Principal’s Note
Welcome to Term 2. The children returned from their holidays refreshed and ready for work. As a result they have been producing some impressive writing that we will begin to share with you in the next Newsletter. Homework continues this Term with each child expected to read nightly and depending on their year level learn spellings, tables or sight words. The older children also have a sheet to complete weekly.
I am pleased to announce that Ms Charlotte Gorringe has been awarded the permanent Teacher Aide position advertised in the last Newsletter.

Jenny Hughes
Principal

Australian Early Development Census
Playing our part to build a national picture of child health
What is the AEDC?
In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school to build a national picture of health and wellbeing. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families. Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children don’t need to be present so no class time is missed, and parents/carers don’t need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers’ individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.
In communities across the country, census results have helped communities to plan new playgrounds and parental services; schools are seeing improved student performance through new literacy programmes; and governments are using the results as evidence to develop better policies for children.
Teachers have also noticed practical benefits in the classroom. Some said in previous years that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole. Others reported that the census results are useful in planning for transitions to school and for developing class programmes.
Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don’t need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census.
To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website.

Message from Miss Jenny
Dear Parents,
Welcome back for term 2. In Science this term we are going to be completing a unit on Wild Weather. Within this unit students will be looking at different types of weather events from both Australia and around the world. We will also be looking at how the weather affects us and buildings. In History we are looking at everything from stories from the past, to how we commemorate historical events such as ANZAC Day and we will even be looking at the colonisation of Australia. To assist the Preps part of the unit can I ask that every child provide 1 or
2 photos of themselves from when they were younger. If you have any questions about the units or how your child is going please feel free to come and see me. I’m at Windorah Thursday, Friday and every second Wednesday. Miss Jenny

Visit to Clifton Station
We travelled to Clifton Station at the end of last term to watch the shearing. Wendy and Ross Groves welcomed us and supplied the children with morning tea and lunch. The children were able to display their stock knowledge by showing Miss Jenny and myself how to approach and feed cattle, sheep and chooks. The older children also had a go at sheep shearing. We were also accompanied by Charlie and Bindie. As a culmination activity the children then completed an art activity with Wendy. Thank you Wendy and Ross for a lovely day.

Anzac Day
The children participated in the Anzac Parade and the ceremony at the park. Lily competently read the Prayer of Remembrance and all of the students laid wreaths that they had made at school on the cenotaph. Each year a student from Windorah State School is awarded the Anzac Award – sponsored by Quilpie RSL. This is awarded to a student who always has a go, does his/her best, helps others and is respectful and considerate. This year the award was shared by our two Prep students; Daitonah Gorringe and Polly Lampard. The girls have both worked to the best of their ability, and are developing skills that will be of benefit to them socially and academically. Well done, Daitonah and Polly.
School Uniform
This was also the first time that the girls officially wore their (optional) new dress uniform. I thought they all looked smart. I would like to thank Kim Geiger (P & C President) for sourcing and organising the purchase of these uniforms.

Anzac memorabilia
The school was fortunate enough to secure a loan of war memorabilia from the Queensland Museum. As it was so impressive Marilyn and Ian kindly allowed us the use of Windorah Hotel Dining Room to display the artefacts to the general community on Anzac day. I hope you got the opportunity to see this. Thank you Miss Jenny (Boyne), Ms Charlotte and Ms Rhonda for arranging the display.

Week 3 Term 2
Mrs Helen Kidd will be replacing me from Monday May 5th until Friday May 8th. I shall be travelling first to Bedourie for a two day professional development meeting with the western cluster of small school principals and from there I will go to Longreach for the Principals’ meeting. The Acting Regional Director, Kim Fredericks and the Assistant Regional Director, David Roach will be present at this meeting.

Attendance
Education Queensland’s attendance policy is to have every child at school learning every day.

New Arrivals
As part of our Project Club the students now have six hens at the school. We have named them and are in the process of taming them! We hope to be able to sell their fresh eggs to the community when they start laying. The money made will go towards buying their feed.

Barcoo Show Holiday
The Barcoo Show Holiday is on Friday May 15th this year. I shall send a reminder note home closer to the date.

For Sale by Tender – One John Deere ride on mower (L110 17.5H OHV)
Offers to be submitted in writing to Windorah State School by May 22nd 2015 in an envelope marked-“Confidential – Offer for Advertised item”. Delivery charges to be borne by the successful tenderer, item is offered on an ‘as is’ basis. Inspection after school hours or on the weekend welcome. Please contact the school on 4656 3128.