



Newsletter

Wednesday 10 September 2008

Term 3 Week 8

BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Striving, Thinking, Learning

FROM THE SCHOOL TEAM LEADER

This Friday 12 September the sports house Jellore will co-ordinate the Self Help Day for term three. Information about the organisation on the day has been previously sent home to students in the green house earlier in the week. All students are encouraged to support this day by participating in the activities. The canteen will be open for over the counter sales at lunchtime only. Families are reminded about the two dress regulations regarding this day. In line with the Sun Safe policy, students must wear clothing that covers their shoulders and upper arms as well as their midriff area. To meet the requirements of our Occupational, Health and Safety regulations, children must wear appropriate footwear – no thongs, crocs, sandals or similar. I trust that all students and teachers enjoy the day and the ongoing support of families in assisting the Jellore children is appreciated. The theme for the day is 'Bring in Spring with Flower Power'.

Next Tuesday, our school will host the Regional final of the Premier's Spelling Bee. Last year was my first experience with children in a school where I was teaching and I was very impressed with the talent and commitment of the students who reached this level. It was obvious that the work in classrooms and at home, leading up to this event, needs to be acknowledged. Last year one of our Year 6 students progressed to the state championships in Sydney as a result of winning at the regional level. Congratulations to the four students who will represent Bowral Public School next week and I am sure they will endeavour to perform to the best of their ability.

Last Saturday night saw a good roll up of families at this year's P & C organised Trivia Night. Planning for the night had commenced some weeks prior to the event and the prizes on offer reflected the work undertaken by the organising team. All aspects of the night ran as anticipated and my thanks to the dedicated team of volunteers who ensured an enjoyable evening was experienced by all in attendance. Whilst being a fund raising activity, it was also an opportunity for families to mix in a more social setting.

Enrolment applications for Kindergarten 2009 continue to be received at the school office. It would be appreciated if any families wishing to enrol a child in their first year of formal education presents the necessary forms and application to the school office by Friday 26 September, the last day of term three. Planning for the orientation program has already commenced and letters advising families of this activity will be forwarded at the beginning of term four. Your continued co-operation regarding this matter is appreciated.

Earlier this week the school received a visit from associate professor Diana Whitton, the school's academic partner. She is based at the Milperra campus of the University of Western Sydney. Diana's role is to assist the Australian Government Quality Teaching Project (AGQTP) school team in exploring the two aspects of the current two year project. Her thorough knowledge in the area of gifted and talented (G and T) education was shared during her visit. The first of her three meetings was with the current AGQTP team of seven where Diana was able to gain an insight into the team's achievements to date and offer continued support and advice. After school, the staff of the school was able to listen to Diana speak about what are the essential elements required in developing and implementing an appropriate gift and talented program into any school. As all schools have a distinctive culture, it is important that each school community develops their own understanding or philosophy about the topic of gifted and talented education, develops a definition of what G and T means and finally possess a shared vision as to the appropriate strategies to be utilised in the identification of G and T students. This will require input from teachers, families and students. After this initial step is completed, further aspects of a G and T action plan can proceed. Diana delivered a similar message to the families who made this aspect of their child's education a priority from 6.00pm until 7.30pm. The visit has enabled us all to gain a better understanding of the essential components needed to implement a G and T policy in our school. Contact with Diana will be maintained as the project team provides leadership in this component of the school's curriculum.

Each government school has access to a school counsellor. Currently Mrs Samantha Swan is attached to Bowral Public School. To assist families to more fully understand Mrs Swan's role, a broad role statement is included in this newsletter. The contribution that any school counsellor makes is significant and by explaining her chief responsibilities it places families in a better position to understand Mrs Swan's contribution to our school.

Next week families with students in Year 3 and Year 5 will receive their child's National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results from tasks completed during the early weeks of term two. The format of the report varies from previous NSW Basic Skills Testing (BST) results issued, as in 2008, all students throughout Australia were part of this testing program. I would encourage all families to take the time to read the contents of the report and if further clarification is required please make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

CALENDAR

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| Friday 12 September | • Jellore Self Help Day |
| Monday 15 September | • P&C Meeting in the library 7:30pm |
| Tuesday 16 September | • Regional Final—Premier's Spelling Bee |
| Thursday 18 September | • Proms - Stage 2 (Years 3–4)
The Hills Centre, Castle Hill |
| Friday 19 September | • Touch Football Gala Day at Eridge Park |
| Friday 26 September | • LAST DAY FOR TERM 3 |
| 12 November | • Kindergarten Orientation—Parent
Information Session |

I trust everyone treated their fathers and grandfathers with extra care last Sunday. Our students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 were able to purchase a gift to present. The efforts of Kay Paviour and her enthusiastic team was really appreciated.

SCHOOL COUNSELLING ROLE

Mrs Samantha Swan is the school counsellor servicing Bowral Public School, attending our school two days each week. These are currently Tuesday and Wednesday. The main focus of her work is to assist children who experience learning difficulties and require counselling around issues that are affecting children’s ongoing learning needs. Through the school’s Learning Support Team, Mrs Swan conducts an assessment and referral service where she often guides families to appropriate outside agencies for ongoing help. Some brief therapy is also undertaken if the issue is school based. If everything is fine at school and the matter is home based Mrs Swan is available to talk to families, suggest some resources and provide contact details of local professionals who can support the family. Mrs Swan also coordinates the school’s gifted and talented enrichment workshops that are held each term and is involved in the identification of gifted children within our school.

If families have any concerns about their child, referrals can be made through each child’s teacher to the Learning Support Team. This team meets weekly to discuss children experiencing difficulties at school and Mrs Swan is a member of this term.

SPORTS WRAP

REGIONAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our students can be congratulated on their efforts at last Tuesday’s South Coast Regional athletics carnival, held at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. Whilst Bowral will not have any students progressing onto the State PSSA athletics carnival in 2008, our children are to be thanked for the manner in which they competed with a determination to achieve at their best. The support of families in transporting the children to and from Canberra as well as supporting them on the day is really appreciated.

TOUCH FOOTBALL

Bowral Public School has entered six (6) teams in the Wingecarribee District PSSA touch football competition to be played at Eridge Park on Friday 19 September. Mr Cayzer and Mrs Griffith will accompany the teams. To ensure each team has their own manager, three (3) more parent managers are required. If you can assist on the day please let Mr Cayzer know as soon as possible.

John Morris
PRINCIPAL

NUMERACY AND LITERACY ACTIVITIES

On Tuesday the 2 September I went to Bowral High School for a literacy and numeracy day. I went to the High School at 11:00am and it ended at 3:00pm. My dad dropped me off at Bowral High and Mr Jut came up to me and said I was the first one there. Shortly after Christian arrived. There were eight of us. Grace, Emily B and I were in a group together. We completed a literacy test and there were three stories. One was true the others FALSE! After that we participated in a spelling test.

Our group came first for everything so we received two crunchie Freddo Frogs. In the computer room we made an animation on a book. We did it on ‘Deltora Quest Book 4—The Shifting Sands’. Next was a debate. The debate was, ‘Is Fiction more interesting than Non-Fiction?’ I chose Fiction because I think fiction is more adventurous.

After lunch we did Mathematics. Grace and I enjoyed this. Last but not least we were involved in the Mathematics relay! Grace and I answered thirteen questions and they were all correct and the winner for the relay was..... BOWRAL PUBLIC! It was an exciting event. All of us got a certificate, a packet of coloured pencils and a box full of SMARTIES. We all enjoyed this event but I wish that next time the mathematics questions are easier.

From attending an exciting event our brains are smarter than ever.

Thank you Mr Jut for bringing us to the event.

Lauren 4/5T

COMMUNITY NEWS

<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>	<p>FREE workshop for parents and supervising drivers  14 September @ Moss Vale Book on 48680809 or email wscmail@wsc.nsw.gov.au.  </p>
<p>SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL Penrose Public School Sunday 28 September 2008 Register at Penrose Public School from 9:30am</p>	<p>Junior Summer Soccer 6 a side. Registration days during October Nick D. Amore M: 0407 917 062 Email: coachcoord@hsa.org.au </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”.



I would like to thank all the helpers we had for the Fathers Day stall. The gifts were beautifully wrapped and the volunteers on Friday afternoon assisted the children with choosing their gift. Many hands certainly made light work.

Special thanks must be made to Rita Street who ensured all was organised. Many thanks to the local business that assisted us.

They were Bowral Sweets & Treats, Angus & Robertson, Bargain Spot, Magnet Mart and Bowral Newsagency.

*Thanks all
Kay Paviour on behalf of JIG*

Bowral Public School



Hi Everyone,

Thankyou so much to everyone who attended the Trivia Night last weekend. It was great to see some rather fabulous frocks and wigs and suitably retro table decorations. I trust everyone who attended had a good evening.

I would like to thank those who put in a huge amount of effort to make the evening a success. Michael Turkic was a wonderful quiz master who kept us all working hard on the questions Robert Graham arranged for us. Robert, Katie Cripps and Meredith Wakeman did a great job in marking and judging the best dressed tables. Thank you all. Sarah Turkic, Kate Bow, Sara Silm, Shevaun Barnett, Robert Graham, Meredith Wakeman and John Morris were all involved in organising the evening and the donations from businesses. You would have to agree they were quite successful given the number of prizes we had to give away; thank you so very much.

Of course we wouldn't have had so many prizes without the support from our generous local business community. I am including an 'advertising' page, but will list everyone who offered their products or services. Dux Hot Water, the Dummer family, Creative Kids, So French, Il Topolino, Maree Hairdressing, Cut & Dried, Bowral Pets and Aquarium, ACN Pacific, The Brown Book Shop, The Fearocious Feed, Rodney Cavalier on behalf of The Sydney Cricket Ground, Ian Rayner Real Estate, Bowral Tennis Club, Angus & Robertson, The New Empire Cinema, Amcal Pharmacy, Glam Fragrance & Beauty, Powerpoint Music Centre, Freedom Hair & Nails, Harper Collins Booksellers, The Small Business Shop, Mimi & Fifi, Gastronome, The Bowral Hotel, Bing Lee, Bowral Country Club, The Grand Brasserie, Illawarra Fly, Mt Ashby Estate, Allseps Confectionary, Mezza Bar, Touch of Tea, Truffles, and Ian McMartin.

On a totally different note, the next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 15 September at 7.30pm in the school library. Hope to see you there.

Justine McKinlay

School Business

405 St. George St
Windsor, ON, Canada N9A 6E5

Myra Ann Arambilla
Director

Mod: 2414 711 600
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THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY
FOR SUPPORTING OUR TRIVIA NIGHT.
IT WAS GREATLY APPRECIATED.