**Principal’s Message**

Thank you for the warm welcome when I returned to school last Monday. Your smiles and general enquiries regarding the operation on my hand were appreciated.

Thank you to Mrs McLoughlin and Ms Weston for taking on additional roles within the school while Mrs Mitchell is away. We know you love our school and your willingness to help shows how much you care.

Even though Mrs Mitchell was meant to be on her first week of leave last week, she turned up at school on Wednesday and worked well into the evening. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Mitchell for her dedication to Ellerston Public School.

Thanks must go to Mrs Batterham for her willingness to give up part of her Saturdays over the next five weeks to do the finances while Mrs Mitchell is away.

I would also like to say thank you to Mrs Crowe for a fabulous day last Friday. Mrs Crowe taught the whole school because Mrs Johnson and her husband are currently in New Zealand visiting family. Mrs Johnson will return next Friday, 26th February. I am happy to say that we will have the pleasure of Mrs Crowe’s company again on Tuesday, 1st March and Friday, 18th March.

Lastly, I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Campbell for carrying out the role of Relieving Principal in my absence. Ellerston is extremely fortunate to have someone of her calibre at our school.

**WHAT’S ON THIS WEEK**

**Monday** - Ms Weston in office.

**Wednesday** – MS Weston in office.

**Thursday** – Ms Weston in office.
Mr Leayr at Wollemi Principal’s Meeting.

**Friday** - Mrs Johnson on K-6

**Upcoming Dates For Your Diary**

**TERM 1 2016**

**Tuesday, 1st March**
Mrs Leayr will be away
Mrs Crowe on 3-6

**Thursday, 10th March**
Life Education Van Visit at Belltrees PS
Information to follow

**Monday, 14th March**
Mrs Serena White will be at school for 4 weeks as part of her teacher training.

**Wed 16th, Thurs 17th, & Fri 18th March**
Kia-Ora Music Camp

**Other Dates**

Blandford Horse Sports 4th March, 2016

Zone Soccer Trials 23/3/16
See Mrs Campbell if you are interested in attending.

Ellerston Cross Country Wk 2 Term 2

Zone Cross Country 18th May, 2016 (Wk 4 Term 2)
From the Little Room........Week 5

Leader: Lucas
Grammar focus: Exclamation Marks
Maths focus: Number patterns
Letter: e
Explore: China

Bon jour everyone.
Last week we explored France, visiting the Louvre, Notre Dame and of course the Eiffel Tower. Croissants were popular but not so much the escargot!

We now seem to have question marks under our belts and this week will focus on exclamation marks.
In our first creative arts session this term, the big guys spent Wednesday afternoon sketching the Eiffel Tower. James shared his first hand experience including a donut stop at the café half-way up!

Happy week 5 everyone.

Much love
Mrs C

Shade Cover

Last Wednesday afternoon, Matt Grainger, Matt Grimes and Greg Baker put the shade cover back over the play equipment. Many thanks to those dad’s for giving up their time. Your efforts were appreciated by all the students when they spent all of their recess and lunch last Friday playing under cover.

Happy Tooth, Muswellbrook

Last Friday afternoon, Belinda and Danielle from “Happy Tooth” spoke to the school about dental hygiene. Mrs Crowe reported that the session was well received by the students. The dental packs that were given to each of the students were a big hit.

K,1,2 STUDENT AWARDS – WEEK 5

Student of the Week:

Ben Baker – Bravery and determination.

Achievement Award:

Owen McLoughlin – Excellent reading progression.

3,4,5,6 STUDENT AWARDS – WEEK 5

Student of the Week:

Sally Payne – For setting a good example for the rest of the class.

Achievement Award:

Daniel Payne – For consistent effort in class.
**Swimming Results**

Congratulations to all the Ellerston swimmers who competed in the Regional Swimming Carnival at Muswellbrook last Thursday. The team consisted of the following competitors:

- James Caspers
- Jordyn Melville
- Jack Grimes
- Cody Grimes
- Sophie Baker
- Annabelle Scott

Well done to our PP6 4x50m relay team for coming 2nd with a time of 3.25.97. The team will now progress to the regional swimming carnival which will be held at Maitland on Thursday, 3rd March, 2016. Further details as well the permission note will be sent home soon.

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**Murrurundi Small Schools Aboriginal Educational Day @ Murrurundi.**

Notes for this excursion were due last Friday. If you haven’t done so already, please return the note by Tuesday, 23rd February.

Last Friday I found out that Adam Hill will be performing a concert at the end of the day. The cost is $5.00 per student. **Please send the $5.00 to the office in an envelope with “Adam Hill Concert” written on the front.**

I am still waiting to hear from Murrurundi as to the content and cost of the lunch pack.

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**Sporting Schools Funding**

Ellerston has been fortunate enough to secure funding for cricket coaching (Term 1) and gymnastics coaching (Term 2). I am currently in negotiations with suitable coaches. Hopefully, we will be able to commence the cricket with the next two weeks.

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**Walk Safely to School**

Walk Safely to School Day will be on Friday, 20th May. Details will be made available as the event approaches.

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**Soccer Registration**

Registrations for the 2016 soccer season are now open. As in previous years, Scone Football Club will have 2 competitions. The Town Competition will be played in Scone on Saturday mornings while the Interdistrict Newcastle/Lake Macquarie Competition will also be played on Saturday. The Interdistrict Competition will consist of 7 home and 7 away games.


**Note:** There is a subsidy available to help with the cost of registration from UHSC if you hold a current healthcare card. Please take your card to the council to apply for the subsidy.