



# Rocky River Public School Newsletter

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354 Thunderbolts Way via Uralla NSW 2358

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Thunderbolt Festival 25th Oct.**
- **Seasons of New England 8th November**
- **RRPS P&C Golf Day 7th December.**

## CANTEEN

### Price List:

Pizza Singles.....	\$3
Chicken Nuggets (4)...	\$2
Hot Dog. ....	\$2.50
Beef Lasagne.....	\$3
Spaghetti Bolognaise...	\$3
Sausage Roll.....	\$2.50
Pie .....	\$2.50
Banana Bread.....	\$1
Ice Cream .....	\$1.50
Popper .....	\$1.50
Devondale Smoothie...	\$1.50
Devondale Plain Milk..	\$1

### Canteen Volunteer Roster

\* 29th October

-Kate Wilkinson

\* 5th November

-Todd Cross

## P&C

The next P&C meeting will  
be held on Wednesday  
**5th November at 3.30pm**

**ALL WELCOME**

## TERM 4, WEEK 3, 23rd October 2014

### PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Our excursion to Green Valley Farm was a huge success. The students enjoyed all the activities and particularly enjoyed the time spent on the farm which has a huge amount of activities for families to do.

This Friday we are having a visit from the Environmentors who will be able to give us advice regarding the veggie garden.

The whole school is again involved in Music Count Us In which involves schools from across Australia singing a song called "Paint Me a Song," all at the same time and all being connected via video conferencing.

We are busy learning the songs for our Christmas musical, "A Midwife's Crisis." Further details regarding costumes will be sent home shortly.

On 5th November we are trying the P&C meeting starting at 3:30 pm and alternating every 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting between 3:30 and 5:30. Please support the P&C with your attendance if at all possible.

Our **2015 KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION PROGRAM** will be held on 13th, 20th & 27th October from 9am-1pm and the final day will be on 3rd November and will run for a full day from 9am –3pm. Please contact Jo Thornton at the school for further information. 6778 4122 or [rockyriver-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rockyriver-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

### THUNDERBOLT FESTIVAL



We will be marching in the Thunderbolt Festival parade once again this Saturday. Students taking part need to wear full school uniform Including black school shoes. Captains will need to meet Mrs Thornton at the school at 9.30am to get their blazers. We will be assembling at the **town library car park no later than 10.15** and will be joining in the parade from there along with the other walkers. You will be able to park in Salisbury St if you like.

The P&C will be running their usual cake and lolly stall and any cooking can be left at the school if you wish. Gluten free items are always appreciated.



## Look what's been happening in Lower Division

In the holidays I  
we went to Grandma Dawns  
house. It was fun.



Great work Jacob.

MB



### Kinder Orientation

Our Kinder Orientation Program has taken off once again and Mrs Beal, Alex, Ned and Massimo have been having a wonderful time getting to know each other and engaging in some fun activities. Our students have welcomed our newcomers with open arms and are enjoying their company.

**THE WANDERING WARRIORS.** A few weeks ago Bella was lucky enough to have a ride in this awesome truck that was travelling with the Wandering Warriors. They spent the night at the Uralla Showground and many residents passed through the gates to meet them, made a donation and had a look at their equipment.



**Wandering Warriors Inc. is a charity initiative of the Australian SAS Association QLD Inc. Its main aim is to raise funds for injured and wounded veterans and their families.** Its members are veterans of Australia's military conflicts over the past 50 years. They volunteer their time, energy and resources to conduct events which raise funds for veteran and family focused charities. They were overwhelmed by the response from the Uralla community. The highlight for many (including Bella!) was a ride in the SAS's Navy Special Operations vehicle used for long range patrols in Afghanistan and Iraq.



## *Look what's happening in Upper Division*



FROM OUR  
STUDENT LEADERS

### **Our Excursion to Green Valley Farm**

As most people know, on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of October Upper Division went to Green Valley Farm (near Tingha) for our excursion.

After about 1 ½ - 2 hours on the bus we arrived, unpacked, and went to eat lunch at the playground. I thought it was the best playground ever because it was loads of fun and was recycled out of old tyres and metal.

That was followed by a super cool animal walk which included rabbits, peacocks, ducks, deer and much more!

Then we went on the waterslide for hours before concluding the day with dinner and a didgeridoo player by the campfire.

\*\*\*\*\*Day #2\*\*\*\*\*

We had to get up early for Thursday as we had a lot planned! -after our yummy breakfast, of course!!

The first activity after breakfast and a quick play in the playground was a trip to a fossicking area to, as the name suggests, fossick! Everyone found some cool gems, stones, and/or rocks! We were there for about 1-2 hours before we went to a museum followed by lunch at a park in Tingha.

The teachers and parents kept joking that we were going to walk from Tingha to Green Valley Farm and had some people moaning but luckily everyone was relieved to hear that we were travelling back on the bus and having another go on the famous waterslide, which, we were going on for even longer than the day before!

\*\*\*\*\*Day #3\*\*\*\*\*

Our final day at Green Valley Farm had come. We had to say 'goodbye,' to the lovely staff and headed to Pioneer Village in Inverell.

After a long wonder around Pioneer Village we had a delicious lunch that the Green Valley Farm staff had packed for us and headed for home. We were sad that we had to leave but everyone was looking forward to seeing their family at home. -Rose Burke



## Our Excursion

On Wednesday the 15th of October our school went on an excursion to Green Valley Farm. When we arrived we got to check out the cabins to see who got which one while Lower Division went on a walk through the garden and got to see all different kinds of amazing animals.

We got introduced to the people who lived there. Bradley showed us around Green Valley Farm. Then we all got to go on all sorts of different rides. We had dinner and went back to our cabins to get gear to have a shower. Once we had a shower it was bedtime so we all went to bed.

**Day 2:** Once we woke up we got changed into our school gear and got on the bus and went to a mining site to fossick for different kinds of rocks, one of a rare rock there was called grass quartz. Once we finished fossicking we hopped back on the bus and travelled to Tingha. When we got there we got to go to the Hing Wing Long museum. We got introduced to some elderly people who showed us around the museum. Once we saw everything we got to have some nuggets and chips from the Red Rose cafe which was owned by Bradley's Grandma.

Once we got back to Green Valley Farm it was afternoon tea time. When everyone finished we got to see the six-legged sheep get shorn and then we got to go on the water slide for one and a half hours!!! When we got changed we went and had dinner and went to bed.

**Day 3:** Once we woke up and got changed we got to have our last play on the equipment, then we got on the bus and went to Inverell to pioneer village. At the pioneer village there were all different sorts of buildings there was a school, a church and some museums. When we all finished looking at the buildings we sat next to a pond and ate our lunch. Once we finished eating we hopped onto the bus and went home.

By Chris Rassatti

## Green Valley Farm

Last Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of October Upper Division and Lower Division went to Green Valley Farm which was about 15km from Tingha.

We went by bus which took about 1 ½ - 2 hours. When we arrived at Green Valley we were to go unpack and settle in to our cabins. Next we went to have our morning tea in front of the gardens then once we had finished we could have a little play. Next we got called over to the kiosk because it was time for the animal walk which was so cool that I wanted to do it again. When we had finished we went back to our cabins to get in our swimmers and go on the water for half an hour... it was crazy and so much fun but it had to end (NO!L). After we got dry and got dressed we went down for dinner which was divine and we finished the day off with roasted marshmallows and the didgeridoo man.

**Day 2:** When we woke up on Thursday morning we had to get dressed into our school uniform and go down to the main camp shed and got breakfast which was nice. Next we went down and hopped on the bus to go fossicking which was great fun and a few of us found really rare stones called grass stones which looked so cool. Next we went to a museum which was very interesting and after that we got to play at the playground at Tingha and have lunch. After lunch we went back to Green Valley and got in our swimmers and went down the water slide for 1 ½ hours and after that we had a scavenger hunt which was very fun and after that we had a delicious salad and nachos!

**Day 3:** When we woke up Friday morning we had to clean up our cabins (which was a lot harder then it looked) and go down for breakfast and have a little longer on the equipment before we went to Pioneer Village. When we hopped on the bus we were all very excited about seeing Pioneer Village and learning new things about Inverell back in the day. Once we got there we got split up into two different groups and visit all the stores, the school, the church, the photograph gallery and lots of other stuff. Once we had finished we had lunch and hopped on the bus to come back home. By Dean Vickery

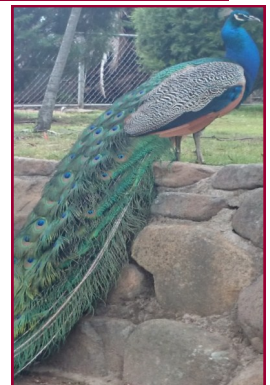
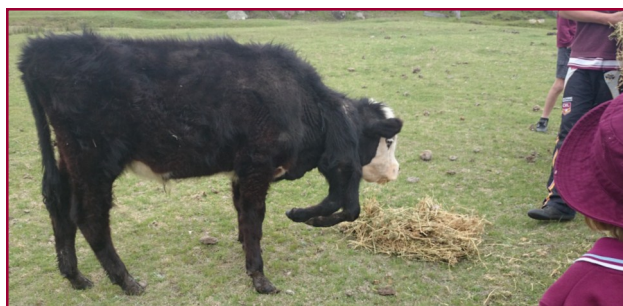
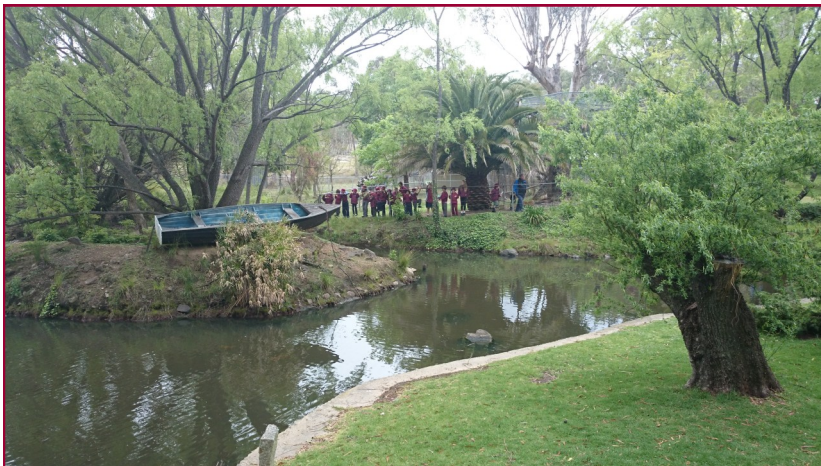




## Green Valley Farm

*On the fifteenth of October the school went to Green Valley Farm. At 8.30 we all got on the bus and left for Green valley farm. It took an hour to get there. Once we unpacked and settled in our cabins. Then we went down to the playground, it was awesome!!! They had a giant meatal slide, a roller coaster, and a huge bouncy pillow. That night a man that could play the didgeridoo came. The next day we got up and had breakfast, went back up to our cabins got dressed and went fossicking. Once we had finished fossicking then we got back on the bus and went to the museum called Wing Hing Long. They had a great display of all the olden day ways like how they would carve out the mountain. They told us how they would fossick for gold and other gems. The next day we went to the Pioneer Village. We spent the whole day there. They had a Black Smith's forge and a replica of a missile rocket launcher. It was the best excursion ever. I had the best fun ever. It was awesome!!!*

**BY HARRISON MILLER**

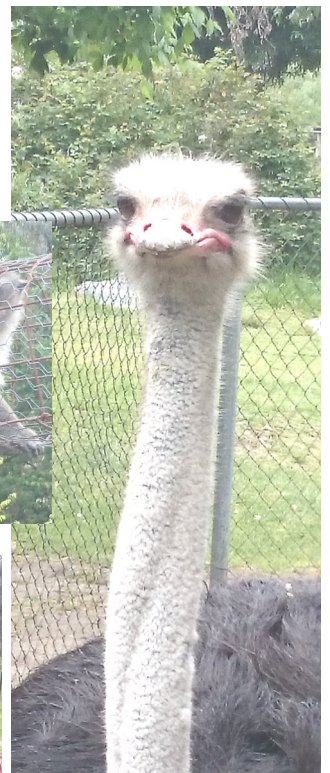




# Green Valley Farm











# Spring Pop-Up Store!

**Fri 10 Oct - Sun 12 Oct**  
Shop on cnr Jessie & Beardy Sts  
(old Fabric Fair)

Friday 10am - 5pm  
Saturday 9am - 3pm  
Sunday 10am - 12pm

Featuring local designers and producers:

- \* Sister Spice \* Vera Thora
- \* The Eclective \* Calamity Jayne
- \* Sunhill Skin Essentials

With additional guests:

- \* Matchymatchy \* All Things Candles
- \* Aurelia's Farm \* GlassWorx

Find "The Pop-Up Store" on Facebook

## Indoor Hockey Competitions 2014

**Armidale, Uralla & Guyra**



Indoor Hockey competitions will be running during term four in Armidale, Uralla and Guyra.

Guyra will again host a junior competition at the Showground on Tuesdays. Uralla will utilise the Community Hall also on Tuesdays and Armidale will play their games at "The Den" at Armidale HS.

Indoor hockey is available to anyone wishing to participate. It is not necessary to have played outdoor hockey to play the indoor game. The pace of the game makes it very attractive and keeps the participants focused the whole game. We encourage children of any age to give it a try as the game has so much to offer.

Contacts for each competition are:

# Armidale & Uralla	Paul Eichorn:-	peichorn@bigpond.com
# Guyra	Leanne Savage:-	leannesavage@bigpond.com

Starting soon is the

## Armidale Community Weight Loss Challenge

Our goal is to get

# healthy

and lose weight together over 10 weeks of  
**informative and supportive** group sessions.

**Begins Tuesday 7th October. Costs \$49 for full 10 weeks**  
(which funds a prize pool for those who achieve the best personal results)

For details please call

Dee Ritch: 02 6772 6936 or 0414 892 162

Karen Browne: 02 6771 4553 (after hours)

*"Wellness. It's Time!"*







Trade &  
Investment  
Resources & Energy



# 2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate



**\$150\***  
**TOWARDS  
ENERGY  
BILLS**

**Apply before Midnight  
16 June 2015**

**2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM**

**<https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/>**

\* eligibility criteria apply

## WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?

The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2014-2015 the rebate gives:

- A \$150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer
- A \$165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

## AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?

To be eligible you **MUST**:

- Be a NSW resident; and
- Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2013-2014 financial year, and have received an FTB payment in respect of that eligibility; and
- Be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?

Before you apply, here's a quick checklist. Have you:

- Lodged your tax return for 2013-14 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you are not required to lodge a tax return?
- Received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2013-2014?

## HOW TO APPLY

- **ONLINE** – it takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- **PAPER** – download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the residential community where you live.

**APPLY  
ONLINE  
NOW!**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

**PHONE** Service NSW 13 77 88

**EMAIL** [fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au](mailto:fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au)

**WEB** [www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate](http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate)



**LIBRARY NEWS:** We don't have many students borrowing from our library and would like to encourage more use of it. We are constantly updating the resources so would love to see these being borrowed. Borrowing for LD is on Wednesdays and for UD is Thursdays.

However just for next week LD will be on Tuesday and UD Wednesday.



## Selective high schools

Online application for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2016 is now open. Find out more: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php>

## Managing your child's weight

It's all about family when it comes to influencing children's waistlines and no number of wonder diets can beat some simple changes at home.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/zh/wellbeing/fitness/managing-your-childs-weight>

## Choosing the right school shoes

Can those school shoes last...one...more...term.....? And are the expensive ones REALLY better for your child's feet?

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/choosing-the-right-school-shoes>

## Creative reading

If your child is full of great ideas, share these 22 slides to help them tell their stories. Pixar's 22 rules for great creative writing are brilliant! <http://bit.ly/1fyxNK3>

## Hospitality careers

Young people between 13 and 17 can get a taste of what it's like to work in the hospitality industry and win prizes as part of the Level Up Careers campaign. Find out more: [www.facebook.com/levelupcareers](http://www.facebook.com/levelupcareers).

## Career planning for your child

Experts talk about how you can help your child broaden their ideas about work and career paths. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/career-planning-for-your-child>

## Raising good digital citizens

We're the first generation of parents responsible for equipping our children with digital citizenship skills. That is, how to use technology safely and responsibly, and how to evaluate, manage and use the information and tools they find online.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/using-technology/raising-good-digital-citizens>

## PIANO LESSONS

We now have a piano teacher coming to the school each week so if you are interested in your child having lessons please phone Richard Smith on 0427 810 755.

Each session goes for 1/2 an hour at a cost of \$25 per lesson. The books are supplied.

## Doing it tough in the drought? You're not alone.

The earlier you ask for help, the sooner you'll be back on top of things. We're all a part of our community – and we're here to support you, and your family.

- Family and individual support and counselling (at our offices or at a venue that suits you - farm, home, office, park, cafe)
- Stress management
- Online or tele-based support.

Providing free non-financial support to the Armidale, Guyra, Walcha, Uralla, Tamworth, Moree Plains, Tamworth Regional, Narrabri, Gunnedah and Walgett areas as part of the Australian Government's Drought Assistance Package.



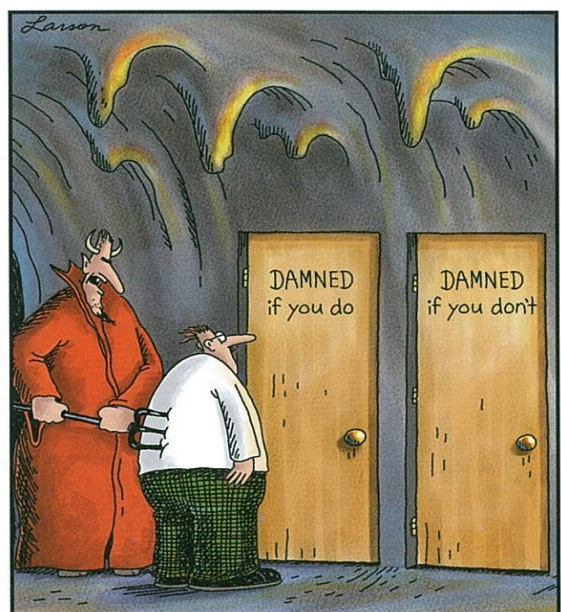
**Centacare**  
New England North West  
Rural Resilience



Australian Government

Tamworth · Armidale · Narrabri · Walgett · Moree · Inverell  
[www.centacarenw.com.au](http://www.centacarenw.com.au)  
facebook.com/centacarenw  
**1800 372 826**

## The Far Side®



"C'mon, c'mon—it's either one or the other."

Warm regards Rocky River Students & Staff.