Dear Parents and Kingstown Community,

Thank you to the parents who attended the P&C Annual General Meeting last Thursday night and congratulations to those who were nominated and accepted positions. We encourage all parents to come to these meetings. Everyone is always welcome. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, which works out about two a term.

Congratulations to:

Peter Stevenson who will continue on as P&C President
Richard Tonkin: Vice-President
Kylie Vincent: our new Treasurer: Thank you Jamie Swales who held the position last year.
Tammy Armstrong: our new Secretary: Thank you Dawn Dew who held the position last year.

Thank you also to our two Canteen Convenors: Anna Stevenson & Robyn Frazier.

Students are settling in well to school. Thank you to all students for wearing full school uniform.

At Kingstown School we are continually looking at ways to improve learning for our students. This term, every Tuesday morning from 10.30 - 11.10am, we will be grouping students and working across grades and stages in numeracy. This term teachers will focus is on the number strand in maths, particularly place value.

Small School Cross Country will be held at the UNE again this year in Week 10, Wednesday, 1st April.

...So students need to grab the occasional cool day to run around the paddock and start building up stamina in preparation for the event.
Thank you to the parents who have approached the school happy to work on creating and painting some numbers, hopscotch and alphabet snakes on concrete around the school. We thought we might also be able to stencil paint ‘You Can Do It!’ keys on the poles in the cola, repaint the toilet block wall and create a tactile wall in the school for younger students. We have some great ideas coming in!

To create a Harmony Garden we need a colour theme of orange and yellow bulbs and flowers. We are looking for donations and someone with a bit of gardening experience to help us out. Thank you Heather, for kicking us off with some hardy orange seedlings!

Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and information sheet for parents/carers about the survey is attached to this newsletter. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Parent Assembly

Wednesday 12.30pm Week 5

We are saving up certificates to present in Week 5.

The School Captains will be presenting their speeches.

This assembly will be followed by an informal discussion of our School Vision and Strategic Directions.

You Can Do It Keys

Term One Focus

“Getting Along”

Teachers are explicitly teaching this key and reminding students of what it takes to be a good friend and how to get along with others.

21st Century Learning

The Critical Question?

What do students need to learn to be successful in the 21st Century?
In Science and Technology lower division students are investigating the basic needs of animals and plants. They are using their senses to gather information about their environment. If you have a photograph of your child’s pet and would like them to bring it in, that would be great.

Name: Darcy
Date: 3/2/15
All about my pet.

What my pet eats and drinks, Joe eats....cereal...

and drinks water.

Who looks after my pet, I look after my pet.

How my pet gets along with other members in my family, not very much but he likes

me.

Some of the unusual habits my pet has are, climbing

and步行.

A photo of my pet.

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Moonbi Public School
Horse Sports Day
Friday 6th March 2015

To be held at the
Kootingal & District Pony Club Grounds
Gadil Creek Rd, Moonbi

Entries close Friday 27th February 2015

Post to: Horse Sports Committee
Moonbi Public School P & C
Moonbi Public School
Charles Street
Moonbi NSW 2353

**SCHOOL cheques (no personal cheques accepted) must be made payable to:
Moonbi Public School P & C Association
Schools should send one cheque to cover all of their competitors.

"C" Themed Fancy Dress Competition
This year our Themed Fancy Dress Competition is a costume starting with the letter ‘C’.
Competitors will be presented with a costume prize at the end of the day. Dress. 
Prizes will be awarded to: 1st $100.00 and 2nd $50.00

ENQUIRIES:
Sue Blum 0443 542 209
Moonbi Public School Horse Sports Day

ALL ENQUIRIES: Please see Miss Bennett if you are interested in participating!
## Term 1 2015 Calendar

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7 C’s x 3 R’s = 21st Century Learning

- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Creativity & Innovation
- Curiosity & Inquiry
- Cultural Understanding
- Care for our self, others and the planet
- Reflectiveness
- Resilience
- Risk Taking
Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will **not** be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will **not** be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you **do not want** your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child’s school by **Friday 27 February**.


Sharon Ryan
Principal
Kingstown Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

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**CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS AND EVALUATION**

_ceese@det.nsw.edu.au_  _www.cese.nsw.gov.au_
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 27 February 2015.

I (print name) .................................................................................................................. DO NOT give consent
for my child/children (print name/s) ....................................................................................
of class/es .....................................to participate in the Tell Them From Me
student feedback survey.

Signed............................................................................ Date.................................