



Newsletter

Wednesday 26 November 2008

Term 4 Week 7

BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Striving, Thinking, Learning

FROM THE SCHOOL TEAM LEADER

P & C Matters

Despite experiencing a 'Day For All Seasons' last Saturday, I would like to thank all those families who turned up to assist with the painting of designs in both the Lower and Upper Playgrounds. The results of your efforts were observed by families as they arrived at school on Monday. It didn't take long for the children to seize on the opportunity and start using the markings. The colours are just wonderful and the school thanks 3D Paints for their ongoing support of this P & C initiated task. The creative talent of Kirsten Deakin continues to amaze us all as she develops an aesthetically appealing setting for our children. Of valuable support to Kirsten is her husband Andrew. What a great team! It is anticipated that further work will be completed during the forthcoming school holidays.

Our classes have commenced their Crunch and Sip program and I have been impressed with the charts that are proudly displayed in each of the classrooms involved in this pilot scheme. I would encourage families to continue to provide appropriate fruit and vegetables to allow the students to 'recharge their batteries, in this way, over the next four weeks.

The P & C organised First Aid course will be conducted at the school next Saturday 29 November 2008 from 2.30pm until 5.30pm. Please ensure the registration form, accompanied by the \$55 fee, reaches the school office by Friday 28 November 2008.

The last meeting of the year will take place on Monday 8 December 2008 when the agenda will be the setting of goals for the next year.

Fire Escape

Last Monday a footing pad was laid for the fire escape that will lead down from where KB is currently located. I noticed a number of keen observers as the mixer dispatched its load to the current location. A security fence has been constructed to isolate the area. It is anticipated that the remaining structure will be appropriately placed in the next week or two.

Kindergarten Students 2009

Currently the numbers for Kindergarten next year have reached seventy seven and this will enable the school to form four classes, a similar arrangement as in 2008. This is very encouraging to see so many local families nominating their local government school as their first priority to commence their child's primary education. It is important that all applications are lodged at the school office to confirm enrolment. Families living in the 2576 postcode fall into the school's drawing area whilst others not having this postal address will require an out of zone placement form. These can be obtained from personnel in the school office.

Classes for 2009

I am still receiving information from families regarding students not continuing their education at Bowral Public School in 2009. It would be appreciated if any further notifications could be made by Friday 28 November 2008. No further progress on class organisation can be made, at this stage, until numbers are known from existing students / families. Thanks for your cooperation at this busy time.

Year Six Self Help

This activity will take place on Thursday 4 December 2008. This is the opportunity for our senior students to plan appropriate activities to engage younger students. Funds raised on the day are directed to purchasing a gift to the school. It is important that all students attending this activity are appropriately dressed. Closed in shoes (not thongs, sandals, crocs or similar) are required while clothing worn by students must cover the shoulders and the top part of the arms of each wearer in line with the schools sun safe policy.

Annual School Report

Some minor changes will be required to the planned surveys seeking information from families in the compilation of this year's Annual School Report. These will now leave the school early next week.

School Excursions

This week will see a number of senior classes participate in educational excursions. Year Six will head south to Canberra where the focus will be on improving the students' knowledge of political understanding as well as visiting a number of sites that serve an educational value. Mrs Bell, Mrs Oszurko and Mr Thompson will provide a supervisory role over the two days. Year Five will travel to Sydney on Friday and complete a number of activities on Sydney Harbour as they enjoy their 'Lessons Afloat' day. On Thursday and Friday Stage Two will take a thirty minute bus trip as they enhance their skills and knowledge about National Parks at Fitzroy Falls. I trust the students appreciate the organisation and time that is required in preparation of these trips and that they serve as wonderful ambassadors for our school as they continue their learning on the day.

Year Six Leaders 2009

Last Tuesday potential school leaders for 2009 delivered their initial 'policy speeches' to a captive audience in the Basement. It was apparent that much preparation and thought had been devoted to ensuring that the students proudly shared their qualities and personal beliefs as to what makes a good leader. See Mrs Bell's report for further information.

Work Experience Students

An additional work experience student from Bowral High School has joined us this week. It is important that all children continue to treat the school's visitor with appropriate manners and respect.

John Morris Principal

**** FIRST AID COURSE SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER
YOU CAN TURN UP ON THE DAY**

CALENDAR

Saturday 29 November **	◆ First Aid for Parents Course 2:30pm—5:30pm
1—12 December	◆ Special Swimming Scheme
Thursday 4 December	◆ Year 6 Self Help
Friday 5 December	◆ Year 7 2009, Bowral High Orientation Day
Monday 8 December	◆ P&C Meeting 7:30pm(NB this is the 2nd Monday)
Tuesday 9 December	◆ Surf Life Saving Excursion Year 6
Wednesday 10 December	◆ Surf Life Saving Visit Years 2, 3, 4
Thursday 11 December	◆ Year 6 Dinner / Dance
Monday 15 December	◆ Presentation Day K—Year 4 Bowral Memorial Hall
Monday 15 December	◆ Presentation Evening Years 5—6 Bowral High School Hall 7pm

SCHOOL LEADERS

On Tuesday afternoon forty five Year Five students presented speeches to all of Years Four, Five and Six to nominate for the position of school leader. All students were well prepared and held their large audience captive with various presentations. Congratulations to all participants for the outstanding contributions.

At the conclusion of the speeches all Year Four and Five students voted to select their preferred candidates. The votes are being counted and the candidates for the positions of school leaders for 2009 will be announced next Monday at the school assembly. These students will then present a speech to the whole school on Wednesday 3 December at 10am to support their nomination to be a school leader. All students from Year Three to Six will then vote to determine next year's school leadership team.

The school leaders will be announced and formally inducted at the Stage Three presentation night on Monday 15 December.

Jane Bell

Stage 3 Leader

Well done Year 6 Boys

Early Wednesday morning I was most heartened when listening to Mr Lowe describe the behaviour and attitude of a group of well-mannered Year 6 boys. Apparently they had been playing a ballgame in the top playground and Mr Lowe indicated to them that with so many others around it could be dangerous. Without a question, each and everyone agreed with him; changed to playing handball: and got on with the job of enjoying themselves safely. From Mr Lowe – a big THANK YOU; great work boys.

EUCALYPT PUBLIC SCHOOL – THE SETTING FOR 3C'S OUTSTANDING PLAY.

Thanks to 4D students who came to report on the big performance this morning. I am looking forward to seeing the production on Thursday. I have seen the costumes and the enthusiasm on the faces of the children and am sure from the comments below that it was a huge success. Thanks to the parents who attended this morning – an audience is essential for a play.



Joshua

"It was original". It was played by animals (really the children in 3C).

The costumes were home made and were creative.

The backdrop was painted and was colourful.

The best bit: when the friends were arguing because it was interesting to see what the problem was and how they fixed it.

Kayne

The questions were funny at the end that the audience asked.

There was a lot of echidnas (like maybe seven of them) who talked and had to make friends with a person whose friend moved away and he was very lonely and got teased but in the end they all made friends.

The best bit: the conflict because it was nice to have a bit of conflict and it can't always be peaceful

Oskar

Mr and Mrs Bilby had a sepia photo in their house – which was a bit odd as the eyes were blue and this is not what you normally have in sepia photos.

5J children helped with the backdrops and with the audience.

The best bit: my favourite was when they were arguing because it was fun to listen to the conflict between Wally and Freddy and Tim

Thank you our reviewers: Oskar, Joshua and Kayne.



Jan Christie

Deputy Principal

Any parents/staff interested in attending an evening to discuss the formation of an Opportunity Class in The Southern Highlands are urged to attend Bowral Public School on Thursday 4 December at 7pm. For further information please phone Sarah Turkic on 0412 338891, after hours 48695046, email sarah@ianrayner.com.au.

As you are aware, the current school with an opportunity class is located at Tahmoor, which poses great logistical problems for the bulk of students residing locally. There is no adequate public transport servicing this school from our area as well as the issues of the children being removed from their local community were they able to attend.

I believe that for these reasons, many children who are Gifted and Talented have not sat the appropriate test and of those who have and have been selected, the majority are in a position where they have had to refuse the offer of Tahmoor Opportunity for the above reasons. I believe this area would have the appropriate numbers to justify the establishment of a separate Opportunity Class locally. In order for this to be considered by the Minister, I would need to show a response from the local school communities to support this. Many thanks and best regards,

Sarah Turkic—parent, Bowral Public School

Thank you to the families who braved the wild weather on Saturday to get some more painting done in the playground. We managed to get a few things in the top playground for the older children, which is great. We also need to thank a guardian angel in the form of Kathryn Morris who arrived with hot drinks and fresh baked goodies when it was getting just a little too cold and wet to keep going. It was perfect timing. Hopefully we can complete this work over the holidays.

My apologies for neglecting to give the details of the **'Monday Meal Deal'** the canteen is now offering with the new sparkling water drink. For \$5, the meal deal is a chicken fillet roll, frozen fruit cup and one of the new drinks, which come in strawberry or peach.

I will publish the results of the canteen survey and any changes that are going to be made next week.

Justine McKinlay



**Kids FIRST Aid program for parents and carers at
Bowral Public School,
Saturday 29 November 2:30pm—5:30pm
Cost \$55 per person.
If you are interested in attending, you can turn up on the day.**



Art by: [unreadable]

INVITATION TO KIDS ON SHOW

The Bowral & District Art Society invites you, your family and friends to come along and enjoy the opening of our "Kids On Show" Exhibition.

OPENING: Friday, 28 November - At 5:30pm

The Gallery will be open daily
from Saturday 29 November
until Friday 5th December
From 10 am till 4 pm

Classes from Schools are
most welcome. Come along
and enjoy the exhibition and
join in the guessing competitions.

Bowral & District Art Society
1 Short Street, Bowral
Phone: 4861 4095



Art by: [unreadable]

ENTRY FREE



8 STEPS TO CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- 1. Cool down.** Don't try to resolve a conflict when you're angry or the other person is angry. Take a time-out or agree to meet again in 24 hours.
- 2. Describe the conflict.** Each person should tell about it in his or her own words. No put-downs allowed! *Important:* Although each person may have a different view of the conflict and use different words to describe it, neither account is "right" or "wrong."
- 3. Describe what caused the conflict.** What specific events led up to the conflict? What happened first? Next? Did the conflict start out as a minor disagreement or difference of opinion? What happened to turn it into a conflict? *Important:* Don't label the conflict either person's "fault."
- 4. Describe the feelings raised by the conflict.** Again, each person should use his or her own words. Honesty is important. No blaming allowed.
- 5. Listen carefully and respectfully while the other person is talking.** Try to understand his or her point of view. Don't interrupt. It might help to "reflect" the other person's perceptions and feelings by repeating them back. Examples: "You didn't like it when I called you a name." "Your feelings are hurt." "You thought you should have first choice about what game to play at recess." "You're sad because you feel left out."
- 6. Brainstorm solutions to the conflict.** Follow the three basic rules of brainstorming:
 - Everyone tries to come up with as many ideas as they can.
 - All ideas are okay.
 - Nobody makes fun of anyone else's ideas.Be creative. Affirm each other's ideas. Be open to new ideas. Make a list of brainstormed ideas so you're sure to remember them all. Then choose one solution to try. Be willing to negotiate and compromise.
- 7. Try your solution.** See how it works. Give it your best efforts. Be patient.
- 8. If one solution doesn't get results, try another.** Keep trying. Brainstorm more solutions if you need to.

If you can't resolve the conflict no matter how hard you try, agree to disagree. Sometimes that's the best you can do. *Remember:* realize that the conflict doesn't have to end your relationship. People can get along even when they disagree.