



Newsletter

Wednesday 13 August 2008

Term 3 Week 4

BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Striving, Thinking, Learning

FROM THE SCHOOL TEAM LEADER

Whilst the thermometer struggled to stay above freezing point last Thursday night, the temperature inside Clubbe Hall reflected the enthusiasm of the cast of 'Once Upon A Time' as they performed for an appreciative audience. The students were again just superb as they committed to their various roles during the two (2) hour performance. I had the opportunity to sit in the audience and marvel at the excellence of the singing, acting and dancing. The MPO is a wonderful occasion where the children can put all their energies and skills into being a member of a live performance. I feel sure that the memories will live in the hearts and minds of the students as they reflect on their 2008 education at our school. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the families who have either spoken to staff or written to the school about their appreciation of the work undertaken by both staff and students in relation to the Musical Performance Opportunity. The play was an extension of the teaching and learning programs being taught in all classrooms and covered many of the Key Learning Areas contents, at all levels. As the school now refocuses its attention to other priority areas for the term, we can all be encouraged by the success of another Bowral Public School Community activity.

All Year 3 to Year 5 students are now involved in the Lexile Reading program that was so generously financed by the Bowral-Mittagong Rotary Club and our school P & C. The setting up of the program took many, many hours and our thanks are extended to our teacher/librarian, Mrs Jenny Henderson, for her thoroughness and expertise to ensure all was in readiness for the children to commence this component of their reading program in term three. I took the opportunity to learn first hand about how the scheme operates when I visited 4B last week. They were able to explicitly guide me through the procedures that enable the children to select a book, read it and undertake the related quiz, record the result and then move onto the next book. I really appreciated their time, and that of Miss Boxshall, for giving me a clearer picture of how this aspect of reading has enriched their lives. With the quiz being undertaken online, a technology component has been built into the program. I look forward to visiting other classrooms and see the success and development being experienced by the children.

Earlier this week I travelled to the Sydney Opera House to support our students as they participated in the Endeavour Choral Concert, the second of four (4) concerts being performed. Organised by the Performing Arts Unit of the Department of Education and Training, the occasion brings together students from government schools around the state. The constant applause provided by the enthusiastic audience at the conclusion of each song demonstrated the quality of the singing. The program covered a range of songs, across a variety of cultures. The children focused throughout the program and the

on-going work and expertise provided by Mrs Oszurko and Miss Sheumack, at school level, ensured our children performed to the best of their ability and complemented other choir singers. As the children left the main concert hall to be reunited with their families, a positive buzz could be heard throughout this majestic and world recognised building. Congratulations to all students and staff involved in this component of Bowral's musical program and to the families for their support.

The response to the school's request for families to enrol their children for Kindergarten in 2009 has been gradual. It really is important that enrolment forms are collected from the school office and completed as soon as possible to enable the school to adequately plan for the coming academic school year. Both Mrs Flemming and I will be visiting a number of pre schools next week to ensure appropriate information is provided for distribution. It is anticipated that by the end of this term, the school will be in a good position to finalise numbers. Families are encouraged to make an appointment at the school office if they wish to find out additional information about the Kindergarten enrolling process or if they have a specific enquiry.

Previously on the school calendar it was advertised that Bowral Public School students would be involved in NAIDOC Week celebrations on 20/21 August 2008. Families are advised that the new dates are 25/26 August 2008.

Could I urge all students to ensure that they collect any items from the playground each day as the lost property box once again is over flowing. The quality of the clothing provided by the school's clothing pool offers good value for money and, with the current weather conditions, it is important that all children have a warm school jacket to wear. Families are reminded to ensure the current owner's name is placed in all items of clothing brought to school.

I'm sure many families are taking the opportunity to watch the events unfold as they appear on the Olympics program. Whilst all athletes can't receive medals, it is encouraging to see many of the athletes perform to the best of their ability. The determination and commitment demonstrated across a range of fields of play reflect the Olympic philosophy – participation.

On the subject of dates, the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) for Year 3 and Year 5 in 2009 are 12, 13, 14 and 15 May. Families may like to make a note of these days as it may assist in planning family activities.

CALENDAR	
Friday 22 August	• District Athletics - Chevalier College
25 & 26 August	• NAIDOC week
Wednesday 27 August	• ICAS Competition - Computer Skills
Monday 8 September	• NSW Quality Teaching session for families 6:00pm—7:00pm
Tuesday 9 September	• Young Australia Workshop K—Year 4 'Tiddalik the Frog' • Regional Athletics - AIS Canberra
November 3, 4 & 5	• Student Kindergarten Orientation
12 November	• Kindergarten Orientation—Parent Information Session

SPORTS WRAP

SOFTBALL

Bowral Public School girl's softball team travelled to Balarang Public School last Monday for their long awaited clash with this coastal team. After being down 12 – 3 at the end of the first innings, the girls fought back bravely to eventually lose the game 20 – 15. Many thanks to Miss Boxshall for the time and effort she has devoted to the team. Congratulations to the girls for their determination and interest in the sport. Finally, the on-going support of families is appreciated in not only transporting the team safely but also for their cheering and encouragement during the game.

TEAM FOR THE DISTRICT ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

All students selected in this team should have received a blue permission note earlier in the week. These need to be completed and returned to Mr Morris by Friday 15 August 2008. A question has been asked about the discus event. All primary schools in the Wingecarribee District PSSA conduct this event as part of their school carnival and forward the results to the organising school. Once all results have been lodged, the two (2) top throwers in each division are selected to represent the district at the regional carnival. Therefore, there are no discus events at the district carnival. Students selected in the relay squad will commence their training by the end of the week. A final reminder that athletes participating in the 800m events on Friday 22 August 2008 at Chevalier College need to be present at the track by 8.30am as these events are timetabled first on the program. If there are any questions relating to any aspect of this carnival, families are asked to contact Mr Morris. Transport arrangements will be communicated to all families in the early part of next week.

SCHOOL SWIMMING CAPS

A quotation has been received by the school for light blue swimming caps that will include the school badge and the words Bowral Public School in dark blue printing. There are two (2) types of caps. A silicone material cap would cost \$7 while a latex cap can be produced for \$2.50. If you are interested in purchasing one of these caps, could you please leave your name at the school office. No money is required at this stage. Further details can be obtained from Mr Morris.



WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST 2008

BIRTHDAY OF DONALD GEORGE BRADMAN

On this day, one of the school's most well known ex-students, Sir Donald George Bradman, achieves another century by turning 100. The link between the school and the Bradman Museum has been forged over a number of years and both organisations will again combine to celebrate this significant milestone.

Planning for the day has been underway for some time and it is anticipated all families within the Bowral Public School Community will join in to recognise the contribution Don Bradman made to Australian society.



After discussions with personnel from the Museum, it has been agreed that the following approach would take place

The first of these are activities on the day.

Children would come to school, as normal, dressed in their school uniform. They are asked to bring their lunch in a disposable bag with their name written on it. At the end of recess (11.30am), volunteers from the Museum would collect all the lunches, on a class basis, and transport them to Bradman Oval as the students will have lunch after the celebration. The students would walk to Bradman Oval at this time. This is a Kindergarten to Year 6 activity.



Upon arrival at the Oval, the students and staff would form an oval shape between the wicket area and the front of the Bradman Pavilion. Inside this oval would be a number of students strategically placed to form the number 100. When all students are in formation, a group of StageThree students, who would be placed in the oval shape closest to the Pavilion, will lead their peers in the song "Our Don Bradman". The song is currently being taught at school. At the conclusion of the song, everyone would sing Happy Birthday. A cake is to be prepared and this would be cut by a representative from the Museum and the school.

At the end of this activity, classes, under the direction of their teachers, would move towards the boundary line and sit and have lunch on the Oval. Afterwards, they will have the opportunity to play, with school equipment, until it is time to return to school. The Museum will be open with no admission charge for our students and staff.

The second activity is something children can be involved with prior to the day. Students from Bowral Public School assisted the Museum greatly during Tulip Time last year in making decorations to display on the windows of the Museum and the Pavilion. Students are encouraged to do the same, to prepare something that can be displayed for Sir Donald's birthday. This could be a poem, a story, a diagram or drawing. Some students may wish to use their literacy skills to develop a piece of writing (limited to an A4 page) with a colourful border. Possible text types could include exposition (Why Bradman was the greatest cricketer of them all?), a recount (the day Bradman scored 334 or any other significant score that a student may wish to research) or a narrative (again, researching an innings where Bradman was required to get a big score to save Australia.)

All pieces of work would need to be submitted to class teachers by Friday 22 August 2008 to enable delivery to the Museum on Monday 25 August 2008.

An additional activity on Wednesday 27 August 2008 will be the unveiling on a brass plaque that will be attached to the school bell adjacent to the Old School Museum. This will take place at about 9.25am and should last for about fifteen (15) minutes. All children will be involved in this short ceremony. Final details of this short program are yet to be finalised and will be shared with families in next week's newsletter. Families are welcome to share this historic occasion.

John Morris



COMMUNITY NEWS

<p>TUDOR HOUSE SCHOOL ILLAWARRA RD MOSS VALE 'Educational Ideas Seminar' Topic "Fathering—Strengthening your connection with your kids no matter where you are" Wednesday 3 September 7:00pm - 8:30pm Information phone 4868 1088 Email: Phyll.Mclaughlin@tudorhouse.nsw.edu.au</p>	<p>BRADMAN CRICKET SUMMER CAMPS 14 to 19 December 2008 & 11 to 16 January 2009 Suitable for boys and girls aged 11 to 17 years. Information phone: 4862 1247 Email: www.bradman.com.au</p>
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<p>BLUE LIGHT DISCO Mittagong RSL Club Saturday 23 August Junior 4pm-6pm \$4 Special guest Esther Anderson who plays Charlie Buckton in 'Home and Away'</p>	<p>2008 CHARITY BUSH FUN RUN Sunday 17 August starting 9am at Welby Hockey Fields. Information visit: mittagongpreschool.org.au</p>
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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".



P&C News

Hi everyone

We have confirmed details for our **Trivia Night to be held on Saturday 6 September.**

- Venue:** St Judes Church Hall, Bendooley Street Bowral
- Time:** 7pm for a 7:30pm start
- Price** \$10 per person
- Theme:** Disco fancy dress - take your queue from the beatnik 60's, afroed 70's or the New Romantics of the 80's

It is also encouraged / required for people to 'dress your table' in style (vinnies is a good source of old records etc etc). At this stage tables will be of 8 and each table will be responsible for providing their own food and drink, and other requisites.

Don't be shy if you don't know 7 others to make up a table, we can do this for you, although if you would like to nominate a complete table of 8, this is fine too.

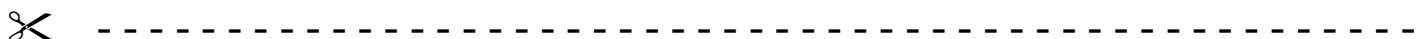
There will be a silent auction on the night—already some fabulous prizes have been offered. A complete list will be posted the week before the night, as well as prizes for the winning table, best costume, best look alike etc.

If you have any product or service you would be able to donate to the silent auction, please phone Sara Silm (0407 340 252) or Sarah Turkic (0412 338 891)

We would love to fill the hall, raise the roof and fill the coffers for the children and have fun doing so.

Please complete the attached form and return to the school office by Wednesday 3 September. Tickets will be on a first in best dressed basis, so be quick to secure a spot.

Many thanks
Justine McKinlay
 P&C President



Bowral Public School
 Trivia Night Saturday 6 September 2008

Number of tickets required Amount enclosed \$

Please seat on Table
Name

Return tickets with In class