Dear Parents,

It was great to see all our new kindergarten students arriving at school on Monday and having a great week so far.

Class Structures
As mentioned in our update on Monday our new class structure this year includes Kindergarten taught by Mrs Conyard; 1/2 taught by Miss Lentfer; 3/4 currently taught by Ms Benson and 5/6 taught by Mr Attwater. As a result, class sizes are small and each class is structured with a maximum of two grades, not three. It is also wonderful for Kindergarten to be a single grade class. This is a wonderful start for our new kindergarten students!

Class Meetings
We will hold a parent information meeting on Tuesday 9th February at 6pm. Parents are invited to come along to meet their child’s teacher and hear about our school programs. This will begin in the school hall followed by classroom visits and a chat wit your child’s teacher.
School Leaders Induction Assembly
Tomorrow our school student leaders will be inducted into their new positions for 2016. We will be inducting school captains and vice captains, house captains and library monitors. Parents and carers of these students have been invited to come along and pin on their new leadership badge during the assembly. Congratulations to all our school leaders for 2016.

There will be merit cards presented at this assembly as well but the regular features of class performances and writers of the fortnight will not be held at this assembly. Our regular assemblies will begin on Friday 19th February at 12:30pm. These assemblies are held every second Friday.

Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival
Next Friday our swimming team will head to the Grafton Pool for the Clarence Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival. Students swimming at this carnival include place getters in the 100m and 50m events from our carnival/fun day at the end of last year. If any new students (aged 8 in 2016 or older) is a good swimmer and wishes to join the team next week, please let me know. Our swimming team includes Brenden, Deegan, Dylan, James C, Lachlan, Lockie, Riley N, Robbie, Chloe, Hayley, Jess, Kirsten, Megan, Olivia and Tamsyn.

Canteen
Our school canteen opened for the first time this year yesterday and is open each Wednesday and Friday. Thank to Mrs Carter and Mrs Kramer for their organisation of the canteen this year. On the recent canteen menu, please cross out large pies as only party pies are available. If anyone missed out on a canteen menu, please let your child’s teacher know and we can send home another copy.

Book Bank
Next Tuesday afternoon we will be holding our Book Bank launch. This will be held in our hall at 2pm for students in years 3-6. Book Bank is a scheme which allows students in years 3 to 6, to select and receive a book each term. Thank you to Koppers for sponsoring this wonderful program. Once students receive their book they will remain in class for the term and then come home at the end of the term, ready to repeat the process again during the next term.
P&C Meeting 2016
Our next scheduled P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday (16th February 2016) at 9:30am and will be the Annual General Meeting for 2016. I would encourage as many parents as possible to attend this meeting and support our school.

Sentral Parent Portal
We are developing a Parent and Student Portal using Sentral software at our school. This will allow parents to see information like attendance, previous reports and student awards (the ones that add up to Teacher, Bronze, Silver, Gold Awards etc). As I am still developing it, I would like to see if there are any parents interested in trialling it and giving me some feedback. It would only require a computer at home with an internet connection. Please let me know if you are interested.

School Hats
We are continuing to emphasise that students wear school hats in the playground. The daily hat draw will continue to encourage this and students will need to be wearing a school hat to play in the sun. To support sun safe practices students should not wear peaked caps but are encouraged to wear school broadbrim or school bucket hats to protect each student’s face, neck and ears from sun damage. Students not wearing school broadbrim or school bucket hats will be required to play under the COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area). School sunglasses are also available at the school office if you are interested.

Library
Library is usually held each Tuesday for all classes. Due to the Book Bank launch next Tuesday, our library day will change to Wednesday for just this week.

Newsletter by email
Our school has an email list of parents who each newsletter by email. If you would like to receive our newsletter each Thursday by email please let Mrs Simpson know at the front office and supply the email address you would like to receive the email. The newsletter is also available on our school website as well. http://www.couttscros-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
## Dates for the Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 5/2/16</td>
<td>Leader Induction Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 9/2/16</td>
<td>Book Bank Launch</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9/2/16 Parent Information Evening (6pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12/2/16</td>
<td>Small Schools Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 16/2/16</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 18/2/16</td>
<td>Clarence District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25/3/16</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 28/3/16</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 5/4/16</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8/4/16</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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With thanks,

*Matt Hankinson*

Principal

## Cake Raffle

Thank you to family of Charlotte and Olivia Williams who will supply the cake tomorrow. Next Friday 12th February, the cake will be supplied by the family of Violet and Sophie Yager. We thank the parents for their support with this P&C fundraiser.

**Please note, any family who does not wish to be included on this roster please phone the office.**

## BMX Information

Are you looking for a family friendly action sport? On Sunday February 6 we will be hosting our annual National Sign On Day! This is your chance to join our club and one of Australia’s fastest growing sports! BMX is for everyone, from two-year-olds on mini-wheelers right through to 60+ veterans, we all ride BMX! National Sign On Day is designed for YOU to come along and try out our exciting sport, free of charge! It’s a fun and exciting day that includes BMX riding, coaching and games.

If you enjoy the day (and we hope you do!), you can sign up with our club and join the BMX Australia family! So what have you got to lose? Join us at the track! The Clarence Valley BMX Club’s race track located at the corner of Abbott and Vere Streets in South Grafton.

An information sheet is available at the school office if you’re interested.