Dear Parents and Carers

Today I have had such a lovely start as the new principal at Eungai. The students, staff and community have already made me feel very welcome. During my first day I have met many of the wonderful students and a few of the parents. I am looking forward to meeting the rest of you over the next few weeks.

Next week we start our special swimming scheme. This will go for two weeks. Please ensure your child has their swimming bag or a plastic bag with them each day. In their swimming bag they will need their swimmers, a towel, sunscreen and change of underwear.

Next year Mr Craig Pacey will be taking a year of leave. Mrs Melinda Davies will replace Mr Pacey and she will teach the 4/5/6 class. Melinda is a highly qualified teacher with 20 years of experience in education, including classroom teaching, outdoor education, teaching in remote bush schools and also teaching at a Steiner School.

Have a great fortnight

Julie Carr
**Canteen News**

This will be the last canteen for the year, please find attached a special canteen order.

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**Year 6 Students**

On Tuesday 24th November, there will be a parent information evening and school tour at Macksville High School. Tours leave the front gate between 5.00pm and 5.45pm. Information sessions in the hall from 6.00pm to 7.00pm. Year 5 parents are also welcome to attend our school tour. Students may attend with their parents.

Thursday 3rd December is the Orientation day for students fully enrolled at Macksville High School for Year 7 2016. Students come directly to the high school arriving between 8.30am and 9.00am. Students should wear their school uniform with enclosed shoes. They need to bring their school bag with pens, pencils and ruler, snacks and a bottle of water. Students may purchase from the school canteen. A sausage sandwich will be provided for lunch. Bus companies have been notified and students may travel on school buses for no charge on this day. Students will be dismissed at 3.10pm. Parents dropping off or picking up their students are reminded to use Park Street.

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**Skoolbag App**

The school has purchased an App called Skoolbag, it can be installed on your phone or computer. We are working on what will be available such as notes, newsletter, absentee letters and more.

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**Whooping Cough**

**Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.