**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 2 at Medlow. It was lovely to see all the students ready for another great term of learning and fun together. Our first week has been very busy with the Year 6’s travelling to Coffs Harbour for a Debating and Public Speaking workshop. A big thank you to Sara and Mr Simpson for transporting the students. It was an extremely worthwhile event and the expectation now is that the senior students will incorporate those skills with the junior students into their project based learning task.

This task has the driving question of …“Medlow needs a school pet which can either be a plant or an animal”. Students in groups will research and present their findings to a panel in Week 5. Students will be required to use literacy, numeracy, scientific, presentation and public speaking skills to convince the panel. I look forward to working with the students in an authentic collaborative learning environment.

Thank you to all the community for joining in on our Easter Activities at the end of last term. It was a wonderful day with lots of beautiful hats, clever egg drop contraptions, great singing, music and dancing, gourmet food and “eggcellent” egg throwing activities!

**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

Wren Barnett received her Assembly Award last week for contributing the improvement and beautification of the school grounds and Amelia Kyle received her award for creating a beautiful ANZAC display table.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MAY 1**  
Macksville Excursion

**MAY 7**  
Book club Orders due back at School.

**TERM DATES**

Last day of term 2 is **Friday 26 June**.

First day of Term 3 is **Tuesday 14 July**.

**THIS WEEK’S FOCUS**

- **Equipment** – bring what we need and be ready to learn.
- **Focus** – concentrate on our work.
- **Belongings** – look after our things.
MACKSVILLE EXCURSION

This Friday Mrs Trudgett will accompany the students on the bus. The senior students will be taken to the soccer fields where they will be supervised by Jane. Mrs Trudgett will then take the junior students to the Library for Reading and Activity time from 10.00 until 11.30. They will then make their way to the vets to get a special guided tour of the clinic. This will be a valuable experience for their project based learning task.

4/5/6 - Full canteen is available or you can bring your own lunch and please take plenty of water
K 2/3 - Please take your own recess, lunch and drinks for the day.

I will be in Coffs Harbour for a Curriculum meeting which is focused on implementing the new Science syllabus.

CRUNCH AND SIP

Parents and carers, I would really appreciate it if you could cut up your child’s fruit so it is easy for them to eat.

AUTUMN LEAVES AND STRAWBERRY PLANTING

On Thursday the juniors did a great job raking up all the leaves around the sandpit and the tables they made it look so good. We have lots of fabulous little workers. Wren was particularly impressed with how hard Amali works and Tiahn made us all gasp with delight as she was able to correctly identify the strawberry plants. Thank you Jenny for bringing in the strawberry plants and teaching the students how to plant and care for them.

ANZAC DAY

It was an absolute honour and privilege to be involved in the Valley’s ANZAC celebrations on Saturday. The commemorations at Bowraville united a community, a Valley and contributed to the collective celebrations that were being held around Australia and the World. Amelia and Lauren represented our school and Amelia laid a wreath on behalf of Medlow. Later that day at Taylors Arm, we participated in the March and the students read the honour roll, poems, stories, Lauren laid the wreath on behalf of Medlow and we sang the National Anthem as a choir. Both occasions were very moving and I would like to thank those students and families who supported this special event. I would also like to thank the organisers of the Bowraville event and Mr Stuart Johnson for organising the Taylors Arm event.

Medlow Public School is a proud member of the Valley 10 Community of Public Schools.
**DEBATING DAY – REPORT BY LEHMAN AND NICK**

On 23 April the Year 6’s from Medlow went to a debating workshop at Coffs Harbour Public School. When we got there we knew that we would have a good time. The people running the workshop were named Tony, Patrick and Ashton. Tony had just started talking and I swore he could make it echo outside. He talked about rebuttal, posture and everything to know about debating. We played some debating games. One was called who deserves the parachute. The idea is there is 11 celebrities and only 1 parachute. After that we had to prepare for a debate. When we debated it was girls v’s boys for Medlow arguing about the school uniform; whether to keep it or take it away. The boys were the negative and the girls were affirmative. Amelia and Jamie where the first speakers, then Lauren and Lehman were second speakers, followed by Lucie and Nick who were the 3rd speakers and had to finish the debate. We had great fun debating and we learnt so much from the presenters.

**EASTER FUN DAY – REPORT BY LUCIE, LAUREN AND AMELIA**

On 1st April all the students invited their friends and family to come to the Easter Fun Day celebration. We had lots of fun doing the eggdrop and Easter hat parade. Mr Simpson got all the students to perform “Walk Right In” and “Waltzing Matilda” and Claire did a drum solo. All the students did a barn dance to “Walk Right In” and then all the parents joined in. At the end of the day we had an egg and spoon race, an egg throw and other fun activities.

At the end of the day we all went home with smiles on our faces and egg on our faces, hair and mouths.
**HOMEWORK AND READERS**

Homework will start again today and is due Friday. Please help your child to complete their homework accurately but also neatly. Care needs to be taken when reading each instruction so that they can understand what is required in each answer.

Home reading started last week. I have spoken to the children about the importance of reading for at least half an hour at home each day. Please help your child to bring their home readers back to school every day even if it is a big chapter book.

We really need more volunteers for reading to support the children.

**SCRIPTURE**

On Friday, Graham Laverty visited the school and the students had a wonderful time with him. I really value his input into the school. He also takes the time to kick the soccer ball around or play hide and seek and the students enjoy his company. This week he gave most of the students a special gift of a ring that he had made. Graham makes and sells surfboards so he is a master craftsman. The ring that he made is out of resin and the next time he visits he will have made more for all of the students. It is a special keepsake that the students will hopefully appreciate and look after. Thankyou Graham for going to such an effort and for being so thoughtful for each and every student.

**TERM CALENDAR**

Attached to the Newsletter is a Term Calendar. We have added a few of the events scheduled for this Term. Please keep it in a handy spot and add events as we advertise them in the Newsletter.

**BOOK CLUB ORDERS**

Also attached to the Newsletter are Book Club order forms. Orders need to be returned to school by Thursday 7 May.

Regards

Sarah Landers
Relieving Principal