



The Buale

Term 1, Week 10, 2022 | Principal - Michelle Andrews



Year 1 students, Tilly and Kaiden, read What We'll Build with Yass Valley Mayor Allan McGrath.

Mayor inspires bookworms



Students from Wee Jasper Public School are being encouraged to jump into reading with the 2022 Mayor's Reading Challenge.

Yass Valley Mayor Allan McGrath visited the school on Tuesday, 29 March to officially launch the inaugural reading challenge.

Over the next 26 weeks (29 March to 23 September), our bookworms will flip the pages of some 120 books.

The challenge encourages each

student to read 30 books either alone, with a teacher or parent.

Each time a student completes a book, they will be invited to record the book on their individual sheet and place a sticker on the classroom book chart. This encourages students to work alone and together.

"Reading is such a wonderful part of childhood; it transports us to new worlds and broadens our imaginations," said Mayor McGrath.

Continued on page 2.



Bella and Tilly place stickers on the book chart.

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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wiradjuri, Ngunnawal and Wolgalu nations, and pay our respect to Elders past, present and future · Proud member of the Binit Binit Learning Community



Ms Andrews, Kaiden, Bella, Tilly and Abi with Mayor McGrath.

Continued from page 1.

"I hope this challenge will make reading part of students' everyday lives. I can't wait to return in September to hear about the students' journeys and all the wonderful characters they meet through the challenge."

The books have been chosen from the school library and set by Teaching Principal Michelle Andrews, encouraging students to read at their level or towards a higher level.

"The themes of this year's books are on growth, friendship and authentic Australian stories. Many have been shortlisted by The Children's Book of the Year Awards, which means they are the gold standard of children's books in Australia," said Ms Andrews.

"The Mayor's Reading Challenge will help our students gain a deeper understanding of their world, expand their vocabulary and develop empathy. Reading is so important for children and we can't wait to take part in a challenge that will reinforce reading as a habitual task."

The students will be encouraged to choose a book that's part of the challenge to read during their library time with Ms Andrews and Flashlight Fridays with Mr Morrison, which invites students to expand their imaginations even further by reading in the dark.

Our Year 6 student, Bella, will read a combination of picture books and novels, while our Year 1 students, Tilly, Abi and Kaiden, will read picture books together.

The books will be sent home with students as part of their homework, so we encourage parents to join the challenge and share in the joy of reading at bedtime, on weekends and in school holidays. Let's help their imaginations grow!



Ms Andrews, Bella and Abi view the Mayor's medals.



Friday, 8 April

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Wee Jasper Public School

Please bring a plate of food to share for lunch



School parents & grandparents/Kid's Club children & parents invited RSVP by 4 April to Wendy.Griffiths15@det.nsw.edu.au

Staff weekly schedule

Monday

- Teaching Principal Michelle Andrews (teaching)
- School Administration Manager
 Wendy Griffiths

Tuesday

- Teaching Principal Michelle Andrews (teaching)
- School Administration Manager
 Wendy Griffiths
- School Administration Officer -Hannah Sparks

Wednesday

- Teaching Principal Michelle Andrews (principal admin)
- Teacher Jack Morrison
- School Administration Manager
 Wendy Griffiths
- School Learning Support Officer - Mary Goulding (on a casual basis)
- General Assistant Alan Rowling (8 am-3:50 pm, from Week 11)

Thursday

- Teaching Principal Michelle Andrews (teaching)
- Teacher Jack Morrison (8:30 am 12 pm)
- School Administration Manager
 Wendy Griffiths (Week 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10)

Friday

- Teaching Principal Michelle Andrews (principal admin)
- Teacher Jack Morrison
- School Administration Officer -Hannah Sparks

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Term 2, Weeks 1-5, 2022 calendar

WEEK 11 APRIL	MON 4 Ms Andrews	TUES 5 Ms Andrews School photos	WED 6 Mr Morrison	THURS 7 Mr Morrison (AM)/ Ms Andrews (PM) Gymnastics	FRI 8 Mr Morrison Last day of Term 1 Easter Day
WEEK 1 APRIL	MON 25 ANZAC Day	TUES 26 Ms Andrews Students and staff return	WED 27 Mr Morrison	THURS 28 Mr Morrison (AM)/ Ms Andrews (PM)	FRI 29 Mr Morrison
WEEK 2 MAY	MON 2 Ms Andrews	TUES 3 Ms Andrews	WED 4 Mr Morrison	THURS 5 Mr Morrison (AM)/ Ms Andrews (PM)	FRI 6 Mr Morrison
WEEK 3 MAY	MON 9 Ms Andrews	TUES 10 Ms Andrews	WED 11 Mr Morrison	THURS 12 Mr Morrison (AM)/ Ms Andrews (PM)	FRI 13 Mr Morrison
WEEK 4 MAY	MON 16 Ms Andrews	TUES 17 Ms Andrews	WED 18 Mr Morrison	THURS 19 Mr Morrison (AM)/ Ms Andrews (PM)	FRI 20 Mr Morrison
WEEK 5 MAY	MON 23 Ms Andrews	TUES 24 Ms Andrews	WED 25 Mr Morrison	THURS 26 Mr Morrison (AM)/ Ms Andrews (PM) National Sorry Day	FRI 27 Mr Morrison

KEY DATES



Everyone loved the P&C's first lunch order. Read about it on page 6.

5 APRIL

School photos (students to wear uniform)

26 JUNE

Students and staff return to school

8 APRIL EASTER EGG HUNT

School parents & grandparents/Kid's Club children and parents invited.

1 pm - Hat parade 1:15 pm - Lunch 1:45 pm - Easter song 1:55 pm - PULSE dance 2:00 pm - Egg rolling and spoon race 2:30 pm - Egg hunt

Principal's message

Again, our students thrive in both a small school environment and also among students in a larger context. They thoroughly enjoyed participating in the PULSE Alive performance at Sydney Olympic Park on 15 March. After learning their dance in class and polishing their moves over online rehearsals, the students spent six hours during the day with hundreds of students across NSW ensuring their performance was of high quality. There was a range of choir pieces, solo performances, musicians, and dancers from both primary and secondary NSW Department of Education schools.



Mrs Healey and Mark returned in Week 7 to help in the classroom and around the grounds.

Our students danced to *Playing to Win* with Greenwich, East Hills, Murray Farm, Prairevale and Toongabbie Public Schools. We combined with Greenwich Public School and our students made beautiful friendships with their Year 5 and 6 students. Our Year 1 students were by far the youngest performers, but that did not stop them from mixing with the best of them. All our students performed in sequence with the other students and had massive smiles on their faces the whole time. Our students confidently socialised with the other students and built rapport with the officials and tutors.

Wee Jasper Public School quickly became recognised and celebrated by the organisers and crews as students from the smallest school. They were the youngest performers and travelled considerable kilometres, but thrived in that atmosphere. The students and Ms Andrews were interviewed by the NSW Department of Education Arts Unit and were celebrated for their performance and desire to show that students from small rural schools are flourishing.

Our students not only performed amazingly and connected with a large cohort of students, but they also showed exemplary behaviour, courage and resilience. The day and evening required incredible patience and vigour. Bella continued to encourage and support our young learners, showing what an astute leader she is. Abi, Kaiden and Tilly did everything they could to cooperate and be the best versions of themselves and held our school's positive reputation high in their mind. We look forward to being involved in

Parents & Citizens

The timetable for Dragon Dreaming Festival is now full. Thank you to everyone who volunteered with the food preparation and to everyone who is volunteering at the festival.

P&C Secretary, Bridgette Cathles, has kindly donated aprons from her former business, Yes Cheese. These will be embroidered with the school logo and used at future P&C fundraisers.

The P&C held its first lunch order on Friday, 25 March. Students were delighted by the choice of a hot dog, pizza or lasagna and staff loved not having to cook! Food was kindly donated by parents and funds raised will be used to cover the next one.

Finally, the P&C will be assisting with sourcing donations for Wee Jasper Public School's sister school, Bonalbo Public School. See more details in the Principal's message.

The next meeting will be at 5:00 pm on 12 May. Everyone is welcome.

Contacts:

- President, Helen Cathles thecathles@gmail.com
- Secretary, Bridgette Cathles bridgette.cathles@gmail.com

Wee Jasper Public School's vision

Our school will remain the heart of our small rural community. Here, core values will be learned and lived, as every learner is fully engaged and challenged, in preparation to making their contribution to our complex and dynamic society. Every student will be known, valued and cared for and experience a secure sense of belonging and connection to this school, community and land. All students will be literate, numerate and curious. We will continue to see the diversity of our community as a pedagogical strength and draw upon our diverse human and natural resources to sustain learning. In this way, we will counter the potential disadvantage of living in a small, remote community.

similar future performances. Bella will now audition for School Spectacular in November. It is hoped that she will combine again with students from Greenwich Public School for this incredible experience.

I want to thank our students for their dedication and persistence. They were an absolute joy to be with over the three days. Each night they cooperated, looked after each other and showed independence and courage. Thank you to Tiffany Sturgess for coming away with us and supporting the students and myself. I appreciate how Tiff organised the catering with the support and contributions of all our other parents. Thank you to Mrs Griffiths for making all the bookings and organising the students' costumes. Everything ran smoothly and the students loved their experience.

Old Bonalbo Public School Pen Pals

We have been matched up with students from another small school in NSW, Old Bonalbo Public School. The staff and Ms Andrews had been planning for a range of activities during the year and we were all set to begin our Pen Pal activities for 2022 with our 'sister school'. However, our first online meet and greet had to be cancelled due to their community flooding.

We have been in touch with our new friends and they are all okay but have experienced significant loss. We are requesting donations of new items (eg. clothing, toys, books, stationary, sports equipment and toiletries) or vouchers that are age appropriate. If anyone would like to donate, please drop items at the school. If you require further information about what to donate, please contact the school. Feel free to either donate for a particular age group or an item for each of the nine students ie. bubble bath. All items should be dropped by Tuesday, 10 May.

Kindergarten

• Riley (male)

Year 1

- Jesse (male)
- Charlotte
- Tommy

Year 2

Isabel

Year 3

- Ryan
- Presley

Year 5

- Alexis
- Denise
- Dakota (female)

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Öld Bonalbo Public School is located close to the Queensland border.

Michelle Andrews Teaching Principal

Bella's Corner



Today, I will be telling you about the excursion I went on to Sydney with Matilda, Abigail, Kaiden, Tiffany (Abi's mum) and Ms Andrews. We travelled there on the school bus, which we decorated with flowers and streamers, and were away from 14-16 March.

At the zoo, we scared Ms Andrews by pulling her over to the crocodiles. Bella, Tilly and Tiff went on the Ferris wheel. We got to feed camels. We all loved the camel named Perl; she kept on steeling food from the other camels. We also saw the chimpanzees put up a fight with each other. We saw elephants dive underwater; who knew elephants could stay fully submerged underwater for two minutes? The day wrapped up with us seeing a bright green snake taking a sssssleep. I think that was how we were all feeling!

At Pulse Alive, there were amazing performances. First, there was an Aboriginal performance. When it was our turn, we had to walk down the alleyway and run out onto the stage. The lights were flashing on us. The Year 1s did great, especially with their buddies -Matilda with Brooke, Abi with Scarlett and Kaiden with Joel. The act that we didn't get to see was the intermission, which was the acrobats. But we watched it on replay when we got back to school.

Student of the Day



Mrs Healey and Mr Morrison introduced a 'Student of the Day' system during Term 1 to reward students who have shown positive learning behaviours the day before.

The Student of the Day gets to wear their choice from a trio of superhero capes all day!



Kaiden as Student of the Day

Introducing our new GA

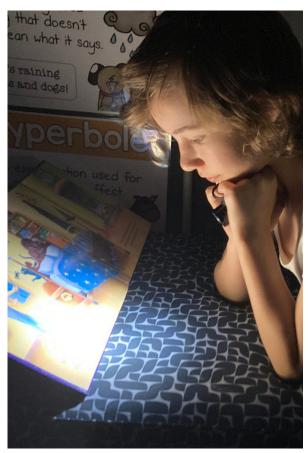


We can't wait for our new General Assistant Alan Rowling to start in Term Two.

- 1. What are you excited to do as our new GA? I am excited to be the Wee Jasper Public School GA because I get to meet some great students and staff from the valley.
- 2. Do you have any children of your own? I have four children three boys and one girl.

- 3. What do you do in your spare time? In my spare time! like to fish and ride a motorcycle.
 4. Have you worked in any other schools? Yes
- 4. Have you worked in any other schools? Yes, I have worked in historic schools restoring the stone.
- 5. Why did you want to become a GA? I like working outdoors and I look forward to maintaining your beautiful school grounds.

You can see a photo of Alan and read more him on page 18. By Bella



Bella reading Scary Secrets during Flashlight Friday

Flashlight Fridays



Students have been bringing a favourite reading book from home to enjoy during 'Flashlight Friday' - an exciting torchlight reading activity in a classroom plunged into darkness.

Students choose a comfortable position around the classroom and settle down for ten minutes of enjoyable reading.

Meet the teacher 🏫



Mrs Healey joined our school during Week 4 and 7 as the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction. She is Ms Andrews' cousin.

- 1. Mrs Healey, when were you born? 1970.
- 2. What is your favourite food? Salmon.
- 3. What do you like to do on the weekend? like to go to the gym and workout with some
- 4. What is your favourite thing that you did at this school? I loved spending time with all of the magnificent kids.
- 5. What was Ms Andrews like when she was little? She was very fun! Ms Andrews and I used to play overs and unders in the big waves at Werri Beach in Gerringong.
- 6. Who is your favourite student at this school? I love all of them. They all have amazing qualities.

By Bella Yevrem



Mrs Healey in Wee Jasper's classroom.

Prizes will go to the Best Hat and Best Model.



Enter our Easter hat parade 🏠



Preparations are well underway for our egg-stra special Easter Day on Friday, 8 April. Students have been practising their performance with Mr Morrison and staff have been putting their thinking caps on to come up with some eggcelent games.

As part of the day, we are inviting students and Kid's Club children to enter an Easter Hat Parade. Ms Andrews will lead the parade around the school and prizes will be given to the Best Hat and Best Model (ie. the person with the best moves!).

If you haven't already RSVPd to Wendy.Griffiths15@det.nsw.edu.au, please do so as soon as possible (deadline 4 April).

We are really looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Bringing learning to life



In science, students have been investigating energy and the various forms it takes (light, sound, heat etc.).

To bring this to life, Mr Morrison brought in one of his childhood toys, a putt-putt boat. The students observed the parts of the boat, including the candle and water reservoir with a flexible flat surface, and conjectured about how the boat propels itself.

Finally, Mr Morrison primed the boiler with water, lit the candle and waited... The water in the boiler turned to steam, flexing the flat surface with a loud putt-putt sound and shooting out the back of the boat, moving it along!



Students during their science lesson with Mr Morrison.



Abi ready to clean up Wee Jasper.

Clean Up Wee Jasper



Students did a wonderful job of making sure Wee Jasper stays clean by collecting rubbish between the school and river during Week 7.

Wearing gloves and carrying rubbish and recycling bags, students accompanied by Ms Andrews and Ms Sparks found old bottles, bottle lids and bits of paper. To everyone's delight, no one returned with a full bag!



Charlie O'Brien returns to his primary school.

A full circle moment 🎇



It was a lovely surprise to welcome former student Charlie O'Brien back to our school in Week 6! Charlie attended Wee Jasper Public School in Years 1 and 2 with Mr Sullivan and Mrs Keating, and returned to help install our new fans as an apprentice electrician with Hive Electrics.

Charlie was glowing with memories of attending the school and was so excited to reminisce, share stories and have a look at how the school continues to evolve.

We love when ex-students come back to us and talk to the students about their happy memories. Charlie spoke to the students about the importance of learning and working hard. It is always wonderful to see our ex-students thriving.

Still life drawing 🕷



During the first week of March, Bella, Abi, Kaiden and Matilda did a life drawing/painting with Ms Andrews. This was to learn how to do brush strokes and to draw something from real life. We started with a base drawing of chalk and then started the painting. We would grab a bunch of colours and mix it on the page.

By Bella















1. Kaiden painting his lion. 2. Bella drawing the outline of her lizard. 3. Tilly drawing the outline of her elephant. 4. Abi painting her giraffe. 5. Abi with her painted giraffe. 6. Bella with her painted lizard. 7. Kaiden with his painted yak.



8. Kaiden with his completed lion. 9. Bella with her completed kangaroo and sloth. 10. Bella with her completed lizard. 11. Abi with her completed giraffe and fox. 12. Kaiden with his completed yak and lion. 13. Tilly with her completed panda and elephant.

The balancing act

Students have been taking part in weekly gymnastic classes this term. The students have been learning different ways to balance and how to use the bars. In balancing, students have been bouncing and walking on the beams. In bars, they have been doing pull overs and bat hangs. Bat hangs are when you hold on with your hands and put your feet on the bar as well.

By Bella















1. Kaiden walking on the beam. 2. Bella balancing on the beam. 3. Bella jumping beam to beam. 4. Kaiden, Bella and Abi attempting not to touch the rope. 5. Kaiden balancing on the low bars. 6. Kaiden and Abi practising their balancing with bean bags. 7. Kaiden, Bella and Abi walking on the stepping stones.

Out and about

PULSE Alive and Sydney Zoo





1. Everyone stopping for a quick break on the way to Sydney. 2. Arriving at Quest Hotel. 3. Eating Dean's yummy spaghetti. 4. Starting the silly fashion party. 5. Kaiden in his cool outfit with his pig. 6. Tilly in her crazy clown outfit with her giant bear. 7. Abi in her scary witch costume with her long pink snake.

Out and about



8. Arriving at the arena. 9. About to go inside. 10. Ms Andrews and Kaiden ready for the performances. 11. Bella watching the start of the performance. 12. The big finalé. 13. Bella and Tilly enjoying the performances.

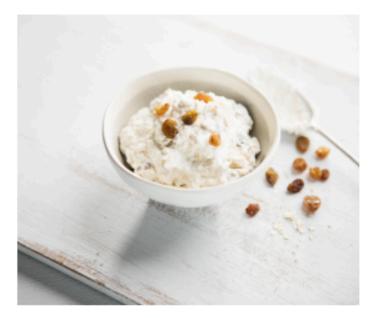
Out and about



14. Kaiden, Abi, Bella and Tilly with the crocodiles. 15. Abi, Bella, Tilly and Kaiden cuddling the giant koala. 16. Bella learning Aboriginal culture. 17. Everyone feeding the camels. 18. Kaiden feeding the camels. 19. Tilly feeding the camels. 20. Abi and Tiff feeding the camels. 21. Bella feeding the camels.

Nutrition Snippet

PIMP UP PLAIN YOGHURT







Here's how to make plain yoghurt interesting:

- · Sweeten with stewed fruit
- Mix with oats and sultanas
- Make a minty yoghurt dip
- Use it in a parfait

When packing yoghurt in the lunch box remember to pack an ice brick.

For these recipes and more visit: healthylunchbox.com.au



Community news



Alan and Kim Rowling have taken on the huge task of restoring the old barracks and stables.

Breathing life into the old barracks and stables

They say there are dreamers and then there are doers, but Wee Jasper's newest residents, Alan and Kim Rowling, are proving you can be both.

They're fulfilling their lifelong dream of restoring a historic property after becoming the proud owners of the old police barracks and stables at the village's entrance in 2020.

A stonemason/mechanic and teacher/nurse by trade, Alan and Kim aren't afraid of rolling up their sleeves and are doing most of the work themselves to keep costs down.

They've wanted to restore a property of this scale their whole lives, but needed to wait for their four children to fly the nest before they could also leave their Wollongong base of 30-plus years.

"We've been looking forever, but the properties

are always weatherboard or timber, never stone - and so much of it!" said Alan.

"Just revealing the fossils in the stone is fascinating. It's 400-million-year-old rock," said Kim.

The couple discovered the property while camping in Wee Jasper and have spent the past two years uncovering the incredible blue limestone used to build the barracks and stables in 1886. The rock tells a story of a bygone Wee Jasper and you can lose hours discovering fossilised coral and past life on their surface.

The barracks will eventually become Kim and Alan's four-bedroom home, with a large living area and fireplaces. They will add bathrooms and a kitchen to bring the barracks into the 21st century. This should be completed in two months, which is welcome news to Alan and Kim, who are currently sleeping in their caravan.

Community news



The limestone in the old barracks is brimming with signs of old life.

"We're restoring the barracks right back to their original state - all the stone work and lime render inside. We've stripped everything back, right back to the original windows," said Kim.

The couple calls this project semi-retirement, with Alan leaving his job as a mechanic with Fire and Rescue NSW and Kim leaving her job as a nurse, but at times they've been working seven days per week.

The property was overgrown and littered with rubble, relics and the tin roof from the stables when they arrived. However, Alan and Kim have been careful to hold onto these and will eventually use them to tell the property's story, along with old newspaper clippings and photographs they've unearthed.

Even once the restoration is complete, Alan and Kim will run the tavern with the help of their adult children. They want the place to be

abuzz with locals and tourists alike and attract local musicians.

Kim and the children will be among those musicians as well-versed singers and instrumentalists who have performed in Tamworth and at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Alan has even found an old truck that will either become the stage for many performances or a billboard to advertise the tavern as re-open.

It's a big dream and one Kim and Alan will no doubt see through, with the birds and kangaroos that frequent the river on their doorstep reminding them of why they fell in love with Wee Jasper to begin with.

And if you're eager to follow their progress, we can reveal the project will be coming to a screen near you soon!

Community news

Street library

Wee Jasper's very own street library is now in operation. Members of the public are invited to come through the school gates to borrow and leave books. Thanks to Yass Valley Library for supplying the materials, Mark for giving it a home and Helen Cathles who painted it to match the school's cubby house.

Don't forget, the Yass Mobile Library visits Wee Jasper Public School between 2:30-3:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

ANZAC Day in Wee Jasper

The Wee Jasper ANZAC Day Service will begin with the usual community procession starting at Wee Jasper Bridge at 9:45 am and leading up the main street to Wee Jasper Memorial Hall, followed by an ANZAC Day Service. The event will conclude with tea and coffee in the hall.



Wee Jasper community library.





Wearing helmets and riding safely

Wearing helmets

Your child must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place — it's the law. The helmet must comply with the Australian and New Zealand standards and needs to be securely fitted and fastened on your child's head. It should be buckled firmly so it fits without wobbling or slipping to the sides.

Always remember to check that your child is wearing a helmet whenever they're playing or riding on wheels –

- Bikes
- Foot scooters
- Rollerskates
- Skateboards
- Rollerblades.

Riding safely

Although children quickly learn to pedal, steer and brake, they aren't ready to cycle near traffic or on the road. Until they are at least 10 years old, your child should ride off-road away from vehicles and driveways.

The safest places to ride bikes, scooters and skateboards are within fenced areas. This helps your child from riding or falling onto the footpath or the road. Children under 16 and their accompanying supervising adult riders may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling. Riders need to take special care at driveways where vehicles may be driving in or out.

At intersections, riders must dismount and wheel the bicycle across the road as a pedestrian, following the **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** procedure.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the families section on safetytown.com.au

Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 4

- Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate
- Ride your bike away from the roads

Messages to share with your children in Years 5 and 6

- Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate
- Ride your bike away from busy roads





Too many lives lost on NSW roads.

Our goal is zero.

Bridgette's famous tacos



These tacos are Bridgette Cathles'. She is an amazing cook and teacher. You may know her from Yes Cheese or Yass Public School. Her daughter Matilda and her niece Bella go to Wee Jasper Public School. Bella and Matilda got to gobble these up for dinner recently.

Bridgette's tacos are famous due to their rareness not everyone can make them taste as outstanding as her. She set them up so we could build our own tacos. It was really fun to build them ourselves. The building involved putting on the meat, salad, guacamole and sprinkling the cheese on.

I hope you make them too and get the experience of tasting heaven!

By Bella

INGREDIENTS

- Onions
- 500g beef mince
- Taco seasoning (see recipe across the page or use a packet of taco seasoning from the supermarket)
- Sour cream
- Guacamole

- Salsa
- Taco shells

TACO SEASONING

- 1/8 tsp chilli powder
- ¼ tsp garlic powder
- 1/4 tsp onion powder
- ¼ tsp garlic salt
- ½ tsp paprika
- ¼ tsp dried oregano
- 1½ tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp salt

Mix all together

METHOD

- Put oven on 180 degrees
- Chop onions finely
- Mix taco seasoning
- 1. Make guacamole and salsa.
- 2. Brown onions in a pan with some olive oil (2-3 minutes).
- 3.Add the mince and cook until browned (5 mins).
- 4.Add the taco seasoning and the water.
- 5. Mix well and cook on low for about 10 mins.
- 6.Meanwhile heat up the taco shells in the oven (180 degrees).
- 7. Serve meat in taco shells with guacamole, salsa, cheese and sour cream or yoghurt.