



Newsletter

Monday 2 February 2009

Term 1 Week 2

BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Striving, Thinking, Learning

From the Team Leader

Welcome to 2009

I take this opportunity to welcome both new and existing families to the 2009 school year. A new year always brings new challenges and rewards and I trust it will be a successful one for all members located within the Bowral Public School Community. The summer vacation is a time to enjoy the company of friends and extended families and to spend some time relaxing and recharging 'human reserves and energies'. I trust our children have been able to participate in a range of worthwhile and fulfilling experiences during the break and are ready for the new school year. Along with the rest of the staff, I wish all children well throughout the year as they engage in planned teaching and learning opportunities. Learning in a supportive environment, where the home and school 'work as one' will allow each child to maximize their learning potential.

I extend a special welcome to the new families who are joining us for the first time, especially if it is the first time you are enrolling a student in our Kindergarten classes. Over the next few weeks, I sincerely trust that both you and your child become familiar with our school routines so the transition from pre-school or home to the first year of primary education at a government school runs smoothly.

Initially, in all classrooms, teachers will be getting to learn about their students and developing routines and structures that will set the tone for the remainder of the year. Emphasis will be placed on the establishment of sound work habits to ensure students realise their expectations. Paramount during this time will be a revision, or in some classes an introduction, of the four basic school rules upon which school discipline is based – Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Fair and By Cooperative. To further assist students, all teachers will utilise the 'traffic light' system that was developed in 2008 and on display in the classroom. By students listening to their teacher's instructions and asking questions at appropriate times, the foundations will be set for effective and efficient learning.

Staff Changes

Firstly, I welcome back Miss Natalie Boxshall. Natalie's period of exchange from Nowra Public School has been extended for another year. Mr Roger Jut will spend 2009 at Buxton Public School on a similar exchange as Miss Boxshall and Mr Howard. In wishing Roger all the best for a successful experience in a smaller school, we welcome his replacement, Mrs Julie Penn. I look forward to working with Julie and trust that the professional development opportunities that she will experience will assist her on expanding her educational and organisational knowledge. Our second new teacher is Mr Adam Tudor. Adam's previous school was Ruse Public and I'm sure Adam will make a positive contribution to our school. Finally may I introduce and welcome Ms Robyn Briggs. She will be supporting Harrison, our low vision student for 2009 while Ms Janelle Walker is on leave.

Classes for 2009

A major focus of the first week was devoted to placing students into their 2009 classes. Much time and energy has gone into the composition of each group. With the majority of the new students requiring placement in the Stage One section of the school, a variety of changes were needed to ensure Departmental expectations of twenty two (22) students in Year One and twenty four (24) students in Year Two were met. Also, fine tuning of the other stages has now allowed the existing class composition to be finalised. The only change to this could be in relation to the arrival of our Kindergarten students on Friday 6 February 2009. Once all numbers are in, then confirmation of all classes can be made. A complete list of teachers and classes will appear in the next newsletter.

Kindergarten 2009

As a pilot school for the Kindergarten Best Start program in 2008, the staff learnt from the experience and in 2009, a different approach was taken on assessing each student's literacy competence. Families were given an appointment time and brought their child to the school to allow Kindergarten teachers to undertake this assessment. As a result of this approach, all Kindergarten students will commence their primary schooling on Friday 6 February 2009. I take this opportunity to thank families for their understanding in this matter and I feel data obtained during the one hour sessions will greatly assist the children's teachers as they commence to prepare activities for our newest students.

School Uniform

All staff were impressed in the way the children were dressed as they arrived at school last week. They are a credit to the school. It is anticipated this standard will be maintained throughout the year. The number of students wearing black shoes, the correct footwear, is encouraging. Broad brimmed school hats need to be worn every day, especially as the hot weather continues. Thanks are extended to the committee and parents who have assisted families in the purchasing of school uniforms last week. The uniform shop will remain open each day this week, in the school residence, from 9.00am for one (1) hour.

BROADCAST MEETING

On Friday 6 February 2009, the New South Wales Teachers Federation has asked its members to attend a broadcast meeting to vote on a recommendation to endorse the negotiated settlements for schools and the new Staffing Agreement. At Bowral Public School, **minimal supervision** will be provided. All students are asked **to arrive by 10.30am** and meet in the Top Playground. An assembly will be held at that time. **Please note that all four Kindergarten teachers will be at school to commence their teaching program at 9.30am.** If any families require further information regarding this matter, please contact me on 4861 1086 prior to 3.10pm on Thursday 5 February 2009. I thank you for your understanding at this time.

CALENDAR

- Monday 9 February** ♦ P & C Meeting 7:30pm in the school library
- Friday 13 February** ♦ School Swimming Carnival Years 3–6 (and only Year 2 students turning 8 this year) at Mittagong Pool
- Friday 20 February** ♦ District Swimming Carnival at Mittagong Pool
- Monday 23 February** ♦ P & C AGM 7:30pm in the school library

Parking Around The School

It is important for all families using a vehicle transporting students to and from school to observe the traffic signs surrounding the school. I make special mention of the disabled car park adjacent to the driveway in Bendooley Street. This space was instituted to assist the family of a low vision student that attends Bowral Public School. It would be appreciated if the space could be left vacant between 8.45am until 9.00am as well as 3.00pm until 3.15pm for this student. Harrison is gaining more confidence and independence each day as he arrives and leaves school. Unauthorised cars in this zone face a fine of \$400. Finally, to limit any chance of a student being hit by a vehicle, drivers are reminded NOT TO STAND OR WAIT across the driveway entrance next to the disabled parking zone. Finally, a reminder that the parking area to the south of St. Judes' Church is for church patrons and authorised cars only.



Return Forms

Attached to this first newsletter are two (2) forms that need to be returned to the school office as soon as possible. These are colour coded. The first is the annual medical form. Information on this form greatly assists staff in helping and managing children. If, at any time, information on this sheet CHANGES AND NEEDS TO BE UPDATED, it is the responsibility of each family to come to the school to make the necessary changes. Any children diagnosed with asthma or requiring the use of an Epipen MUST present an appropriate health care plan. The second form is a permission note that allows students to participate in local (in walking distance) excursions and child protection lessons needs to be signed and returned. PLEASE NOTE – there is one note for EACH CHILD. To assist in the smooth organisation of this arrangement, every child will receive a newsletter this week and next week. If notes are misplaced, please visit the school to receive a new note.

School Canteen

For term one, the school canteen will be open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. A letter requesting volunteers accompanies this newsletter.

Good Luck Mr Cayzer

As many families would be aware by now, our Stage Two team leader, Mr Scott Cayzer, will enter hospital in Sydney on Tuesday to undergo open heart surgery. This is a critical time for Scott and his extended family. It is unsure when Scott will be fit to resume duty at Bowral Public School. However, with a steady rehabilitation, it is anticipated Scott will be 'back on deck' to commence term two. I take this opportunity to wish Scott all the very best for a successful operation and a complete recovery. You take our very best wishes with you at this time. Mr Feeney will take responsibility for 4C during Scott's absence.

SPORTS WARP

1. School Swimming Carnival

This is programmed for Mittagong Pool for Friday 13 February 2009. House meetings will take place at the school this Friday to allow students to nominate and elect junior and senior captains and vice captains for each sports house – Gibraltar, Oxley, Joadja and Jellore. Discussion will also take place about aspects of the carnival. Permission notes issued need to be returned to class teachers, with the appropriate money, as soon as possible.

2. Australia Day Wollongong Aquathon

In the 6 to 9 years section, the event was taken out by two Bowral Public School students. After his 150m swim, Toby Croudson passed the 'microchip' to Louis Connell who ran the 2km distance that saw their team finish in first place. Congratulations boys.

3. Rugby League clinics

On Wednesday 4 February 2009, the Country Rugby League will hold a clinic at Bowral Public School for students from Year 2 to Year 5. The emphasis during these sessions will be on skill development, an understanding of the rules, enjoyment and physical fitness.

4. School Cricket Team

Mr Morris will take responsibility for identifying and training a cricket squad for term one. He would like to meet any interested players on Thursday 5 February 2009 at lunchtime adjacent to the school library (under the shade of the tall trees).

John Morris

Principal

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Scripture lessons commences Tuesday 10 February and it is extremely important that the students follow the school and core rules during these lessons. For some of these volunteer teachers this is the only contact they have with our school and a positive image about our school culture needs to be taken by these teachers into the wider community. If any students find it difficult to display appropriate behaviour during these lessons, it may be necessary to contact families. All children will be expected to attend the religious instruction group indicated on their pupil enrolment forms. If your child is to attend non scripture please notify this request in writing. Any change of scripture class needs to be put in writing by Monday 9 February to Miss Christie.



Jan Christie

Deputy Principal

Bowral Public School

PO Box 865
Bendooley Street
BOWRAL NSW 2576

Telephone: (02) 4861 1086 Facsimile: (02) 4862 1004
Email: bowral-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



2 February 2009

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Each year school records need to be updated for the purpose of both permission and/or organisation. This letter provides information regarding the consent and information required by all families for this year in regards to: local area walks; child protection; internet usage; photographs; publication of student work; use of student surnames and student medical information.

To reduce the need for daily / specific signed notes from parent / caregiver giving staff permission to undertake, each individual 'excursion' out of the school grounds, teach aspects of child protection, provide students with access to the internet, and seek permission to have photographs of children involved in specific school activities, we request permission which covers each of these aspects of school life throughout the year. These notes will cover the 2009 school year.

Background Information:

Permission to leave school grounds – local area

Bowral Public School is located in the central business district and enjoys the learning opportunities this location enables through the year. The school also utilises St Judes' churchyard and church hall (across Bendooley Street) and the old school residence and grounds (across Banyette Street) on a daily basis.

Because of the close proximity to these 'town and local environs' locations ... eg.

Bowral CBD	Bowral High School	Bowral Memorial Swimming Pool
Loseby Park	Mt Gibraltar	Bradman Oval & Museum / Glebe Park
Short St Art Gallery	Corbett Gardens	Memorial Hall / Library
Bowral Tennis Courts		

... students often walk with their teachers to engage in learning or recreation activities. This is seen as a healthy, convenient and inexpensive mode of transport.

Child Protection / Protective Behaviours Lessons

As a component of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Key Learning Area, Child protection Education lessons are conducted at Bowral Public School on an annual basis. They assist students to develop skills in:

- ◆ Recognising and responding to unsafe situations
- ◆ Seeking assistance effectively
- ◆ Establishing and maintaining non-coercive relationships and strengthening attitudes and values related to equality, respect and responsibility.

The lessons taught have been developed by the Department of Education and Training and continue to promote a safe and happy environment. Some lessons may involve the specific naming of parts of the body. By learning to use the appropriate and correct terms, students will be able to communicate clearly any concerns they may have. Teachers will provide details of the school's scope and sequence themes and topics covered by each stage when they intend to teach this program. Your support of this program is valued and appreciated.

Secure Internet Access and Email

Students are provided with an Internet and email account to enable learning opportunities in a protected and secure environment. Students must abide by the school's policy when using the DET Internet and email services.

Parents/caregivers will need to inform the school in writing if they do not want their child to have access to the NSW DET Internet and email facility.

Photographs at school /Use of student surnames/Publication of student work

Taking photographs of students can constitute a collection of their personal information. Occasionally photographs are taken of individual students and classes of students at school.

Student surnames and publication of work in all school communication (i.e. newsletters, annual reports, promotional material about the school) as well as the local newspaper can also constitute collection of personal information. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** will surnames be used on the internet or our school web page.

Occasionally an individual student's work may be published (i.e. school newsletters).

If you DO NOT wish this to occur, please inform the school in writing so we can support your request.

It will be understood that if no letter is returned regarding secure internet access, photographs, publishing student work and use of student surnames, permission is granted for the purposes indicated.

Additional to the permission note is a Medical Information Form. Parents and caregivers are asked to complete the consent notice and medical details and *return them to the classroom teacher as soon as possible*. The consent/permission form is kept by the school for the current year. The medical information is provided to allow participation in all school activities, on and off school grounds, in addition to allowing staff who may need to be aware of specific details to support your child.

If at any time information on the medical form changes and needs updating, families are requested to notify the school as a matter of urgency.

Thank you in anticipation,

John Morris
PRINCIPAL
2 February 2009

BOWRAL LOCAL AREA WALKS

2009 CONSENT TO LEAVE SCHOOL GROUNDS

I **give / do not give** permission for my child of class
(please circle)

to leave the Bowral Public School grounds under direct supervision of a NSW DET teacher; and
to walk to and from a school activity situated in or near the Bowral central business district.

Parent / Caregiver Name SignatureDate.....

CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM PERMISSION 2009

I **give / do not give** permission for my child: of class
(please circle)

to participate in the Child Protection lessons as part of the school's PD/H/PE Program.

I would like to arrange a time to discuss these lessons.

Parent / Caregiver Name SignatureDate.....

Students Name **Class** **Date**

The information provided is being obtained for the purpose of ascertaining relevant medical information, requirements and other health care related needs about who is currently enrolled at the school and who may participate in school excursions, sporting activities or other educational or school activities conducted by or in conjunction with Bowral Public School.

It will be used by officers of the NSW Department of Education and Training to assist planning, to support students, and to minimise risks when conducting school excursions, sporting or other school activities.

Other persons or agencies that may be provided with this information include, but are not limited to, volunteers and members of external organisations who join with the school or are otherwise involved in the planning or delivery of the excursion, sporting or other school activity; and persons that may be called upon to provide health care treatment or other assistance during or as a consequence of such excursions or activities.

Provision of this information is not required by law. However, a failure to provide the information may mean that your child can not participate in a particular excursion or school activity. In such circumstances the school will make available a sound alternative educational experience.

Provision of this information will significantly assist the school in planning a safer educational activity. It will be stored securely. If you have any concerns about provision of this information, please contact the school principal to discuss further.

You may correct any personal information provided at any time by contacting the school office.

Medicare number *Valid to*/...../.....

Position on Card.....

Parent or caregiver contact details

Name:

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Address:

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Home phone:

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Work:

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Mobile:

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Doctor contact details

Name:

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Address:

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Doctor's telephone:

1.

2.

Emergency contact(s) details (nominated by the parent or caregiver as alternate contact)

1. *Name:*

Phone:

2. *Name:*

Phone:

List existing medical conditions or illnesses (include asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, allergies etc.). Outline the treatment for each.

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Outline special dietary needs including possible reaction to inappropriate diet

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Medication(s) to be administered during the excursion. Include name of medication, instructions for administration, time of administration, and any possible reactions

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Signature: *Date:*

Please return this form by: Friday 13 February 2009

From the Uniform Shop.....

You will be pleased to hear (and we are pleased to tell you!) that short sleeved polo shirts are now in stock! Thank you to Marion for filling orders over the holidays.

A reminder that the Uniform Shop is open every morning in Weeks 1 & 2, 9:00am—10:00am. After that uniforms can be purchased Wednesday and Friday mornings or by downloading an order form from the school website and sending it in with a cheque to your child's classroom. Orders will be filled and returned to your child.

We are recruiting! Anyone interested in helping out, we would love to hear from you. It can be as little in the morning once a term. Or you might like to join the committee and have a say about our uniform!. Younger children are welcome at meetings or while you are serving in the shop.

If you are keen, please contact Kirsty on 0402036181

See you in the Uniform Shop!
The Uniform Shop Committee



COMMUNITY NEWS

ROBERTSON BURRAWANG SOCCER CLUB 2009 REGISTRATION DAYS

Thursday & Friday 12 & 13 February
Thursday & Friday 19 & 20 February
From 4pm—6pm
At Hampden Park Robertson (Behind Skate Park)
Enquires: Robert Handley 0419 243 520

GUITAR AND BASS GUITAR LESSONS NOW AVAILABLE DURING SCHOOL HOURS.

Music enhances a child's ability to extend and apply their experiences and knowledge in the performing arts.
Any interested families may contact
Michael direct on 4862 5625 Mobile 0418 217 666

