Thank you parents and students for the outstanding efforts you made with your book week character costumes yesterday. It was terrific to see so many students getting into the spirit of book week and coming to school dressed as their favourite character. Coming so close on the back of our huge performance extravaganza, it was very pleasing to see the enthusiasm. The students had the opportunity of showing their character costume to their classmates yesterday with a parade after roll call in the hall and a student from each class was awarded a prize for the most outstanding character. The winners were: KC – Lachlan Crossman & Lucas Carr (tie), KS – Abby Johnson, 1SM – Rose Wilson-Byrnes, 1/2C – Christian Coles, 2P – Rubie Hunter, 2/3M – Jessica Healey, 3/4N – Jarrod Howarth, 4/5AM – Jade Harding, 5/6C – Zeb Horkings, 5/6H Chloe Harshman.

So – why do we celebrate book week each year? We celebrate book week and encourage our children to dress as their favourite character as a recognition of the power and mystique that reading plays in a child’s life. It is a recognition that reading is fun and exciting, that we can learn and grow through engaging with literature. Humans have known the power of writing for thousands of years. The oldest known text was discovered in 1993 at the bottom of a lake and it is thought to be over 7500 years of age – known as the Dispilio Tablet – a wooden tablet with inscriptions. For centuries humans have known the power of writing and reading and have developed technologies to give the everyday person the opportunity to have access to books. The invention of the printing press in 1493 by Gutenberg changed the world of print and books. Where once only wealthy people had the opportunity to learn to read, the printing press gave access to the masses and the human race has not looked back since. The importance of learning to read well is vital for success in life, and the best way for kids to learn is to be motivated and interested in stories. The infants and primary years are where kids learn to read and learn to enjoy reading. These early school years are possibly the most important in the life of your child and I encourage you to encourage your kids at every opportunity to learn to love to read. Book week is our chance to celebrate this power. Many thanks to the teachers and our wonderful librarian, Mrs Bourke, for their efforts in promoting book week.

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning lesson this week is about “Dealing with Conflict”. It is such a human thing to find conflict in our lives. From the moment we begin to walk and talk as toddlers we are introduced to conflict. Usually our first introduction to conflict is with our siblings and then school mates. We aren’t born with the skills to deal with conflict, so we need the adults in our lives to help us work out strategies to deal with conflict. Part of PBL (a big part) is teaching kids how to interrelate with each other in positive ways and how to deal with conflict. We teach the students that dealing with conflict through talking, getting teacher help, being calm and a host of other strategies helps solve issues peacefully and avoids hurt and pain (and detentions). School is a microcosm of society – it mirrors the real world, and it is the place where we learn to deal with anger, emotions and conflict. All of the teachers, bar none, would like nothing more than closing our “thinking room” (detention). We are working hard to help kids understand that solving problems with your fists or through nasty words only creates more pain and usually detention. Our lesson this week is helping to teach kids to show respect towards others and how to avoid unpleasant conflict.

On Friday week Mrs Sweeting will be taking 135 students to the Function Centre to compete in the dance section of the Orange Eisteddfod. I would like to wish all our students every success and, to thoroughly enjoy this amazing experience. Mrs Sweeting and our dance students have worked tirelessly to prepare well for this exciting experience. Well done!

It is hard to believe that we are now past the half way mark in this term. We have had a really eventful term, and one where our students have had terrific opportunities to shine. Keep up the great work! One such recent event was the DigiEd experience. The students who participated worked really well throughout the day. They accomplished a lot in a short time frame. I was able to pop in and out during the day and each
time I was able to witness the next stage in the production process. I hope you enjoyed watching the Claymation DVD. I was really impressed with the quality and production of each short movie. A great effort!

On Friday 29th August, we have six outstanding athletes eligible to compete at the Regional carnival in Dubbo, but unfortunately some of them have to make the difficult choice between attending the carnival and participating in the Eisteddfod. Unfortunately there are inevitable clashes in the school calendar and this is one of them. I’m sure whichever event they choose they will excel. The students who were selected to represent Orange District at the Western Area Trials are: Jade Harding 9yrs 100m, Jnr Relay Preston Parker 13yrs 100m, Max Boney 13yrs 100m, Montanna McIlwain-Browne Jnr Discus, shot put, Jnr Relay, Makaylah Pratt Jnr Relay and Brynn Thomas Jnr Relay. I wish them all the best.

Steve Wilkinson
Principal

School News

Dance Eisteddfod ~ is on Friday 29th August. Information and permission note is being sent home today. Your child’s fees need to be paid prior to your child participating on the day.

Assembly Awards ~ congratulations to the following students who received a sticker on their award sheet ~ Leah Madden, Sophie Ash, Stephanie Sladek, Jackson Sladek, Rory Tatnell, Ellie Barnes, Luci Moller, Lillianne Lear, Brandon Bouffler, Josh Frecklington, Kaylar Forrest, Tait Britten. Congratulations also to Jessica Field, Paige Quinn and Jasmine Doyle who received their first sticker and Mason Madden, Caisey Gow, Cody Frecklington & Emily Drane for achieving their 50 certificate and finally Jazmin Forrest for achieving her 100 certificate.

Principal Awards ~ congratulations to Annalise Pollack, Ella Thomas, Janay Boney, Lachlan Ash and Amy Hampton who all received a Principal Award last week.

Playgroup ~ “Today at playgroup we learnt why a sheep would be on a beach and we made sheep out of paper doilies.” Join us on Tuesday’s from 1.30 to 3pm for playgroup. For more information phone Kelly on 6393 8600

Assembly ~ there will be a full school assembly this Friday 22th August commencing at 12.40pm. Due to the Dance Eisteddfod next Friday 29th August there will be NO full school assembly on that day.

P & C News

Meeting ~ the P & C meeting will be held tonight at 6.30pm in the Admin Building

East Orange Village Markets ~ there are still a few sites available for the market day on Sunday 19th October, 2014. Bookings through website at www.eastorangemarkets.com.au or visit the facebook page facebook.com/Eastorangemarkets.

Clothing Pool ~ Clothing Pool will be open this week on Thursday from 8.50am–9.15am and again from 2.55pm – 3.15pm.

Dates to Remember

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<td>Tues 19th Aug</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 29th Aug</td>
<td>Dance Eisteddfod</td>
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<td>Western Regional Athletics Carnival</td>
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Community News

Orange Vacation Care ~ are now taking bookings for the Sept/Oct school holidays. For more information please call 6393 8600

Swimming Lessons ~ Fitness Perfection Term 4 bookings open on September 1st plus Holiday intensives. Please call 63626195 for more information.

Student Profile

Name ~ Jerome
Class – 5/6C
My best mates are … Kyle, Lucas, Jake, Zeb, Jack W, Tom, Mitch
My favourite food is … Nacho, Burritos but I wouldn’t eat – steamed vegies if you paid me!
After school I really love to … play Playstation – GTA5
If I was down to my last $5 I would buy … a packet of chips Doritos
One thing I really can’t live without is …my family
When I grow up I want to …. be a soldier – special forces
I would really like to be like … Eminem
The best thing about being an adult would be? …. To drive cars – a Mustang!