Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Welcome to Term Two of our 2015 school year. While we thought last term was a busy one, this term is filling up fast and we are only in Week One!

**Cross Country Term Two**
Cross Country will take place at Tanduringie State School this Friday 24th April, 2015. Permission forms and tuckshop forms were sent home last term. We will be travelling to and from Tanduringie by bus on Friday, unless parents have stated on the permission form that they will be transporting their child. Our School Rules and expectations apply at all events that we attend. Please note that if you intend to take your child home at the completion of the event, it is important that you inform a staff member. Students will be required to sit in the designated school area on the day. Students will be required to ask a staff member to leave the school area. Families are welcome to join us in our school area.

**ANZAC Day Preparation**
We are preparing to mark the 100 year anniversary this Saturday. Our students have been making poppies that will stand around the Cooyar Memorial. We have also been baking and packaging ANZAC biscuits to distribute to attendees on Saturday morning. I am looking forward to joining our students in the march to the memorial from the Cooyar Hall at 9.30am this Saturday. I ask that all students wear full school uniform and assemble at the Cooyar Hall at 9.30am. The service will begin at 10.00am at the Memorial with a morning tea to be held afterwards at the Cooyar Hotel. People are being asked to bring a plate of food for the morning tea.

**Staffing Changes**
This term sees some big changes to Cooyar State School staffing. From Week Three, Mrs Michelle Bourke will start her maternity leave. Mrs Bourke will re-join our teaching team again in 2016. We wish Mrs Bourke and her family our warmest of wishes over the coming months.

Mrs Bronwyn Spencer will be working in Mrs Bourke’s role in the Junior Classroom for the remainder of 2015. Mrs Spencer will share the role with Mrs Duncombe, working on a Monday and Tuesday each week. Mrs Spencer will continue her Thursdays in the middle classroom. We welcome Mrs Spencer to our school in her expanded role.
From the Principal...

Mrs Jodi Beacham has accepted an acting Business Services Manager position at Yarraman State School until February 2016. This is a great opportunity for Mrs Beacham and she leaves us with our support and well wishes. Mrs Beacham has been an integral part of our school community over the last four years and leaves big shoes to fill.

This week, Expressions of Interest for our Administration Officer position (AO) closed and after consideration and review Mrs Anne Ehrich has accepted the position at Cooyar State School. Mrs Ehrich will be working alongside Mrs Beacham next week and start with us in Week 3. We warmly welcome Mrs Ehrich to our community.

After School Sport Term Two
Sharon Duncombe has again been generous enough to volunteer her time to coordinate after school sport for Term Two in the lead up to our Term Three Athletics Carnival. Mrs Duncombe and Mrs Davies will run this program from Weeks 3 to 9 on Wednesdays from 2.45 – 3.45pm. This program will focus on skills development for the athletics carnival, including shot-put, high jump, discuss, long jump and sprints. To ensure the success of this program, parent volunteers are needed to assist with running rotational groups. Unfortunately, if we cannot get enough volunteers, the program may not take place. Three parents each Wednesday would be appreciated. Permission notes and parent volunteer information is attached to this newsletter. Please note that this is a skill development program and not an afternoon student club. Parents will be required to pick up their children at 3.45pm.

Mother Daughter Nights
Cooyar State School, in partnership with Tanduringie State School, are facilitating two Mother Daughter Nights this term. Presented by Family Planning Queensland, Mothers and Daughters will be able to attend the two sessions. Information letters have been sent home. Last night was an informative and relaxed night. We look forward to next week’s session on Wednesday 29th April, 2015 at 5.00pm at Tanduringie State School.

Spelling Overview Term Two
Attached to this newsletter is a Term Two whole school spelling overview. This document highlights the weekly focuses for each year level in our school. Reviewing spelling words at home is part of our nightly homework.

Ready for School Term Two
A new term has started and a change of weather has come. I ask parents ensure that during this cooler weather, students are appropriately dressed for school in school jumpers and lunch boxes are filled with nutritious brain food to keep our bodies going throughout the day. Water bottles are encouraged to keep students well hydrated throughout the day. Please ensure your child has everything they need for school each day, including any extra stationery they may need topped up.

Term Two Reporting and Assessment
At the end of Term Two, students will receive a Report Card for Semester One, 2015. This report card will assign an achievement and effort grade, along with comprehensive feedback about each curriculum area studied in Semester One. Parent Teacher Interviews will be offered in Week 10 of this term. More information will be provided as the term progresses.
Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pick up
Our school day begins at 8.30am sharp. It is expected that all students will be at school before our bell at 8.30am. Mrs Davies and Mrs Mylett run Daily Physical Activity time from 8.00am each morning. This is a great physical opportunity for all students. Our learning starts at 8.30am. Students who are late miss our morning organisation and focus skill warm up activities.

Just a reminder that we ask parents not to drive into the school grounds in the mornings. This is to keep our students safe on their way into and out of our school. In relation to afternoon pick up, it is expected that parents will come into the school of an afternoon to pick up their children. At the end of last term, we had students exiting the school grounds into the parking area without a parent. While this is unsafe, it also makes roll marking for the bus difficult as teachers are unaware of student movements. If you are picking up your child of an afternoon, please come into the school grounds to collect them. If your child catches the bus, please inform the teacher on bus duty that your child is going home with you instead of catching the bus. Student safety and protection is of great importance to all school staff. Thank you for your support in this matter.

School Photographs
On Thursday 19th March, we had our school photographs for 2015. There has a small delay with receiving our School photographs. We will send these home when they arrive next week.

Crows Nest Historical Society Thank you
Late last term, we donated our old world maps to the Crows Nest Historical Society for display in their historical school display. Attached to the newsletter is a thank you from the society and an invitation for 2 adults and a student to visit free of charge. If you would like to be in the draw to win this prize, please give your details to the office. We will do a draw before the next newsletter in Week 3 and award a student the free visit. Thank you to Mrs Davies for organising the maps and dropping them off to the society over the holidays.

Student Information Cards
Last term we sent home Student Information Cards, asking parents to update these school records and return them to the school office. If you are yet to return these records, please check the Student Cards and make sure information is correct, make any changes and add any information that may be needed. Please sign where indicated and return to the school as soon as possible.

Oakey Show Entries
Congratulations to students who entered the Oakey Show Colouring Competition. Entries and ribbons were returned to the school this week.

Toowoomba Chronicle Classroom Makeover
A big THANK YOU to families that have collected and donated coupons from the Toowoomba Chronicle. We have submitted our 1068 coupons; however, another small school of approximately 50 students managed to collect over 3000 tokens. This has fuelled our desire to collect even more tokens next year. A thank you to the Cooyar General Store and Cooyar Hotel who had collection containers at their premises. A special mention also needs to be made to Norma Munt who supported us by collecting several hundred tokens from friends at her retirement village in Toowoomba. Our Student Leaders will be sending Mrs Munt and her friends a letter of appreciation.
From the Principal...

**P & C Meeting**
On Monday night, we had our third P & C Meeting for the year. Attending P & C meetings is a great way to stay informed about school processes. Please join us for the next P & C Meeting on Monday 18th May, 2015 at 7.00pm. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the P & C for their Term One donation to cover our online educational subscriptions for Reading Eggs and Mathletics for the year. These are important curriculum resources that students use each day. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Late to School and Absences**
A reminder as we begin a new term. If you know that your child will be absent from school or late to school, please inform us by writing a note in your child’s KIT Book. Alternatively, please give the school a call and leave a message if your child will be absent from school. You can ring and leave a message at any time, day or night. As school staff follow up on all students that are absent, your support will save us valuable learning time. Thank you for your support.

**Toowoomba Regional Council Library Bus**
The Toowoomba Library Bus will visit us each fortnight. Their first visit was this week. Students will visit the bus between 8.00 -8.30am on Tuesdays and borrow before school. I have spoken with library staff and they will be stocking resources based on school themes and learning focuses. In history this term, we will be focussing on Australia’s history. The library will be stocking resources to support our learning.

**NAPLAN Term Two**
On 12th, 13th and 14th May, our Year 3 and 5 students will sit the annual NAPLAN testing in the areas of Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy. Students have been participating in preparation programs and support programs leading up to this testing period. Results will be released later in the school year.

**School Recycling Centre**
On Monday night at the P & C Meeting, it came to our attention that many families and people in the local community are not aware of our fenced recycling centre at the school. The school has been using this as a form of P & C funding for many years. By dropping your glass and cans off to the site, you are supporting the school. It’s as easy as accessing the site at any time and sorting your glass and cans into the appropriate areas. The Toowoomba based company come and collect the material and monies are sent to the school P & C. The Cooyar Hotel has been supporting this venture by recycling glass and cans with us for many years. We thank Mr Payne and Mr Munt for their time in coordinating this venture over the past several years. We invite everyone in our local community to support us in this venture.

**Purchasing School Uniforms**
At the P & C Meeting on Monday, a new process of ordering school uniforms was decided upon. School uniforms will now be sold as part of a tuckshop order on Wednesdays. This will be the only way to order school uniforms. Payment will have to be made at the time of ordering. Parents can add the school uniform order onto the tuckshop bag and send the money in the tuckshop bag. The P & C will issue a receipt for the order at a later time. A price list for uniforms is attached to this newsletter and will be updated as new stock arrives.

**School Grants**
Our school has been busy applying for grants this school year. We have submitted a grant with the FRRR Grant Process for a set of new iPads for the school. We are currently in the process of submission.
From the Principal...

Our School Rules and Behaviour Expectations
Each week, we review our School rules and explicitly teach expected behaviours associated with these rules on parade. This week, our focus is on reviewing our School Rules and classroom expectations. We appreciate parents following up on our weekly social skills focus by engaging in conversations with students at home.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Focus Area</th>
<th>Points for Discussion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Introduction of Term</strong></td>
<td>School rules, routines, procedures</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>What does School Wide Positive Behaviour Support at Cooyar State School look like?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Be Safe in all Areas</strong></td>
<td>Use equipment appropriately and with care, Respect the rights of others, Report dangerous or unusual situations, Eat only your own food, in designated areas, Be hygienic</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Be Responsible in the Playground</strong></td>
<td>Play fairly, follow the rules and take turns, Return equipment at the end of play</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Be a Safe, Responsible Learner in all Environments</strong></td>
<td>Be persistent and engage in all tasks, Be open to new ideas, Ask permission to leave all areas, Be cyber safe</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Be Safe in the Playground</strong></td>
<td>Play suitable, school approved games, Be sun safe, Play in approved areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Be a Learner in all Areas</strong></td>
<td>Actively listen and follow instructions, Be organised and punctual, Ask for help if needed, Care for self, others and the environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Be a Safe and Responsible Learner when transitioning around the school</strong></td>
<td>Move safely, respectfully and appropriately, Keep traffic areas clear, Line up responsibly</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Be Responsible in all Areas</strong></td>
<td>Speak truthfully, respectfully and appropriately, Act with respect, consideration and integrity, Follow procedures and obey all rules, Place litter in bins, Wear your school uniform with pride</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td><strong>Be a Learner in the Playground</strong></td>
<td>Cooperate with and include others</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Be a Safe and Responsible Learner for Road Safety</strong></td>
<td>Cross the road with care, Remain seated while the bus is moving and show respect, Walk bikes in the school grounds, to and from the bike racks, Always wear a helmet when riding a bike, Move directly to and from school, Use paths to enter and exit school</td>
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From the Principal...

**School Website**
Have you had a look at the school website lately? It has all the information related to our school. Families from out of town can access all of our school policies and the Parent Handbook. They can also download enrolment forms, access our tuckshop menu and view our school processes and date claimers. Have a look at cooyarss@eq.edu.au.

**Cooyar Cash Week and School Rewards**
In Week 10 of each term, we hold our Cooyar Cash Rewards Week. In Term One, we had students signing up for fishing, cooking, industrial arts, special lunches, pizza in the park and buy the school bell song for the week. Congratulations to students who saved their Cooyar Cash throughout the term to participate in these special rewards. We have included some photographs of our rewards in this newsletter. Students receive Cooyar Cash for following the School Rules of Being Safe, Being an Active Learner and Being Responsible.

**Curriculum Focus**
This term, in Spelling and Mathematics, students will have a Pre-Test in Week One and a Post-Test in Week 10. These data collection tools will display student progress and highlight strengths and areas of support for students. This data will be used by teachers to inform planning and implement support programs for students.

In English this term, we are focusing on writing persuasive texts. We will be using our Seven Steps to Writing skills that we used when writing our Narratives in Term One to continue planning, writing, editing and reviewing our persuasive texts.

In Mathematics we are working on:

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<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Length and Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Year One</td>
<td>Patterns and Shape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>Number, Place Value and Shape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Three and Four</td>
<td>Number and place value – even/ odd, representing numbers, place value, multiplication and division.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Five and Six</td>
<td>Number and Place Value Fractions and Decimals</td>
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Have a great fortnight,

Yours in Education,

Kendall Seccombe
Welcome back to everyone from their Easter holidays! This term is already looking very exciting and busy with the Cross Country tomorrow and music and PE visitors coming to our school at later dates.

We are also going to be wishing Mrs Bourke good luck as she leaves on maternity leave on Wednesday next week. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Bourke for all her hard work so far this year and hope she has lots of sleep in preparation for her new little bundle of joy! The whole class will be looking forward to Mrs Bourke coming down for some show’n’tell in Term 3!

Mrs Spencer will be taking over from Mrs Bourke on Mondays and Tuesdays while I will be working on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

History – This week, our class has been learning about Anzac Day and making some poppies for the Anzac Day ceremony on Saturday. It would be lovely to see as many students as possible on the 100th anniversary.

English – Students will be learning about persuasive writing and over the next two weeks will be talking about persuasive words in particular. They may even come home and try to use these new skills at home!

Maths – Our topics in Maths are learning about shapes, length, patterns, number and place value.

Reading has been going home each night and homework will be sent next week.

Hope to see you all at Cross Country and Anzac Day!

Many thanks,

Michelle Bourke and Tania Duncombe
Week One of Term Two is almost over and what a jam packed week it has been. From making poppies and baking ANZAC biscuits to preparing for the service on Saturday and learning about ANZAC history.

Our students have been very interested in the ANZAC story over the last week. We have been researching the commemorative symbols of ANZAC Day, including the poppy, rosemary and ANZAC biscuits. We have been profiling a range of service men and women from infantry to horseman, nurses to snipers. Students have been engaged and eager to learn about these heroes.

We have started our new whole school spelling program this week with a focus on spelling rules and strategies. Students continue to having spelling for homework each night, along with home reading, times table practice and handwriting. Times tables continue to be a focus for us and we conduct a times table challenge each day which tests students on their times table knowledge.

In History this term we are looking at the history of Australia. Over the following 8 weeks we will be working our way through the history of Australia using the fantastic Australia, This Is Our Story television series. Mrs Sloss and I will be team teaching our History unit and students will be required to submit a report at the end of the term as their assessment item.

Mrs Spencer continues in the Middle Classroom on Thursdays teaching Speech Club, Science and Technology.

Term One assessments were sent home in KIT books earlier this week. These assessments, reflection sheets and rubrics are for your information on how your child is achieving on assessment items at our school. Please take the time to have a look at this information.

I would ask that parents encourage their children to be prepared each day for school with their KIT folder and homework book. I acknowledge that students are responsible for these jobs; however, I would ask for a reminder from parents to make sure this happens every day.

The weather has changed, and while we are inside for most of the day, students are outside for morning physical activity and lunch times, as well as gardening and sport. I am encouraging all students to wear a jumper or tracksuit to school and their school hat each day. Water bottles are still encouraged over the Winter months.

Kendall Seccombe
Our classroom has had a very interesting week as the children learnt about ANZAC Day and it has been pleasing to see that all have been keen and enthusiastic after their break. The school leaders have been asked to present a reading and others to present their idea of what ANZAC Day means to them. We have been practising the speeches and working out the meaning of what is said so it will be more meaningful as they read.

Mathematics begins with Number and Place Value for Year 6 and Fractions and Decimals for Year 5. We are also constantly working on multiplication and division skills seeing improvement little by little.

English will build on the narrative work from last term to write a persuasive text this term.

In Science, the children will be asked to investigate a noxious weed. Any at your place? Please feel free to provide a sample for the children to investigate at school. We are considering the plant’s structure and adaptations that make it survive.
Special Lunch, Fishing and Pizza in the Park fun!
Farewell to The Donaghy Family

This photo was published in the High Country Herald on the 24 March 2015. Thank you Mrs Davies for sending the photo to the paper.