**Principal’s Message**

This Thursday we have the Life Education Van coming to Belltrees. All Students are asked to wear their sports uniform as we will also be doing our cricket training at Belltrees during the last session. **Children are to wear their bucket hats for maximum sun protection.**

**Note:** Since cricket training will be at Belltrees, there won’t be any cricket training at Ellerston after school this Thursday. Our after school cricket training session will resume on Thursday, 17th March and continue each Thursday from 3.30pm – 4.30pm until the end of term.

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**Upcoming Dates For Your Diary**

**TERM 1 2016**

**Monday, 14th March**
Aboriginal Education Day at Murrurundi PS

**Monday, 14th March – Friday, 8th April**
Mrs Serena White will be at Ellerston for 4 weeks as part of her teacher training

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

**Monday, 21st March**
Mrs Mitchell returns

**Wednesday, 23rd March**
Zone Football Trials, Victoria Park, Muswellbrook

**Other Dates**

**Wednesday, 6th April – Thursday 7th April**
State Swimming Carnival at Hombush

**Friday, 6th May**
Ellerston Public School Cross Country

**Wednesday, 18th May**
Zone Cross Country

**Friday, 20th May**
Walk Safely to School Day

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**Monday 7th March 2016**

Congratulations and thanks to all the volunteers at the Polo Pimms BBQ yesterday. Another amazing effort from our school parents! Stay tuned for results of the day!

Our P&C committee has accepted the invitation to fund raise/cater for The Beyond Blue Charity Car Rally stopping at the River Field, Ellerston this Friday, 11th March 2016.

The P&C will be doing a lunch for drivers and support teams. The Ellerston School Kids will be participating as well.

We are looking for volunteers and donations of food please. There is a spreadsheet in the school Kitchen for you to nominate your preferred donation.

We will also need volunteers to help with food prep and service on Friday. If you are available to volunteer, please let me know.

Kim 65407308
From the Little Room.........Week 7

Leader: Jarryd
Grammar focus: Adjectives
Maths focus: Fractions
Letter: i - as in igloo
Explore: Japan

Bonjorno Everyone!

Last week it was all things Italian in K,1,2. Pizza, pasta, pastry and the Leaning Tower of Pisa proved to be popular and led to an impromptu discussion on alliteration.
We are quickly becoming verb and noun champions so this week will introduce adjectives into the mix. Wish us luck!
Our reading of the Enchanted Forest has sadly come to an end. What a lovely time we have had enjoying the company and adventures of the children and the characters of the Faraway Tree.
However, today we begin Enid Blyton’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} instalment in the series, “The Magic Faraway Tree.”
We are all very excited about what adventures lay ahead. Wishing you all a much more relaxed week ahead as polo ends.

Much love
Mrs C

K,1,2 STUDENT AWARDS – WEEK 7

Student of the Week:
Sophia Hall – Excellent work ethics.

Achievement Award:
Emily Grainger – A number whiz!

3,4,5,6 STUDENT AWARDS – WEEK 7

Student of the Week:
Sophie Baker - For excellent commitment to class work.

Achievement Award:
Jordyn Melville - For being a responsible Yr 6 leader.
Swimming Success

Last Thursday, Jordyn, James, Cody and Jack blitzed the PP6 relay event at the Regional Swimming Carnival in Maitland. An excited Jackie Caspers, rang the school soon after the race was completed and informed us that our team had won the relay by a considerable margin. Well done, team and Jackie for everything you achieved. Jordyn, James, Cody and Jack will now compete in the State Championships at Homebush on Wednesday, 6th and Thursday, 7th April.

Friday Sport

For the remainder of the term, it would be appreciated if the children wore their bucket hats to protect them from the sun. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Absences

Parents, please notify the school as quickly as possible if your child is away. A written note, email or telephone call outlining the reason for your child’s absence is a necessary requirement.

Murrurundi Cross Country

Once again, Belltrees has been invited to compete at the Ellerston Cross Country on Friday, 6th May.

Fun at the cricket

Last Thursday afternoon, 13 students from our school joined together to learn about and practice the skills associated with cricket. Everyone was very excited! Within a short time span our coaches had all the children totally involved. Speaking with our coaches after the coaching session, they expressed how much they enjoyed their time with us and that they are looking forward to coaching our students for the remainder of the term.

Ways to help your child’s literacy and numeracy skills

Sharing a book at home

Together with your child, you can enjoy sharing reading. Children love to hear a story read aloud.

Try reading with different voices, lots of emotion, invented sound effects and funny faces. Change the tone in your voice, vary the loudness or softness of your voice. Have fun and enjoy it.

It is a good idea to practise reading before sharing a book.

Listen to your child talk about the story and the pictures.

Try asking your child which parts of the books he or she found exciting, funny or different.

Give your child the chance to choose a book to read.

Try reading to your child and, at other times, ask your child to join in reading the book.

Let your child hear how hill and home start with the same sound or how trouble and bubble rhyme.

Thinking about time

As a parent, you can develop understanding about time by:

Looking at parking signs and discussing the time restrictions when parking the car.

Looking at a calendar together and marking important dates. Talk about how many days until each event.

Using a watch with a second hand, time your child running, skipping or swimming. Count how many steps, skips or strokes one child does in a minute. Discuss how many steps or skips could happen in three minutes.

Having your child help set a kitchen timer or an alarm clock.

Asking your child to make a label with the “use by” date for meat or cooked foods that are to be frozen.