Dear Parents and Kingstown Community,

Although starting off surprisingly chilly, last Thursday was a great day at the Small School Swimming Carnival. Thank you to Rocky River School for organising the event this year and congratulations to Kentucky School who were the overall winners.

All students who participated are to be congratulated on a top effort! You are all champions in our books! We only missed out by a few points on the coveted shield. Our Juvenile Division continues to be particularly impressive. We did take out some champion awards.

Congratulations to our Champion Swimmers!

**Juvenile Champion Girl:** Mia White  
**Juvenile Champion Boy:** Dylan Dew  
**Junior Champion Girl:** Charlotte Dew

Our parent relay team comprising of Tim Dew, Josie Kirchner, Mick Rizzi and Graeme White took out the 2015 Small School Golden Flipper Award. Weren’t we proud! Some parents had trained and some had not, which evened things out. In true Kingstown community spirit, Mrs Skewes swam her best for Kentucky and took them to second place. Well done to you too, Mrs Skewes!
**Professional Learning**

Today Miss Bennett attended Professional Learning in Armidale, participating in the second module of Focus On Reading. This Professional Learning will continue throughout the year, focusing on learning strategies to improve comprehension, vocabulary and reading.

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**2015-2017 School Plan**

**Three Directions**

**School Vision Preference**

I will be absent on Thursday as I will be attending a Principal Workshop on developing our 2015-2017 School Plan. Thank you to all parents who have provided feedback on the School Directions. Feedback does not have to be formal. Please feel free to ring the school, e-mail or have a chat at any time about this plan and your thoughts on the directions. The three School Directions (in three big circles) were attached to last week’s newsletter and will be discussed at the P&C meeting this Thursday. This is only the draft. It is a start and continues to be open to school and community input. The report is to be completed by the end of term along with the Annual School Report.

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**Lower Division News**

We are starting the Year with eighteen students in Lower Division, two Kinders, six Year Ones and ten Year Two students. Homework Folders were sent home yesterday. Please remind your children to return the folders each Monday so that spelling and maths sheets can be replaced with new weekly ones. I have left it until Monday to give students some extra time over the weekend. Students can return their homework sheets, named, to a designated tote tray for marking. I know the weeks can get busy with activities in town and so on, so it will not be the end of the world if homework is not able to be completed some weeks. Some days children will just be too tired. If they have not had time to read the books sent home I will leave them in the folder for the following week. It will be okay. It would be great though to try and read nightly or as regularly as possible to improve reading confidence and fluency. Some Year Two students have the option to read their own books from home or borrowed from the library.

Our key focus this term is “Getting Along”. Students will work explicitly on this in the “You Can Do it Program” and teachers will integrate “getting along” across the curriculum - H.S.I.E. (Meeting Needs) and Science and Technology (Staying Alive) (Very BEE GEE sounding!)

Lower Division have been reading and viewing some wonderful fictional books written by Nick Bland: King Pig; The Very Cranky Bear; The Very Hungry Bear; The Very Brave Bear and making connections with the characters and their actions. This week, students are writing a personal response on their favourite book and writing what they have learnt about friendship and getting along from reading and viewing these books.
Thank you Cherie Patch and Bec Oldknow for tackling the two storerooms, what a job! We usually look at them and shut the door! One more to go! Thanks Ron for taking away the rubbish. It’s amazing how much rubbish comes out of little rooms!

In line with this year’s theme “Colour the School” we are looking for parent/parents who may be interested in painting some colourful number games or alphabet snakes on the concrete around the school. Please come and see me if you would like to work on this project. We are in need of some artistic support!

Ron Jackson has stripped the tank behind the library down to the bare concrete and we will be working with the students on the design of a colourful mural. Ms Barber has volunteered to supervise this project, which is hugely appreciated!

Just a reminder...

If you have any concerns please ring and we will make a time to have a chat.

I am off class Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

P&C Meeting
This Thursday
at 5.30 pm
All welcome!

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There will be
NO
Active After
School
Activities
this year

P&C Meeting
This Thursday
at 5.30 pm
All welcome!
### Term 1 2015 Calendar

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**Small School Swimming Carnival**

- **Golden Flipper Winners!**
- **Champion Swimmers**
- **Juvenile Relay Team**