Welcome back to all students, parents and staff and I hope that you all had a refreshing break. Our student numbers have increased to approximately 320 which is positive for all involved in the school. In particular, Primary numbers have increased; resulting in an extra class has being created. The 3/4 Ruby class will be taught by Miss Arnika Buchanan. Mr Simon Lyons has been appointed as our new Head Teacher of Science and Mrs Rochelle McDonald has been appointed as our new maths teacher. Mrs Joy Hill will be working as our new librarian.

2016 promises to be another exciting year for Coolamon Central School as we continue to implement our keystone learning policies of How2Learn and ALARM. The How2Learn is implemented across K-12 in both our wellbeing and learning practices. The ALARM program is a proven learning process which has been embraced in the high school to help the students in developing their ongoing learning and understanding and thus reaching their academic potential. The popular Links to Learning initiative, which is run in partnership with Coolamon Shire Council, will begin operation in Week 3.

2015 was a very successful year and the HSC results were extremely pleasing. These results reflect the enormous amount of time and effort put in by both the students and their teachers. Several students were successful in gaining UAC Early Entry to universities. They will soon be heading off to tertiary institutions across the state while others are taking advantage of a GAP year to travel.

Two students who deserve special mention are:

- Ben Dalgarno Fixter who attained an extremely high ATAR and several Band 6 results. He will be undertaking Engineering at Wollongong University.
- Brent Rollins has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence for his contribution to the NSW State Dance Ensemble. Brent is one of only 30 students in the state, and the only one outside of Sydney, to perform in the Arts Union Callback 2015 in Sydney on Friday 12th February.

The school was successful in gaining a NSW Government grant for the Before and After School Care program. This program is now operating every school day and also during the holidays. Ms Laura Morrissey, who runs the program, is a trained Early Childhood worker. If you are interested in having your children in this activity please contact Laura on 0487969999.

All parents are welcome to attend and become involved in the P&C. This year our School Council has been merged with the P&C. The Annual General meeting will be held this Wednesday at the earlier starting time of 6pm in the School Library.

John Beer
INFORMATION FOR LOCAL BUS TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

This information may be helpful for parents in getting their child/children to school on the school buses.

- All students in infants (K-2) are eligible for free travel on the school buses regardless of how far they live from the school. Once the students are in Year 3 they will be eligible for free travel only if their home address if more than 1.6kms from their school (as the crow flies).
- Students that are ineligible for free travel may still travel on the bus but will be required to pay a small fare.
- Primary students that are going from Year 2 to Year3 are required to fill out a new blue form to travel on the bus. This form is available at the school/s or from the bus companies.
- New forms are also required if the student has changed address, changed schools or if they are going from Year 6 to 7. High school students will become ineligible for free travel if they live within 2kms from their school.
- Once the blue forms have been processed, (which includes a signature from the school principal) the students will receive a bus pass from Our Company if they are eligible with us, (not all companies will issue passes) and will be required to show it to the driver on boarding the bus.
- For the smaller children it is a good idea to tie it onto their bag.

If you have any further queries about bus travel, please call our office on 69273022.

Riverina Combined Schools Music Camp

Applications are open for students who play a concert band instrument or bass guitar from Years 5-12 and are interested in attending the Riverina Combined Schools Music Camp in 2016. The camp will take place in Albury at Lake Hume Resort and will run from Sunday 6 March - Friday 11 March 2016. The cost is $400. Please email Cheryl Walker for the online application form link or for further information. Email: cheryl.j.walker@det.nsw.edu.au. Applications close Wednesday 10 February 2016.

Swimming Carnivals

As the new school year has begun and swimming carnivals will start shortly, I would like to remind you it is recommended that children who have had diarrhoea in the previous 2 weeks should avoid swimming pools.

Late in 2015 there was a sharp increase in cryptosporidiosis cases in NSW.

Many things can cause diarrhoeal illness and those who have been infected can still shed that causative agent, even after their diarrhoea has stopped.

If you have any questions or concerns please call the public healthy unit on 1300 066 055. Tracey Oakman Director Public Health
Reaghan Crocker enjoys drawing a picture about her first day of Kindergarten.

Above: Welcome to the smiling new faces in Garnet.

Takiraah and Natalie concentrate during their first Maths lesson.

Above: Welcome to the happy new faces in Emerald.
**Diary**

**Primary**

**Secondary**

**Whole School**

**Term 1**

### Week 3 (A)
- **Thur 11 Feb**: Twilight Swimming Carnival

### Week 4 (B)
- **Thur 18 Feb**: Year 7 Laurel Hill Excursion
- **Fri 19 Feb**: Year 7 Laurel Hill Excursion

### Week 5 (A)
- **Fri 26 Feb**: Secondary Zone Swimming Carnival Ganmain

### Week 6 (B)
- **Fri 4 Mar**: Clean-Up Australia Day

### Week 7 (A)
- **Mon 7 Mar**: Work Placement for Hospitality all week

### Week 8 (B)
- **Tue 15 Mar**: Questacon Smart Skills tour for Years 6, 7, 8
- **Wed 16 Mar**: Whole School Cross Country and Pink Day
- **Fri 18 Mar**: RYDA for Year 11

### Week 9 (A)
- **Tue 22 Mar**: Year 8 Blue Waterholes trip - returning Thur 24 March
- **Fri 25 Mar**: Good Friday

### Week 10 (B)
- **Mon 28 Mar**: Easter Monday holiday
- **Wed 30 Mar**: Whole School Athletics Carnival

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**Coolamon Library News**

Storytime will start again on Friday, 12th February @ 10.30am theme – “It’s Bear Time”. The morning is filled with lots of stories, songs and finishing up with a craft the children are able to take home— we welcome any new families to join us. The next storytime for the month of February will be held on Friday, 26th February @ 10.30am theme “Farms”.

The Coolamon Library has plenty of services and facilities to offer to the community. It provides Public Internet Access & WIFI, photocopier, fax and laminating services. Also a community noticeboard, children and youth services, council school holiday programs and Local History services. We are continuously receiving new books, DVD’s, CD’s and magazines, call in for a browse – membership is FREE.

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**Community Announcements**

- **For Sale**: 2 grey 20 inch pushbikes, 2 red and black 16 inch pushbikes. $10 each. Phone Michelle 0428 780 878.
- **Dance Whispers-The Coolamon Dance Centre**: Musical Theatre Mon 5.00-5.30, Tap 1 & 2 Mon 4.15-5.00pm, Tap 3 Mon 5.30-6.15pm. Christine Tenhave (new owner) 0414454782. dancewhispers1@gmail.com. Dancewhispers.com.au. Ballet, Jazz and Contemporary classes also offered. Venue: St Michael’s parish Hall, Methul Street Coolamon. Trial lessons 8th Feb, 15th Feb $7 per class, pay on the day.

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**Turtle and Mel Walker**

Your local Milkman.