Welcome back to the 2013 school year.
This year promises to be a year with lots of exciting and wonderful educational challenges. As with many new school years there is a lot of information being issued and sometimes Class fact sheets, homework contracts permission notes and Newsletters can miss the kitchen table often being lost in the bottom of your child's bag. Please ask each afternoon if there are any notes handed out to ensure you get the information before due dates.

Most kids generate a little chaos and disorganisation. In the excitement of the new year some may flit from one thing to the next, forgetting books at school, leaving towels on the floor, and failing to finish projects once started. Yes! A few kids seem naturally organized, but for the rest, organisation is a skill learned over time. With help and some practice, kids can develop an effective approach to getting stuff done. And you're the perfect person to teach your child, even if you don't feel all that organized yourself!

For kids, all tasks can be broken down into a 1-2-3 process.

**Getting organised** means a kid gets where he or she needs to be and gathers the supplies needed to complete the task. Eg: Make sure they have pens and pencils ready for each school day.

**Staying focused** means sticking with the task and learning to say "no" to distractions.

**Getting it done** means finishing up, checking your work, and putting on the finishing touches, like remembering to put homework in the right tray on Friday mornings to be marked.

Once kids know these steps — and how to apply them — they can start tackling tasks more independently. That means homework, chores, and other tasks will get done with increasing consistency and efficiency. Of course, kids will still need parental help and guidance, but you probably won't have to nag as much.

Not only is it practical to teach these skills, but knowing how to get stuff done will help your child feel more competent and effective. Kids feel self-confident and proud when they're able to accomplish their tasks and responsibilities. They're also sure to be pleased when they find they have some extra free time to do what they'd like to do.

Wallaby Whispers are downloaded onto or school website each Friday afternoon incase you miss out.

Christopher Jackson
Principal

Small school “BIG” opportunities!
**Coming Events**

**TERM 1**

**February 2013**
- Carnival Practice 5th February
- Swimming Carnival 7th February

**Lunch Orders**
Lunches will be on Monday 4th February, Cheryl Bray is rostered on for canteen duty. All hot food will be available. Sandwiches are no longer on the menu. However, all hot food will be available. A new canteen list will be sent home next week with the students.

**Magazines for K/1/2 Craft box**
If anyone has any old magazines at home that are no longer needed, K/1/2 would really appreciate it if you could donate them to the school for their craft box as their stocks are low.

**Thank you**
A big Thank you to Mrs Webb for the kind donation of the chair covers that she made over the Christmas break for k/1/2. We really appreciate all of her hard work and time that she volunteers to the school. The classroom looks fantastic!

**Birthdays**
Happy Birthday to Dempsey and James. Both children celebrated their birthdays in the holidays.

**Swimming Carnival**
Next week will be very exciting for the children attending Swimming School on Tuesday (11:45-1:15pm) and Thursday (9-3pm). PLEASE make sure you emphasise the "FUN" involved in both days and bring EVERYONE along on Thursday.
Welcome

We would like to welcome our new Kindergarten students. This year we have seven new students who have had a great start to the year……..

We would also like to welcome Jock Barnett in Year 5.

There was no assembly today.

Awards

K-1-2 Class
Quaydan Effer for being very “grown up” and completing work with care.
Kallee Lobsey for working hard in all subjects this week!
Natalie Payne for good listening skills in the classroom.

3-4-5-6 Class
Cloe Hancock for working well in mathematics Well Done.
Jamie Upperton for being a great thinker in literacy.
Wallaby Week Ahead Term 1, 2013

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P&C News

We are looking for new parents to volunteer for school lunches on a Monday from 11.30 to 1 pm. If anyone is interested please contact Cheryl on 67465521 or Jaime at the school on 67465512. School uniforms are available from the school. We have both new and second hand uniforms to purchase. Size 10 summer dresses and medium hats are currently being ordered.

Community News

Coonabarabran Bush Fire Appeal - Garage Sale
Pre Loved Goods

*FRI 15 FEB 6PM—8PM SAUSAGE SIZZLE 7PM* SAT 16 FEB 9AM—2PM SUN
17 FEB 9AM—2PM
Do you have any good, clean item you could donate for sale? *Drop off to theatre Thurs 7 Feb 6pm—7pm. and Tues 12 Feb 6pm—7pm*

ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO THE COONABARABRAN FIRE APPEAL
For more information contact Lorraine Reiily 02 6746 2555