**Principal News**

On Tuesday 2nd February we welcomed our Kindergarten scholars for their first full school day. Congratulations to the children for making a great start, to their parents for preparing them so well and to our Kindergarten teachers for providing a wonderful introduction to school life for the children. We look forward to a wonder future in learning, caring and respect at Kurri Kurri Public School for our beautiful new scholars.

Thank you to families for following the information and reminders on school needs and uniform issued at the end of last year. I have been delighted to see the scholars in full uniform including nearly every child in black shoes! It models respect for our school and for our students which is so important for their personal development and happiness.

It was very unfortunate that we had to postpone our Swimming Carnival. Rain would have interfered with the children walking to the pool, and with outside novelty activities during the day. Let's hope for better weather for our back up Carnival Day next Tuesday 9th February.

This Friday and on the weekend I will be at the University of Melbourne continuing academic studies in Educational Leadership. My current subject is led by Professor John Hattie, who is an education guru due to his analysis of what has the most effect on student success in the classroom. Key aspects he has identified such as the importance of teachers being clear and explicit to children about what they are learning and why, setting clear expectations about work quality, involving children in setting learning goals and giving feedback that relates to goals and expectations are in place in all of our classrooms here at Kurri Kurri. The focus of the subject is about research evidence to identify and support what we do in the classroom, to achieve the optimum learning growth for all scholars.

Warm Regards

Eve Field

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**Year 1 News**

Welcome back to the 2016 school year! Our Year 1 scholars are setting beautifully into their new classes and have arrived back at school eager to engage in all learning opportunities. Year 1 is a very busy year - packed full of fun, adventure and so much learning! The Year 1 teaching team are so excited about all that we have planned for your children this year, and look forward to working with you as well. We hope that you can come along to our Meet and Greet Expo on Thursday 11th February. We are looking forward to meeting you all and enjoying a happy and productive year.

Year 1 Teachers

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**Instructional Leader Report**

For 2016 we are lucky enough to have additional teachers on board to assist any students that may need an extra boost in Literacy and/or Numeracy. They are identified as “intervention teachers”. We aim for a highly consultative process with parents and provide many opportunities for you to contact classroom teachers about your child’s progress such as our Meet and Greet Expo and Speed Interviews. In addition to this, we may send you a letter detailing that your child qualifies to work with one of our intervention teachers over the school year. These letters will direct you to speak with our 2016 Instructional Leader, Tracy Hickey, if you have any concerns or do not wish for your child to participate in these support programs. You can, of course, also talk to your child’s classroom teacher or the Assistant Principal for your child.

Sarah Williams

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**Welcome Kindergarten 2016**

On Tuesday 2nd February we had approximately 80 new kindergarten children start their schooling days at our school. The children were keenly enthusiastic and were looking forward to learning and discovering both the classroom and playground activities. There will be exciting new equipment available for the classroom and playground kindergarten area shortly.
MEET & GREET INFORMATION EXPO
Invitations were sent home inviting families to come along to the school on Thursday 11th February between 5.00pm–7.00pm to meet their child’s teacher for 2016 and discuss their learning program for the year. There will also be an opportunity to chat with visiting representatives from various services that are available in our area to give families additional assistance. Once again Kurri Kurri Rotary and Kurri Kurri Coles will provide a free BBQ for families to enjoy during the afternoon. The staffs of Kurri Kurri Public School are looking forward to seeing you next week and welcome you to a fantastic year ahead.

KNIGHTS NRL BLITZ VISIT
On Wednesday 3rd February the school received a visit from the Newcastle Knights NRL Blitz squad. The scholars attended a presentation by the squad, where Dane Gagai spoke about the importance of health and wellbeing to achieving and performing to their maximum potential, not only at school but also in all activities throughout the day. This presentation covered healthy nutritional awareness, hydration, physical activities and healthy sleep patterns which included a recommendation for young growing children requiring between 8-10 hours sleep a night. Dane also spoke with students about healthy food choices for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and also shared a discussion with the students around ways to prepare for and ensure good quality sleep each night. This visit gave students insight into the importance and value of health and wellbeing as a regular daily routine.

POP-UP PLAYGROUP
On Wednesday 17th February we will be starting a Pop-Up Playgroup at our school. The session will run from 9.30-11.30am in the School Assembly Hall. The playgroup is for children aged from birth to 6 years and their parents/carers. The playgroup celebrates parents and we share a variety of ways to assist children learn through play while having fun. Morning tea will be provided. Should you require any further information or would like to confirm your attendance please call 4937 1235.

CANCER COUNCIL - EAT IT TO BEAT IT
For information on the below Nutrition Snippets please visit www.eattittobeatit.com.au or phone 4923 0704. By using the information and the healthy eating sessions, parents can really help improve the health of their families, and as a result improve the health of our school community. Nutrition Snippets Fact Sheets include:

- The simplest way … to serve dinner in a flash. The simplest way … to protect your skin (SunSmart Snippet).
- The simplest way … to save time packing lunches — to keep lunch foods fresh.
- The simplest way … to bake a healthy lunch box treat.
- The simplest way … to encourage healthy eating.
- The simplest way … to keep lunch foods fresh.
- The simplest way … to save time packing lunches.
- The simplest way … to serve dinner in a flash.

P&C NEWS
To cater for the various needs of busy families and to give the maximum opportunity for Parents and Carers to be involved in their child’s schooling through active participation through the P&C, the monthly meeting will now be held the third Tuesday of each month, alternating between daytime and evening meetings. The next meeting will be Tuesday 16th February at 6.00pm in the staffroom of the school. It was wonderful to see more parents starting to attend the meetings. Everyone is welcome, membership is $2.00.

Email: kurrirkurripublicschool@panhandle.com.au or find us on Facebook

CANCEEN NEWS
Week commencing Monday 8th February

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<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
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<td>Lisa Purkiss</td>
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Please let Jodie know if you are unable to attend or are no longer able to volunteer.

COMMUNITY NEWS
March 22nd, 23rd, March 21st & 22nd and April 4th & 5th. For more information please call Kurri - 4937 1638 or Cessnock - 4993 4384

Cessnock Family Support Services – are offering NSW Families Two Parenting Programs - Bringing up Great Kids on Mondays 22nd February–14th March at 9.30am–12.00pm.

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