Welcome back to Mungindi Central School for 2016. We are all looking forward to learning new and exciting things this year. There are some new faces around the school students and staff alike. We welcome them into the MCS family.

What better way to start the year than to have a Swimming Carnival. Look inside to see the exciting news of which House won and what records were broken.

The photo below is just a quick sneak peek.
Friday 5 February saw Mungindi Central School host their annual swimming carnival at Mungindi Pool. MCS wishes to express their sincerest thanks to all community members who attended and helped make the day the success that it was. The sun was high and glorious as the water churned under the sheer strength and determination of the race competitors. Most students were clambering for a chance to swim in every race. When they weren't swimming, older students assisted younger, less confident students, or participated in novelty activities. The results are still being collated and tallied but there were four records broken by students and all students did their respective houses proud.

Staff would like to commend students on their fine behaviour and participation over the course of the day; once again you have done yourselves, and us, proud.

Go Mungindi Central School!
Go Carrangal!
Go Kamilaroi!

Miss Tanya Ogg and Mr Peter Newman
Secondary Teachers
There were four records broken at Mungindi Central School's 2016 Swimming Carnival. These are listed below:

- Jack Picton broke the record set by Ryan Cosgrove in 2001 in the Junior Primary Boys 33 metre Backstroke
- Nicci Smith’s 1992 record for the Junior Secondary Girls 33 metre Breaststroke was broken by Cheyanne Prince
- Monica Prince smashed Britney Brown’s record set in 2013 for the Junior Secondary Girls 4 x 33 metre Medley
- The record set by Deanna Prince in 2013 for the Senior Secondary Girls 33 metre Breaststroke was broken by Breanna Prince

Kamilaroi ended up winning the carnival. Well done Kamilaroi!
Help Your Child To Succeed

Just a timely reminder that it is very important that your child comes to school each day and a legal requirement.

School Hours

Secondary 8.35am for a 8.40am start      Ends 3.00pm
Primary    8.45am for a 8.50am start      Ends 2.30 to 2.40pm (car pick up)
Preschool  8.40am (car drop off)         2.40pm (car pick up)

Please remember that children are not to be on the school ground before 8.30am as we are not able to supervise them.

What you do if your child/children are late.

• Please fill in a child absentee permission form, telling us your child/children’s name, day they are late, why they are late and what time they should be arriving. If this cannot be done on the day, have your child bring it in on the next day. Then sign and date.

What you do if you child/children are away for a day.

• Please fill in a child absentee permission form, telling us your child/children’s name, day/days they are away and why they were away. Then sign and date. Have your child bring in on the first day they are back.

• If you know your child is going to be away in the future for a large amount of time for medical or family reasons please come to the school to get an exemption form.

• Children who are away from school need to have all days explained. If there is a long term illness, call the school to let us know and we can work through the process.

Our absentee procedure

If Child Absentee Permission forms are not filled out you will be sent a letter from the school again asking for an explanation. If this is not returned a member of staff will be following up for this information by contacting you or visiting you at home to fill in the required forms.

Children who have attended only 85% of the days at school will be interviewed to see where the school can support you to help improve your child’s attendance.

If your child attendance is 80% or less at school we will ask you and your child to come to the school for a meeting to develop a plan to improve their attendance. The focus will be where can we support each of you to improve this.

If your child attendance is 70% or less then we will need to follow Department of Education and Communities policy and involve the Home School Liaison Officer.

Please find a copy of Child Absentee Permission forms attached to the back of this newsletter for your use. If you require more forms, please either come and ask the office staff for a booklet or get your child to ask for one.
There are two treatment options:

1. Mechanical Removal
2. Chemical and Mechanical Removal

Mechanical Removal

Mechanical removal involves applying normal store-bought conditioner to cover all of the hair and then using fine long toothed metal lice comb to comb the hair in sections. The conditioner does not kill lice but stuns them for about 20 minutes enabling easier removal. The long toothed metal comb will reach all nits and pull them off the hair. This method should be done every other day until none remain. These combs are available in your local chemist or online.

With this method it's easy to teach children to treat themselves. It is best done when they stand under the shower or bath and comb through the conditioner, rinsing off the comb after each stroke.

Test for active lice or nits by wiping the comb on a white tissue and check for any lice or nits. Keep combing until no more appear on the tissue.

This method also helps manage head lice before they become established on the head. Simply keep a good head lice comb in the shower and every time your family washes their hair use the fine comb through the hair. This will ensure lice are "caught" before they lay too many eggs. If your children are old enough to wash their own hair encourage them to use the comb themselves. Or keep a comb handy to where you wash your children's hair and use it every shampoo.

Chemical and Mechanical Removal

If you choose to use a chemical treatment, remember to follow the instructions carefully. Don't be tempted to re-apply or over-apply the chemical if it doesn't appear to be working. Instead switch to another treatment that uses a different chemical compound. You must repeat the treatment in seven days to kill any newly hatched eggs. You will also need to comb as mentioned above to ensure the infestation is eradicated. If you don't look for nits and lice you won't know if the treatment was successful.

If your child was free of lice and nits, remember to regularly check with a fine toothed head lice comb and conditioner. Early detection and treatment will prevent re-infestation of other family members and classmates.

If you have any questions, please contact us or visit one of the many useful websites:

Personality outsmarts intelligence at school

How certain personality traits are more important than intelligence when it comes to success in education

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Recent research at Griffith University has found that personality is more important than intelligence when it comes to success in education.

Dr Arthur Poropat from Griffith's School of Applied Psychology has conducted the largest ever reviews of personality and academic performance. He based these reviews on the fundamental personality factors (Conscientiousness, Openness, Agreeableness, Emotional Stability, and Extraversion) and found Conscientiousness and Openness have the biggest influence on academic success.

The results have been published in the journal *Learning and Individual Differences*.

Dr Poropat says educational institutions need to focus less upon intelligence and instead, pay more attention to each student's personality.

"With respect to learning, personality is more useful than intelligence for guiding both students and teachers," Dr Poropat said.

"In practical terms, the amount of effort students are prepared to put in, and where that effort is focused, is at least as important as whether the students are smart.

"And a student with the most helpful personality will score a full grade higher than an average student in this regard."

In Dr Poropat's research, a student's assessment of their own personality is as useful for predicting university success as intelligence rankings.

However, when people who know the student well provide the personality rating, it is nearly four times more accurate for predicting grades.

Dr Poropat said understanding how personality impacts on academic achievement is a vital when it comes to helping students reach future success.

"Intelligence tests have always been closely linked with education and grades and therefore relied upon to predict who would do well," Dr Poropat said.

"The impact of personality on study is genuinely surprising for educational researchers, and for anyone who thinks they did well at school because they are 'smart'."

Previous studies have shown that students who think they are smart often stop trying and their performance declines over time, while those who consider themselves hard workers get progressively better.

Dr Poropat said the best news for students is that it's possible to develop the most important personality traits linked with academic success.

"Personality does change, and some educators have trained aspects of students' Conscientiousness and Openness, leading to greater learning capacity.

"By contrast, there is little evidence that intelligence can be 'taught', despite the popularity of brain-training apps."
Join us for

NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY 2016

Apology, Morning Tea.

All Welcome

WHEN:  Friday 12th February, 2016
WHERE:  Land Council Building Goondiwindi Street
MUNGINDI
TIME:  10.30 am

Euraba Health Service welcomes the whole Mungindi Community to
celebrate the
NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY 2016.
Euraba Mungindi Aboriginal Health Service
47 Goondiwindi Street MUNGINDI NSW 2406
T:  0427774036
Welcome back everyone, to those of you who may be old hands and especially to any new people. This is our second week back after a much shrunken version of Week 1. In reflection on last week can I thank all parents who joined up on either or both days last week. Your involvement made the days very successful for our children and overall.

While for us it is the second week of school, spare a thought for those souls who have been on the roundabout for a week longer. Very quickly we will all be deeply immersed into the operation of daily school life. Our routines will be set and we will need to maintain the level of enthusiasm that we all started with.

Can I give all parents an absolute high five for the efforts with the uniform. Outstanding in every way by everyone, thank you all for this. It is always an extreme pleasure to visit classrooms where students are highly engaged and look the part. Our journey with Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) continues with even more determination this year. Very soon we will have a reward structure in place to enable students to take more control of what types of items they are more willing to strive for.

We have already set our values as our guiding beliefs and will define our expectations and behaviours which will be supported and based on evidence, and teach specific lessons on how to behave and what that will look like for all the students. The program is based on the idea that if you want a specific type of behaviour then the expectation is that this needs to be explicitly taught and reinforced over time.

As a school one area of focus will continue to be attendance. A great deal of progress was made last year. What we need to ensure that we maintain these good processes so that we can limit the impact of unexplained days absent. More importantly we all need to understand what effect days away from school have on our children’s learning. When children have any time off school it results in a loss of learning. If this is more frequent it can result in our children not being able to meet their stage learning outcomes, plus the added consequence of missing vital foundation knowledge in Primary and Secondary. To acknowledge and celebrate those students who do attend regularly the school will have a focus on this for the year. What that will look like is being discussed by executive. This is by far too important an area to be neglected.

The schools staffing situation is quite stable. While we do not have any new teachers at this stage, I do have to report my very deep sense of loss at Mrs Nicole Humphries move to Moree East PS. She has been a truly outstanding asset for the school. There is currently a replacement process in place to find someone to take on the role of Instructional Leader for two days a week. We will wait on the outcome of this process in the next few weeks. We also have access to Mrs Jordana Picton, Miss Gillian Kelly and Mrs Virginia Hunt. Our Primary class structures are as follows. We will have a K/1/2/3 class that has the additional resource of Mrs Pauline Lawson working in an extended classroom with the extra support of Miss Sandra Prince as a class Student Learning Support Officer. The additional teacher will work with the class for their Literacy and Numeracy sessions each day. For other KLA areas of work they will have Mrs Stacey Makila, Mrs Leisa Spackman and Miss Sandra Prince and once the Instructional Leader is in place, their support as well. Our focus will be to maintain the high quality learning achieved by this group last year. This situation has been created by the number of students in the Year 3 class. It was believed that their learning was more important that splitting this group. In order to ensure that our K/1/2/3 students are fully supported we also have the services of Mrs Debbie Murphy for one day a week. Our other class is a Year 4/5/6 group, who will have Mr Jonathan Smith as a class teacher supported by Mrs Lucy Thompson in her role as Aboriginal Education Officer.
Our secondary classes are Stage based, so Year 7 and 8 are together in Stage 4, with Stage 5 having Year 9 and 10 together for core KLA’s such as English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE including PDHPE. Stage 5 do have access to elective subjects where the class groups can be quite small. Stage 6 covers students in Year 11 and 12. These students are studying a Preliminary or HSC selection of subjects offered by NBSA. This includes combining with three other schools, Goodooga CS, Collarenebri CS and Boggabilla CS to offer a broader curriculum to suit students’ needs.

In the first week of our school year staff have already accessed two Staff Development Days. On the 19 and 20 February our teachers will join with the three other NBSA schools to do some very valuable learning as a combined group in Lightning Ridge. This will enable schools to develop a more community of schools approach and to work as teams to better plan and deliver both Senior and Primary curriculum for all our children. This will mean that our teachers will have completed the requirements for the two SDD at the end of the year.

Last year saw quite a frenetic level of activity in upgrading our technology backbone. At the end of this process we have a fully functional hard wire harness. Our next focus will be the replacement of our very aged wireless network, which will include the inclusion of additional wireless points to give coverage across the whole school. That will pretty much ensure that students and staff have access everywhere on site. Something I believe that has been a very long time in being established. Can I remind all students that looking after the new laptops is their responsibility. At school all students will have access to these once a deposit has been paid. Stage 4 and 5 students are to return the laptops to the Secondary Staffroom at the end of each day. Stage 6 students can take the laptops home to assist their study. Any of these privileges can be suspended if the laptop is not kept in as new condition.

Next week we will have to let the Department of Education and Communities know our current student enrolments. This will determine what our actual staffing entitlement will be for the year. So that there are no negative impacts we need to have at least as many students as we predicted late last year. This is critical in terms of keeping our staff numbers constant. A better outcome would be an increase in numbers and so more staffing. I suppose its small steps with this.

There will be more information each week to keep everyone informed. Please let the school know if you are happy with the information we are providing on Phone: 02 6753 2207.

All the best.
Mr Erich Riesinger
Principal

Next AGM meeting will be held on Thursday 18 February 2016 at 3:15 pm in the School Hall. All are welcome to attend.
GOONDIWINDI JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE SIGN ON DAY!!

SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2016 10:00am - 2:00pm @ The Clubhouse

Cost:
Under 7’s - Under 10’s $100.00
Under 11’s - Under 16’s $120.00

Please bring a copy of your child’s birth certificate if this is their first time playing for GJRL.

### Canteen Menu 2016 Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAINS</th>
<th>DRINKS &amp; EXTRAS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Poppers</td>
<td>Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grilled Chicken Wrap with favourite sauce</td>
<td>Popper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submarine Sanga (with salad, beef/chicken/ham/silverside)</td>
<td>Milk Poppers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken/Meat Salad</td>
<td>Fruit - Nectarines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken/Fish/Cheese Burger</td>
<td>Super Doopers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toasties (Ham &amp; Cheese, Chicken &amp; Cheese)</td>
<td>Kabluey Freeze Pops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Bread</td>
<td>Paddle Pop (Choc, Rainbow, Banana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Seed Bread</td>
<td>Scooby Doo (Choc, Caramel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Chips</td>
<td>Gravy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air Fried Hot Chips</td>
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Healthier options are available now. It is still the responsibility of parents to order healthier meals and treats.
Parents & Citizen’s Association would like to thank all parents and students that supported the Canteen at the Swimming Carnival. A massive thank you also to Malcolm Hunt for manning the BBQ and Louise Frizzell and Sherry Gieseler for your help.
Motivation, Commitment, Success

Mungindi Central School
59-67 Wirrah Street
MUNGINDI NSW 2406
Mr Erich Riesinger
Principal

Phone 0267 532 207
Fax 0267 532 346
Email mungindi-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website www.mungindi-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
Child Absentee Permission form

Student/s name:__________________________________________________________

Date/s student is away:____________________________________________________

(Please tick) (Please give details: - sickness- eg flu ; family reasons eg attendance at a funeral; or other eg attendance at a religious ceremony)

☐ Full day______________________________________________________________

☐ Part Day______________________________________________________________

Arrival time/Leave early time________________________________________________

My child will return to school today or my child will not return to school today.

Name or parent/carer:-_________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Parent/carer:-__________________________________ Date:-__________________________

Child Absentee Permission form

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