It was rewarding to catch up with families and friends at our Education Week Open Day. Those able to attend had the chance to experience student learning within classrooms and attend our school assembly. Stage three students wowed us with their drumming skills and the whole school sang 'Here Comes the Sun'. We hope you enjoyed the experience and encourage you to visit classrooms to assist with learning whenever you have spare time.

I would also like to thank Mrs Irwin for organizing our NAIDOC Day activities. All students had the opportunity to experience Aboriginal Culture through art, food and games. Please visit the school website to view photos of the day.

Southern Tablelands Arts in conjunction with Sydney Puppet Theatre are delighted to work with students in 2/3/4. Workshops will be held on the 13th and 20th August with a final performance to be held on the 27th August. The class will create their puppet performance around the book ‘Edwina the Emu’. This will be a wonderful experience for students providing them the opportunity to work with members of the puppet theatre.
As part of the Community of Schools a special Leadership Day has been organized at Wilton Public School for selected students from Yanderra, Picton and Wilton Primary Schools to work with students from Picton High School. Students will be involved in a range of activities designed to develop leadership skills. Lunch will be provided for students as is transport to and from Wilton. We hope parents will support this initiative as a means of strengthening our Community of Schools.

Students have enjoyed participating in our track and field events as part of our sport program. All students have experienced discus, shot put, high jump and running races. Students eligible to attend the Razorback Carnival will be notified during next week. Thank you to parents who transported students to Bargo and assisted with running races. Special thanks to Mr Southwell and Miss Southwell for taking the time to set up the oval.

Backyard league will be operating in the school over the next three Fridays. League activities will form part of our sport program. It is great that NSW Country Rugby League supports this program and brings it into schools to promote fitness and a healthy lifestyle. Students will work in class groups with an instructor to learn ball skills associated with rugby league.

Woolworths are once again running the Earn and Learn program. Every $10 spent in Woolworths entitles the shopper to one sticker. Collect your stickers, fill a Sheet and drop it in the Yanderra Collection Box at Tahmoor Woolworths or the School Office. Earn and Learn runs from 15th July to the 8th September 2015. The more stickers we collect the more resources we can buy for the school. Thank you to families who have placed stickers in the collection box.

Congratulations to Kobe, Tuniaya, Jessica, Amarli, Kallan, Paige, Olivia, Brandon I, Victoria, Liberty, Riley and Brandon M on receiving your Principal’s Award. Congratulations to Charlotte J, Amelia Ga, and Thomas on achieving your Silver Award. It is encouraging to see so many students being Respectful, being Safe and being a Learner. Our respectful trophy winner for this fortnight has been Kallan.
Peer Support
Choice of friends is the focus in peer Support. Children will explore what encourages them to form friendships with different people. Children will also discuss the fact that friendships can change over time for various reasons. We ask that you encourage your child to identify friends they have and how friends support each other.

Canteen News
Our canteen opens each Monday and Friday with the support of a small group of parents and grandparents. If you can help on any canteen day please add your name to the roster.

Community News
Our next family pub night will be held on 21st August, 2015. Please put this in your diary and make it a family fun night.
Thank you to Bargo hotel for the proceeds of the last raffle which raised $265.00 for the school.

Also a big Thank You to Mr Mooney, Zoe Mooney, Mr Hale and Ashleigh McMahon for their BBQ skills on the 25th July at Critter Bits Bargo, they raised $145.50 for our school.

Thank you to parents and grandparents who attended our meeting on Tuesday. To ensure our canteen can continue to run with insurance coverage for all parents we have had to form a P&C executive. After voting it was agreed that Ashley McMahon would be President, Sarah Smart - Vice President, Janet McCloud - Secretary and Diane Eccleston - Treasurer. I am sure they will all do a great job for the school.

We will hold a sausage sizzle meal deal on Wednesday 26th August. A separate order note will be sent home.

Father’s Day presents have been ordered and our stall will be held on Thursday 3rd September.
Just a reminder that next Thursday 13th August will be our **READ-A-THON**.

I really hope that as many students as possible from year 3-6 (especially year 5&6) will join us for this afternoon of fun and reading! Please feel free to bring a cushion or bean bag to relax on. The read-a-thon will go from 3.15 – 5.30pm and we will have afternoon tea at about 4pm.

There has been a change of date for our Book Week presentation from Picton Library. The presentation will now be on **Thursday 3rd September**.

We have only a few weeks left to complete the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2015. Please encourage your child to read and to write down those books so I can log them on to the website before the closing date at the end of August.

Thank you to those parents who encourage and support your children with their reading. It is a great encouragement for me and invaluable for your child’s present and future learning.

As always, please feel free to catch me on Thursdays, email or send a note if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Michelle Ainsworth
(Teacher/Librarian)