Harmony Day
On **Friday 21st March** I invite everyone to acknowledge Harmony Day by wearing **orange**. Harmony Day is a day of cultural respect for everybody who calls Australia home. The key message this year is 'Everyone Belongs' which I believe echoes our own efforts here at McIlwraith to create an inclusive and supportive education for all students. Leading up to Harmony Day, students will learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it. By participating in discussions around the themes of bullying, acceptance, tolerance, diversity and respect. Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. Students are encouraged to wear orange clothing this Friday to show their support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia.

**Chair Bags**
Chair bags are available from the office for $12.00.

**Prep News-Mail Photograph**
The News-Mail will be publishing our prep photograph on **Wednesday 26th March**. Keep an eye out!

**Active After School Sport**
There will be no Softball **tomorrow, Wednesday 18th March** as Miss Carseldine will be away in Bundaberg for training. Please note that this week will be the **last week** for softball and aerobics. A big thank you is extended to Miss Carseldine for efforts in taking the activities. Attendance prizes will be awarded this Friday at the conclusion of aerobics.

**School Bags**
Please ensure that Children bring their bags to school every day, including tuckshop days. This way there will be less chance of misplacing hats and other belongings.

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

**Congratulations to Bree Wallace who receives Student of the Week for neat presentation of work**

Well Done Bree!

**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.

- **Jeremy Anderson**: Neat bookwork.
- **William Anderson**: Trying hard in Maths.
- **Genevieve Dean**: Neat bookwork.
- **Jacob Frazer**: Concentrating hard during Maths.
- **Emily Jenner**: Neat bookwork.

**Tuckshop Update**

**Special this week Friday 21st March**
Chicken Caesar Salad & choice of drink - $4.00

**Special Friday 04th April**
Burger Day: Beef or Chicken Burger & choice of drink - $4.00
**Sports Report**
Three in a row! Congratulations to our sports team who achieved another win in interschool sport on Friday against Bullyard State School, winning the match 10-9. It was pleasing to see the students participating in a closely matched game, where their skills and team work were put to the test. All students put in a great effort, especially as we arrived expecting to play Tee-Ball. Special mention must go to the year 4 students who were on fire! Tallon Booth - demonstrated strong hitting with 2 home runs, Jordan Maloney – strong hitting, and Elim Moore- who is the fastest base runner I have ever seen! Other students who stood out include Genevieve Dean for excellent fielding with clean pick-ups at short stop, and Moselle Findlay and Bree Wallace for their pitching. The win was great but what impressed me the most was your good sportsmanship and teamwork. This week we play Fritz at Gin Gin State School.

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**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>Jake’s Candy Orders Due!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>Mrs Wallace away – Miss Hillyard on class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>Miss Carseldine &amp; Mrs Mc Cotter away</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19th</td>
<td>Miss Carseldine &amp; Mrs Mc Cotter away</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19th</td>
<td>No Softball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19th</td>
<td>Tuckshop Orders Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Tuckshop – Salad Special – Ms Giese &amp; Ms Macaulay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Harmony Day – Wear Orange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Cricket @ Gin Gin Vs Fritz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Library Borrowing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>AASS – Aerobics – 4:00pm Collection – Last Session</td>
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**Smoking on School Grounds**
No smoking on school grounds, which includes the car park. Parents are asked to refrain from smoking in this area.

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**News-Mail iPad Competition**
We have 528 Tokens! WOW! Two weeks to go! Please rally your family, friends, neighbours, local businesses and anyone else you know to collect the special tokens that will be published in the News-Mail every day until Monday 31st March.

Did you purchase the News-Mail on Saturday? If you did keep an eye out for the extra nine tokens. There can be ten tokens in total found throughout the paper. Make sure you have a good look!

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**Be Safe**
**Be Responsible**
**Be Respectful**

If children follow these three rules they will have success in all activities!
School Mobile Phone
Please ensure you keep the number handy.
School Mobile Number: 0455 052 940

Professional Development
This week Miss Carseldine and Mrs McCotter will be away at a two day Digital Practice conference with a focus on students with disabilities held on **Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March**.
I will also be away **tomorrow, Tuesday 18th March** at a Quality Schools Inclusive Practise for Leaders PD. Miss Hillyard will be on class.

Curriculum
Phonics
Preps are learning to recognise the letter ‘oO’ and the sound ‘oO’ as in orange. Through their spelling words all other grades are consolidating the following letter combinations.
- ‘o’ as in orange
- ‘a’ as in was

Reading Comprehension
Our reading comprehension focus this week is **Distinguishing Fact from Opinion**.

Spelling Rules
**SPELLING RULE TWO**
Add an ‘es’ to action words ending with an ‘sh’, ‘ch’, ‘ss’, ‘x’, or a ‘z’ to make the present tense.

Fiona waltzes most Tuesday nights with Jim.

cross ➔ crosses catch ➔ catches
wax ➔ waxes relax ➔ relaxes
fish ➔ fishes reach ➔ reaches

Maths Catch-Up
This week we are learning about:
- Prep: 3D shapes, one to one correspondence when counting, estimating.
- Year 1 & 2: Volume, near doubles strategy, 3D shapes, subtraction of 3 digit numbers, jump counting.
- Year 3 & 4: Volume, top, front, side views, 3D shapes and properties, multiplication algorithm.
- Year 5, 6, 7: 3D shapes, chance, working with tenths, hundredths, division- short and long algorithms.

Student Council Update
**Jakes Candy Easter Drive**: Orders are due back **tomorrow, Tuesday 18th March**! Please ensure you have collected all the orders you can from family, friends and neighbours. You still have tonight to collect final orders. Make every minute count. All money and order forms must be returned to the school office tomorrow.

**P&C Update**
**P&C AGM**: A reminder that there will be a short AGM meeting **tomorrow night, Tuesday 18th March** commencing at 6:00pm in the library to elect executive positions and present annual reports. This will be followed by a normal P&C meeting. If you would like to nominate for any of the positions please let me know. Everyone welcome at the meeting!
Brisbane Roar Soccer Clinic

The Gin Gin Football club is very excited to be hosting a Brisbane Roar Soccer Clinic during the holidays on **Friday 11th April**. This will be on the Gin Gin Primary School oval, from **11:00am – 2:00pm**.

Having observed three of these clinics, I cannot recommend these clinics enough for young players. It is a wonderful opportunity for girls and boys aged 5 – 12 years old, to participate in a variety of fun filled activities and have skills taught from expert coaches and players associated with the Brisbane Roar Soccer Team.

The cost is $60.00 per child which includes a supporter pack of merchandise. There are spots for only 60 children, so please make sure you register as soon as possible to make sure that this clinic will go ahead in our town. Go to [www.roaractive.com.au](http://www.roaractive.com.au) and click on the holiday Clinic Tab, and search for Gin Gin.