Dear Parents and Carers,

I’m looking forward to welcoming the new Kindies and their families at our first Kinder Orientation session next Monday. As usual we have organised some information sessions for the parents to coincide with this.

Our school is looking brighter with some recent work. The entrance has been enhanced with the wooden sign being painted and repaired and a slatted skirt being added to the front corner of the building. Thanks to Mr Sims for doing those jobs. The seating under the cola has been repaired and painted and looks fabulous. There is more work still to happen there. Thanks to the P&C for organising and paying for this. The tree trimming and removal of unsafe trees is now completed and we have been left with huge piles of mulch. Thanks to Dan Bailey for spreading it.

Term 4 is always a busy and productive time with lots of things happening and we would really appreciate all notes being returned promptly.

Mrs Susan Sims,
Principal.

New App
We have a new school app. It’s free to parents and community members. Just go to the App Store or similar android store and type in Ellalong to download it. Username: community Password: ellalongps

Safety around our school
To ensure the safety of all students parents must not drive into the school grounds to drop off or pick up students at any time. Parents are reminded:

**that parking at the front of the school is rear to kerb. Please park as directed only and not across parking area when dropping off or collecting children.

**at shop gate all students are to cross at pedestrian crossing at all times. Parents waiting for children are asked to cross only at crossing and not in front of shop.

Headlice
Parents asked to regularly check their child/childrens hair as we have had a number of headlice cases reported across the grades. Many products are now available at the chemist, staff will help you choose the right one for your needs.

After School
We ask that you please remind your child/children that if you are late collecting them from school gates after school they are to return to the school office with the teacher on duty and wait to be picked up.

Under no circumstances should students take themselves to the park or go home with another parent unless organised previously through the school office.

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 or telephone the school before 9am.

*If you are taking a family holiday during any term, please come to the office at least 7 days prior 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.

Swim School
A detailed note was sent home last week for our Swim School at Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre on November 17 to 21. The cost is $30.00 per student which can be paid in instalments.
Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are invited to participate. Notes and money due November 10, 2014. Our thanks to the P & C for paying for the buses.

**P & C News**
Our next P & C Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 3.30pm.

**WE INVITE ALL PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO COME ALONG**

**Canteen News:**
If you are not able to do your rostered day at the canteen please arrange a swap.

October 24  Scott Shakespeare and Dean Jackson  
October 31  Mel Sills & Dawn Samwell  
November 3  Frith Bowmaker (30mins)  
November 5  Kirsty Formosa (30 mins)  
November 7  Rheannon Monk and Annie Fisher

**What’s New: Beginning November 3**
the school canteen will open for 30 minutes only at 1.15pm each Monday and Wednesday for the sale of ice blocks and drinks. NO RECESS OR LUNCH ORDERS THESE DAYS.

**Special Canteen details attached. November 11, 2014.**

**Our thanks to Ellalong Shop for their continued support of our school.**

*The P & C will pay for the end of year Fun Day for all students on December 12, 2014. “Barefoot Bowls and picnic at Hunter Valley Gardens”. Details to come.

*The P & C have ordered additional seating for under COLA.

*We will be holding a School Disco at Ellalong Hall on November 6, 2014. Note out last week. Hot Dog Meal Deal orders with correct money must be returned to school office by Monday, November 3. This disco is for Ellalong students. Preschoolers are welcome but high school students are not to attend.

**Santa Photos**
Santa Photos will be taken on November 11 commencing at 9am. A note was sent home last Friday. The cost is $5.00. Order form and correct money must be returned to school office no later than Friday, November 7. Our thanks to Mrs Tracy Bailey for taking and processing photos.

**School Uniform**
*Red School Shirt $30 each  *Red School Hat $12 each  *Girls School Dress $45 each  
*Red Polo Fleece Jacket $30 each  *Girls Uniform Material $15 per metre

**Student Belongings**
Please make sure all of your child/children’s clothing including jumpers, lunch boxes, etc. are clearly marked with his /her name.

**Merit Awards**
When you child has received 5 Merit Awards please bring them to the school office and a Principal’s Award will be presented at the following assembly. If 5 Principal Awards are received a school pen is awarded. *Awards must be at the office* no later than Thursday morning at 10am to be included in the next day’s assembly.
**Weekly Awards**

**Merit Awards** - Sean Chant, Riley Souter, Braithen Wiseman, Madison Lucas, Braiden Wyborn, Everlyn Anderson, Aari Benbow, Jace Arthurson, Sylis Rust, Jyeson Clarke and Reid Cowley.


**Reading Awards** - Kaylee Brekvoort-Sadler, Tully Chapman, Sylis Rust, Riley Rees, Ellie Bridger-Darling, William Horner, Olivia Bailey, Braiden Wyborn, Tori Farley, Riley Souter, Riley Watters, Madison Lucas and Lilly Bridge.

**Principal Award** - Sylis Rust and Braithen Wiseman.

**Dates for your Calendar**

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<td>October 27, November 3 and 10</td>
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<td>November 6 (Ellalong Hall)</td>
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**Selective high schools**


**Managing your child's weight**

It's all about family when it comes to influencing children's waistlines and no number of wonder diets can beat some simple changes at home.

**Choosing the right school shoes**

Can those school shoes last...one...more...term.....? And are the expensive ones REALLY better for your child’s feet?

**Creative reading**

If your child is full of great ideas, share these 22 slides to help them tell their stories. Pixar's 22 rules for great creative writing are brilliant! [http://bit.ly/1fyxNK3](http://bit.ly/1fyxNK3)