Welcome back to the new school year. Once again, we look forward to a busy yet productive year of learning.

The warm weather has certainly dried the school and surrounding grounds but the students, although tired from the return to school, are still smiling and enthusiastic to be back.

I would like to remind parents/carers that the car park is for staff cars and children should not walk through the carpark (whether they are accompanied or not) or be dropped off in the car park. This is an accident waiting to happen.

Students are also regularly reminded to wear hats every day throughout Terms 1 and 4. This is school and Department policy.

Congratulations to Alisha Van Deventer and Rylan Doughty who were awarded silver awards at today’s assembly - our first for 2013.

Classes for 2013
Our students have now all been placed into their 2013 classes. We start the 2013 year with 8 classes and this has meant that we have the following structure:
KE – Mrs East  
K/1C – Mr Clayton  
1/2K – Mr Knight  
2/3S – Mrs Simpson  
3T – Mrs Turnbull  
4H – Mr Hill  
5/6B – Miss Blair  
5/6K – Mrs Klironomakis

Every effort has been made to provide each child with the best learning environment for their stage of development and individual needs. Our classes are not streamed and allow for a rich academic and social experience for all students.

I am pleased to welcome back Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Klironomakis will be with us for another 12 months.

Parent information afternoons will happen in the coming weeks and parents/carers will have the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss individual student needs towards the end of Term 1.

Book packs
Thank you to all of the parents/carers who have already purchased book packs. Jindera PS does not charge school fees but appreciate the purchase of book packs as tuition is free but consumables such as exercise and text books, pens, pencils, paper, art/craft and sport supplies are not. Book packs are $60.00 per child and are still available for purchase from the office. As we purchase the book pack items in bulk we are able to secure these products cheaper than if you were to purchase them separately yourself.

Swimming sport
Swimming sport for students in Years 3 – 6 (and any Year 2 students who turn 8 this year) began last Friday, 1 February. Students will continue with learn to swim, water aerobics, stroke correction and squad for the weeks of 8/2, 15/2, 22/2 and 1/3/2013.

Swimming carnival - 11 February
The school swimming carnival will be held on Monday 11 February 2013 at Jindera Pool for all students in Years 3 – 6 and any Year 2 students who turn 8 this year and can competently swim 50 metres without an aid or assistance. A permission note was sent home this week and parents/carers are asked to complete this and return it to the school as soon as possible, but by Friday 8 February at the latest. Students will also need to nominate and
submit entries for the swimming events they wish to participate in, prior to the carnival. Students will walk to and from Jindera Pool and should bring swimming costumes, towel, sunscreen, water in a water bottle, a rash shirt and $2.00 entry if you are not a season ticket holder. Lunch can be purchased from the Pool canteen on the day. Parents and carers are encouraged to attend.

Boomerang Blue
This year, all money collections will be directly through the front office rather than sent to the classroom teacher. To assist with this process we have introduced ideas that work successfully in other schools, namely the Boomerang Blue and Jindera PS printed payment envelopes.

All letters that include something that has to be returned to school, eg permission notes, money, will be printed on blue paper and be known as Boomerang Blue – meaning it has to come back to school. A drop box is located at the front office where students can deposit their payment envelope or note first thing in the morning – office staff will then process and distribute as required.

Years 3 and 4 camp – 3, 4 and 5 April 2013
A two night excursion has been organised for students in Years 3 and 4 to Howman’s Gap Alpine Centre on 3, 4 and 5 April 2013 where the students will be involved in activities such as low ropes, bushwalking and other adventure–based learning and team building activities.

The cost of the excursion will be $170 per student and will include all travel, meals, accommodation and activities in the program. This major excursion is being heavily subsidised by the P&C.

An expression of interest form was sent home last week for students in Years 3 and 4 to indicate their interest to attend. This should be returned by Friday 8 February with $50.00 to secure a place. All parents will be issued with a payment plan that may assist with organising and completing payments for the excursion.

P&C uniform shop
The uniform shop will continue to operate this year, providing a valuable service to families. The uniform shop will be open Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.15 - 9.45.

School attendance
I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents and carers about the requirements and recent changes to school attendance.

In NSW, students must attend school regularly. Students of compulsory school age (from 6 years old) are required to attend school every day the school is open unless they are sick or have another good reason for being absent. Poor school attendance contributes to poor academic achievement and now may attract a court appearance and hefty fine for parents/carers.

Parents are required to explain their children’s absences within seven days of the occurrence of an absence. Preferably, the explanation is in writing to the class teacher and the absence notes distributed with the book packs are a handy way to report the absence. Additional books of notes are available from the front office if required. If your child is sick and will be away from more than 2 days please phone the school. Failure to explain an absence within this time will be recorded as an unjustified absence on a student’s record. Reasons such as birthdays, helping with shopping/work or minding younger brothers or sisters are generally regarded as unsatisfactory reasons for an absence and can seriously interfere with a student’s learning. The school will inform parents if a student is absent from school without explanation. Parents who have difficulty in ensuring regular attendance of their children at school should contact the principal.

Where possible, family holidays should be taken during school vacations. If this is not possible, please speak with the principal when planning the holiday. Principals may grant a total of up to 15 days leave each year for such purposes. The school may be able to provide work for students to complete while on holiday. If this leave is insufficient, parents may apply for an extension.

Parents collecting students early must report to the front office to sign the child out before approaching the classroom. Students arriving late, anytime after 9:25am, must also report to the front office before joining the class. This allows us to always know where the children are and that they are safe.

The school will continue to recognise the students with excellent attendance. Attendance awards will again be presented this year and count towards a silver, gold or diamond award. For more information regarding school attendance, please contact the school.

Parent information afternoon
Teachers are inviting parents/carers to attend an information session to hear about new class routines, programs and initiatives. These are not designed for individual student feedback but allow parents/carers to ask questions and hear about teacher expectations and plans for the class.

Tuesday 19th February from 4.00pm
2/3S, 5/6B and 5/6K
KE and K/C will start their sessions at 3.30
Wednesday 20th February from 4.00pm
3T, 4H and 1/2K.
Parent Teacher interviews
This is an opportunity for teachers to meet with parents/carers to discuss individual students needs and priorities. Interviews will be conducted in Week 9 of term (week beginning 25th March). Nomination forms will be sent home next week to organise times. We would like all parents/carers to attend these important meetings.

Buses
We have had a limited report of attempted “grabbing of children” from a bus stop in Albury after school. Please enforce with your child/children stranger danger and going straight home, or meet your child at the bus stop after school.

Awards and recognition
At Jindera PS we believe that the best way to encourage students is to award and reward them for appropriate and caring behaviour, citizenship and academic/social achievement. We do this through our Star awards, which are drawn every Friday morning at assembly. Winners receive a prize including stationery and ice blocks. These can be awarded to students by any teacher or helper at any time, for any reason.

Classroom teachers award merit awards every two weeks at assembly. These merit awards should be kept as they are part of a larger award system, outlined below.

10 Assembly Merit Card Awards or 10 awards that any student can achieve during the year such as attendance awards, Aussie of the Month, etc (class specific awards do not contribute) or a combination of the above awards.

- One JPS Silver award

4 JPS Silver Awards = One JPS Gold Award

2 JPS Gold Awards = One JPS Diamond Award

When students have enough awards for a silver, gold or diamond award please send these to Ms Singleton so that they can be awarded at the next assembly.

Carpet cleaning
Carpet cleaning will be carried out next Tuesday afternoon. All rooms will be steam cleaned as part of the cleaning schedule.

P&C
Canteen
To ensure that this fantastic service continues, canteen helpers are urgently required. Our current helpers do a wonderful job and always do more than their share of canteen duty. Any additional people that can help out would be greatly appreciated. The task is not onerous and the children love seeing their parents working in the canteen. Please see Lisa Doughty or the front office.

Pool party - Friday 22nd February.
Jindera PS is very fortunate to have such a committed and hard working Parents and Citizens Association who supports the school in so many ways. The P&C is hosting its annual pool party on Friday 22 February at Jindera Pool. All students and their parents/carers are welcome to attend.

Markets – Saturday 23 March 2013
Following on from our highly successful inaugural markets last year, the P&C is hosting the next markets on 23 March, just prior to Easter this year. Stall holders are currently being sought. A stall site is $30.00 and applications are available from the front office. Please note that DEC policy stipulates that all stall holders must have their own current public liability insurance.

Family Law Network Australia
A new website, Family Law Network Australia, has recently been launched. The website is a free information resource and referral service for family law matters. The information provided on this website could be very useful and of great benefit to families.

The website, http://familylawmattersaustralia.com.au is where you find information on separation and divorce, parenting arrangements, property settlement and child support.

Lianne Singleton
Principal
7 February 2013
Friday 8th Feb -  
Ds  Kylie Van Deventer  
Ass 1  Jody Martin  
Ass 2  Christine Butler

Monday 10th Feb -  
BAKERY ORDERS

Wed 13th Feb -  
Ds  Sally Stewart  
Ds Training  -  
Sally Gleeson  
Ass  Tara Lade

Friday 15th Feb -  
Ds  Jody Martin  
Ass 1  Theresa Middleton  
Ass 2  Sally Gleeson

Monday 18th Feb -  
BAKERY ORDERS

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**HUME DANCE SCHOOL**

Dance classes are now running at Jindera school hall on Tuesdays.

- 4.00pm - 4.45pm 11-13yr Hip Hop
- 4.45 - 5.30pm 14yrs & over Jazz
- 5.30pm - 6.15pm 14yrs & over Hip Hop
- 7.00pm - 7.45pm ZUMBA $10.00

Phone Nyka 0431 822 865  
or 6040 6221  
www.humedanceschool.com.au

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**RIVERINA INSTITUTE OF TAFE**

Tafe is now offering courses by distance delivery.  
Phone: 02 6953 9600 or email:  
RICourseInfoLeeton@tafensw.edu.au

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**JINDERA SWIMMING POOL**

**A FUNDRAISING FAMILY FUN DAY**

In support of Cancer Awareness  
**SUNDAY 17TH FEBRUARY**  
Enter: gold coin  
Live Music  
Information stalls  
Children’s activities  
Cupcakes on sale

**COMPETITIONS**

Jelly eating, biggest brimmed hat, loudest shirt, relays,  
longest shoe line and handball

& **OFFICIAL WINDBREAK OPENING**

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**1-2-3 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING**

Mission Australia Unit 2/432  
Townsend St. Albury

26th March 2013 10.00am-4pm  
RSVP: by 22nd March 2013  
To register please contact Jacqui on  
(02) 6932 7575

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**KIDS ON KEYBOARDS**

Wednesdays in the Library from 1.20pm - 2.05pm  
Kids on keyboards is the fun way to learn to play the piano.  
$100.00 per term includes:  
Lesson, CD & book  
Ph: Jacqui Dainer on:  
02 6025 8273

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**MELROSE FC FUN DAY**

Sunday 10th Feb. At Melrose Park, Barlow St,  
Lavington from 10am - 12noon.  
To introduce Small Sided Soccer to new players.  
Ph: 0438 443 023 or www.melrosefc.com