



18th March 2016

Term 1 Week 8

Community Spirit

Ulong School is very fortunate to have amazing community members who are so thoughtful and do so much for our beautiful little school.

I would like to acknowledge a couple of wonderful people, Mr Gregory Fisher and Mrs Meryl Howarths. The school has no words to thank Mr. Gregory Fisher for his generous donation of the alphabet carved in marble. The students were very thrilled to receive this unique gift and will definitely be using it in the library.

Another thank you to Mrs Meryl Howarths for her donation of handmade poppies for the students to wear on ANZAC Day. It is these community gestures that make our small school so special.



Kids Matter

On Thursday, 30th March, I will be attending the second component of KidsMatter which is part of our School plan to improve student wellbeing.

Easter Hat Parade

On Thursday, the Easter Bunny will be paying us a visit to celebrate Easter and students will have their Easter Hat Parade. The Easter break is not in the school holidays this year and falls on the 25th March to 28th March. The school will reopen on Tuesday, 29th March. We wish all our families Happy Easter. Easter hat photos will be in the Week 10's newsletter.



Debating

Well done Ulong!! Our students were victorious in their first round of practice debates against Lowanna School.

Next Tuesday, Mrs Flanagan and I will be driving the students over to Lowanna for the second round of practice. The Great Debate will take place in Week 11 at Glenreagh on Tuesday, 5th April. Permission notes will be coming home soon.



ULONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Harmony Day

Thank you to all parents who sent in money for the students buy "street food" from our stalls. A variety of cuisines were available. The SRC raised a little over \$150. This will be used to buy something that the students would like to see in the school.

Interrelate

Interrelate has kindly offered to provide our students and families a free session on cyber bullying. Kristy is coming all the way from Sydney to equip our students with skills for using social media safely. It is very important for parents to know about cyber bullying too, as the children grow older they are exposed to a wider society and do engage in social media with other students. Statistics show that cyber bullying is one of the major causes of suicides in younger teenagers, because they don't know how to deal with it effectively. Addressing bullying is part of our school plan and comes under the umbrella of 'Student Wellbeing'. Both the students and adult sessions are free, lunch will be provided for parents and carers attending. I encourage all parents and community members to take advantage of this opportunity. Please keep your afternoon free from 1:30 pm to 2:45pm on Wednesday 23rd March.

Voluntary Contribution

I would like to thank those families who have paid their contribution to the school and encourage others to slowly pay off your child's school fees and book pack fees. The cost in total is \$30, which covers your entire child's needs in the school from text books, exercise books, scrap books, art supplies, pencils and rubbers to small excursions. Any effort to pay this would be appreciated.



Attendance

Attendance is a big issue and the department takes it very seriously. I am very pleased with the attendance of our students this term. However, if your child is away for whatever reason, you must send a note to school the next day explaining the reason for their absence. It is a mandatory requirement that we record every absenteeism with an appropriate explanation. Also if you are dropping your child late to school or picking them up early can you please go to the office first and fill in the early leavers or late arrivals form. The school is required to follow departmental policy on this matter.

Orara Valley Lions Club

The school will also like to thank the Orara Valley Lions Club for sponsoring one of our students to attend a week long camp at Foster in the first week of school holidays. It is very much appreciated.

Calendar changes

So you can keep up to date with what's happening at school please check the calendar on the back, there have been some changes and additions made.

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Parent Online Payments

The school is investigating the option of setting an online payment system. If this would be more convenient for you than making cash payments at the office please let Mrs Kaler or Mrs Teale know. If we have enough interest then we will set the procedure in motion.

P&C

The P & C Committee for 2016 is:

President: Chantelle Perkins

Secretary: Michelle Houlihan

Treasurer: Sarah Caulter

Vice Pres: Felicity Cochrane

Canteen Manager: Ann Burke

The P & C is a highly respected committee that works very closely and has a strong partnership with the school. A strong P & C is the back bone of the school. Ulong is very fortunate to have such a lovely community and the school values working closely with them as a team to provide opportunities for our students.

Stewart House

If you would like to donate to Stewart House just put a coin or two in the envelope accompanying the Newsletter and return it to school before next Friday. These donations support "the 1,800 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW and the ACT".

Award Recipients

Congratulations to all the award recipients: Leah, Will, Layla, Darcie, Gabriel and Jo for their efforts in the classroom. Karlos, Aidan H and Aidan C for their commitment to their homework. Rylie and Bryton received the Awesome Award for courtesy and beautiful manners.



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SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 1 2016

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 27/1- 29/1			SDD	Students return	
Week 2 1/2 -5/2				Afternoon Tea Induction Leadership Team	OVSC Swimming Carnival
Week 3 8/2 - 12/2	Chinese New Year			P&C Meeting	OVPSSA Swimming Carnival
Week 4 15/2 - 19/2				Pet Care Day	
Week 5 22/2 - 26/2				Assembly	
Week 6 29/2 - 4/3					Clean Up Australia Day Crazy Hair Day
Week 7 7/3 - 11/3		Harmony Day			
Week 8 14/3 - 18/3		Debating at Lowanna PS		Assembly	
Week 9 21/3 - 25/3		Debating against Lowanna PS	Interrelate Cyber Bullying	Easter Hat Parade	GOOD FRIDAY Holiday
Week 10 28/3 - 1/4	EASTER MONDAY Holiday				
Week 11 4/4 - 8/4		Great Debate		Merit Assembly	

HOLIDAYS

What ever we do, We do well.

