Dear Parents and Kingstown Community,

Next week will be a busy week at Kingstown! Students and staff will be celebrating Harmony Day on Thursday. Harmony Day is a day which celebrates Australia’s rich cultural diversity. The day is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Mr Boyd will help us with this celebration through music and song and Ms Barber will be organising art activities. Students are asked to wear the Harmony Day colour, orange, on the day, (if possible or yellow) and are also encouraged to find out more about their own cultural heritage which they are invited to share on the day.

Homework this week is for all students to investigate their family heritage.

We have started a harmony garden with an orange theme on the sunny side of the library to remind us about inclusiveness and respect. It will be lovely when it flowers up orange and yellow.

Lantern Making Workshop is on next week. The students will leave school at 9.05am travelling by bus to Uralla Central School where they will participate in the Lantern Making Workshop. After the workshop we will go to the park in Uralla to have lunch. Students will need to bring a packed lunch and water bottle on the day. We will then return to school.

Students are invited to pick up their lanterns on Saturday 28th March from Uralla Central School and join the Lantern Parade at 7.15pm. Miss Fleming and I will be there from 6.30pm on the evening.

The Uralla Lantern Parade supports Earth Hour.
Students have been running every morning at school to build up stamina for the Cross Country. The distances to be run at UNE are:

**Race 1 & 2**
Kindergarten, boy and girl race: 1km

**Race 3 & 4**
Juvenile, boy and girl race: 2km

**Race 5 & 6**
Junior, boy and girl race: 2km

**Race 7 & 8**
Senior boy and girl race: 3km

A permission note is included in this newsletter. Please return the signed note along with the $4.00 per child bus cost.

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**Staff Professional Learning**

This Wednesday, 18th March Mrs Skewes and Ms Barber are off to Thalgarrah Environment Education Centre for a Science Workshop called “Plugging into Nature.” In this hands-on workshop teachers will gain confidence and ability to integrate ICT meaningfully into learning and teaching and learn to use a variety of apps and software to explore science concepts as well as strategies to encourage students towards meaningful engagement in scientific thinking. (Yes! I have cut and pasted!)

On Friday, 20th March Miss Bennett and I will be attending a training and information day on the Teacher Performance Development Framework (PDF).

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Thank you again Bec Oldknow! What a fantastic job organising our craft cupboard!!
Week 8 Awards

Kingstown Kids with Character - Lower

Gemma Armstrong - Impressive Persistence in all areas of working

Merit Certificates:

Nevaeh Bateman: Great listening and contributions to classroom discussions
Corban Vincent: Great participation in Mandarin language lessons
Isabella Tonkin: Great reading and comprehension

Kingstown Kids with Character - Upper

Georgie Swales - Consistent effort achievement and wonderful attitude towards learning.

Merit Certificates:

Charlotte Dew - Great ideas in persuasive writing sessions.
Shauna Cantrill-Taylor - Great work in Spelling Rules!

Congratulations everyone!
Mr Boyd had Lower Division captivated during their Music lesson!

Lower Division have been learning about sustainability and what they can do around the house and school to save energy. They have been looking at renewable sources of energy and the huge wind turbines around the world. They were especially impressed with the tree shaped wind turbines in Paris.

For your information: The trees are 11 metres tall, and 8 metres in diameter at their widest point, which makes them about the same height as many urban trees. The white frame of the tree is made out of steel, and it can hold 72 turbines that sit vertically. This orientation cancels out noise, allowing the turbine to spin silently. Wind turbines are typically very tall in order to reach the altitude where the wind is stronger, but these vertical turbines are able to spin with wind blowing as low as 7 km/h making this twice as sensitive as traditional turbines. Each turbine “sheet,” called an Aeroleaf, is constructed out of lightweight plastic. Wow!!! Thank you Miss Fleming for such interesting learning!

Lower Division students have been writing a class narrative, called “Wild Windy Wednesdays”. They have also been reading “The Windy Farm” and have made their own pinwheels!
I ………………………………………. give permission for my child/children……………………………………………………
to travel by bus to Sport UNE to participate in the Small School Cross Country on
Wednesday, 1st April, 2015. I have enclosed the cost for the bus $4.00 per student.

Signed ………………………………………………………………………. Date ……………………………...
## Terms 1/2 2015 Calendar

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### Lantern Workshop

**Wednesday 25th March, Uralla Central, 10am-1pm**

Students will be attending the lantern making workshop on Wednesday, 25th March at Uralla Central School. We will be leaving school at 9.10am. Parent volunteers are welcome to come along to the workshop and help children make lanterns.

Students are required to wear full school uniform and ensure they have a packed lunch.

The cost of the excursion is $4.00 per child.

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Signed ……………………………………… Date ………………………………………

I…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………… would like to come along as a parent volunteer.