Dear Parents/Guardians,

Firstly, a huge acknowledgement and thanks to Jen, Anna and the PFA for their fantastic work in organising the Variety Market on the weekend. A terrific success and great way for the school in engage with our local community. Very much appreciated.

Thanks also for the support, encouragement and understanding from the parent body as I’ve taken over the reins while David has been away on leave. Great to see in challenging times people stepping up to support and help out. Much appreciated. Whatever the challenge, with a co-operative approach there is always a way through.

**Expressions of Interest – Sharing stories**

Following a number of conversations with around the need to encourage an acceptance of difference in our community, I would dearly like to hear from members of the community who would be willing to share their stories of being or feeling ‘different’ as a migrant or minority. Simply to celebrate our cultural diversity and our unity, as we all feel like the odd one out at different times in our lives.

**Floppers the Bunny**

As we announced at the beginning of the week our school bunny ‘Floppers’ passed away after contracting the Calici virus. “Choppers’ too is being nursed at home. It gave us a great opportunity to reflect on the role of animals in our lives and the valuable lessons they offer. He may have been small but he made so many of us feel good just by allowing us to get close to him. Thanks to the many students who shared the huge imprint animals have left on their own hearts. Was it Joni Mitchell?.... “You don’t know what you got til it’s gone”.... Alright, I’m showing my age!

**Grade 2/3 News**

By all reports Grade 2/3 have very much enjoyed their week with Zeb Brierley; they’ve had some great lessons in personal growth and their Art work for the Pear Party looks fantastic. Always a positive sign when students are wanting to continue their work over lunch time.

**Flash Cards**

Some parents would have noticed the appearance of an orange set of flash cards in their child’s home reader pouch. These cards are designed to help children cement their knowledge of the components of ten. Eg. (9+1, 8+2, 7+3, 6+4 etc). This is a critical foundational stage of Numeracy it is the core ability needed to allow children to move away from counting on their fingers. It would be very helpful if parents were able to use the cards regularly as possible.

Brett Whittle,
Acting Principal

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**RELAY FOR LIFE**

Thank you to all those students who supported our local “Relay For Life” team by dressing up in Purple and Yellow on Friday 26th February. We certainly looked a colourful bunch.
WELSHPOOL FLOWER SHOW CATERING

BY PFA TOORA

A big thanks you to those who have baked goods, donated items and giving their time to this fundraising event. Just a reminder for baked goods to have no cream, uncut and in a sealed container with your name. All items to be at the school on 9am Friday 11th March.

Baked good donations are from:

Bec Kipp Shanks – chocolate cake and carrot cake
Jackie woods – tea cake
Anna Hopkins – 2 x chocolate cakes
Melissa Leslie – cake
Hannah Tanner – cake

Baked slices:
Tara Hollier – lemon and hedgehog slice
Therese Watley – 2 x fruit slices
Bekky Van Egmond – rum balls
Di walker – 2 x slices
Denise Avery – jelly cakes & Raspberry slice

Scones:
Joy Kipp
Leanne Vandyke
Jackie woods

Sausage Rolls:
Jen Delaney
Tara Hollier

Helper for Friday 1pm to 4.30pm:
Emma Hughes, Jackie woods, Nigel Plowright, Sue Gilford, Kathryn Brown

 Helpers for Saturday 10.00am to 1.30pm:
Emma Hughes, Nigel Plowright, Sue Gilford, Melissa Leslie, Melissa’s sister

Helpers for Saturday 1.30pm to close
Emma Hughes, Tara Hollier, Kathryn Brown

Many thanks for all your help and support. If you have any queries please contact Emma Hughes.
2016 CALENDAR

MARCH

12th  PFA Catering at Welshpool Flower Show
13th  PFA Catering at Welshpool Flower Show
13th  PFA Catering at Toora Annual Pear Party
14th  Labour Day  Public Holiday
15th  Parent Teacher Interviews 4:00 - 6:00pm
16th  Sporting School Athletics Program  3:30-4:45pm
17th  Parent Teacher Interviews 4:00 - 6:00pm
18th  PFA Meeting 8:30am in School meeting room
21st  RACV Street-Scene Incursion
24th  End of Term 1  2:20pm dismissal

APRIL

02nd  Toora Variety Market
11th  School resumes Term 2
25th  ANZAC Day public Holiday

Absences - All absences are recorded electronically using our COMPASS program, please phone the office on 56 862 283 or write in your Child’s communication book if your child has had an absent day or will be away for any reason.

CANTEEN NEWS

Term 2 Canteen is looking very grim without volunteers.

Desperately seeking Volunteers - particularly people who would be willing to give an hour on a Wednesday from 12:00—1:00pm

If you’re able to go on a volunteer roster for one week a month please contact Kathryn ASAP on 0437 267 988

AWESOME PEOPLE
This week we have been looking at the sound /f/; *five fat fish, f, f, f*. We have been learning about 2D shapes. The students played a bingo game where they had to identify features of the shapes.

On Tuesday they performed a little science experiment where they used vinegar and salt to shine coins. The students were amazed at the potion and were heading home to clean their parent’s coins!

We have also had ‘Costa’ the dog in for Tess’ show and tell. Mrs Wiggins is looking forward to the long weekend and hopes that everyone has a restful weekend enjoying the Pear Party and preparing for the last two weeks of Term 1!