Welcome back to another busy school year! I extend a special welcome to all new students and their families to our great school. We welcome our new Kindergarten students for 2015. It is wonderful to see so many new faces.

I welcome Mr Scott Warner as our new permanent classroom teacher. Mr Warner is teaching Years 2 and 3. His class will be known as 2/3 S. He has already brought many new initiatives and ideas to his classroom and our school.

I would like to congratulate Kerrie McCarthy on her marriage during the holidays. She will now be known as Mrs Johnson and is teaching Kindergarten and Year 1. Her class will be known as K/1 J. Mrs Johnson has expertly completed the Best Start (PLAN) assessments over the last week and has made our Kindergarten students feel very welcome at “Big School”.

Miss Shanelle Gunther has returned in 2015, and is teaching my class (4/5/6 M) on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and all day Fridays and is teaching K/1 J and 2/3 S on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Miss Gunther is to be highly praised and thanked for the absolutely superb job she did as relieving Principal.

I welcome back our wonderful office and support staff Mrs Lynda Newberry, Mrs Barb Baker and Mr Ric Hutchinson. Without these enthusiastic, fabulous workers our school would not function as well, and as happily as it does.

On Thursday 20th February 2015 Robyn Lewis and her pet Indie will visit the school to teach the children from K—Year 3 how to be safe around dogs. This program uses a range of activities to teach children

- When dogs should be left alone
- What to do if approached by an unknown dog/unfriendly dog
- The safe way to approach and greet a dog
- Things we should not do to dogs, and
- Situations when we should leave dogs alone.

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Welcome back to a brand new year in K/1 J! I would like to welcome all our new students who have joined our class this year. I look forward to getting to know you all some more in the upcoming weeks. The students in our class have started the year with great enthusiasm and have settled in with ease. We have spent these two weeks getting to know each other, making new friends and learning about our new school routines. We have begun the Jolly Phonics program in English and have had a great time singing songs and learning actions to help us remember our sounds. The students created a wonderful artwork of the Sydney Opera House and we have proudly entered these into the Glen Innes Show. Just a reminder that home readers are due in on TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS. Our Library day is FRIDAY so children will need to return their books in order to borrow a new one.

Our class teacher is Mr Warner. We are also very lucky to have the amazing Mrs Baker as our teaching assistant. This week we started learning about “narratives” and created our own class story where the school had disappeared. In Maths we have looked at “whole numbers” with a particular focus on placing numbers in correct order sequence and place values. We have also been learning about each other and how to make friends and build stronger friendships. We spent a bit of time completing our individual artwork (warm and cool hands) for the Glen Innes Show and our combined whole school hand artwork (which is a “must see” at the show).

Welcome back to another great new year. In HSIE the students are studying a fabulous unit on Early Australia. I’m sure they will love this unit. In Numeracy our focus is on whole numbers and time tables. In Literacy we will be looking at the features and structure of narrative texts. The children have already completed a wonderful deconstruction of a text by Paul Jennings. Our Science unit is called ‘What’s the Matter?’ We are looking forward to exploring the properties of solids, liquids and gases, and planning and conducting an investigation of how the properties of materials change with temperature. In Visual Arts we completed individual artworks entitled ‘Opposites’ and contributed to our whole school show entry. We are looking forward to visiting the pavilion at the show tomorrow to see our show entries.
The school hosts the Red Range playgroup each Monday morning. All children aged between 0 and 5 years are very welcome. Please contact the school or the Glen Innes Severn Council on 67302300 for extra information.

We will hold a short information session on Monday 16th February from 3.00 – 3.30pm in the 4/5/6 M classroom for any parents and carers who wish to come along and ask questions about our school for 2015. Of course, if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please contact your child’s teacher or Mrs Murphy at the school.

Red Range P & C Committee

Notice is hereby given that the Red Range P & C Committee will hold their 2015 Annual General Meeting, on Wednesday 4th March 2015 commencing at 4.00pm at the Glen Innes Services Club. All Office Bearer positions will be declared vacant. The Positions are as follows:- President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

A General Meeting of the P & C will be held directly after the close of the AGM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Canteen News

The school canteen will be opened on Mondays and Fridays commencing next Monday 9th February 2015. A new price list is attached. Some items may not be available during the first week due to unavailability from suppliers. Parent helpers are required to operate the canteen on these days. If you are able to offer your time to assist in the canteen on either of these days please contact Brigitte Burridge on 67322349. Your assistance would be most appreciated.

GLEN INNES SHOW

Just a reminder that Bubble Muffins are having 2 shows for school children this Saturday at the Glen Innes Show. Times are 10.30am and 11.15am. The cooking demonstrations are on at the Gourmet Fiesta tent promoting healthy eating and lifestyle.

If you are at the show don’t forget to look at the wonderful artwork the children have entered.
School Banking Day Reminder.

Don’t forget that Monday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit. You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at any Commonwealth Bank branch, over the phone on 132221 or via NetBank if you are an existing customer with NetBank access. Remember to take in identification for you and your child (driver’s license and birth certificate). You will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book that your child will use to participate in the program. Our school will also receive 5% commission on every deposit made through the school. Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Red Range Public School.

Compulsory school attendance

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education? If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for the absence. To explain an absence parents and carers should either send a note with their child or phone the school.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY.
The purpose of education is to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself, to make his own decisions.

James Baldwin

DEC NEWS

2015 homework planner
Kids and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan. The 2015 homework and study calendar includes key dates and school holidays. You can print it out month by month, or by the whole year.

Doing well in class
Our expert panel shares tips about how parents can help their younger and older kids reach their full potential at school and motivate them for learning. Watch the video.

Eight ways to get your kids organised
Are you ready for morning madness, late assignments, yesterday’s half-eaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely.

Smart foods to boost learning
Mother Nature is full of foods that help us think and feel better. What do you give your child to help them think more clearly, and enhance concentration and memory?

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