Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back.

Thank you to Mrs Fiona Mills who once again this year organised our students for the ANZAC Day march. Her report about this event has been added to this newsletter. Well done to all of the Ellalong students who took part and represented our school with pride and good behaviour.

Ellalong Hotel Social Club has made the generous offer of making us one of the beneficiaries of their fundraising. Part of the money raised in the weekly ‘Jag the Joker’ competition held on Thursday nights will be donated to our school. We greatly appreciate this. The donation will be put to good use and benefit all students.

Mrs Susan Sims,
Principal.

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

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.

Students must only enter school grounds through small gates and must not enter through driveway entrance.

Student Illness
We ask that parents please do not send your child/children to school when they are obviously not well. This helps keep infection to a minimum in classrooms.

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.

P & C News
Our next P & C Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 3.30pm.
**WE INVITE ALL PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO COME ALONG**

**Canteen will open Fridays only.** Thank you to our volunteers and any queries please contact Mrs Annette Fisher.

**We will hold our Mothers Day Stall on Friday, May 9. Donations can be sent in to the school office. A note was sent home last term. If your child needs to purchase more than one gift or you are able to help with the stall please return the slip no later than May 5.**

**All proceeds from this stall will go towards 2014 Year 6 School Fundraising.**

School Uniform
Red School Shirt $30 each (Old Style $20 each)
Red School Hat $12 each
Girls School Dress $45 each
Red Polo Fleece Jacket $30 each

Student Belongings
With the cold weather approaching 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 the following assembly. If 5 Principal Awards are received a School Pen is awarded. *Awards must be at office no later than Thursday morning at 10am to be included in the next day’s assembly.*
**Sport**
Congratulations to James Horner and Thomas Page for progressing to the Regional Cross Country on May 9. Well done and Good Luck!!!

**Weekly Awards** - Term 1 - Week 11
**Merit Awards** - Ellie Bridger-Darling, Lily Bridger-Darling, Reid Cowley, Taj O’Hearn and Caitlin Thomas.
**PBL Awards** - Olivia Pollock, Lochlen Corcoran, Charlotte Thomas, Bella Kingston and Jace Hughes.
**Reading Awards** - Mykailah Wilson, Lela Kingston, Sylis Rust, Blake Jackson, Ryan Watters, Connor Sneesby, Jesse King, Olivia Pollock and Tori Farley.
**Principal Award** - Tori Farley, Jordyn O’Hearn and Ryan Watters.
**Gold Star Award** - Braithen George, Jake Jobson, Madison Lucas, James Horner and Olivia Bailey.

**Dates for your Calendar**
School Sports Carnival at Turner Park May 8
Mothers Day Stall May 9 (**Donations to school by May 5)
P & C Chocolate ‘Freddo’ Drive June 2 (**see note attached)
NAPLAN tests for Years 3 & 5 May 13, 14, 15

**Anzac Day**
What a lovely bunch of Ellalong school children representing our school again this year at the march. We had 18 kids which I think is the best yet. Lots of little ones this year. Isaac and Ethan did a great job laying the wreath. Kids who attended were: Isaac Mills, Ethan and Rhiannon Garrington, Rose, Charlotte and Felicity Lucas, Holly Moore, Archie Sills, Olivia Pollock, Charli-Ann Regent, Olivia Bailey, Braiden Wyborn, Lillian Mansfield, Ashleigh Holden, Charlotte and Wesley Thomas, Thomas Hancock and Samuel Broadfoot.
By Mrs Fiona Mills.
***Our thanks to Mrs Mills for once again supporting our school and students at the Anzac Day March this year.

**Thank You to all parent and community members** who supported our Easter Raffle we approximately raised $990.00 for P & C fundraising. Thank you for all easter egg donations which allowed us to have many great prizes.

Our Easter Hat Parade was wonderful with many colourful and inventive designs worn by students. I am sure you will agree that everyone who came along enjoyed the afternoon.

**Community News**

**We are needing players for our under 6's, and under 10's teams at Cessnock United FC. Any child turning 5, 6 or 10 in this calendar year can play. Please contact Ann Skinner on 0416 001 979 or by email on skinnerfamily5@bigpond.com**