Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week Rose Lucas represented our school and the Hunter region at the State Basketball Championships. To reach this level is a great achievement and we are very proud of Rose. The team finished a creditable 9th place.

Congratulations go also to our PSSA netball team for the excellent effort and sportsmanship shown in their game against Cessnock Primary School. In a close game our girls were defeated by only one point.

Don’t forget tomorrow is “PJ’s for Asthma Day”. Students can wear their pyjamas to school, but must wear proper school footwear. Cost is a gold coin donation. There will be a cake stall at recess with classes 2/3R and 4S asked to donate cakes.

We welcome parents to our Friday assemblies to help celebrate the success of our students and be part of our school community. Please remember that this is a school event and it would be appreciated if visitors showed respect to our students by controlling pre-schoolers and noise. Thank you for your cooperation.

Mrs Susan Sims, Principal.

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.

Please remind your child/children to only enter school grounds through small gates and not enter through driveway entrance and to keep an eye out for cars entering property as they cross driveway at front of school.

School Website
Please look on our school website for up to date information for our school.

Please note that the P & C have also opened a facebook page which will also have information for parents and community members.

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, June 10, 2014 at 3.30pm.
**WE INVITE ALL PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO COME ALONG**

**Canteen will open Fridays only.
If you are not able to do your day please contact Mrs Annette Fisher.

Friday, May 30 Natasha Kirk & Rachael Chapman
Friday, June 6 Kirsty Formosa & Rheannon Monk

Chocolate Drive
It is expected that boxes will be sent home next week. If you require more than one box please see Mrs Naysmith at the school office. All unsold chocolates and correct money for sold chocolates will be due in to the school office no later than Friday, June 27, 2014 (last day of term). This is a great fundraiser for our school and all your support is appreciated.
**School Uniform**
Red School Shirt $30 each (Old Style $20 each if available); Red School Hat $12 each; Girls School Dress $45 each; Red Polo Fleece Jacket $30 each

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

**Congratulations to Brodie Jones** former Ellalong student and school captain for gaining selection and being named vice-captain of the NSW Under 16 Rugby League side that played before last night’s State of Origin game.

This caps off a great representative year for Brodie who was the captain of the Knights Under 16’s team that won the NSW competition and then beat the best Queensland team to be crowned Australian Under 16 Champion Team. **Well done Brodie** who not only is a great talent but has always shown great ‘sportsmanship’.

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**Merit Awards**
When your 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.

**Weekly Awards**
Term 2 - Weeks 3 and 4

**Merit Awards** - Tully Chapman, Blake Jackson, Madison Lucas, Yohanan Moore, Yacob Moore, Katiela Jackson-Campbell, Rylee Arthurson, Lily Bridger-Darling, Hollie Moore, and Zoe Garred.


**Reading Awards** - Logan Cullen, Lily Bridger-Darling, Thomas Hancock, Katiela Jackson-Campbell, Sam Baker, Tori Farley, Lily Bridge, Jorja Brown, Wesley Thomas, Madison Lucas, Anna Volkl, Chloe Frederick,. Lochlen Corcoran, Lillian Mansfield, Riley Watters, Tully Chapman, Kaylee Brekvoort-Sadler, Ryan Watters, James Horner, Olivia Pollock, Wiley Cameron, Riley Brown, Riley Souter and Chloe Formosa.

**Principal Award** - Mykailah Wilson, Braiden Wyborn, Riley Watters, Charli-Anne Regent, Archie Sills, Tully Chapman, Riley Rees and Evie King.

**Pen** - Mykailah Wilson
**Dates for your Calendar**

- **Asthma Fundraiser**: May 30 Pyjama Day and Cake Stall
- **P & C Chocolate ‘Freddo’ Drive**: June 2 (Money to be returned by June 27)
- **Public Holiday**: June 9
- **P & C Meeting**: June 10 3.30pm
- **Cessnock Netball Cup**: June 20
- **Parent/Teacher Interviews**: Week commencing June 23
- **Last Day Term 2**: June 27
- **Term 3 - Students Return**: July 15
- **Naidoc Week at Wollombi**: July 18 Whole School

**Too sick for school?**

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser [www.bit.ly/1hytn2E](http://www.bit.ly/1hytn2E)

**Mental maths strategies**

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here: [www.bit.ly/JkiUsY](http://www.bit.ly/JkiUsY)

**EGYPTIAN MUMMIES FOUND AT ELLALONG - Class 5/6OH**