On Thursday 3rd April Niangala school students again celebrated Grandparents Day with an assembly at school. The day began with a shared morning tea under the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA), provided by Niangala P&C. The gardens received a lot of praise and are a credit to John Inness, school GA. Grandparents, special friends, Riverview residents and parents enjoyed listening to the children sing and recite poems. There wasn’t a dry eye in the audience after the students presented My Daddy Ate an Apple, with Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 creating some very humorous actions to go with the words of the song. Years 3 to 6 presented their poems from memory, emphasising the words using gestures and actions.

Mr Wayne Bacon was the guest speaker, reading the poem A Teacher by Noel Stallard, describing school back in the times when students wrote on slates using pens with nibs and ink. How times have changed!

Riverview were very impressed by the technology used at Niangala Public School, particularly the Interactive Whiteboard, describing it as magic.

Grandparents and parents stayed on to play games outside with the children. They enjoyed the addictive nature of Scissor, Paper, Rock and the challenge of 4 Corners.

Everyone returned to the classroom to create an animation using the app iMotion using the school’s iPads. Working together grandparents and their grandchildren produced some very creative animations.

Grandparents received a piece of art for the fridge door and shared a picnic lunch in the school grounds.
CALENDAR    TERM 1, 2014
Friday 11 April  Last day term 1
TERM 2, 2014
Tues 29 April   Students return to school
Mon 5 May      AASC 3 - 4pm
Tues 6 May     GRIP Leadership Conference Tamworth Yr 5, 6
Thurs 8 May    P&C Meeting 1pm
Mon 12 May     AASC 3 - 4pm
Tues 13 May    NAPLAN - Language Conventions, Writing Yr 3, 5
Wed 14 May     NAPLAN - Reading Yr 3, 5
Thurs 15 May   NAPLAN - Numeracy Yr 3, 5
Sat 17 May     P&C Street Stall in Walcha
Mon 19 May     AASC 3 - 4pm
Tues 20 May    ICAS Computer Skills
Wed 21 May     Small Schools Athletics Carnival
Small Schools Cross Country
Congratulations to all students who participated in the Cross Country event at Walcha last Friday. Thank you to parents/carers for transporting your children to Walcha.
Brock James - 1st 5 years    Tahlia Galvin - 3rd 7 years
Jayden Galvin - 2nd 8/9 years  Hayden Clarke - 1st 8/9 years
Lucia Partridge - 5th 8/9 years  Shadiamon James - 2nd 11 years
Sophie Worth - 1st 11 years    Lane Clarke - 2nd 12 years
Emily Clarke - 3rd 12 years    Chloe Worth - 5th 12 years

Many students will now compete at District Cross Country in Term 2.

PEER SUPPORT
Last week’s session was A Good Listener. Leaders helped the children to discuss what the word talk means, and some things they should do when talking to someone.

Thought for the Week

Listening to others makes me a better communicator!

Future Palaeontologists - Dinosaur eggs??

Home Reading Program
25 nights

Isabell Young - Year 1
Brock James - Kindergarten
Tahlia Galvin - Year 2
Noah Chenoweth - Kindergarten
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9, they'll sit NAPLAN tests this May. And despite what you may have heard, there's no reason to panic or start an intensive study schedule for your child. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/all-about-naplan

Sushi train
Brown rice sushi rolls are a nutritious change to pack for school lunches. Unlike white rice sushi, they can be made the night before, and the filling can be adapted to suit your child's preferences. Pack in a chiller bag with an icepack and include some little soy sauce fish. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/wellbeing/food/recipes/meat-and-fish-dishes/brown-rice-sushi-rolls

School A to Z app
Do you struggle to understand your child's homework? Does your child need to practise their spelling and times tables? Are you looking for inspiration for projects and assignments? This free homework helper app provides maths and English glossaries, assignment starters and more. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/school-a-to-z

Wild Australia app
Your child can use this terrific app as an interactive educational tool at Taronga Zoo in Sydney or at Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo. Wild Australia can also be used at home to discover more about the zoos' amazing animals and interesting keepers. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/zh/homework-and-study/educational-games/taronga-zoo-wild-australia

School holiday kids and family camps
It's not too late to book your child into a NSW Sport and Rec holiday camp. There are also family camps available year-round, for an active, family-friendly (and pocket-friendly) getaway. Find out more: http://bit.ly/1hWxTra

Managing screen-time
Helping kids find the right balance between activities, homework and screen time is a challenge that only gets harder as they grow older. Commonsense Media has lots of useful resources to help – from movie and game ratings to articles like this one on setting screen time limits that are realistic enough that your children will actually follow them. Read the article here: http://bit.ly/1pBIfmk

Books to boost brains
Literacy skills often progress suddenly in leaps and bounds. The secret is to keep kids of all ages reading over the weekends and school holidays. Even 20 minutes a night can make a huge difference to their reading, comprehension and general knowledge. It's also a great way to settle their minds down before sleep (for adults too!). If your child hasn't found a book that grabs their imagination, why not try them on a series book from the Premier's Reading Challenge list? Here are top suggestions for all ages, including young adult: http://bit.ly/1dLSGC0

Kik, Vine, Instagram – are they safe?
It's no contest – kids discover and understand new social media long before we adults do. If your child is thinking about creating a new social media account – or complains that “everyone else is doing it”, you can get the facts a glance from School A to Z's technology glossary. You'll also find information about age restrictions and things to watch out for: http://bit.ly/188OerY

Niangala P&C
- Thank you to everyone who assisted with morning tea on Grandparents' Day on Thursday 3 April.
- Easter Raffle - we appreciate the great support we have received from school families and community members. Any sold tickets and money may be returned to school tomorrow to be included in the Raffle draw.
- Please mark these on your calendar and keep them free:
  - Street Stall in Walcha - Saturday 17th May - need lots of goods to sell and stall workers
  - Small Schools Sports carnival - Wednesday 21st May - need cooking and helpers for canteen
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday 8 May (Week 2 Term 2) at 1.00pm in the school library. All welcome - come along and support the students of our school - items to be discussed will include Street Stall and catering for Sports Carnival
- 2014 P&C subs of $10 per person are now due.