Dear Parents and Carers,

We have certainly had an interesting and eventful start to Term 2. Firstly, I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing holiday (it seems like such a long time ago now), but most pressingly I hope that everyone has survived the recent storm relatively unscathed. I’m sure everyone has suffered varying degrees of inconvenience over the last week or so, however the primary concern as always is everyone’s safety.

At school we came through the incident relatively well. We have lost quite a few trees, including all of the small gum trees across the front of the school, some trees near The Flat, a large tree near the hall and several large trees in the gully. Many of the trees in the bottom playground have also suffered damage. We also lost power for the week, have some minor water damage, broken stormwater line and have lost our main computer server from what appears to be a lightning strike.

Due to the loss of power and concerns about trees the DEC directed that our school was to remain non-operational for students until this week. Thank you to everyone who helped us spread information about the status of the school last week either through word of mouth or via social media. The school app proved to be invaluable in maintaining communication as well, and I would encourage anyone who has not yet downloaded the app to their phones to do so.

As a result of the power loss our canteen had to discard large quantities of food and this has limited their operation until now. A huge thank you to Margaret and her team who have managed to clean up, restock and are now ready for normal canteen operation again.

Thank you to our wonderful cleaners: Danny, Anna and Steve who did a great job in cleaning up the school ready for students to resume. They have done an outstanding job.

Thank you also to our teaching and admin staff who got stuck into the clean-up last week even before our cleaners were allowed back onsite. Thank you to Mr Lee, our GA who worked tirelessly to clean up much of the fallen green waste and make the grounds safe for students, and finally an enormous thank you to Mr Ryan (Ava and Will’s Dad) who turned up at school with his chainsaw last week and helped Mr Lee remove much of the fallen timber.

You will have noticed that all access to the school other than via Floraville Rd has been closed off, as have certain areas of the school grounds. This is due to safety concerns around the trees. We had an arborist at school yesterday to inspect for “critical” trees and consequently several trees have now been identified for removal due to either structural damage to the tree itself or risk of tree fall. An additional inspection is now required to recommend necessary tree maintenance due to a large number of other issues including “hanging” branches that pose safety concerns. Once this inspection and the related works have been completed the closed areas of the school will be gradually reopened.

Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding last week and for the coming weeks. Obviously the safety of our students, parents and staff is the primary concern. We will keep you informed as the situation develops.

ANZAC Day
Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and participate in the local ANZAC Day march and service last weekend. It was great that we still managed such a strong turn out even after the disruption of last week.

NAPLAN
This year’s NAPLAN assessments are scheduled for Week 4 this term (12, 13 and 14 May). These assessments are undertaken by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in schools across Australia. A report is provided to parents about your child’s performance in the tests and valuable student achievement data is provided to schools to assist in school planning.

Parents of students in Years 3 and 5 will receive a separate letter about NAPLAN today with this newsletter.

Opportunity Class Placements in Year 5 2016
Opportunity Classes are NSW DEC approved classes for students identified as academically gifted. Entry is via application and placement test. Parents of current Year 4 students who wish to apply for their child to attend an OC class (the nearest class runs at Jewells PS) must apply online. Further information and access to the online application is via www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Thank you
D. Robson
Principal
Thought of the week
My future starts when I wake up every morning... Every day I find something creative to do with my life.
~Miles Davis

This week’s virtue is DILIGENCE
Diligence is working hard and doing your absolute best. You take special care by doing things step by step. Diligence helps you to get things done with excellence and enthusiasm. Diligence leads to success.

ASSEMBLY CLASS OF THE WEEK - 4E

SPORT NEWS
Makenzi makes the Hunter PSSA Hockey Team!
Congratulations to Makenzi Harvey (Year 6) who was selected to be in the 2015 Hunter PSSA Girls’ Hockey team at the trials which were held in the last week of Term 1. She was selected to play in the goalkeeper position and we are very proud of her success!

Floraville Ski Team
This year, Floraville Public School will again enter a team to compete at the 2015 Northern NSW Interschools Snowsports Championships to be held at Perisher from 1st July – 4th July which is in the school holidays. The event includes a series of snowsports competitions where students compete for the FPS Interschools team. If you would like to get involved, all associated costs, including: Registration fee $30; Race entry fees $40 per race; lifts passes, and significant accommodation and travel costs; are to be paid for by participating families. Each child will need to be accompanied by their own parent who has a current Working with Children Check and paid for by participating families. Each child will need to be accompanied by their own parent who has a current Working with Children Check and paid for by participating families.

PSSA Zone Cross Country
Good luck to the Floraville Cross Country team who will be competing at PSSA Zone Cross Country this Thursday. Prepare to get muddy and run!

PSSA Zone Touch Trials
Will Botham, Reegan Glover and Nathan Roberts have been selected to trial for the Boys’ PSSA Zone Touch Football this Monday 4th May. Best of luck to all of you!

Term 2 Primary Sport
Term 2 sees the start of our winter sports competitions (Macquarie Cup Netball, Macquarie Cup Soccer and Windale Cup Rugby League) that run throughout terms 2 and 3 beginning this week (1st May). The payments for Macquarie Cup Soccer and Macquarie Cup Netball were due last Friday however, with the school being closed we need payments to be finalised by today (Wednesday 29th April) as per the updated note that went home on Monday. The remainder of primary students will participate in rotational sports.

Term 2 Sporting Events
You can keep up-to-date with upcoming sporting events through our Floraville school app by checking the calendar. Our school athletics carnival is set for Tuesday 26th May.

Carly Erich - Sports Co-ordinator

P&C NEWS
On the last day of term our Easter raffle was drawn, 365 prizes were given out in total, which is a great effort from all of our Floraville families. Congratulations to the following children, who received one of the first ten prizes. 1st - Max Lonegan KG, 2nd - Alana Bradshaw 5G, 3rd - Kasidi Eshman 5M, 4th - Gabby Brown 3G, 5th - Brock Ayliffe 5G, 6th - Hannah Kerr 4C, 7th - Tyley Boots 5G, 8th - Chelsea Brogan 2/3C, 9th - Josephine Webb 5G, 10 - Jacob Curry 2A.

Next Thursday, 7th May we will be holding our annual Mother’s Day Stall. Gifts will range from $4 to $10. If you are able to help sell gifts on the stall next Thursday, please meet under the COLA at 9:00am.

CANTEEN NEWS
Welcome back to term 2, hope you all enjoyed your extended holiday & survived the wild weather!
OUR CANTEEN IS BACK UP & RUNNING AS PER NORMAL, ALL ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE!

Important News
Margaret our canteen supervisor will be away on holiday from 2nd May until 15th May inclusive so it is very important during these dates that all volunteers arrive in the canteen by 8.40am!

Also most important is that if you cannot do your rostered day, you MUST please organise a replacement either from the emergency roster or other & please notify the other volunteers on your day. Thankyou in advance!

Roster
Thursday 30/4 – Alison Maddocks, Suzanne Halpin, Trish Oakey, Nicole Hooper(am)
Monday 3/5 – Amanda Jackson, Megan Garland, Kate Lonergan, Kristie Davies,
Next 5/5 – Rachel Searle, Jenny Davies, Amanda Jackson
Tuesday 5/5 – Michelle Ponnman, Tracey Aspinall, Susan Moloney
Wednesday 6/5 – Kay Gibson, Meegan Nicholson, Christine Mitford, Kylie Face

UNIFORM NEWS
Sale continuing while stocks last:
- School jacket sizes 14,16,18 & 20 – Now $20
- Sport shorts sizes 8, 16 & 18 - $15
- Sport pant sizes 4, 10, 16 & 18 - $15
- Girls pleated shorts size 4 only - $15
- Long sleeve polo all sizes – 60% off - $10
- School polo in dark blue but old fabric(thinner than current shirt) – Size 14 - $10
- School polo in light blue sizes 6, 14, 5, M, L - $5
- Sport shirts - $15(sport shirts are larger makes)
( Red sizes 4, 6, 12 & 16 / Yellow sizes 8, 10, 12 & 14
Blue sizes 6, 10, 12 & 14 / Green sizes 10 & 14)