WELCOME BACK To all and sundry, welcome back. It was great to see children return without any plaster casts or leaning on any crutches. The staff were greeted with many smiles and hellos as the children walked through the gate. It is a great way to start the term. Yesterday was a ‘flexible’ day. On Monday we were approached by two Essential Energy employees saying that Tuesday was a work on the network day and that all power to the school would be switched off from 8:30am till approximately 3:00pm. They were kind enough to attach a generator to our pump for water to the bubblers. They were true to their word and power was off at 8:30am, halfway through Mrs Spackman preparing maths assessment sheets for her class! The day was one of those flexible days.

YEAR 5/6 EXCURSION Linda would like to remind parents that the first instalment of $100 was due at the end of last term, second instalment of $100 by 23rd May, third instalment of $100 by 20th June and the final instalment will be early in term 3 when final costing have been done. The excursion is only 7 weeks away so please try and pay the instalments when they are due. Thank you.

ROCK VALLEY HALL NEWS I have been in contact with Betty Oliveri, the secretary of the Rock Valley Hall. She mentioned a couple of community functions which are coming up, one in the near future. On Friday 16th May they are organising an open mike night where musicians from the community are invited to come along and play, perform to everyone. Later in the year they have the Hall’s centenary which the school has been invited to participate in. The hall committee are in discussions at the moment and coming up with some ideas. They are also putting together a recipe book from the area. All contributions will be gladly received.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOLS TRAINING COURSE If you have an interest in a particular sport or activity and feel the urge to help out with the schools after schools program, this is the course for you. To be able to present or teach at these sessions, each person needs to have attended a training course and then undertaken the necessary checks. If you would like to help out, a training course has been organised and will be held at Lismore Baseball Club on Friday 23rd May, from 8:30am to 4pm. If you would like more information contact me and I will pass on the information. This is a paid position, not much but a little bit.

TERANIA CROSS COUNTRY This coming Friday we have the annual Terania District Cross Country at Caniaba. The day begins at 10am with everyone arriving and readying ourselves for the walk around the track which starts a 10:15am. Races will begin soon after that. The races will conclude at around 1pm and then a short presentation will follow. All races
except for the age 5/6years are competitive with the first 5 placegetters being eligible to represent their school and Terania PSSA at the Northern Rivers Trials which will be held later in the term, 23rd May. There will be a canteen operating on the day. A menu is attached. Please note that transport is by private car. If you need help in transport, please make arrangements with other parents.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS** On Wednesday 7th May, sometime in the morning, we have our school photos. Please find attached to the newsletter the envelope that needs to be completed and brought in prior to the date. If you have any questions or queries about the ordering of the photos don’t hesitate to ask.

**STREAMWATCH** On Tuesday 6th May, in the afternoon, a representative from Rous Water will be coming to school and will work with the children in Years 3-6 on determining the water quality in our creek behind the school. We haven’t participated in this program for a couple of years now and it will be good to get back in the saddle so to speak.

**GRIP LEADERSHIP** The GRIP leadership course for the Year 6 students has been organised for Friday 9th May. All students will be attending. The cost for the day is $50 which includes all transport costs. The P & C have kindly helped out with $30 per student making the overall cost for the day at $20. Please complete the attached permission note and return to school early next week. Sandi will be accompanying the children to the course.

**NAPLAN** The annual National Assessment Program will be conducted on Tuesday 13th May with language and writing and will conclude on Thursday 15th May with the numeracy component. Please ask if you would like clarification or more information regarding any aspect of this year’s testing.

**WORKING BEE** This is a gentle reminder about the proposed working bee on Sunday, 4th May. Please see the reminder note kindly prepared by Erin.

**INTEREST DAY** On Friday, 30th May this term, the next interest day is being organised. Stage 1 (K-2) will be going to Caniaba, Stage 2 (3-4) will be going to Blakebrook and Stage 3 (5-6) will be going to Coffee Camp. At this stage the themes for the day are unknown. Information regarding the day will be passed on when known.

**PRAC STUDENTS** We have two students this term. Miss Slade will be working with the Bazzas and Miss Parkes will be working with the Rainbow Lorikeets. We wish them well with their respective practicums.

**CWA PROJECT COMPETITION** Yesterday we had a visit from two ladies from the Lismore CWA branch encouraging the K-6 children to participate in an International competition they are running. Each year the CWA choose a different country to focus on. This year it is “The Republic of Botswana” The requirements for each stage will differ.

- Kindergarten: A colouring-in competition (a bird)
- Year 1 and 2: A poster of “Life in Botswana”
- Year 3 and 4: An A4 flyer “Let’s visit Botswana”
- Year 5 and 6: An A4 (Max 20 pages) on Botswana.

Each child will receive the competition guidelines with this newsletter. This project will predominantly be a home project but we will provide time at school for use of computers, photocopying and other research tasks.

**CLASS NEWS**
**KOOKABURRAS** This term is going to be a hectic one. Firstly, I would like to welcome Lael. He is with us and comes with a dearth of international experiences. On the top of the list are the portfolios. We have made a start and are in front of the starting line but I am wishing that I was a bit further along the track. Lots of hard work is install for everyone.

**BASSA NEWS** We welcome Miss Slade for the next 5 weeks. She will be working with the children each day. We are looking forward to a productive Term 2. The Bassa and Kookaburra's will be focussing on the Animal Kingdom this term for science and HSIE.

**LORIKEETS** Welcome back to Term 2. This term we will be studying the Animal Kingdom. We will be classifying animals into their groupings eg birds, mammals etc. Homework will commence next week. Please encourage your child to complete it and hand it in by Friday each week. Groups will begin also next week if parents are available to assist. We also have a student teacher from SCU beginning a three week practicum in Week 3. Miss Parkes has been observing the children and is looking forward to working with term in the coming weeks.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB** Book Club No 3 is out and is due back on Thursday, 15th May.