Dear Parents,

Welcome to week 4 of term. Many thanks to all of you, who were able to attend the working bees this weekend and to those who worked with Anissa last week in the gardens. The school grounds and premises continue to look so well cared for and well kept. In fact the place looks positively loved! Thankyou Anissa for all your work in organising these working days.

Many thanks also to those who were able to come to the (very brief) Association meeting last week, to vote in the new Constitution. While the meeting itself took only 10 minutes it was the culmination of many hours of work, to get the new Constitution ready. Thanks to the Board members who did the work in taking the necessity of developing a new Constitution from idea to reality.

CURRICULUM MATTERS:

Last week we had a wonderful excursion to the Bowraville Museum. What a surprise it was for me; behind the ordinary façade is a world class museum and the visit really enriched our Local Area Studies.

I am finding with the multi-ages (and delicious things like swimming in the afternoons) that there are several curriculum areas which are not getting enough attention: reading and Maths Practice specifically. In order address this I will be implementing a home reading program for 2-6. Please listen to your child read for around 10 minutes per day. They will bring their current reader home and a book for you to sign. I am trying to source a suitable maths practice homework book and when I do, the children will need to complete the set work for the week. This will be age specific and will not require a huge time commitment. However, it will be compulsory. This is the only way that I can meet the Board of Studies time requirements for these subjects. Many thanks for you support with this.
BOARD NEWS:

Anissa and Craig have co-opted Geoff Moran and Karen Edmundson to work with them on the Board, to fill the vacated positions. Both Karen and Geoff have kindly offered to assist the work of the Board until the AGM in June. At this time, all Board members will stand down and either finish their service or stand for re-election, as they wish. If you are thinking about standing for election onto the Board at the next AGM, please feel free to speak to any of the current Board members with any questions you have about roles and responsibilities of Board members and the skills which you have to bring to the Board.

Geoff Moran brings to the Board his past experience serving on several Steiner School Boards and he has taken over the role from Anissa of organising the new buildings, to get them up to the stage of interim approval. Please contact Geoff on 0411 803 272 if you are able to assist in any way with completion of the new buildings. As Board members, Geoff and Anissa will be taking responsibility for personally securing the necessary bank overdraft which Tallowood needs in order to keep running this year.

Karen Edmundson has lived in the Nambucca Valley for 16 years and holds a high regard for Steiner Education, having sent two of her sons to Chrysalis Steiner School at Thora, some years ago. Karen was a co-ordinator for many years with the Nambucca Valley LETS System and oversaw the opening and initial running of the LETS System Food Co-op in a shop in Macksville. More recently Karen was on the Management Committee of the Nambucca Valley Community College Inc, before becoming Manager and developing the College to offer over 96 courses in Adult Education. We are fortunate to have both Geoff and Karen contributing to the high workload of the Board at this time.

CLEANING:

Thanks to those who have already sent their feedback to me about the cleaning situation. Please have your preference in by the end of this week as unless notified otherwise our cleaner finishes up on Friday.

TERM DATES:

Please check your term dates and note that our terms breaks are three weeks during the year and the same as public schools during the summer teaching break.
That’s it for this week, many thanks to all for your commitment and support.

Warmest Regards,

Sue