



# Newsletter

Wednesday 3 December 2008

Term 4 Week 8

## BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

*Striving, Thinking, Learning*

### FROM THE SCHOOL TEAM LEADER

#### Director General Award

Last Tuesday I travelled to Sydney to attend the 2008 Director Generals' Awards. Throughout the public education system across the state, thirty eight teachers, non teaching personnel and community members were recognised for the contribution they make to schools. I was present to support Sally Ray, a long time volunteer of not only our school but also Bowral High School as well as the Illawarra and South East Region. Her dedication and commitment is of major significance and like the other recipients on the day, she thoroughly deserves this award. As principal of Bowral Public School, I had the opportunity to work with Sally for only a brief time and it was obvious that she has a passion in supporting public education. Congratulations Sally on your award and thanks for the leadership that you demonstrated while a parent at our school.

#### Turrumurra Public School Band

It was a delight to welcome senior students from Turrumurra Public School who entertained our students under the COLA with a wonderful rendition of tunes. Bowral Public School was the last stop for the players who were completing a tour of schools in the Shoalhaven and Southern Highlands district. The selection of music appealed to the captive audience and our students recognised many of the tunes that the band had selected to play. This performance provided a further opportunity to appreciate music as played by students their age.

#### School Excursions

I have received many favourable reports from the teachers who accompanied the students on excursions to Canberra, Sydney and Fitzroy Falls last week. These occasions provide opportunities for the students to learn 'on the job' and apply their knowledge in a practical sense. I made the time on Friday to drive out to Fitzroy Falls and see, at first hand, the activities in which the children were involved. As a member of a number of groups I was able to listen to our students' responses to questions asked by the national park rangers. It certainly increased my understanding and knowledge about the flora and fauna that exists in these protected areas and the manner in which plants and animals interact positively with each other.

There are still a number of planned excursions to be completed and I trust that groups leaving the school continue to appreciate the contributions made by the teachers in demonstrating leadership on these occasions and the students and families continue to see the benefits of these opportunities.

#### Cultural Experiences

Last Saturday I took the opportunity to attend the matinee performance of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual School Spectacular. Over three thousand students from primary and secondary government schools all over New South Wales demonstrated their artistic, dance and musical qualities to a peaked audience. The three hours

kept the audience on the edge of their seats as the students demonstrated a high level of skill and sophistication. As a special anniversary year, a number of ex-students were welcomed by the enthusiastic audience. These included Human Nature, The McClymont Sisters and Darryl Coggan – just to mention a few. The Spectacular provides the opportunity for our children to display their energy, talent and potential. I took special interest in the students from Bowral High School throughout the performance.

My cultural weekend continued on Sunday when I visited Bowral High School to view the ballet performance of Cinderella. A number of our students, of all ages, were part of the performance and the happy expressions on their faces reflected their commitment to the show. The on-going support of families was evident in the costumes the children wore. My congratulations to everyone involved in this production and it provided me with a further opportunity to see the talents our students possess away from the school site.

#### Stage One Learning

Throughout this term students from Stage One have been involved in an integrated unit of work that has encompassed Science (Kids Care) and Human Society and Its Environment – HSIE (Understanding Us). As a component of their learning, the students, with valuable support from home, have put together some 'Mums and Bubs Pamper Hampers'. These will be presented to a representative of the Salvation Army shortly to be shared with needy families within the Southern Highlands community. This activity has been co-ordinated by Mrs Hardy and she has received wonderful support from the other Stage One team members. A number of messages that the children will receive throughout their learning include caring for others and knowing how to support people less fortunate than themselves. Congratulations to everyone involved in this valuable learning experience for our children.

### CANTEEN NEWS

**CANTEEN CLOSED Tuesday 9 December 2008**

#### **END OF YEAR CLOSING**

Lunch orders finish Wednesday 17 December

Over the counter sales only

Thursday 18 December 2008

**CANTEEN CLOSED Friday 19 December**

### CALENDAR

1—12 December	♦ Special Swimming Scheme
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 ♦ CANTEEN CLOSED
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
Tuesday 16 December	♦ Combined Scripture Services
Thursday 18 December	♦ Jamberoo—Year 6 Excursion
Friday 19 December	♦ Last Day of Term 4 ♦ CANTEEN CLOSED
Tuesday 27 January 2009	♦ STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY NO STUDENTS

### **Banyette Street Playground**

It has been brought to my attention that, over time, the rocks in the retaining wall on the Banyette Street playground are being dislodged by students as part of their playing activities. Efforts will now be made to repair the walls. I will be speaking about this matter on the regular assembly towards the end of the week.

### **After School Play**

Regular families and visitors to our school would have noticed the work that has been done in the corner of the playground bounded by Bendooley and Boolwey Streets. This area is being developed into a passive play area with the planting of native shrubs. It is important for both students at our school and pre-school children not to play in these grounds or climb the trees. Family support would be appreciated.

### **Annual School Report**

One hundred family surveys will be issued to students this week. Additional surveys will be available to any families not included in the school's sample. These can be collected from the school office.

### **Bowral District Art Show.**

Last Friday our school was contacted with wonderful news about the school's entries into this art show. Congratulations to all these students (listed below) and thanks to the teachers who were responsible for providing students with the opportunity to present artwork to this standard.

### **Bus Travel 2009**

Please find attached a flyer relating to school students travel for 2009. Further information can be obtained by ringing 131 500.

### **Safe Travel to and from school**

It is important that all students who walk to and from school should do so in a group situation. This will assist in helping to eliminate the risk of unknown persons talking to the group. Please take the time to discuss this matter with your children.

**John Morris**

**PRINCIPAL**

### **SCHOOL LEADERS**

After the speeches last Tuesday, Year Four and Five students and teachers voted to select their preferred candidates. The successful students were announced at the School Assembly on Monday. The following students are the successful candidates:

Emily	Sarah	Madison	Eliza
Sophie	Grace	Jessica	Emma
Eric	William	Nicholas	Liam
Harry	Christian	Liam	Lachlan

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE SIXTEEN STUDENTS

On Wednesday these students presented a speech to the whole school to support their nomination to be a school leader. Congratulations to all the candidates on their efforts. Despite the nerves they addressed the very large audience with confidence and showed that all will be extremely capable school leaders in 2009.

All students from Year Three to Six and all teachers have now voted to determine next year's school captains, vice captains and school leaders. The preferential system will be used to determine the successful candidates.

The school leaders will be formally inducted at the Stage Three presentation night on Monday 15 December and the school and vice captains for 2009 announced.

**Jane Bell**

**Stage Three Leader**

### **CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS SUCCESS KIDS ON SHOW AWARDS—2008**

1. ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD FOR BEST COLOUR & DESIGN 6—8 YEARS  
WINNER: Liam      COMMENDED: Ben
2. ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD FOR GOOD PAINTING TECHNIQUE 9—12 YEARS  
HIGHLY COMMENDED: Georgie
3. JL PRIZE AWARD FOR MOST INTERESTING CLASS EFFORT 6-12 YEARS  
HIGHLY COMMENDED: Bowral Public School—Year 6  
COMMENDED: Bowral Public School 3T prints.
4. BETTY BRAY PRINT AWARD 9—12 YEARS  
HIGHLY COMMENDED: Brooke "Leaf Print"

### **NOTICE ABOUT LOST PROPERTY**



**'OVER FLOWETH' ALREADY**  
*Clothing Shop ladies will clear lost  
property bin next week, so please come in  
and claim your lost items*



**FOUND SIGNET RING OUTSIDE OF  
SCHOOL GROUNDS**  
Enquires school office.

### **RECOUNT YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION**

On Friday 28 November during our excursion to Canberra, year six went to the CSIRO. The CSIRO is like a science museum. We were divided into two groups; 6B and 6Z. Each group did one of two activities which were 1—omega 3 and 2—fuel and green house gases. First, our group did fuel and green house gases.

We went to a room where some science stuff was. We did lots of scientific stuff and wore big, white coats. Some of the things we did included microscopes, DNA testing and body parts, like hearts and lungs.

After that we did some research and talked about the possibilities of bio fuel and solar cars. After that, we watched a 3D movie on Omega 3. It was quiet funny and I learned a lot.

At the end we got to hold stick insects. They were so cool! We then voted on which topic we thought was most important for Australia, Omega 3 or fuel and green house gases. Although I voted for Omega 3, fuel and green house gases won by a lot.

Overall the CSIRO was a lot of fun and it was probably the best part of my trip to Canberra.

**Claire 6B**

On Thursday and Friday last week all of year Six travelled on an overnight excursion to Canberra. We all had a good time and learnt a lot. The only problem was we didn't get to bed early enough but I survived.

One of the best things we did was go ice-skating on Thursday night. It was really exciting and because I had done it before I didn't come out with many bruises (unlike other students!!) It was really funny watching people clutching onto the edge trying to learn but by the end most people had it ... well almost down-pat. It sort of ended up like a love story with boys holding girls' hands which was awkward.

All up Canberra was a great experience and I learnt a lot! Thank you soooo much.

**Bryce 6B**

On 27 November we went to Canberra. We did plenty of things but my favourite was ice skating. At 8:30pm everyone (well almost everyone) in year six went ice skating. The ice skating rink was next to a swimming centre and everyone was excited to get in because this was their first time ice skating. We skated for one hour and a half with music in the background. After ice skating we went back to the resort and just got changed and went to bed. My room was very noisy and annoying so the teachers kept on coming in. My friends in the cabin played practical jokes on me while I was asleep. The next day we did some stuff and went home. I liked Canberra very much.

**Sam 6B**

On 27 November Year Six made their way to Canberra, waking up early in the morning for the chance. During those two days we participated in many exciting and educational activities. Some iconic locations, including Parliament House, (spoke to Alby Schultz), Questacon, the CSIRO, the Australian Institute of Sport, the Electoral Office and of course ice skating on Thursday night. We all had a great time and will keep memories for a long time.

**Victoria 6Z**

Photos removed

On Friday 28 November, Year 5 left Bowral very early in the morning and travelled to Sydney for a fun filled excursion on Lessons Afloat, Shark Island and Cockatoo Island. In the morning, we enjoyed learning about the Sydney Harbour, its history and current uses as well as taking in all the beautiful sights that it has to offer. The students enjoyed a visit to Shark Island and a ride underneath the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

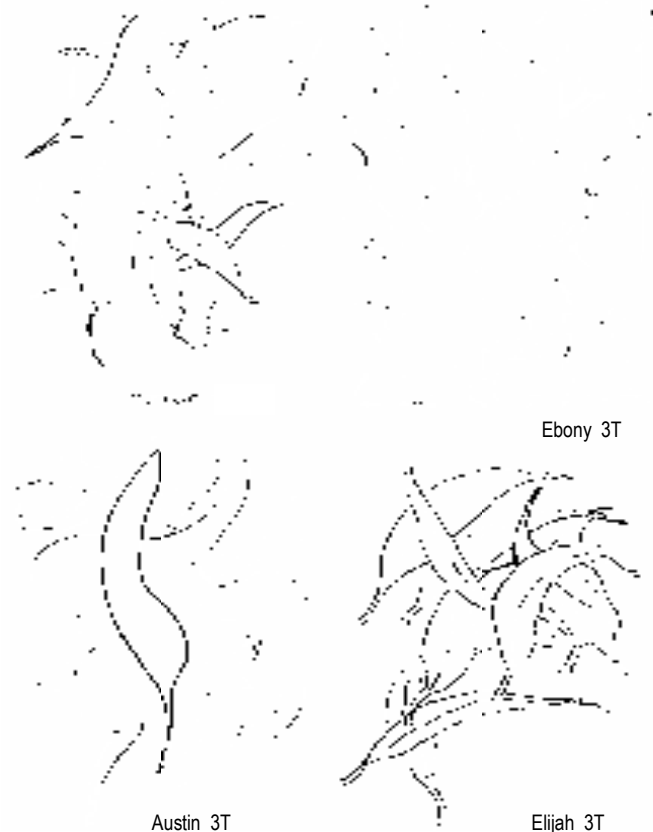
In the afternoon we were dropped off at Cockatoo Island for a private tour. The students learnt about the convicts that lived on the Island as well as the girl's gaol. The girls had an average age of fourteen and from the stories we heard they were very naughty indeed! We also saw some wet and dry docks and learnt about how ships are built and the traditions involved in a ship launch. The children appeared to revel in the nautical history that was made available to them at Cockatoo Island. Finally, the parts of Cockatoo Island where concerts and camping are possible at Cockatoo Island for current visitors to the Island were explored.

We travelled home in stormy weather, after a busy day enjoying all that Sydney has to offer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students of Year 5 who represented Bowral Public School in Sydney. They demonstrated maturity, a keen interest in gaining new knowledge and as a result, impressed everyone they came into contact with. Congratulations and thank you for a wonderful day!

**Erin Griffith**  
**Organising Teacher**

PHOTOS REMOVED

**PENCIL DRAWING / DESIGN 'Gum**



**BLOCK PRINT Harley 3T**





Dear members of the

## School student travel update

You may have recently received a letter to the school regarding travel arrangements by the NSW Government. Our aim is to help inform you of our changes.

Most importantly, the NSW Government will cut 40% from the annual cost per student per year, meaning more than \$150 million every year to go to schools to run their school.

### Improvements to the scheme:

- **This pass can now be used until 7pm** for after school activities like sports, clubs or assemblies after school classes and after extra-curricular activities. (This only applies after 4:30pm)
- **Students can now travel between school and 2 addresses** instead of one. For example, this allows students to travel to their grandparents, to their school, to their parents' address, school, work and 2 other different addresses.

### Changes:

- A **one-year** concessionary pass will cost the school a maximum of **\$45**
- A **one year** concessionary student travel pass will cost **\$90**
- A **family cap** means a family cap will cost a maximum of **\$180** per year maximum
- For many families, school travel will remain free if you hold a **Commonwealth Health Care Concession card** (school travel will be **travel free**)

The new pass that is taken into account is **11 cents per trip for a primary student** and **23 cents per trip for a high school student**.

The NSW Government will continue to support school students to have a maximum of \$2000 available for a year at a total maximum of a maximum \$4000 over a year.

**The eligibility criteria for the scheme remains unchanged.** A child must be aged 15 or under and be from your school.

If you have any more information or queries please write to [SchoolTravel@education.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SchoolTravel@education.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely,

**Verity Firth**  
Minister for Education

**David Campbell**  
Minister for Transport



## Important Canteen News!

### Dates for your diary:

Tuesday, 9 December – Canteen closed all day for volunteer’s luncheon  
 Wednesday, 17 December – Last Day for Lunch Orders  
 Thursday, 18 December – Over the counter sales only  
 Friday, 19 December – Canteen Closed for stocktake/cleaning  
 Wednesday, 4 February – Canteen reopens for 2009

### Results of the Survey

Thankyou to everyone who completed a survey. Your thoughts and opinions are very important, and it is hoped that by taking into account the majority of parent’s views, the canteen can return to profitability in 2009.

Many parents wanted less processed food, with an emphasis on fresh, seasonal food, while others feel that as the canteen is a ‘treat’ for their children, they should have access to ‘treats’. The majority felt that a ‘part time’ canteen was appropriate, but a number of families use the canteen on a daily basis.

A synopsis of the survey results was presented at the last P&C meeting and it was agreed that the following steps would be taken.

The Canteen will open for 3 days per week in Term 1. These days will be Wednesday to Friday.  
 The aim is to reopen 5 days later in the year.

The menu will be a focus, with more ‘Meal Deals’, seasonal meals and an emphasis on more fresh food. ‘Treats’ will still be available, but with more limited choice.

The infrastructure of the canteen will be a priority for the P&C in 2009, with the hope that a new fit out can be achieved, giving the ability to ‘cook from raw’ on a more regular basis. The approachability of the canteen will also be addressed, with the hope that it will be aesthetically inviting for students, volunteers and the Canteen Manager.

More communication will follow in the New Year.

Thankyou.

The Canteen Committee

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### **BOWRAL KOOKABURRAS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB**

Seeking male players between the ages of 6 to 16 years and female players aged 6 to 12 years. For further information contact Mick Galvin on 0412 724 072 or visit [www.playrugbyleague.com](http://www.playrugbyleague.com)

#### **LOST YEAR 6 RUGBY TOP SIZE 12**

If found please hand in at school office or phone 0407 406 926

#### **CENTACARE FAMILY SKILLS TRAINING COURSES**

Wollongong 4227 1122 Campbelltown 4640 8519

#### **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



#### **MOSS VALE VACATION CARE— Moss Vale Public School MONDAY- FRIDAY 8AM—6PM PHONE 0417 404 063**