**Getting Along**

As part of the Personal Development program at Niangala, students are looking at getting along with others. The students are thinking about why this is important - including making the classroom and school a safe place where learning can occur. They are also looking at how getting along with others can help with their schoolwork through collaboration.

The same unit is also focusing on friendship - what the characteristics of a good friend are, what friendly and unfriendly behaviours are, how to respond to compliments in a positive manner, how to use our thoughts to feel confident when making friends and looking at being independent to have more social confidence and less fear of rejection.

Getting along is:
- doing things to make friends
- work well with my classmates
- listen and don’t interrupt when someone is peaking
- don’t get too angry or fight with my classmates
- follow classroom rules
- volunteering to help other people and to make my community a safer and better place to live and learn

Always remember The Golden Rule….

Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

---

**New Staff**

The Niangala School Community extends a very warm welcome to Mrs Jenny Chiswell. She will work as the Chaplain in our school each Wednesday to support students, staff and the wider school community.

Jenni will facilitate small group programs that enhance student wellbeing.

---

**Playgroup**

Niangala School is pleased to announce the commencement of a playgroup session every 2nd Thursday from 9.30-11.30am, starting Thursday 12 February 2015.

In conjunction with Gubi Gabun the group will offer quality early childhood activities and experiences.

For more information please contact the school on 02 6769 2254.

---

**Happy Australia Day!**

Niangala students arrived back at school to think about Australia Day and how to celebrate being Australian.

**What does Australia Day mean?**

**What do we celebrate on Australia Day?**

**How do different people celebrate Australia Day?**

The students discussed Australia Day and what it means, as well as talking about some of the fun things you can do to celebrate. Then it was time for the children to do their patriotic duty and make and eat lamingtons! The following ideas from Year six student Sophie Worth sum up what is great about being Australian.

**Swimming in budgie smugglers and yellow swimming caps.**

**Australia Day is a day we celebrate with family and friends.**

**Celebrations can be big or small.**

**Australia Day is a day for all the people of Australia. We have come from many different places, we all like different things but we are all Australian.**

**Australia Day celebrates our great land—the rivers and the beaches, the mountains and the deserts, we celebrate our country both wild and tamed.**

**Australia Day is celebrated everywhere in Australia - at the beach, in the backyard, in the city or in the bush.**

**Australia Day celebrates our nation. We value our democratic freedom and rules. We welcome new citizens. We celebrate what unites us as a nation.**
Making Lamingtons

As part of Australia Day celebrations Niangala students made postcards looking at what they could see from their windows, and what they could see around Australia, getting perspective on where they live within Australia.

Dear Gran Nan,
From my window I can see cars, my drive way, garden, sandpit, chook pen, a little pool and a bike. But around Australia I see The Big Banana, wallabies, Sydney Harbour Bridge and Uluru. Love Brock

Dear Dad,
From my window I can see trees, some snakes, a fence, a tractor and a shed. Love Grant

Dear Mum,
From my window I can see a swing set, a cow, a cat, a tree and a horse. But around Australia I see The Big Banana and The Opera House in Sydney. Love Isabell

Dear Dylan,
From my window I can see a shed, a tank and a tree. But around Australia I can see The Big Banana. From Jayden

Dear Mum,
From my window I can see a swing set and a cubby house. But around Australia I can see The Big Banana, the Gold Coast and Seaworld. Love Tahlia

Calendar Term 1 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Small Schools Swim Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Catering The Junction Clearing Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Armidale Zone Swim Carnival Playgroup 9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>School photos Leaders Induction Assembly - all welcome - 10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Playgroup 9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Taster Day for Year 6 Walcha Central School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Regional Swim Carnival Armidale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Walcha Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Niangala Hall Prawn &amp; Chicken Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Playgroup 9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Playgroup 9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Earth Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Cross Country at Walcha Central School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>