Welcome back everyone! Last term was a slightly longer term than usual so I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the holidays and the lack of routines. Congratulations to all the children for ‘hanging in’ so well, seeing the term out with continued enthusiasm and hard work. They are a great bunch who we hope have had a chance to rest and refresh ready for a super busy term. As always, it is so nice to see smiling faces arriving back to school after the holidays.

Student Report Cards
Academically our students have continued to work hard to realise the goals that have been identified for them. Data collection on reading and report cards demonstrates that what is currently being done within our school is highly effective. It has been very pleasing to see the growth not only in the students’ academic skills but also in their confidence. Well done to all students for their efforts. Student reports were issued today. Should you wish to discuss your child’s progress, please contact me to arrange a time that is convenient for you.

Absence from School
On Friday I will be absent attending a Band 5/6 (teaching principals) meeting in Maryborough where the agenda incorporates whole school curriculum planning with a focus on planning for multi-level mathematics and English lessons. Mr Albion will be on class in my absence.

Remember to keep these important dates on your calendar!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15th</td>
<td>Tuckshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 15th</td>
<td>Mrs Wallace Away @ Principal Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 20th</td>
<td>RE Lessons Commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 20th</td>
<td>Tuckshop Orders Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 20th</td>
<td>Mrs Wallace Away</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 21st</td>
<td>Mrs Wallace Away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 22nd</td>
<td>Mrs Wallace Away</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 22nd</td>
<td>Gin Gin District Athletics Carnival</td>
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Gotcha Awards!
It was very pleasing to see so many cards in the “Gotcha Box”. Congratulations to the following students who were drawn out this week.

- **Hunta Adams**: Trying your hardest analysing poems
- **Zac Adams**: Fantastic effort in Maths and participating in Poetry
- **Misty Kevill**: Amazing effort during Maths
- **Riley Macaulay**: Trying your hardest during Poetry
- **Anna Moore**: Trying your hardest during English Poetry tasks.

Well Done Zac!

Small School Sports Day
Please mark your calendars and save the date. It will be held on **Friday 29th July**.
Everyday Counts

Our school attendance average for Term 2 was 96.18%. Thank you Parents for your support in maintaining our high attendance percentage. Our school percentage is above Educational Queensland’s target of 95% attendance. Congratulations to Riley McCaulay and Tallon Booth who both had 100% attendance throughout term 2. Fantastic work!

Gin Gin District Athletics Carnival

**Next Friday, 22nd July**, senior students born in 2006, 2005, and 2004 have the opportunity to compete against our cluster schools at the Gin Gin District Athletics Carnival. Students who come first or second in an event will be selected in the Gin Gin Zone team to travel to the Bundaberg Zone trials in week 4. This year, due to time restraints, students may be nominated for the shot put, discus, long jump, high jump and 800m events if they pass the qualifying distance or time. Students have a form that highlights which events they have been nominated in and also a permission form to be returned to school. Mrs M will be staff representative in my absence as I will be at a Band 5/6 Principal Meeting in Maryborough. Mrs M will be present all day, but will also be assisting on events. Students will have our school tent to use as their base and will be able to check in with Mrs M, Mrs Dwyer or Mrs Manderson throughout the day.

The first event (200m) will commence at 9:15am, please ensure that students are at the Gin Gin school Oval by **8:45am** to check in with Mrs M. Lunch will be approximately **11:30am** and hopefully the presentations completed by **2:00pm** to allow for buses to return to respective schools before the end of the day. As it will conclude almost at the end of the school day, students may either return to school or travel home with parents. Please indicate on the permission form if your child will require a lift back to McIlwraith.

Small School Athletics Carnival

On **Friday 29th July**, we will host the Small Schools Athletics Carnival at Gin Gin Primary School. All students are involved in this and participate in a range of activities including sprints, relays, long jump, ball games and for the older students, shot put. This year our P & C is running the canteen which will be a great opportunity to raise funds for our school. As such we are calling for volunteers to assist in the canteen. Many hands make light work. A package deal lunch is available for students, as well as other tuckshop items throughout the day. Should you wish to order a package deal lunch please return the order form by **next Thursday 21st July 2016**.

**The Weekly Tip**

Did you know…by the age of two, the brain is already 80% of its adult size.

**Reading**

- Get my mouth around the start,
- Stretch sounds in order,
- Look for parts I know,
- Think of another word that looks like that,
- Think about what the word means
School Opinion Survey
During the first week of Term 3 the Annual School Opinion Survey Data will be collected. Opinions will be sought from our 3 major stakeholder groups: Parents, Students and Staff. Student surveys will be completed online at school and staff will also be given a code to complete their surveys online. Attached to this newsletter all parents will receive a SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY PAMPHLET providing a Web Address to visit together with codes to log in and complete the survey. This survey will provide parents with an opportunity to respond to a range of statements on the general management and operation of the school. Participation in the survey is anonymous and all information that you provide will be treated confidentially. Results from the survey are provided to the school later in the year.

Staffing
It was with mixed emotions that we farewelled Mrs McCotter during the last week of term 2. We wish Mrs McCotter all the very best as she takes some well-earned time for herself and her family. We were extremely lucky to have Mrs McCotter on our team for almost 8 years, primarily working with the lower grade students and sharing her fabulous artistic talents with us all. Her professionalism, dedication, caring nature and endless energy have meant that so many youngsters have been blessed with an incredible start to their school life and that so many other areas of their education have been greatly enhanced. Mrs McCotter has a heart bigger than a lion! This term we welcome Mrs Richards back to McIlwraith, who will be working as teacher aide on Wednesdays.

School Photos
Hopefully your child/ren’s school photos should have arrived home safely in the last week before holidays. From what we saw they looked great, however if you have any questions or concerns please contact Donna from Country School Photos on 0427 946 360.

Homework
This week there is NO homework, other than nightly reading, and learning spelling words.

Phonic Focus
The sounds that be have been consolidating this week are ‘s’ as in sun, ‘ss’ as in dress, ‘se’ as in horse, ‘c’ as in city and ‘ce’ as in ice.

Prep Show and Tell
Just a reminder of the Prep show and tell days.
Tuesday: Misty Kevill
Wednesday: Oakley Wagenknecht
Thursday: Hannah Johnson
Friday: Lukas Milburn.

Religious Education
Religious Education classes commence next week. Students from Grade 1 – Grade 6 Participate in 30 minutes of Religious Education each week during Semester 2. If you do not wish for your child to participate please see me.

Library Borrowing
Library borrowing will commence this Friday 15th July. Please ensure younger students have a library bag to bring their books home in.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Keep reading! Students are encouraged to read widely for pleasure and learning in the 2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge. For a student to successfully complete the Premier’s Reading Challenge they must read or experience the number of books indicated on their reading log. Students are encouraged to select a range of fiction and non-fiction books suited to their reading ability. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is not a competition but aims to improve literacy and encourage children to engage in reading for pleasure and learning. The reading period for Prep - Year 9 students is 16th May – 26th August. Happy Reading Everyone!

Second Hand Uniforms
We have a variety of second hand uniforms for sale. These can be purchased from the school office. If you are interested please see Mrs M or myself. Below are sizes and prices that are available.
Girls Dress Size 5 ….$5.00
Zip Front Jumper (Slammers Brand) Size 4 ….$5.00
2 x School Polo’s Size 5 …. $2.00
School Polo Size 6 …. $2.00
Girls Skorts Size 6 (Scags Brand) …. $2.00
Girls Skorts (Stubbies Brand) Size 6 …. $2.00
Girls Leggings Pants Size 4 …. $2.00
Fleece Tracksuit Pants Size 6 ….$3.00
**Student Council Update**

**Radish for Sale:** Our students have been busy tending the vegetable garden over the past few weeks and on Monday harvested their little crop which yielded over 60 radish! As such we have an abundance of fresh radish that the Student Council is selling at the bargain price of 50c per radish or $2.50/kg.

**Book Club**

Attached to the Newsletter today is the latest issue of Scholastic Book Club. If you wish to make a purchase please ensure orders and money have been returned to Mrs M in the office by **Thursday 28th July 2016**.

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**P&C Update**

**Tuckshop:** Tuckshop commences this week.

Thanks to Jayme Jenner for organising our tuckshop for this term and also to our team of parent volunteers, who without your support we would not be able to have this service. Attached is the roster and price list for term 3. We love Friday Tuckshop!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>15th July 2016</td>
<td>Sheree Kevill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>22nd July 2016</td>
<td>Trish Giese &amp; Marg Carseldine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>29th July 2016</td>
<td>No Tuckshop – Tentative Small School Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>05th August 2016</td>
<td>Muppi Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>12th August 2016</td>
<td>Tanya Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>19th August 2016</td>
<td>Sue Rofley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>26th August 2016</td>
<td>Sheree Kevill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>01st September 2016 (Thursday)</td>
<td>Trish Giese &amp; Marg Carseldine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>09th September 2016</td>
<td>Tanya Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>16th September 2016</td>
<td>Sue Rofley</td>
</tr>
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**Locally Grown Produce for Sale**

Kale: $3.00/bunch  
Coriander: $2.00/bunch  
Flat Parsley: $2.00/bunch  
Curly Parsley: $2.00/bunch

All items chemical and spray free, locally grown. Please contact Tanya Anderson on 0447 631 375 if you wish to make a purchase.

**Lady Godiva**

The Gin Gin Theatrical Society Inc. presents their next adults only comedy theatre restaurant ‘Lady Godiva’ on 15th and 16th July 2016 at the Gin Gin RSL Hall in Milden Street. Doors open at 6:30pm with the show commencing at 7:00pm. Tickets are $25.00, which includes the show and a meal. Bar facilities available. Bookings are essential for catering purposes and close on 08th July at 5:00pm. For bookings phone 0404 360 174.

Yours in Education

Felicity Wallace