

# ONEWHERE 2019 AG DAY



## Chicken Order Form 2019

We are now taking orders for chickens!

- The baby chickens are **\$5.00 each**
- It is best to order at least two chickens for comfort and warmth.
- Order forms need to be delivered to the school office by Wednesday 13 June.
- You must be able to collect your chickens on Friday 5 July from school at 3.00pm.

### Chicken Events at Ag Day

- Chicken diary (one per student)
- Chicken trick
- Best pullet
- Best pair of pullets

*Anyone* can order chickens from the school. They do not have to enter their chickens in Ag Day, so ask your friends and family too!

Name: ..... Room: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

I would like to order ..... baby chickens at \$5.00 each.

Payment enclosed: \$ .....

☐ Cash      ☐ Cheque (made out to *Onewhero Area School*)

## **Rearing Instructions for Day-Old Chickens**

Ensure your chicks are kept warm as this is their first need – chicks will not feed if they are cold. Temperatures should be around 33 degrees Celsius for the first week and can slowly be reduced to 15 degrees Celsius. They can be kept in a hot water cupboard for the first couple of nights until other arrangements can be made but by the time you receive your chickens you should have everything ready to go.

A rabbit hutch with a light bulb fitting in the house area is a great idea. Use a 40 or 60 watt bulb suspended from the ceiling. This will provide the chicks with enough heat to warm up the living quarters. Keep a supply of light bulbs on hand in case one blows. If you hear your chicks making a lot of noise it usually is a sure sign of a blown bulb.

### **Feed and Water**

Access to cool water in a container that is not too big is required. You don't want them getting wet. When your chicks arrive they will be in a condition to start feeding. The most suitable feed for your chicks is chick rearing crumbles which contain the correct vitamins, or a very fine chick grain. These are readily available in rural supply stores. A small bag of Chick Starter will be included with your chicks to get you going.

Don't let your chickens run out of food and water, and regularly ensure their water is clean. The more they eat and drink, the bigger and faster they grow which means the closer to egg laying they are at Ag Day. Make sure the chick housing is always kept clean and dry. As they get older, the quarters must be enlarged. Once outside in a run, you can start to introduce food scraps, but don't stop giving them their meal.