Dear Parents and Kingstown Community,

Congratulations to our swimmers who participated in the Zone swimming carnival last week.

Our Relay Team of Zack Armstrong, Georgie Swales, Jake Rizzi and Charlotte Dew, along with Isabella Tonkin, have qualified for the North West PSSA Regional Swimming Carnival to be held in Armidale on Monday 7th March. Good luck to these students!

Please find attached a Student Survey and Parent Survey to be completed by Friday this week.

All schools are required to report on student, parent and staff satisfaction under the National Education Agreement and the Schools Assistance Act. These surveys are also a

### MERIT AWARDS - WEEK 5

**Dylan Dew** for pushing himself and achieving during guided reading  
**Amber Moorfield** for being confident and taking risks in the classroom  
**Riley Stevenson** for being organised and always on task  
**Isabella Tonkin** for being confident and always on task  
**D’Arcy Cassidy** for great summarising and information skills  
**Samantha Rowe** for great work in writing and novel discussion  
**Samuel Rizzi** for consistent application and outstanding bookwork  
**Madison Mitchell** for fantastic engagement, application and results in Maths  
**Jacob Mundy** for wonderfully descriptive recounts
mandatory requirement for the Annual School Report. The information obtained from these surveys is invaluable to me as a school leader and educational practitioner, in understanding and responding to our communities’ perceptions, and providing data for consideration for continuous improvement in our school.

There are no right or wrong answers and surveys can remain anonymous. We basically want to know how you feel about our school and use this feedback to inform areas of improvement.

P&C Meeting
THIS WEDNESDAY
2nd March 2016
at 5.30pm

Items for discussion will include:
=> Car Rally on 12th March
=> Uralla to Kingstown Lazy Sunday Cycle

Please come along to help plan for these events.
Minutes from AGM and previous meeting will be available on the evening, and will be published in next week’s newsletter. Sorry for any inconvenience.

All Welcome!

Homework
for Ms Ryan’s class
- Tables 2x 3x 5x
- Plus inverse operations e.g. how many 3s are in 15?
- Spelling Sheet and READ READ READ for 15-20 minutes

MOTORKHANA NEWS
Congratulations to Jake and Samuel Rizzi who finished 1st and 2nd respectively at this month’s Motorkhana meeting held over the weekend.

Note from the Principal …..
Last Week I attended a two day Principal Network Meeting at Coffs Harbour organised by our Director of Schools, Sue Brown. This was certainly a fantastic opportunity to meet with Principals from across the region and collaboratively work on areas of improving leadership practices that will impact on teaching and learning in our schools.

These meetings continue to lift the bar for all educational practitioners and principals as “leading learners”. I have to say most teaching principals have always worked this way.

There was an invaluable Skype session with a Canadian expert on the success of collaborative practices within and between schools. This is a focus area in our three year School Plan and 2016 milestones. Distance for some schools like ours means that we need to be more dedicated and determined. The setting up of our recent learning alliance The Thunderbolts (Kingstown, Kentucky, Rocky River and Kelly Plains schools) is a step in the right direction. Visible Learning - the writing of effective learning goals, collaborating on success criteria, shared assessments, timely feedback and reflection opportunities are common milestone goals across the alliance.

Research confirms silo classrooms and silo schools will not deliver the best educational outcomes for our students. So, over the year Kingstown teachers will continue to collaborate with other schools, visit and observe areas of agreed focus such as Visible Learning and work together to get better at what we need to do.
Hello Parents and Carers. It has been a very enjoyable and productive first few weeks of term for us in lower division at Kingstown. For those that have not met me yet, my name is Liam McNair and I am the new literacy and numeracy teacher working with the K-2 class.

In term one we have been focusing on humour during our literature sessions. As we all know comedy and a good sense of humour makes our lives and the lives of those around us more enjoyable. As Australians we call people with the ability to see the funny side of things and make us laugh larrikins and jokers. Their company is often sought after, and their friendship highly prized. Lately we have been reading books by the renowned author Dr Seuss and poet Shel Silverstein and discovering the humour in an exaggerated tall tale.

In the last week we have been writing our own tall tales in the style of Mr. Silverstein’s poem ‘Sick’ in which we exaggerate the terrible things that could happen while doing such things as our chores. Later on in the term we will be looking at other comedic devices such as rhyme, alliteration, parody, opposites and description.

In addition to this we have been doing all the things you would expect in a busy classroom. Mandarin, Music and P.E. are definitely high points during the week for all students. However, daily activities such as reading, writing, spelling and working with numbers dominate, and rightly so.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind words and welcoming attitudes. In the short time that I have been a part of this school community I have been nothing but impressed with what is being achieved here at Kingstown. I am being challenged on a daily basis and as a result I am improving exponentially. I appreciate the opportunity that I have been given and I have great hopes for the year ahead.

**Chicken Eggs by Aaron Rowe**

But Mum! I don’t want to get the chicken eggs!  
What if I slip in chicken poo and one of those big ants comes and bites me?  
Then I will run and scare the chickens and they will peck me.  
Then I will accidentally step on the turkey’s foot and it will jump on my head.  
And …what’s that Mum?  
Not Today?  
OK then I’m off to play!

**Dogs by Dylan Dew**

But Dad! I don’t want to do the dogs!  
What if I left the gate open and they got out?  
They would run over to the cow paddock and round them up.  
They cows would jump over the fence and I would have to climb a tree to get away.  
The bulls would charge at the tree and it would fall over with me in it!  
Then the tree would fall on the house and destroy everything!  
What’s that Dad? Not Today?  
OK then I’m off to play!
# TERM 1 2016 CALENDAR

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**Seasons of New England**

Producers, Makers & Creators Expo

Over 80 quality stalls
Dedicated kids tent, live music all day

Sat 19th March, 9am - 4pm
Hampden Park, Uralla


Brought to you by these New England enterprises

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**McCrossin’s Mill Excursion**

If you did not pay in full for this excursion, please send the money, or balance owing, in to the school as soon as possible.

Thank you