Dear Parents and Kingstown Community,

We hope everyone had a great holiday break. Welcome back to Term 3!

Both students and staff have returned refreshed and recharged for the new term.

Welcome to Cherie Patch who will be working in our office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays and will continue on at Sandon Primary School on Thursday and Fridays. We hope Cherie enjoyed her first week at Kingstown. We certainly appreciate the experience she brings to this new position.

Thank you also to Angie Swales, who is manning the office on Thursday mornings.

Our Term 3 calendar is quickly filling up!

**Music**

Mr Boyd will be continuing with music every second Tuesday. The school has purchased ukuleles for students (and teachers). Mr Boyd is excited about this prospect and is presently tuning all of them so that we can start playing soon. We’re looking forward to this! Mrs Barber is also a competent player (in the local uke group we hear!) so we will certainly be tapping into this staff skill!

**Mandarin** will continue this term. Hunter Ashton has taken on a new position so Upper Division will have a new teacher. Lessons will be on Mondays 2.15pm - 3.00pm. Lower Division will continue with Mrs Melanto on Thursdays at 12.10 pm.

**Active After School**

Thank you Tammy Armstrong who will be continuing with Active After School each Tuesday. This program will continue until the end of the year. It will not continue next year. Tammy has chosen sporting equipment, using the funding allocation, for these sessions and school. Equipment ordered includes a Badminton Kit and an assortment of balls! Thanks Tammy.

Just a reminder that Active After School commences at 3.10pm with afternoon tea (fruit snack) and finishes at 4.10pm. Please notify the school if your
child/children are participating so as to avoid confusion on bus lines.

**Canteen**

Thank you Anna Stevenson, for organising Wednesday canteen and also all of our parent volunteers.

Just a reminder to parents and students to please clearly label lunch orders and try and provide the correct money if possible, as we have only one parent on canteen and it can get very busy.

The P&C will meet this Thursday starting at 5.30pm.

**Jeans for Genes Day**

**Friday, August 1st**

If students would like to, they can wear jeans to school on Friday August 1st and bring in a gold coin donation to raise money for the Children’s Medical Research Institute who researches birth defects, diseases and genetic disorders.

**School Reports**

All reports have been sent home, either with students or posted to parents.

Lower Division Reports also included Best Start letters with useful ideas on how to help your child in literacy and numeracy.

Parent Interviews will open over the next two weeks in teacher release time (or a time negotiated with classroom teacher).

Ms Ryan:

Friday 2.00-3.00pm

Miss Bennett:

Friday 9.00-11.00am

**Teacher Professional Learning**

Today I attended a workshop on Leading Maths and the new syllabus. Next Tuesday and Wednesday, Ms Bennett and I will be attending Professional Training in Armidale on Focus on Reading. Mrs Skewes and Ms Barber will be taking our classes on these days. Mrs Skewes will be participating in Professional Development on the new Science Syllabus throughout the term. All staff attended Professional Learning on the English Syllabus at Drummond School last Monday.

**Lake Keepit Excursion**

The Upper Division Excursion will be in Week 7. We are now accepting payments for this excursion. Please let me know if you need an alternative arrangement. This will be treated confidentially.

**Absences**

Teachers do encourage parents to keep students at home if they are not well. There may be other valid reasons for a student’s absence.

High school attendance optimises educational outcomes for all our students and children. Accumulated and regular absences also impact on the educational outcomes of our students. Students can miss out on vital learning and fall behind quickly. This in turn affects a student’s self-confidence and attitude toward school.

So please keep your child’s attendance high!
Education Week

Education Week is next week, Week 3.

On Thursday, commencing at 10.30am we will hold a short Award Assembly followed by a parent morning tea. Parents are then invited to join in an informal ukulele lesson with the Upper Division students or kanga cricket with Lower Division, followed by a short connected classroom Mandarin lesson with Mrs Melanto at 12.10 pm.

Please come along and have some fun!

2014 marks the 60th Anniversary of the first Education Week.

The tagline for the original 1954 Education Week was “Lighting the way to a better world”.

That slogan, along with the artwork from the 1954 poster, has been adopted for this anniversary celebration.
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