Dear Parents and Carers,

Our ten new i-pads have arrived. Thanks to the P&C for raising the money to help purchase them. They are currently being set up for use in Kinder and Yrs1-2. The i-pads will also be used in the older classes for different applications.

Two safety issues have come to my attention. The first is the early arrival at school by some students. There is NO PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION BEFORE 8:40am. Students should not arrive at school before this time.

The other safety issue concerns students riding bikes and scooters to school without helmets. Helmets are essential for safety and also a legal requirement. Please make sure your children wear their helmets, know the road rules and have a roadworthy bike if they ride to school.

We had a great response to our ‘Binless’ day on Wednesday. The Student Representative Council are hoping to make this a more regular event. Yesterday we also held our annual ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ pick up around our school. Although four bags of litter were collected, this was a reduction on previous years. We are pleased to think our actions will reduce the amount of pollution finding its way into our waterways. Thanks to the parents who joined in the clean-up.

Mrs Sue Sims, Principal.

School Website
Copies of our newsletters, notes, etc. can be found on our school website www.ellalong-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

2012 Yr 6
We have ordered furniture for the office foyer using funds raised by our Year 6 last year. Thank you.

Safety around our school
Parents are reminded that they must not drive into the school grounds to drop off or pick up students at any time. Parents are also reminded that no student should be on school grounds out of school hours.

Resource Fee 2013
This year we are asking parents to pay a fee to help the school meet the cost of purchasing resources for use by all students. The fee is $30 for one child and $60 for families with two or more children.

Your support is appreciated.

Absences
All student absences must be followed by a note when the student returns. Parents can email the school ellalong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au If you are taking a family holiday during any term, please come to the office and complete the appropriate form.

Students arriving late must come to the office before going to the classroom. Parents collecting students early must come to the office before proceeding to the classroom.

Sport

P & C News
Canteen - ONLY OPEN ON FRIDAYS
We need more helpers as we only have a very small number of volunteers (8), with each Friday canteen needing 2 or more helpers as there are many orders. We have 74 families in the school community. Please consider volunteering 4 hours on a Friday.

If you are able to help please see Ellen Baker or Lucy Naysmith at the office. Training will be provided where necessary.

Found
Stop looking!!! On Monday February 25, Jorja Brown and Emme Formosa were playing in the long jump pit and found Hayden Sneesby’s long lost reading glasses!!!! These were lost last year. Thank you girls and thank you Mrs Tomlinson for a great job cleaning.
If we cannot staff any Friday we will close canteen that week with a note being sent home Thursday. We also need a Canteen Supervisor/s with some duties including ordering and doing a roster. If you and/or a friend are interested please see Ellen Baker or Lucy Naysmith at the office. *Copy of Term 1 Roster with this newsletter.

**P & C Meeting**
Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 3.30pm. P & C Membership is $2.00 and payable at the office or at any meeting.

*School uniforms* are available from the school office. New Prices: Red School Shirt $25 each; Red School Hat $10 each; Girls School Dress $45 each and Red Polo Fleece Jacket $28 each.

**Lost Property**
Our Lost Property box is stored in the main building if you child is missing any item please check the box. Please make sure all items of clothing including jackets and hats are clearly marked with your child’s name as well as lunch containers and drink bottles.

**Merit Awards**
Term 1 Weeks 4 and 5
Merit Award - Olivia Shakespeare, Jorja Brown, Kimi Karaitiana-Tua, Sam Baker, Vincent Plater, Tori Farley, Chloe Frederick, Isaac Mills, Sean Chant and Courtney Smythe-Ford.
PBL Award - Jordyn O’Hearn, Josie Lee, Chloe Formosa, Cooper Teasdale, Nedebah Moore, Braiden Wyborn, Abby Garred, James Horner, Mykailah Wilson and Brielle Clarke.
Reading Award - Jasmine Fitch, Thomas Hancock, Lilly Bridge, Aari Benbow, Lillian Mansfield, Wiley Cameron, Logan Cullen, Anna Volkli, Evie King, Reid Cowley, Olivia Moss, William Horner, Madison Lucas, Chloe Frederick, Elke Volkli, Elijah Reilley, Jesse King, Melody Fitch, Braiden Wyborn, Tori Farley, Olivia Shakespeare, Nicholas McGivern, Mykailah Wilson Rhiannon Garrington and Chloe Frederick.
Principal Award - Nala Crosse and Madison Lucas.
Pen - Madison Lucas

**Events coming up this term:**
- March 12: P & C Meeting 3.30pm
- March 14: School Cross Country
- March 15: Relay For Life ‘Purple Day’

March 26: Zone Netball Trials
March 27: Easter Hat Parade 2pm
March 29: Easter Raffle drawn
April 1: Zone Cross Country
April 12: Good Friday
April 12: Last Day Term 1
May 1: Easter Monday
May 22: Leaders Conference
May 23: ‘Deadly Australians’
June 12: Musica Viva

**Term 2 begins for students on Wednesday, May 1, 2013. School staff will attend Staff Development Days on Monday and Tuesday, April 29/30.**

All about apostrophes
Not knowing where to place apostrophes can haunt people for their entire lives. Here’s an easy guide to help your child understand what they mean, how to use them and get them right, now. Find out more: [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-a-to-z/-/english_glossary/8Qum/551/apostrophe+denoting+ownership](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-a-to-z/-/english_glossary/8Qum/551/apostrophe+denoting+ownership)

When older kids struggle with reading

Multiplication times tables

Sorting fact from fiction
RELAY FOR LIFE

‘PURPLE DAY’

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2013

As a way of supporting the NSW Cancer Council, Ellalong Public School will have ‘an out of uniform’ day on Friday, March 15.

‘Purple’ is the colour for the day with everyone to wear something purple. If your child/children wish to participate all they will need is a gold coin donation.

For each gold coin donation students will receive a balloon, a sticker and a candle bag.

This year the Cessnock Relay for Life is being held in October on Saturday 12th and Sunday October 13th at Baddeley Park, Vincent Street, Cessnock. As part of this weekend students are invited to decorate their candle bag and return it to the school office no later than Friday, March 22. These will be collected and kept safe until October by organisers.

The decorated bags with a tea candle inside them are used to line the field at Baddeley Park in memory of those affected by cancer.

A brochure is attached with details of the Cessnock relay. If you are interested in organising a team entry forms are at the school office.

Please support this great cause!!!!
Please let the school office know by the Thursday morning before if you are unable to do your day or unable to arrange a swap. We will close the canteen and all students will be notified on the Thursday.

School Phone 4998 1360 please notify before 11am.

**If you are interested in helping to organise the running of the canteen please see Ellen Baker or Mrs Naysmith at the school office.

***As you can see we do need more helpers to keep the canteen open for Fridays only, please consider giving us your time for 4 hours (10am-2pm) on a Friday either weekly, fortnightly or monthly -2 or more volunteers are needed on each Friday. Please let Mrs Naysmith or Mrs Tomlinson at the office know if you can help. Term 2 roster will need to be completed before end of term.