Dear Parents and Kingstown Community,

We are looking forward to the Lantern Making Workshop tomorrow at Uralla Central School.

There will be no canteen this Wednesday due to our excursion to Uralla.

The bus into Uralla will be leaving on time at 9.20 am. Students are asked to bring their recess, lunch, hat and water bottle as we will be having lunch in the park afterwards.

The Lantern Parade will be held in Uralla on Saturday night. Students attending are to meet at Uralla Central School at 6.30pm to collect their lanterns for the parade commencing at 7.15pm.

Please let the school know if your child/children will be attending so that Miss Fleming and I have an idea of numbers on the night. It sounds like a wonderful parade to celebrate Earth Hour and it would be great to have a contingent of Kingstown students involved and thinking about sustainability!

This Thursday will be an orange themed mufti day in celebration of Harmony Day.

A reminder to students to wear ORANGE or something orange. Harmony Day is a day to celebrate Australia’s rich cultural diversity. Kingstown School is planning a day of music, craft, dance and the eating of oranges and orange ice blocks (if it is hot!!!).

Please see the last pages of this newsletter for an update on the School Plan.

Students are reminded to research their own cultural heritage to share on the day and if possible, bring in photos or items that may reflect their background.
Lower Division Learning

**W.A.L.T.** We Are Learning To:

Write interesting, imaginative stories with an orientation, complication and resolution.

**Success Criteria Year Two**

**W.I.L.F.** What I’m Looking For:

- Narratives with an orientation, a fabulous complication and a creative, inventive resolution.
- Sentences starting with capital letters and ending with full stops.
- Sentences with adjectives, interesting verbs and similes.
- Evidence of proof reading e.g. circling spelling errors, correcting errors, adding adjectives, better verbs, adverbs.

This week students are completing their narratives, *Wild Windy Wednesdays* (see next pages). The students have worked on this story in three sections: Orientation; Complication and Resolution. Students provided funny, innovative and creative solutions to the problems, thinking of many ways to keep themselves on the ground in wild wind storms. Some students also came up with sustainable solutions to the problem.

Students viewed a beautiful fictional wordless narrative called “The Windmill Farmer” last week which really had them “wondering.” You can find this four minute animation on You Tube.

New learning last week was discovering why wind turbines are being placed in oceans! Students had to answer “I wonder why…” WOW!!

This week students will be thinking about Earth Hour in line with the Lantern Workshop and about the small ways they can contribute toward conserving non-renewable sources of energy.

**Good bye to Miss Fleming**

Sadly this is Miss Fleming’s final week with us. The four weeks have flown! It has been an absolute pleasure having Miss Fleming teaching in the Lower Division class with me and we would like to thank her for involving the students in such great learning activities about sustainability. Working collaboratively with Miss Fleming has taught me new practices and hopefully vice versa. Miss Fleming will make a wonderful teacher and we will miss her. From the Kingstown Community we wish her the very best in the future!

Next term Miss Bennett will be having a Prac student who will spend four weeks in the Upper Division classroom.

Everyone was getting along happily early this windy, wild Wednesday at Kingstown School. The leaves were shimmering in the sunlight and there was a light, gentle breeze. The sky had a few bands of blue, but the sky was really blue. Everyone’s hair was only just moving and people could only just feel the wind.

Complication (Problem)

Suddenly the trees thrashed against the lower section class room. One of trees looked like they were going to fall over. Children bullied through the atmosphere, others backed against the class rooms and others were dodging in the sky and they screaming very very very loud!!!Kids were sitting up and helpfully they said “Weeeeee”. And they yelled “Whoopie!”. And now one got to learn every Wednesday. Every day we Wednesday the teachers said “Someone has to stop this.”

Resolution (How was the problem solved?)

Then D’Arcy came up with an amazing idea and I came up with one too. I suggested “Why don’t we get a really strong rope and tie it to five bricks” and D’Arcy suggested that we could put as many bricks as we can in our backpacks (which metal shoes so we quickly ran over to Mr. Jackson and asked him if he could make metal shoes so he did and he finished it in five minutes and he showed it to us.”

Angus

Kayne
Complication (Problem)

Suddenly the wind went wild and the wind blew up all of the children and flew them in the air. Some of the kids went flying like a kite. The kids were howling like they were howling at the moon. The children were screaming and crying. And the children were jumping in the air and then suddenly the kids were flying in the air. The teachers were worried about the children. Then some of the children were sucked into a tornado. Some of the children had to have a brainstorm. Resolution (How was the problem solved?)

Amy

Complication (Problem)

Suddenly the wind rose up. The lightning struck like a leaping ray snake. The jungle fell down. The noisiest man crashed need first into the trees. A crocodile hit the slide and said "down, down, say sad. If the wind is a problem let's make it fun."

Nevaeh

Gemma

Amy
The kids of Kingston female school playing cricket in the shimmering sun-light. The leaves, there swaying, captivated by the Autumn breeze. The sunny Afternoon sky had a slight breeze with not a cloud in sight. On a lovely day, like this Wednesday, the bell ringed. The leaves shimmering rainbow colors in a3-shiny pocket.

Complication (Problem)
Suddenly the breeze rose and started to thrash the trees. With the dust, built-kids flew. Kids were vacuuming from the atmosphere. Kid flew in to foreign countries quicker than concorde planes. We were flipping through the force's winds, they swooped like magpies. Certainly no work would ever be done. Kids tumbled like rocks down quarry mountain.

Resolution (How was the problem solved?)
The ideas rushed for what we should do. We had fundraisers for every day to raise many funds. Wind trees and leaves rustled that only mighty forces used and was left to hook on to school building that would be left off from windy Wednesday day had finished.

D'Arcy
Earth Hour 2015
Lights off!!
8:30 pm- 9:30 pm
on
Saturday, March 28

School Assembly
next Thursday
2nd April
at 12.00 pm

FREE PRE-SEASON
Come ‘n’ Try Day

WHO: 5 – 12 year olds
WHEN: Saturday 28 March 2015
TIME: 12.30 PM – 1.30 PM
WHERE: Consett Davis Fields, SportUNE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND,
(Enter SportUNE Drive)
Enquiries: Rachel Thorsen 0400 663 071
## Terms 1/2 2015 Calendar

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### Small School Cross Country

**Location:** Bellevue Rugby Field, UNE, Armidale

**Date:** Wednesday, 1st April, 2015, Time: 10.00am

1st Race Starts at 10.30am

**Catering**

The Kingstown P&C will be cooking a sausage sizzle on the day:
- Bacon & Egg Roll $5.00
- Sausage Sizzle $3.00
- Home Cooking $1 & $2

**Please RSVP for catering purposes:**
To Kingstown Public School
T: 6778 9131, Fax: 6778 9122 or kingstown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**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
Sit down and grab a coffee! And maybe a few blueberries to keep you on track.. or a biscuit!

There have been several meetings with principals and executive staff over the year about the writing and implementation of the School Plan and the three year format. This process is new and for all involved it has required support and discussion. There have been changes in the draft plan as our learning about the process evolved and also as we take on relevant new learning and initiatives in the present. This is from the teachers’ perspective. For the achievement of the two directions we all have to be on the same page about our school vision, purpose and the drivers behind what we are doing and why we are doing it. So please feel confident to contribute. We are lucky to have open communication with our parents and community.

(Have one blueberry now or a bite of your biscuit!!)

Research shows that the quality of the teacher has the greatest impact on student outcomes and that collaborative practices between teachers and between schools, working together on new initiatives, has the greatest impact on improving teachers’ capacity and hence student outcomes. We are continually reminded - You are not a silo - Your classroom is not a silo - Your school is not a silo. Great learning happens when we work together to improve our practice and each other’s capacity to be better. This will be a major direction over the next few years - connecting, collaborating (in a disciplined and supportive way!) and networking with fellow teachers to continually improve our teaching practice, implement new initiatives and improve student learning outcomes.

Research also shows that implementing and embedding learning intentions and success criteria for students significantly and positively impacts on students becoming successful learners. Yes – it makes sense – Students are actually more successful when they know what is expected of them and what they have to do!

Today I have included in the newsletter the purpose, processes and the student, staff and community capabilities needing to be developed to successfully achieve Direction One.

A change from the last draft we sent out is to put Direction 2: Students are Proficient and Creative users of Technology under Direction 1: Students are Successful 21st Century Learners and not as a single direction in itself, as it was suggested that Small Schools stick to two directions. We also included a few more sentences in regard to teachers and the community in our vision. This is a very important element in achieving our school directions

Each year milestones will be set over the four terms to track progress and work toward achieving our two directions and ultimately our school vision over the three years.

Please have another read, e-mail a comment or ring and have a chat. All input welcome! I can cope with change!! I do it all the time! Hey -21st century skill set!!! Finish your coffee or have one with me if you want to chat.
Purpose:
To develop and include students to be literate, who see themselves as successful and resilient learners, learning how to learn, through engagement in purposeful and collaborative learning experiences across an integrated 21st century curriculum.

School vision statement:
To provide all students with an education that prepares them to succeed and thrive as 21st century learners. Students will be confident, informed and global citizens, in the wider community and in the world. All teachers will demonstrate an ongoing commitment to collaborative teaching and learning, and support student learning success and well-being in a caring and supportive environment.

Students are successful 21st Century learners.

Students are confident, resilient individuals and active and informed local and global citizens.