The children have quickly settled back into class routines and are already producing work of a high standard. This year I will be implementing a program called “Focus on Reading” which uses a variety of strategies to improve comprehension. The students will be looking at imaginative, informative and persuasive texts. Our current topic is “Dragons” where the children are comparing imaginative and real dragons (Komodo dragons) and using the strategy of summarising to locate and record information about various animals. Over the coming weeks we will also be looking at procedures. Mrs Hayne will be attending courses in Moree on the “Focus on Reading” program.

I have included with this newsletter a simple survey that I am asking parents to complete and return by Monday 2nd March. The survey will help us determine our vision for the school and the directions we would like it to take over the next three years. This information will be used to develop the 2015-2017 Bullarah School Plan. Your honest feedback will be greatly appreciated.

Last week I sent home a flyer about an out of uniform day on Tuesday 3rd March. The cost will be $5 and all money will be given to Maree Weier who is shaving her head for the Leukaemia Foundation. As it is all about hair, the children are encouraged to come to school with ‘crazy hair’ on the day. A sausage sizzle will be provided and the students will have the opportunity to purchase icy poles, with the money raised also being donated to Maree.

Thank you to those parents who have sent in notes explaining student absences. The Department has developed a new policy around absences which states that – ‘An absence is unexplained if parents have failed to provide an explanation to the school within 7 days’. To make it easier I have included with this newsletter a blank explanation absence form that can be used for future absences or if you have any unexplained absences this term. From now on it will be Bullarah Public School’s Policy to send home a blank absence note if absences are not explained within two days of the student returning to school. This will hopefully make it easier on all of us and ensure that we are following all Departmental guidelines.

P&C News

The P&C will be holding their Annual General Meeting at 2:00pm Tuesday 3rd March in the library. All parents are invited to the Sausage sizzle (cost of $5) at 1:00pm and are encouraged to attend the meeting. Elections will be held and we will be discussing the 2015-2017 School Plan.

Library

Students were unable to borrow this week as Miss Winter was away. Borrowing will resume as normal next Tuesday.