



# Newsletter

Wednesday 12 March 2008

Term 1 Week 7

**BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*Striving, Thinking, Learning*

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Over the last two weeks I have spent time teaching in kindergarten rooms supporting the teachers who are undertaking the literacy and numeracy assessments as part of the Best Start program. During these teaching periods it provides me with the opportunity to not only become familiar with the names of the students in the classes but also to assist the students with their learning. By far, this is the most rewarding aspect of my principal's role and I am appreciative of the teachers allowing me to spend some really productive time. As I move around the school and visit many of the classrooms I am impressed with the displays of work produced by the students that enhance the classroom environment. What I see are the results of activities undertaken by the children and clearly this demonstrates the degree to which they are demonstrating mastery of set tasks. My thanks to the teaching staff for the time and effort that goes into lesson preparation, much of it undertaken away from the school site.

The next meeting of the Bowral P & C will be held on Tuesday 25 March 2008 and it is important that the positions left vacant from the Annual General Meeting are filled. Currently the position of P & C president, a vice president, a number of executive members and a canteen chair person and treasurer need to be filled. I would ask families to seriously consider seeking nomination to these positions to allow the various committees to operate effectively in 2008. It needs to be remembered that a team approach operates at the school and support is always available.

A number of the No Dogs signs that were placed around the perimeter of the school have disappeared. This is extremely disappointing as the signs were provided to remind visitors to the school that the staff value student safety as a high priority. Many thanks to the families who continue to support this point of view and do not bring dogs onto the site.

Not all **pink permission forms** and **blue medical forms** have been returned by families. These forms serve a number of purposes and assist all staff in extending their Duty of Care to children. It would be appreciated if any outstanding forms could be returned as soon as possible. Failure to do so may limit your child participating in all activities planned as part of classroom teaching and learning.

Last Thursday and Friday, Mr Penn, Mrs Griffith and I attended the Australian Government Quality Teaching Program conference along with other teachers who were successful in their 2007 submission. The conference was an opportunity to gain an insight into various expectations, supportive strategies and tools that will assist in the implementation of the project

and to meet our academic partner from the University of Western Sydney. Bowral will undertake our project in conjunction with a Sydney metropolitan school who is also addressing the issue of gifted and talented students. I will keep all families informed as the project gets underway.

## EASTER CHURCH SERVICE

Easter is a significant time on the Christian calendar. As a school community, the students and families of the school are invited to participate in an Easter service, conducted by our visiting clergy on **Tuesday 18 March 2008**.



**Bowral Uniting Church K - Year 2 11:30am -12:05pm.**

**St Jude's Church Years 3 - 6 12:25pm - 1:00pm.**

Any students who regularly attend non-scripture but would like to be included in the congregation for this special event are most welcome. The school appreciates the on-going commitment and support by Steve Roberts and his fellow instructors, especially at this time.

## EASTER HAT PARADE

The annual Easter hat parade for all children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be held on Thursday 20 March in the top playground from 12 noon and will have a duration of about one hour. All families are welcome to attend to support their child. Some seating will be available and it would be appreciated if adults can be seated by 11:50am to allow the parade to commence on time. Prior to the event, the students will be creating their own hat and a letter seeking specific family support should be received shortly. At the conclusion of the parade, families are invited to share a picnic lunch with their children on the grassed areas adjacent to the School House Museum. A appropriate blanket, some portable chairs and suitable picnic food will assist in creating a festive atmosphere. The school canteen will have some food available for purchase.



## YEAR 7 2009

Shortly all Year 6 students will receive booklet in relation to an Expression of Interest for their choice of high school for 2009. The package will provide all the relevant information and families are asked to return the necessary paperwork by Friday 28 March 2008. This initial step is an important one for the Department of Education and Training in assisting high schools with planning for the 2009 intake. Any questions in relation to this process should be addressed initially to your child's teacher. Completed forms should be handed to Mrs Bell, stage 3 team leader. All Year 6 students attending private or government school should return this form.

### CALENDAR

Tuesday 18 March	◆ Easter Church Service
Thursday 20 March	◆ K—Year 2 Easter Hat Parade 12 noon
Tuesday 25 March	◆ P & C Meeting
Thursday 3 April	◆ Gibraltar Self Help Day <b>(Change of date)</b>
Friday 4 April	◆ School Cross Country, Robertson <b>(Change of date)</b>
Thursday 10 April	◆ School Photographs
Friday 2 May	◆ District Cross Country, Robertson

## **SPORTS WRAP**

Last week two boys from 6Z, Tom [redacted] and Sam [redacted], represented the South Coast Region at the State PSSA cricket carnival conducted in the Richmond/Windsor area. Both boys were selected in four of the games played against other teams from around the state. At the end of the competition, South Coast [redacted] fifth out of the fourteen teams. Tom's highest score was twelve runs and in the field he took a catch. Sam recorded a pleasing all round performance with ten not out his top score whilst with the ball he sent down nine overs and was rewarded with three wickets. In the field he took five catches. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to participate at this level and the support of their families was appreciated. Four of their team mates were selected in the state squad of twenty four players. The boys will now join the rest of the school's cricket team when they take on Mittagong Public School in the first round of the PSSA knockout at Welby Oval. Congratulations Tom and Sam and good luck to our team on Thursday.

Last Friday our swimming team attended the Regional carnival at Dapto where they were able to compete against other children from all over the South Coast region. The competition on these days reaches a higher level but the efforts of our children are to be commended. As a result of the day, eight year old Darcy Barnes has been selected in the boys 50m freestyle event at the State PSSA swimming carnival at Homebush in the last week of term. Congratulations to the students on reaching this standard of competition and for the support of families.

Recently the Wingecarribee District PSSA conducted trials in the sport of boys and girls basketball. As a result of this activity, three boys and one girl from Bowral Public School have been selected to attend the Regional trials. Henry [redacted], Dean [redacted], Oliver [redacted] will travel to Wollongong this Friday and Liliana [redacted] will attend the girls trial at the Bomaderry Basketball Stadium next Wednesday. Congratulations to these students on the selection.

**John Morris Principal**



Volunteers to cover readers. The school has purchased new readers to use in the Reading Recovery programme. If you are able to help with covering these books it would be much appreciated. The readers will be available from next Monday and can be collected from Mrs Henderson in the Library.



## **REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Congratulations to Darcy [redacted] who last Friday qualified to represent Bowral Public School and the South Coast Region at the NSW State Swimming Championships to be held at Homebush on 7 and 8 April. Darcy finished third in the eight year boys fifty metre freestyle in the time of 44.48 seconds. We wish him all the best of luck and look forward to hearing of his experience.

Special mention must also go to Tayla [redacted] who narrowly missed selection in the junior girls fifty metre butterfly.

The Bowral swimmers made up a large proportion of the Wingecarribee District team and all were eager to do their best for their school and the district. Several swimmers recorded personal best times and some of the younger ones were thrilled just to compete at this much higher level.

Bowral's team members were all presented with a district representative ribbon at the whole school assembly on Monday, recognising their achievements. Congratulations to the following students on their successful swimming season.

Bryce	Jonn	Jonathon	Courtney	Ebony	Lucy
Clayton	Jamieson	Nicholas	Tayla	Sophie	Simone
Toby	Darcy				

**Jane Bell**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **BLUE LIGHT DISCO — 29 March 2008**

Mittagong RSL Club

Junior 4:00pm—6:00pm \$4.00 Seniors 7:30pm—10:30pm \$6.00

### **STUDENT EXCHANGE AUSTRALIA**

Opportunity to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity.

More information [www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au)

Or call 1300 135 331

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