Principal’s Report
Welcome back to school for 2016. I hope all of our staff, students, parents and carers have had a relaxing holiday and are ready for the year ahead.

K-6 students returned to school last Thursday. We were delighted to welcome five Kindergarten students – Eliza, Rylee, Stella, Evan and James. Our classes have made positive starts to 2016 and are already demonstrating great commitment to their learning.

This year we welcome Miss Stephanie Barlow, Mrs Loretta Walker and Mrs Gemma Brockie to our teaching staff. Miss Barlow is teaching K/1/2, Mrs Walker 3/4, Ms Taylor 5/6 and Mrs Brockie Release from Face to Face (RFF). Mrs Brockie will be implementing Science and Technology K-6.

Students will continue to be grouped in three stages for literacy and numeracy Monday to Thursday – K/1/2, 3/4 and 5/6. From 12:30pm two classes will operate – K-2 and 3-6 to enable staff to have RFF for planning and to allow Ms Taylor administration time. The same timetabling (K-2 and 3-6) will also operate on Fridays.

Teachers will be holding introductory parent-teacher interviews in Week 4 following the conclusion of the Intensive Swimming Program. Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher.

Our first P&C meeting for the year will be held tonight, Tuesday 2 February 2016 in the staffroom. All welcome! New parents to the school community are very welcome and especially encouraged to attend.

Have a great week!  

Nyree Taylor  Principal
This Week’s Events (Week 2)

Intensive Swimming Program
The annual 10 Day Intensive Swimming Program commenced yesterday. Sessions are being held at the town pool between 2:00 – 3:00pm each afternoon. This year Mrs Jo Cameron is coordinating the program. Four groups will be operating each day – Beginner, Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2 and Advanced.

PSSA Meeting
Sports reps of the Finley & District Primary Schools Sports Association travelled to Berrigan PS yesterday for the AGM and first meeting of 2016. Dates for zone carnivals were set at the meeting and will be published in upcoming newsletters. JPS has a bye from organising zone events for the 2015 – 2016 period.

School Counsellor Visiting
Our School Counsellor, Ms Mirelda Wales will make her first visit to JPS this Thursday 4 February. If you would like your child to see Ms Wales, please contact the office for a referral form. Parent consent is required for students to access this service.

Director Visiting
Mr Troy Mott has been appointed Director Public Schools NSW for the Deniliquin Network. Mr Mott commenced duties on January 27 and is currently visiting schools across the network to meet principals, staff and students. We look forward to a visit by Mr Mott tomorrow.

Cricket Knock Out Pre-selections
Students in Years 5 and 6 who currently play cricket are invited to trial for the JeriBerriO cricket team to play in the 2016 PSSA Cricket Knock Out. Team trials will take place this Thursday 4 February at 4:00pm at Monash Park. Ben Nash will be conducting the trials on behalf of JPS and acting as coach. Two further training sessions will be held at Monash Park on Thursday 11 and Thursday 25 February before the team plays Tocumwal PS (date to be set).
This Week’s Events cont.

Scripture Lessons Begin
At JPS a special religious education program (SRE) is available and is run by authorised volunteers of approved religious persuasions. Students continue in the same arrangement each year, unless a parent/caregiver has requested a change in writing. At any time, you have the right to change your SRE nomination or to withdraw your child from the nominated lessons. A written note to the principal will affect this change.

Scripture lessons begin this Friday 5 February with our Scripture leaders Mrs Jacqui Robertson, Mrs Dorothy Milthorpe, Mrs Chris Ellis, Mrs Libby Coughlan and Mrs Yvonne Tamlyn. Students who are not participating in Scripture lessons will be supervised by Ms Taylor.

Next Week’s Events (Week 3)
Celebrating Shrove Tuesday
Our friends from the Uniting Church, will be at school next Tuesday 9 February to make pancakes for the students as part of Shrove Tuesday celebrations. Pancakes will be served at recess at no charge. Thank you ladies for this treat!

Fete Meeting
In Term 1 each year JPS and St Joseph’s Primary School Jerilderie hold a combined fete to raise funds for our schools. The first Fete Committee Meeting will be held at JPS Library next Thursday 11 February at 5:30pm. Please come along and show your support for this annual fundraiser.

Captain’s Report
Welcome back everyone! I hope you had fun on your school holidays.
This year we have brand new staff. Welcome Mrs Walker, Miss Barlow and Mrs Brockie.
Welcome to the new Kindies: Evan, James, Stella, Rylee and Eliza. I hope you have settled in to the K/1/2 room and have a great year.
I would also like to welcome Amber to Year 1 and Shudhho to Year 5 and hope you enjoy your time at JPS.
K – 6 have started intensive swimming with Mrs Cameron. We will be swimming for 10 days so remember to bring your swimmers, rashi, towel, hat and sunscreen each day.
In January Audrey Bradford celebrated her birthday on the 19th and Mrs Walker on the 26th. Happy birthday to Toby Hurd for the 7th and Lucy Simpson for 16th February.

Jade Baldwin
Housekeeping

School Times
School begins at 9:10am each day and finishes at 3:15pm. Teachers are on duty from 8:40am. Upon arrival at school, students are to go to the Library for the Before-school Reading program. When the morning bell rings they go out on to the playground where a teacher will be on duty.

In the afternoons a quick assembly is held under the COLA to remind students about requirements for the next day and to pass on any parent messages. The staff endeavours to dismiss classes promptly and keep these assemblies brief. We ask everyone to be patient while our new Kindergarten students are getting to know our school routines.

Student Attendance
Regular attendance at school is important. It makes learning easier for your child and helps them to build and maintain friendships. It is also a requirement by law to send your child to school unless they are sick, injured, there is a special religious ceremony or there is a serious family incident. If your child is away or you know they are going to be away you need to supply a note of explanation. It is also important that students attend on time. If they are late, please sign them in at the office.

Office Hours
This year our school will be operating within its School Administration allocation as set by the Department. Office hours are as follows:
Monday 9:30am – 3:35pm – Mrs Victoria Bryce
Tuesday 9:30am – 3:35pm – Mrs Victoria Bryce
Wednesday – Office unattended
Thursday 9:00am – 4:00pm – Mrs Judy Knight
Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm – Mrs Judy Knight

On Wednesdays when the office is unattended, every effort will be made to check the school message bank during break times. Any changes to afternoon routines on this day will need to be communicated to class teachers via a note.

School Banking
Student Banking day in 2016 is Tuesdays. If you would like your child to start their own account with the Commonwealth Bank (Finley Branch), please see Mrs Victoria Bryce in the office for further information.

Medical Updates
At the beginning of each school year, students with specific health care needs (eg. Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes, etc) are required to supply the school with an updated management plan and any medication. Please check the expiry date on medications before sending them to school.

Please remind your child to only eat the foods you pack for them. With the prevalence of children with food allergies, children eating food not prepared by their parent can have serious health consequences. Teachers monitor students while they eat but families are asked to also teach this important safety message.

School Speed Zones
Parents and community members are reminded that 40km per hour speed zones operate across NSW at all school sites on gazetted school days, including School Development Days. The majority of school zones operate between 8:00 – 9:30am and 2:30 – 4:00pm. Motorists are required to drive at no more than 40km/hr through these zones.
P&C News

P&C Meeting
JPS P&C Association meets on the first Tuesday of each month. The first meeting for 2016 is tonight, 2nd February, at 7:00pm in the staffroom. All parents and interested community members are invited to attend.

Bog Run
JPS P&C Association will be holding the Billabong Bog Run on Sunday 6 March 2016. This event has been well supported to date with many local businesses pledging sponsorship.

The Committee needs the backing of all JPS families for this fundraiser to be a success so please mark the date on your calendar. Helpers will be required to set up and man obstacles along the course. For further information please contact: Tiffany Sutton (0423 075 060) or Kevin A’Vard (0428 998 801).

Housekeeping

IGA Shopping Dockets
Please ensure that all Jerilderie IGA Shopping Dockets for January are handed in to the school office by Friday, 12 February. Thank you for collecting for this very worthwhile and easy fundraiser for our school.

Lost Property
There is a lot of clothing, towels, drink bottles etc in the ‘Lost Property Box’. Please come and have a look for missing items.

Left Over From Presentation Night
A cane basket and white square plate were left over from Presentation Night. Please collect from the office if they belong to you.

Classifieds