry Parkes.

We were also looking at the 101 years of history and events leading to Federation such as the Eureka Stockade.

Some significant events were migrants moving to Australia, the name ‘Australia’ being used by people, a bank being established in NSW and the Gold Rush in Ballarat.

These events had political, economic and social impacts. People from all over the world came to Ballarat including China, Japan and the South Sea Islands.

All the decisions of the colonies had to be approved by Queen Victoria and the British Parliament.

Geography

by Taleah and Jazmyn

Our focus question for Geography is How do people differ around the world?

Our units this year are to do with Australia’s Neighbours.

Art

by Emily and Tamrin

The Year 5/6 class have been imagining and creating views from either a bug or a giant. For example, if you are showing a bug’s view, you would see enormous plants and animals. If you were a giant, things would appear tiny and far away.

Some of the Yr 5/6 Science teams on their melting experiment.

Ms Romans and Mr Searle are enjoying working with the Year 5/6 class.