Lest We Forget

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

Have you ever wondered why a white polar bear dressed in school uniform resides at K.S.S., travels to sports carnivals with the students and is lovingly regarded as part of the school?

Probably not… but there is a story to tell.

In 1994 the area was ravaged by drought. Graziers were weary and burdened by the prospects of a not so merry Christmas. Food, clothing and toiletry rations were being distributed to farming families and community spirit was tested as each family battled the financial and personal cost of the drought.

The McCotter family from the Mudgeeraba All Saints School community, had forged friendships with families in the Cement Mills area. An empathy for the graziers’ continuing struggle to keep their stock alive and maintain a positive attitude to life on the land prompted the McCotter family and others to do something positive for the Karara/Cement Mills communities.

Chris McCotter, an agricultural teacher, and his wife Jo, who ran a Nanny school, made their school community aware of the plight of the people in this area. The response was overwhelming, humbling and unforgettable: a lesson in caring, friendship and humanity.

Gold Coast families, complete strangers, arrived with their trailers laden with goods and food for families and presents for all the children. They hosted an evening bar-b-que, carol singing, sharing stories and a Christmas tree laden with presents so no child would miss out. Their generosity of spirit touched us all.

Amidst the parcels was a beautiful white bear. Who should have this fine specimen? Who would take him home? The bear’s destiny was decided! The bear would go to school. The bear would be there for all to share. The bear would remind us that people do care and that friendship, especially in the tough times, is a gift.

Ted has witnessed many great achievements in his time. Although he has seen many children pass through the school he can boast he has been cuddled by most of them. He may object to the occasional joy ride in the washing machine to remove the grime of the last sports day, but wears his green and gold with pride. Ted- lest we forget.

ThinkUKnow

ThinkUKnow is an internet safety program tailored to parents/caregivers developed by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Microsoft. Using the content from the program, the session will outline the popular applications used by students, the risks they may be exposed to and how to minimise these risks, and finally where to report them. The session includes short videos and real life case studies and is for an adult audience only. Schools can register and host parents at their school or facilitate parents’ access from their own homes.

Session Time is:
Thursday 21 March 2013, 6:30pm

If you are interested in attending this session from home or at the school, please contact Ryan at 4667 4177. Apologies for the late notice.
**Community Newsflash**

**Warwick Football**
Warwick District Football Association - Sign Up Info.
Registration is available online RIGHT NOW! Just go to www.warwickwolves.com.au and follow the instructions. Registrations close 31/03/13 to enable time to finalise teams for the 2013 season.
All games played in Warwick on Saturday mornings.
Junior Cubs - Under 4/5's boys/girls $50
Juniors - Under 6 to 16's boys/girls $155
SignOn help available on Sat 9th March at the Clubhouse at Queen's Park if you need assistance from 10am-12pm.
See website for information or to contact the club.
Warwick football - where everyone gets a fair game.

**Annual Catholic Debutante Ball**
Traditionally, Catholic students in Year 3 are invited to be Flower Girls/Page Boys for the Annual Catholic Debutante Ball. This year the Ball will be held on Friday 24th May 2013 at St Mary's Hall.
If your daughter and/or son is interested in being a Flower Girl/Page Boy, please contact the Parish Office on 4661 1033 or stmaryswck1@bigpond.com by 5th March, 2013.
Should more than the required number express interest in this matter, names will be drawn from a hat to determine who will fill these roles.

**Dates to Remember**

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<td>Easter Hunt</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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**Leyburn Historical Society**
The next meeting of the Leyburn and District Historical Society will be held on Sunday, 24th March, at 1.30pm in the CWA Hall, McIntyre Street. Afternoon tea will be served after the meeting.

**Old News Worth Reading Again**

**Super Sandwich Time!**
The Year Ones created a Super Sandwich. As part of their Technology and Health component of the curriculum the Year Ones had to design and create a sandwich for themselves. Some of the designs looked very interesting yet strangely delicious. In any case it has been a great unit and the students have enjoyed it immensely!

**Project Club**
The Project Club have scheduled a couple of fun days before the end of term. On March 22nd, the students are invited to come to school with a crazy hair do. On March 28th the Project Club is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt.
The Project Club would ask for a gold coin donation for each day should you choose to participate.

**Mobile Library**
The Mobile Library that visits Karara State School every two weeks on the Wednesday is considering canceling the visits to Karara. The reasons for the possible discontinuation is the lack of interest. There has been a significant drop in borrowers over the last year. If you would like to retain the mobile library services, please come down and support it every second Wednesday between 9-1030am.

**Trivia Night**
Rattle of the Brains Trivia Night
Friday 31st May, starting 7pm (doors open 6:15)
Allora Community Hall, Herbert Street, $10/each
Book your Table of 8 by phoning the St Patrick's School on 4666 3551 Supporting St Patrick's P. & F. Assoc. Allora.
With thanks,
Monique Bryson
President
46673749

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**Tuckshop**
There will be Tuckshop this week. Please have your orders into Kerry on Thursday.

**P&C News**
The next P&C Meeting will be the AGM. The Meeting has been scheduled for **April 29th at 3:30pm**.