Parents are reminded to contact the school to update any contact details e.g. mobile phone numbers, address, emergency contacts, student medicals details etc.

This week the students have been engaged in a number of traditional activities highlighting Aboriginal culture. They enjoyed creating dot paintings and making bunyip crackles.

Lucia enjoyed making the bunyip crackles “we made them out of coco pops, cocoa and lollies, they were yummy, they tasted like melted chocolate”.

Along with Yarrowitch school the children participated in a webinar where they learned some of the history of NAIDOC week and about the Aboriginal soldiers who served in World War I and II. They practiced standing to attention and their marching skills and were praised for their efficiency!

The students then designed their own NAIDOC week posters around the theme of Serving Country: Centenary and Beyond.

NAIDOC week is held around the country in the first week of July to celebrate the history, culture and achievement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The theme for NAIDOC week 2014 is Serving Country: Centenary and Beyond.
Here we are back at school for another busy term, and already half of the year has flown by!

Peer Support
The peer support program is continuing in Term 3. The next unit of group work our student leaders are presenting is on friendships. The students will explore what being a good friend is all about and how relationships vary amongst different groups of people. Our Year 6 leaders have been doing a wonderful job and I am sure they will continue to develop further as the program continues.

The Student Representative Council (SRC)
The Student Representative Council (SRC) have been meeting together to plan some fundraising activities. Jeans for Genes day will be held on Wednesday 30th July 2014. By wearing jeans and bringing a gold coin donation to school our students will be contributing to research that aims to help cure childhood conditions such as epilepsy and cystic fibrosis. The SRC have also been brainstorming ideas about raising funds for the Year 6 gift to the school. I have to say that I don't think I have come across a more enthusiastic group of students when it comes to fundraising ideas! There are lots of great ideas that we will consider at our next meeting.

Canteen lunches
Canteen lunches will be happening again this term, we have some talented cooks amongst our students and all the children enjoy having a turn to prepare and cook lunch.

The term is already shaping up to be full of interesting and exciting opportunities for our students, I am looking forward to another great term working with and supporting our wonderful school community.

Kerry Savory, School Chaplain

New Administrative Staff

Lisa Kirton has taken over the position of School Administration Manager (SAM). Lisa has been working at Niangala Public School since 2011.

Sarah Ranger has lived locally for 6 years after growing up in Wauchope. Sarah has a strong interest in arts and craft and is looking forward to assisting the students. Sarah will be working on Fridays.

Bec Onslow lives on a property with her husband and children. She also works part time at the University of New England in Sheep Genomics. Bec will be working on Thursdays.

Sarah Ranger

Bec Onslow

CALENDAR TERM 3, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 23 Jul</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 1.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 29 Jul</td>
<td>ICAS English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 30 Jul</td>
<td>Jeans for Genes Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 31 Jul</td>
<td>Visit from UNE lecturers</td>
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<td>Tues 5 Aug - Fri 8 Aug</td>
<td>Marimbas Opera House Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 12 Aug</td>
<td>ICAS Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 12 Aug</td>
<td>CWA International Day, Botswana</td>
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<td>Mon 18 Aug</td>
<td>Taster Day, Walcha Central</td>
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<td>Fri 22 Aug</td>
<td>Science Day, Yarrowitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 3 Sept</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 1.30pm</td>
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<td>Thu 4 Sept</td>
<td>Responsible Pet Visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12 Sept</td>
<td>Multicultural Day, Woolbrook</td>
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<td>Fri 19 Sept</td>
<td>Author Day, Nowendoc</td>
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Last week Niangala students went to Kentucky School for a rehearsal for their performance at the Opera House in August during The Festival of Choral Music. The Principal of Kentucky Public School, Mr Danny Spillane has been assisting the students.

The children have been busily practising before school each morning and everyone is enjoying the early morning ‘concert’ in the library.

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**Operation Christmas Child**

Would you like to do something positive to show children in poverty that they are loved and not forgotten?

You are invited to participate in a unique project, Operation Christmas Child.

During term 3, Niangala Public School will be participating in this project through our school scripture classes. Operation Christmas Child involves the packing and sending of shoeboxes full of useful and fun gifts for children in need across the world.

Your child/ren will be asked to consider bringing one or more gifts to contribute, and your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Gifts must be new, to comply with customs regulations.

If you need more information, brochures will be available from the school, or you can contact local team member Bec Blake on 6777 9145.
Niangala P&C

- A P&C Meeting will be held in the library today, Wed 23rd July at 1.30pm.
- Our next Street Stall in Walcha will be held Saturday 16th August — need lots of goods to sell please!

Goodbye and thank you Mrs ‘M’!

An end of an era has arrived at Niangala with the retirement of ‘Mrs M’, Pam Miller after 35 years of providing outstanding service to Niangala Public School.

Throughout that time her roles have been many and varied and include; parent, teacher, librarian, SAM, AASC coach, bus driver, tennis and swimming coach, tutor and Relieving Principal. Students over the years have benefited enormously from Pam’s dedication and passion for education. Her relationship with students was always based on mutual respect and her rapport with the students was clearly evident.

Pam utilised her diverse skills and talents - producing the fortnightly newsletter, teaching mathematics and managing all aspects of the office. Her efforts were always tireless and without complaint. Pam inspired others by continually updating her technology skills and using them to motivate different groups with a variety of needs and expectations.

Niangala Public School, and the entire Niangala Community wish Pam all the best for the next phase of her life although we have been very lucky that Pam has been popping in to ensure a smooth transition. Hopefully Pam will finish knitting that jumper before winter ends!