On Monday 30th November, at our normal Monday assembly we will conduct our famous **School Book Launch**. All students have written and illustrated their very own books to be included in this special event. Each grade will showcase one student who will read a passage from their own book. To celebrate all students’ achievement, all books will be on display in the school foyer and corridor for the rest of that week. We are also very excited to have Rhonda Tallnash, a local author of children’s books, coming to open our Book Launch at assembly. She will read one of her latest e-books ‘Dinkum Aussiesaurs’ and share some of her experiences as an author with us. If you would like to find out more about Rhonda Tallnash and the books she has written check out her website at [www.rhondatallnash.com](http://www.rhondatallnash.com). The ‘Dinkum Aussiesaurs’ is available on her website for $7. Books will also be on sale at school throughout the week.

We look forward to welcoming Rhonda to our assembly and we know she is looking forward to reading some of the books that our students have written. For the very first time at Pucka PS, parents will be given the opportunity to purchase the books written by their children for **$3**. Purchased books will be sent home with students on Friday December 11th. All money raised, will be going towards the purchasing of additional Home Reading books for the school. Our students have told us that they want more books!! Imagine how excited your child will be when they can say they have not only written and illustrated their own books, but had them purchased too!

**Book Launch Opening Times:**
- Monday - Friday
  - 8:45-9:00am
  - 3:30pm-4:00pm
- Call into the school foyer to purchase your ‘Sold Bookmark’
- and read your child’s amazing books!

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**PUPIL FREE DAY THIS FRIDAY**
There is no school for students this Friday. Staff will be very busy collating data and writing reports. We hope that our students enjoy their break.

***Have you heard your child read today?***
We encourage all students to practise their reading at home about 5 nights per week. Therefore, by now, most students should have read at least between 185-190 nights. **Well done if you have kept up!***

***Sunday Nights - a great night to check for Head Lice.***

‘Striving for Excellence’
*Open since 1887*
Leaving?: If you are leaving before the end of term 4 (18th December) can you please let us know so that we can plan leaving procedures. Also, if you have any additional PPS uniform that needs a new home, we can find one! It’s always useful to have a supply of second hand uniforms. Thank you.

2016 Enrolments: Just a reminder that if you have a child attending PPS next year, we require completed enrolment forms to be returned as soon as possible. Also if you know of families posting in who intend sending their children to PPS, could you ask them to contact us (if they have not already done so). It is very helpful if we have accurate numbers at this stage. Thank you.

Have a terrific week.
Sue Ranger, Defence School Transition Aide

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD UPDATE
A great effort by Hume for amassing 95 tickets! Melba is still in the lead though. Keep up the positive behaviour everyone!

CURRENT SCORES
- Melba: 583 points
- Hume: 531 points
- Bradman: 506 points
- Chisholm: 460 points

Happy Birthday to Paige Cooper, Ryan Connie-Carbery and Emily Watson who are all having their birthdays this week. On behalf of the Puckapunyal Primary School Community, we wish them all a very Happy Birthday!

Next year, as with every year, we ask parent volunteers to help with our Swimming Program. In weeks 2 and 3 for Term 1 in 2016, our Years 3-6 students will be attending the Area Pool for swimming each day. If any parent would like to volunteer to help with the swimming groups, please contact us. We try to keep the group sizes as small as possible. The more people that volunteer, the better. If you have Austswim training that is great! If you do not, we can organise some training for you as long as you help us with our program in return. If we have trained you in the past, please volunteer again. If you do not have Austswim training and can’t do the training, you can still help. Ask us how. We need you!
On Thursday 3rd December the Puckapunyal Primary School will be conducting the Individual Triathlon. It will be held at the Puckapunyal Area Pool.

The triathlon will involve students from Years 3-6 and will be a mixture of boys and girls. Only Years 3-6 students will attend if they have entered the event or volunteered as a helper for one of the participants.

**Distances**
- Swim Leg – 5 laps of indoor pool = 165 m
- Ride Leg – 2km lap X 2 = 4km
- Run Leg – 1.2km lap X 1 = 1.2 km

The event will begin at 2:00 p.m. and finish at approximately 3:30 p.m. All students attending the event will be dismissed from the pool at 3:30 p.m. There is no cost for the day. All parents are welcome to attend and cheer.

Each week at assembly, SRC representatives remind our students of a few important school rules.

This week, SRC representatives Max Chetcuti and Sophie Van Der Waal reminded our students of the following rules:
- Chasey is a game for children – it does not involve kangaroos and emus.
- Scaring is for Halloween and not for birds.
- Digging is only for the sand pit.
- Just a reminder – keep your hands to yourself.

Please discuss these rules with your children to help ensure that they understand.

The School Spelling Bee Final is on again this year. It will take place at school on Tuesday 15th December from 11:30 a.m. It has become a great tradition during the last week of the year for the past few years. Even though several families have left by then, it has become an event that keeps the school ticking along right up until the end of the year. All families are welcome to come along. The names of the children who have earned the right to represent their grades and their year levels will be announced next week.

At assembly this week Responsibility was announced as our School Value of the week. That means teachers are looking for students who are demonstrating Responsibility to be eligible for the Student of the Week award. We encourage parents to talk to their students about our values throughout the year.

What is Responsibility? Year 5 student, Mackenzie Jenkins read out the meaning of Responsibility. Assembly MC, Joe Brown, conducted a fun, general knowledge quiz about Responsibility. Well done, Joe!

‘Being responsible is a sign of growing up. It means you are willing to be accountable for your behaviour. It means doing something to the best of your ability and keeping your agreements.’
Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Students of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Jacob Harbert, Tyla Hermann, Angela Klein, Tyson Morgan, Emily Cox, Jaycob Paz, Jamie Clark and Leah Farr. These students were selected because they were modelling ‘Respect’. This week teachers are looking for students who are modelling ‘Responsibility.’

Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Authors of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Emma Kenny, Tabitha Turner, Riley Wallace, Aaron Bennett, Claudia Carrick, Dakota Chalson, Emily Gourlay and Emily Adams. These students were selected because they showed great skills as an author.

5/6 P in Room 1B won the Senior School Times Tables Trophy. Matthew Sharrad and Jake Tanis were delighted to win the trophy this week!

3/4 A in Room 11 won the Middle School Times Tables Trophy. Isaac Bennett was very happy that his classroom won the winning trophy this week!

Congratulations to Casey Cousins, Connor Barclay, Charlotte Davies and Zion Otii who won ‘Positive Behaviour’ Raffle Awards this week. Well done, kids!

Congratulations to Olivia Scotman, Eliza Thompson, Tessa Thompson, Lachlan Thompson, Charlotte Major and Abigail Major who each received a ‘Recycling Cans’ Award this week. Great effort, kids! Every little bit counts!

3/4 D in Room 10 won the Yard Duty Competition. Ashby Murphy and Casey Cousins will enjoy the winning trophy this week.
LOOK AT WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Photographs and writing by Year 5/6 students Emily G, Cherie and Emily A.

Batik Bags

Year 5/6 students have been working on Indonesian batik bags. Students recently designed patterns to go onto bags that are outlined with glue and painted. Before designing the patterns, we had to take notes on the history of batik. Here is some of the information on batik:

* Batik is one of Indonesia's most highly developed art forms
* Indonesia has the most intricate batik designs
* Batik doesn't work on all materials, mostly cotton and silk (we used calico bags)
* Traditional colours were beige, blue, black and brown

Book launch

Next week on Monday, our official Book Launch will be occurring. We will have Rhonda Tallnash, an author of children's books coming to announce the opening of our Book Launch. All of the books we have made will be on display in the foyer and corridor. Students have been working very hard to complete the written and illustrated parts of their books. One student from each class will be chosen to read some of their book at the assembly on Monday. Please come and hear the wonderful stories.
Our wonderful School Choir will be performing Christmas Carols twice this year. They are so excited!

1. Puckapunyal Xmas Picnic
   When: Sunday 29th November
   Time: 4:00pm (Choir needs to meet Ms. O’Connor at 5pm)
   Venue: No 7 Oval near Frontline

2. Seymour Carols by Candlelight
   When: Sunday 6th December
   Time: Santa arrives at 7:30pm for an 8:00pm concert start
   Venue: Goulburn Park Sound Shell, Seymour


**Student Achievement Reports will be sent home on Friday 11th December.**

On Thursday 10th December, our Year 6 students will attend their graduation night - the Valedictory Dinner. All Year 6 students will need to arrive at the PC Centre by 6:00 p.m. to begin their night with a Dinner. All parents are asked to arrive at 7:30 p.m. for the Graduation Ceremony after dinner. We do not have the room for siblings and other family friends to come along as well. Please appreciate our request or it will be too crowded to proceed.

**TIMELINE:**
6.00pm Students are expected to arrive at PC Centre
6.30pm meal
7.30pm Parents arrive - presentations followed by dancing

**Cost:** The cost for the dinner is $25. Payment is due by Friday 4th December.

**Please Note:** All Year 6 students are to bring a 2 litre bottle of soft drink for serving at dinner on the night. The bottle needs to be at school leading up to the night.

**Awards to be presented at the Valedictory Dinner:**
- Year 6 Valedictorian
- 3 Student Bursaries
- Sporting Award
- Academic Excellence Awards
- Striving for Excellence Award
- Quiet Achiever Award
- Mitchell Shire Citizenship Award
- Lion’s Club Community Award

All students seem very excited about the big night. Good luck to all Year 6 students.

As I’m sure you are aware the Pucka Christmas Carols are being held on Sunday. If you would like to compete in the **Best Christmas Lights Competition**, please contact the PDNC as it will be judged this weekend and awarded at the Pucka Christmas Carols.

**Student Achievement Reports will be sent home on Friday 11th December.**

**Renae Pennycook** played ‘Kumbaya’ on the piano at assembly on Monday. She was terrific! Well done, Renae!
Each week in the newsletter, we will give families a summary of the **Teaching/Learning Focus** for the week. **That can help families by:** being aware of what classrooms are covering; with discussion topics at the dinner table when discussing school (eg. ‘How are you going with addition in Numeracy this week?’); helping their children study at home, etc. Parents have indicated that this information would be very useful. We also ask families to be aware that schools are very busy places and events can be unpredictable at times. We therefore must remain flexible. That means, we can plan to cover certain topics at particular times and have to change them according to arising needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior School – Preps/Foundation Rooms 3 &amp; 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> We are continuing to develop our writing skills with a focus on sounding out and using the red and blue words in our writing and learning the ‘ing’ endings. We are practising Kung Fu punctuation and talking about WOW words. We are also working on our books for the book launch.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We are learning about money and chance.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Junior School – Year 1s Rooms 3, 8 &amp; 9</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> We are continuing to focus on paragraphs, compound words and identifying the author’s purpose. We are also working toward completion of our books for the book launch.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We are learning about comparing the mass of items as well as making arrays.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Junior School – Year 2s Rooms 8 &amp; 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> We are continuing our focus on paragraphs, contractions and identifying the author’s purpose. We are revising nouns, verbs and adjectives. We are also working on our books for the book launch.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We are revising multiplication, division, arrays and comparing the mass of items.</td>
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<th>Middle School – Years 3/4 Rooms 10 &amp; 11</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will work on Poetry. We will continue to focus on our editing skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We will continue to focus on measurement and geometry. Another continued focus will be mapping. Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Senior School – Years 5/6 Rooms 1A &amp; 1B</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will continue to focus on Poetry. In reading we will be focusing on strategies, fluency and expression.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We will continue with work on the four processes, the order of operations, place value, number patterns, decimal fractions, common fractions and percentages. We will continue to complete work relating to mapping. Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.</td>
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### Foundation – Year 2

Last week the children started learning about **keluarga** (family). Their focus this week will be:

- **saya** = me (also means ‘I’ and ‘my’)
- **ayah** = dad
- **bapak** (*pak*) = dad (also a respectful address for a man)
- **ibu** (*bu*) = mum (also a respectful address for a woman)
- **kakak** = older brother/sister (sibling)
- **adik** = younger brother/sister (sibling)

**Salam** (Regards)
Bu Hooper (Mrs Hooper)
Guru Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian teacher)
Dear Parents,

On Thursday 3rd December the Puckapunyal Primary School will be conducting the **Individual Triathlon**. It will be held at the Puckapunyal Area Pool.

The triathlon will involve students from Years 3-6 and will be a mixture of boys and girls. Only Years 3-6 students will attend if they have entered the event or volunteered as a helper for one of the participants.

**Swim Leg** – 5 laps of indoor pool = 165 m  
**Ride Leg** – 2km lap X 2 = 4km  
**Run Leg** – 1.2km lap X 1 = 1.2 km

The event will begin at 2:00 p.m. and finish at approximately 3:30 p.m. All students attending the event will be dismissed from the pool at 3:30 p.m. There is no cost for the day. All parents are welcome to attend and cheer.

The children will need to take their bags and anything that needs to go home that day. Triathletes will need to bring all of the necessary gear for the event, eg. bathers for swimming, bikes and helmets for riding and running shoes for running.

Please return permission forms to the school office by Monday 23rd November, 2015.

Good luck triathletes!

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**PUCKAPUNYAL PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**SCHOOL EXCURSION AUTHORISATION**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Family Name</th>
<th>Given</th>
<th>Room</th>
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I give permission for my child to participate in or be a bike handler for the **Individual Triathlon** at the Puckapunyal Area Pool, Puckapunyal on Thursday 3rd December, 2015.

In case of accident, or illness, I authorise the teacher in charge of the excursion to consent, where it is impractical to communicate with me on ____________________ or ____________________, to my child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary.

Specific medical information that teachers should be aware of:

_____________________________________________________

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: ____________________________

FULL NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS: ____________________________

‘Striving for Excellence’  
*Open since 1887*
INDONESIAN FINGER PUPPETS with 1/2I
We made finger puppets with Bu Hooper last week. This week we used them to make short videos (with ipads) of an Indonesian conversation between our puppets. When we had finished our video we showed them to other people in the class who had to work out what the conversation was about. Mr. Itter then showed some of the videos to the whole class and we had to work out what they were talking about. The puppets were Ibu (mum), Ayah or Bapuk (dad) and Saya (me).

URGENT BUDGIE CARE NEEDED!
Are you home over the Christmas holidays until school starts again in 2016? Would you like to look after Ms O'Connor's budgies? All seed and instructions provided! Please see Ms O'Connor - first in, best dressed!
1/2I have been looking at **compound words** this week. We wrote words on our unifix blocks with whiteboard markers and joined two words together to make one compound word. Our class challenge was to use all of our unifix. We did it! Here are photos of our class effort!

Our Foundation students have made *kotak bercakap-cakap* (chatter-boxes) to help learn Indonesian counting and colours!
SIGN UP DAY
FOR 2016 SEASON

WHEN:
SAT 28th NOV 9am-11am

WHERE:
Rats Oval (number 11 oval) Cnr Malaya & Morobe Rd Puckapunyal Milpo Vic 3662

WHO:
Boys and Girls Turning 9 years old before April 2016.
Netball Age Groups available; Under12s, 14s & 16s.
Football Age Groups available; Under 10s, 12s, 14s & 16s.

If unable to attend and would like to register your child for the 2016 Season. Head to https://reg.sportingpulse.com to sign up or contact Holly Tanis on 0439833212 email Secretary.puckarook@gmail.com.

Please RSVP with Holly Tanis on 0439833212 if required for Sign in on Puckapunyal Military