



# BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

*Striving, Thinking, Learning*



## Newsletter

Wednesday 11 March 2009  
Term 1 Week 7

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*From the School Team Leader*

### **SOUTH COAST REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Congratulations to Bowral's squad of sixteen swimmers who represented our school, their families and the Wingecarribee District PSSA with pride and distinction at last Thursday's carnival conducted at the Dapto Pool. Our swimmers focused on each of their races, demonstrating enthusiasm and determination. Bowral will have six swimmers representing our region at the State PSSA championships at Homebush on the last two days of this term. Congratulations to both Taylor and Toby who will swim in individual events in their age group. Toby will be joined by Jessie, newcomer to our school Emil and Darcy in the junior boys' relay. This must be an extra thrill for Darcy as he made the journey to Homebush in 2008 to swim in the eight years' boys 50m freestyle. As these students continue their training regime over the next few weeks to be 'fine turned for state', they know that the Bowral Public School Community will be supporting them all the way to the starting blocks at the swimming venue used for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

### **NAPLAN 2009**

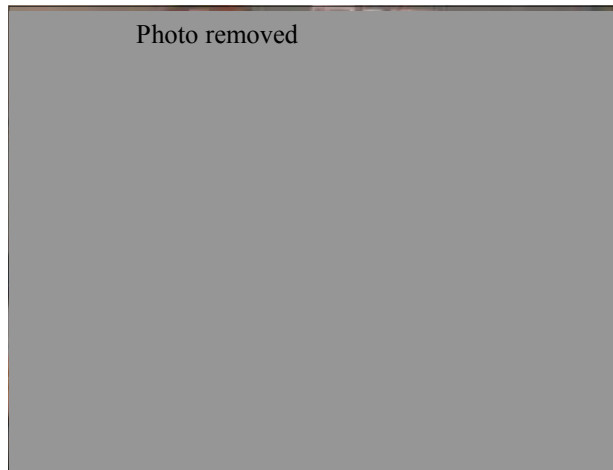
Each year students in Year 3 and Year 5 participate in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy. Previously known as Basic Skills Testing, the students are assessed in the areas of reading, writing, conventions of spelling and grammar as well as numeracy. The dates of this program are Tuesday 12 May, Wednesday 13 May and Thursday 14 May 2009. Friday 15 May is set aside as a 'catch up' day for students who miss any of the assessment tasks. All families of children in the above mentioned grades will receive a one page letter, to be issued next week, to explain details about this assessment activity. Previous year papers are available from the website provided. I encourage families to read the letter to ensure they gain an understanding of the entire procedure. I am available to discuss, with families, any concerns or issues relating to NAPLAN. Finally, after discussion, if families do not wish their children to participate in this activity, a prepared form needs to be signed off by the family and school.

### **COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

Could I encourage every family to take a minute or two to complete the survey that was distributed with last week's newsletter! The results of the survey will guide us in determining the appropriateness of many of the newsletter sections and assist in focusing on its future contents and layout. Any additional comments would be appreciated.

### **LIFE EDUCATION**

By the time all families read this week's newsletter, all classes would have visited the Life Education van situated under the COLA in the Top Playground. The messages delivered by Rebecca, 'Harold's capable co-presenter', should ensure our children are well aware of ways to ensure they live happy, healthy and enjoyable lives. I have visited a number of classrooms to share and view follow up teaching/learning activities and I am impressed with the knowledge that the students shared with me about their learning. I take this opportunity to thank families for supporting their children as they participated in this vital aspect of the Physical Education/Health/Personal Development Key Learning Area.



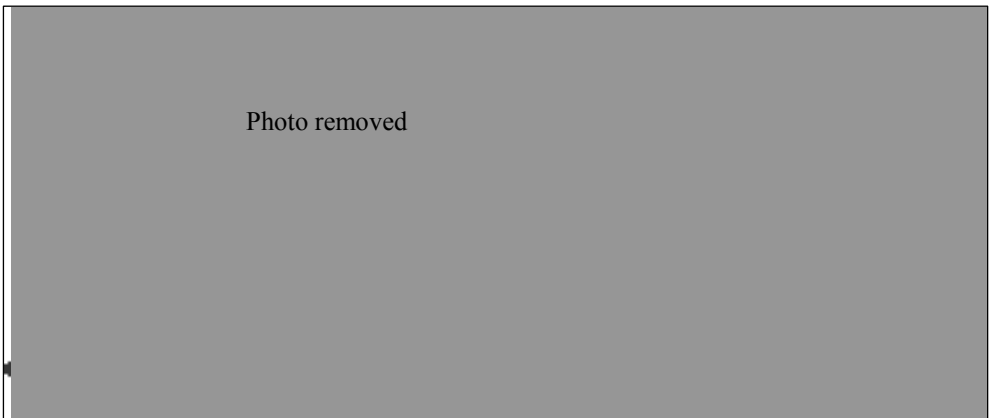
*Recounts from 2/3J in next weeks newsletter*

#### REMINDER DIARY DATES

- **Monday 16 March** ♦ P & C Meeting 7:30pm in the school library
- **Thursday 19 March** ♦ Paul Kelly Cup Stage 3
- **Wednesday 1 April** ♦ School Cross Country (Robertson)
- **Friday 3 April** ♦ PSSA Soccer Gala Day
- **Wednesday 8 April** ♦ ANZAC Service
- **Thursday 9 April** ♦ Easter Hat Parade 12 noon K—Year 2 (*date changed*)
- **Term 1** ♦ Canteen Open Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

## SWIMMING CHAMPS

Bowral Public School  
representatives in the  
Wingecarribee District Swimming  
Team



### **VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE SUPPORT**

In her column last week, P & C president Justine McKinlay shared with all Bowral Public School Community members two ways in which the victims of the Victorian bushfires can be supported. The first of these was the donation of a book (maybe a book your child would enjoy reading – either fiction or non fiction) and/or the donation of a pencil case containing suitable stationery items for children. Any donations can be delivered to the library. It is anticipated that all families will be able to contribute in some way. All students will be provided with the opportunity to make a book mark to be used with the book or placed inside the pencil case. Your generosity at this time would be appreciated. The last date for donations is 27 March 2009. Local discounts available for books see P&C report.

### **YEAR 6 / YEAR 7 TRANSITION FOR 2010**

All families with children in Year 6 in 2009 will next week receive information in relation to enrolling their children in high school for 2010 and beyond. In conjunction with an application form, three flyers will be enclosed that will provide some additional information. I ask all families to read this information and return the necessary documentation to their child's class teacher no later than Friday 27 March 2009. Please see your child's teacher, in the first instance, if you have any questions in relation to this process.

### **ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL EACH MORNING**

After a number of questions from families who have only just joined our school, I would like to share the procedures to be followed for children when they arrive at school each day. The first teacher to commence playground duty will be seen in the Top Playground at 8.40am. Students arriving before that time are reminded to sit on the seats, away from the library, until they see the teacher. No teacher commences duty in the Bottom

Playground until 8.55am. Therefore, any students arriving before 8.55am need to be escorted by families to the Top Playground. Any concerns about this arrangement should be discussed with your child's class teacher in the first instance.

### **SPORTS WRAP**

1. The first game for the school cricket team in the state PSSA knockout will be played against Moss Vale Public School on Monday 16 March 2009. Final preparation, with regards the organisation for the day, is underway and the game will be played at Stephens Park. All players involved in this match will take a note home by Thursday 12 March 2009.

2. Students from Bowral Public School have been invited to display their talents during the lunch break of the ICC Women's World Cup match between New Zealand and South Africa at Bradman Oval on Thursday 12 March 2009. Notes about this opportunity left the school earlier in the week.

3. The Wingecarribee District PSSA will conduct their annual soccer gala day on Friday 3 April 2009. Information about this activity will continue to leave the school prior to Friday 27 March 2009. Mrs Erin Griffith is Bowral Public School's convenor. Families will be required to assist as managers on the day.

4. Listed below are the swimming results from last week's regional carnival.

- o Taylor – 11 years girls butterfly, second place
  - o Toby – 9 years boys freestyle, first place. Junior boys butterfly, second place
- Junior boys relay team of Toby, Jessie, Emil and Darcy, third place.

**John Morris**  
**School Team Leader**

### **REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Last Friday at the Regional Swimming Championships, five Bowral swimmers, Toby, Tayla, Emil, Darcy and Jesse qualified to represent Bowral Public School and the South Coast Region at the NSW State Swimming Championships to be held at Homebush on 8 and 9 April 2009.

Toby will swim at the State Carnival in the nine year fifty metre freestyle after finishing first in this event and the junior boys butterfly in which he finished second. He is also a member of both the Bowral Junior Boys relay team and the South Coast Junior Boys Relay team. This is a fantastic achievement for Toby who still has another year in the junior competition.

Tayla will swim in the 11 year girls 50 metre butterfly after finishing second in this event.

Our junior boys relay team of Toby, Emil, Darcy and Jesse finished third in their event and will represent the school at the State championships in the relay.

We wish all our swimmers the best of luck and look forward to hearing of their experiences at this high level of competition.

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. Special mention must go to Courtney who finished fifth in the Individual Medley, Ebony who finished fifth in the 11 years breaststroke and Sasha who finished 6th in the 8 years freestyle.

Bowral's team members will all be 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.

Courtney	Tayla	Rosemary	Ebony	Sophie	Sasha	Lucy	Simone
Jonn	Toby	Emil	Clayton	Nicholas	Jack	Darcy	Jesse

Thank you to all the parents who assisted in many different ways to ensure our swimmers had the opportunity to compete in swimming in 2009.

**Jane Bell**  
**Sports Organiser**

### **STAGE THREE CAMP**

After a trouble free bus trip last Monday, all campers disembarked from our coaches to take our first look at the camp we would call home for the next five days. Whilst the teachers were given an opportunity to share information with camp staff, the children listened carefully to instructions provided by some of the camp staff. Soon it was time to find our cabins and orientate ourselves to the camp environment. Students were placed in rooms of fours or eights and enjoyed time to unpack and talk, anticipating a week of fun filled activities. The duty group left early for lunch and soon all the children were enjoying their first camp meal, a tasty hamburger followed by fruit. The real excitement commenced as we were placed in our day groups and headed off in all directions.

The colour group I was attached to, with Abe as our leader, listened to his instructions before taking on the challenge of rock climbing. Many students (and teachers) really pushed the limits to get to the top of the wall. The red route was the toughest way up and Lillyana and Mrs Faulkner were cheered loudly as they 'reached the summit'. The activity required co-operation and teamwork and the Bowral children excelled. Next it was across to archery where after listening and watching what we had to do, the children were given five opportunities (15 arrows) to hit the target. Five of the group scored a bullseye, serving as a highlight for the session. Back to our lodges for showers followed by tea, we dressed in our pyjamas and walked to the Gun Club for our disco. This was great fun with the last thirty minutes devoted to 'known' dances. Our favourites were the Chicken Dance, Nutbush, Hokey Pokey and Macarena. Returning to our accommodation units after supper, all children settled within an hour and were soon dreaming about the activities in which they would participate in the following day, especially the water activities. My group were ready for our day out bush walking and the cookout.

I am really appreciating the opportunity to spend time with our Stage Three children as they are friendly, polite and ready to learn about camp life and life in general. The children are keen to participate in all that the camp has to offer and, for me, this is a fabulous way to work with children away from the school environment. Friday at 4:00pm will be a time for many happy family reunions and to share quality time together.

**John Morris**

**School Team Leader**

## Where the Wild Things are....

Last week 1L read the picture book of "Where the Wild Things Are". We transformed our cute and cuddly teddies into vicious, wild and scary WILD THINGS! Next we sang "Wild Thing" by the group called The Troggs. We also learnt some percussion to complement a class Dad who is going to play the song on his electric guitar. For a story about our own wild thing, 1L contributed to a class discussion to decide which describing words would best suit the wild things. Performing this mini extravaganza is our next challenge!!

### WILD THING

A long time ago my wild thing sailed to Wild Thing Island. He started to cut down trees with his chainsaw arms. The other wild things growled at him and chased him back to his boat. Then he rowed to Australia.

*Liam*

Photo removed

Photo removed

### WILD THING

One day I heard a knock on my door. When I opened the door, a wild thing jumped out of nowhere. It had google eyes and jagged teeth.

*Tessa*

### WILD THING

One day I went sailing. I saw a wild thing. It had sharp teeth and it had antennae. It had horns and ferocious points on it's back. It was very scary.

*Arthur*

**MERIT AWARDS  
WEEK 7  
STAGE 1  
CONGRATULATIONS**

- 2W Lily, Sam , Telia, Alec
- 2B Maddison, Neve, Savion, Rosalie
- 1/2P Reuben, Jessica, Adelaide, Abbey, Sebastian
- 2/3J Morrisey, Bethany
- 1L Tessa, Nic, Erin, Josh
- 1B Annabelle, Mackenzie, Sophia, Archie
- 1R Ava, Ella, Daniel, Aidan

**BEHAVIOUR CLASS 1B, 1L SINGING CLASS 1/2P**



Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 16 March, and one important issue will be voted on. As you will be aware, John Morris is retiring and we will be involved in looking for his replacement. Recently several members of the parent body were trained to be able to sit on a staff selection panel. I have asked those parents if they would like to be involved in this process and one person will be nominated at the meeting. Our selection needs to then be supported by the School Council. I will not be putting my name forward to be on the panel.

Our Working Bee will be held on Sunday 29 March. We are planning to work on the garden at the Bendooley & Boolwey Street corner and around the Old School House. As we are hoping to add irrigation to some gardens, if there is a parent out there who knows their stuff in this area we would love to have some advice. You can contact either John Morris or myself ([falshaw@internode.on.net](mailto:falshaw@internode.on.net)). Thank you.

Books purchased to support the appeal for the victims of the Victorian bushfires may receive these discounts at the following local businesses:

- The Brown Book Shop – 15% discount on books. Expiry March 27.**
- The Creative Kid – 10% discount on books. Expiry March 27.**
- Angus & Robertson – 15% discount Expiry 27 March (Voucher needed from school office)**
- Moss Vale Bookshop – 10% discount on books. Expiry March 27.**

Justine McKinlay  
P&C President



Community Care and Outreach

Ph 1300 554 260

[www.caresouth.org.au](http://www.caresouth.org.au)

Aunties & Uncles, operated by CareSouth south of Sydney, links community volunteers with children up to 12 years of age from families who could benefit from support. Any volunteers contact CareSouth.

**Colouring-in Competition** — closing date for entries will be 24 March 2009 so the winners can be announced in Aunties & Uncles Week, 29 March to 5 April. Forms distributed with this weeks newsletter.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

<p><b>FOOTBALL CLINICS</b> Southern NSW Football will be conducting clinics for boys and girls aged from 7—12 years during the April school holidays Contact George on 4422 0300 or <a href="mailto:sbcoaching@bigpond.com">sbcoaching@bigpond.com</a></p>	<p><b>OXLEY COLLEGE</b> Families of Year 6 , ACER scholarship test are being held at Oxley College on Saturday 9 May 2009. Closing date Thursday 9 April 2009 Telephone Emma Calver 4861 1366 or email <a href="mailto:emma.calver@oxley.nsw.edu.au">emma.calver@oxley.nsw.edu.au</a></p>
<p><b>GLENQUARRY PUBLIC SCHOOL P&amp;C FUNDRAISER TRASH &amp; TREASURE DAY</b> Saturday 4 April in Glenquarry School grounds. 9am to 1pm</p>	<p><b>BEN MIKIC FOUNDATION FOR YOUNG CYCLISTS AND THE OUTDOOR EDUCATION GROUP</b> 2009 Mountain Bike Training Camp 14 &amp; 15 April / 6 &amp; 7 October Information 4878 5184 email: <a href="http://benmikicfoundation.org.au">benmikicfoundation.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS YOUTH CONCERT BAND</b> The junior band has returned for 2009 and is meeting on Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 7pm at the Mittagong Playhouse. Phone Musical Director, Mike Butcher on 4869 1382 for more details.</p>	<p><b>SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE</b> Student exchange program—seeking volunteer host families for high school students scheduled to arrive in Australia in July 2009. Information phone toll free 1800 500 501 Web: <a href="http://www.scce.com.au">www.scce.com.au</a></p>

*Information included in "Community Announcements" does not have official endorsement of NSWDET and may not be school activities. The announcements are a service to the community and should not be interpreted as a recommendation by the school. The school accepts no responsibility for information published in this newsletter as "Community Announcements".*