



Newsletter

Wednesday 19 November 2008

Term 4 Week 6

BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Striving, Thinking, Learning

FROM THE SCHOOL TEAM LEADER

P & C Matters

The first of two P & C working bees, to improve the attractiveness of the Lower Playground, was conducted last Saturday. With the Deakin family providing wonderful leadership, a number of designs were painted on both the playground surface and the walls of the buildings surrounding this area. The volunteers were required to 'paint by colour' as the designs were drawn. Many people have commented favourably about the gradual transformation of this part of the school playground and the students are really enjoying the opportunity to explore and create during their recess and lunch times. Next Saturday, from 12 noon until 4.00pm, will see further work completed. If you can spare an hour of two, please come along with a paintbrush and lend a hand.



Over the next four weeks, six classes have nominated to participate in a trial to encourage students to eat healthier whilst maintaining energy levels in the classroom. Entitled Crunch and Sip, this P & C initiative, supported by the Department of Health, will allow students to take a short break during the first learning session of the day to recharge their energies. Our school is committed to improving children's health through education. As part of the break, children will be encouraged to drink water and to bring along fresh fruit to eat. Research has shown that drinking water and eating fruit and vegetables is essential for good health and can help concentration throughout the day. Students in the six classes will take home further information about the trial program during this week. At the end of the trial period, a review will take place and as a result of this, further guidelines can be developed with the ultimate goal of introducing this program to all classes in 2009. A reminder about the First Aid course that will run at the school on Saturday 29 November 2008 from 2.30pm until 5.30pm. The target group is Bowral Public School Community families. The cost of the program is \$55 and will provide essential first aid advice in dealing with a number of accident situations. The form attached and money should be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

Year 6/Year 7 Transition program

Next Monday 24 November 2008, our Year 6 students attending Bowral High School in 2009 will spend the day at their new secondary school carrying out a range of activities that will assist them to make the transition from primary school to high school a smooth operation. Students will walk to and from the high school under teacher supervision. Details about this arrangement and additional information about organisation for 2009 was distributed to relevant students during this week.

Fire Escape

I mentioned some weeks ago about the construction of a fire escape on the site to provide ready access to students, staff and visitors working in the area currently housing classroom KB and a number of school offices. The exit door was built some weeks ago and earlier in the week the installation of the outside fire escape steps were commenced. I am anticipating that the process should take about a week. Once the task is completed, all students and staff will be given instruction about the appropriate use of the stairs. As part of the



school's ongoing commitment to the safety of all people on the school site, a practice evacuation drill will be conducted prior to the end of the year to ensure that the operational procedure works as required. After the practice, a review of the procedure will be conducted to allow for any refinements.

Kindergarten Students 2009

As I mentioned last week, the Kindergarten Orientation program was finalised with an excellent rollup of families attending the family session. I received some feedback from families during the refreshment session after the presentation. With regards to Kindergarten classes for 2009, the numbers are now edging closer to the establishment of four classes as opposed to a class arrangement of three straight classes and a composite Kindergarten/Year 1 class. However, a final decision will be left until the beginning of the 2009 school year as I am anticipating a number of enrolments, for all grades, during the school holidays.

Work Experience Students

I would like to thank the six Year 10 work experience students for the manner in which they have joined in with both class and school activities over the last week. It is encouraging to see these teenagers selecting teaching as their preferred profession at this stage of their life.

Oxley Self Help

Last Friday a successful self help activity was enjoyed by students at the school. My thanks to all families who supported the school's sun safe policy as well as the OH and S regulations. The contribution by families at this time is valued.

Annual School Report

Preparations have been underway for some time in the development of the 2008 Annual School Report for our school. The positive comments about the contents and layout of last year's document were encouraging and there is every possibility that a similar format will be followed this year. One of the essential aspects in the writing of the report is to gain information from staff, students and families. With this in mind, three short surveys will be issued to randomly selected families in the next week. By completing these surveys, families will be able to inform the school in the areas of Music (curriculum area), Management (educational and management practice) and Parent Satisfaction. Specific details about the surveys will be included in each package. The school self evaluation committee appreciates your support at this time.

School Excursions

Over the next few weeks a number of students will be involved in educational excursions away from the school site. The activities have been planned to complement teaching/learning lessons conducted in classrooms. I appreciate the efforts of teachers, at this busy time, to provide additional opportunities for their students to obtain 'first hand' knowledge about topics covered in class. It is important that participating students follow all instructions provided by adults and serve as worthy ambassadors of Bowral Public School.

CALENDAR

- Saturday 22 November** ♦ P&C Working Bee 12—4pm
- Monday 24 November** ♦ Year 7 Orientation Day Bowral High School
- 27 & 28 November** ♦ Year 6 Canberra Excursion
- 27 or 28 November** ♦ Excursion Stage 2—Fitzroy Falls
- Friday 28 November** ♦ 'Lessons Afloat' Sydney Excursion Yr 5
- Saturday 29 November** ♦ First Aid for Parents Course
- 1—12 December** ♦ Special Swimming Scheme

SPORTS WRAP

Currently there are just over ninety applications received from families for the Special Swimming Scheme that will be held from Monday 1 December until Friday 12 December 2008 at the Bowral Pool. Further information can be obtained from Mr Cayzer.

John Morris
Principal

WRAP WITH LOVE

It has been an absolute pleasure to spend my Monday lunchtime with an enthusiastic and caring group of Stage 2 students. Under the guidance of Ms Locke, the children have been learning to sew woollen squares together so that they might create beautiful blankets for others less fortunate than themselves. Girls and boys are working on four different, multicoloured blankets they know will be used for bedding and warmth. They have pieced the squares to create patterns they like and are learning a form of blanket stitch that ensures everything is very securely sewn together. I have discovered my sewing needs require refinement and am learning, just like the children, what is needed. Ms Locke brought in a DVD showing us how the finished products are used. I have been most impressed with the patience of the students waiting their turn, asking good questions, chatting together and enjoying themselves. This week we also had the help of Liam's mother and Albert's uncle. Thank you so much. Some of our enthusiastic groups are: Austin, Ashby, Spencer, Jamie, Sarah, Georgia, Blake, Jai, Tanaya, Kelsey, Jared and Daniel. This is not all who come (more names next week) but what is really impressive is the enthusiasm, effort and enjoyment shown. This project highlights the values of public education in action. Well done Stage 2 and thank you.



CORRECTION

My apologies to Sharnaye in 4D – I wrote she sang 'Everyone' at the assembly and I should have said 'Everybody'. Thank you Sharnaye for the polite manner in which you brought this to my attention. Sharnaye deserves every credit for performing so well at the assembly.

TOP WORK 2B

Over the last week I have had some special time with the students in Class 2B. Each child has been to see me to read aloud and demonstrate their accuracy and fluency using a curriculum benchmark assessment. Whilst I acknowledge some children are still experiencing some challenges with fluency and accuracy, every single child demonstrated persistence and a striving for their personal best. To see the pleased expressions when they completed a text and heard the skills they utilised was just great. We had Lachlan read as if in a race and then when reminded to slow down showed just how well he responds to guidance. This was one example of the positive learning attitude of this group. Sarah used expression in her voice to show how well she understood the text. Christopher showed great courage in reading an unknown text as I am aware he is a student who is happier when responding to comprehension questions. Madeline used strategies such as re-reading and reading on to demonstrate she could use the context of the words to make sense of what she was reading. May I commend John for his enthusiastic sharing of the Magic Treehouse books with me. I have discovered what a great series this is and listening to John I realise how important it is to provide our children with factual information in an enjoyable and readable form. He has shared information on pirates, volcanoes, knights, tsunamis and life in the Wild West to date. I look forward to discovering a little about polar bears, dolphins and ninjas in the next week. I could name every student in Class 2B and commend them for some aspect of their reading and also the well mannered way in which they came up to the office area and waited their turn. Thank you 2B and keep reading.



Jan Christie
Deputy Principal

SCHOOL LEADERS 2009

The process of electing next year's school leaders commenced this week. Students in Year Five have been asked to nominate themselves for the position of school leader. The students who have nominated for the position of school leader in 2009 have been asked to prepare a short speech outlining why they believe they would be suited to the position. These speeches will be presented to all of Year Four, Five and Six next week on Tuesday 25 November in the basement, commencing at 2pm.

Following the speeches to their peers, Year Four and Five students will then vote (students will be asked to choose two girls and two boys). The sixteen students, eight boys and eight girls, with the highest number of votes will become the candidates for the positions of school leaders for 2009. These candidates will be announced at the whole school assembly in week eight on Monday 1 December 2008.

The students, chosen by their peers as the candidates for the position of school leader will then present an election speech to the whole school, the following Wednesday 3 December commencing at 10.00am. Students from Stage Two and Stage Three will then vote to elect next year's school leaders. The preferential system will be used to determine the leadership team for 2009. The eight school leaders for 2009 will be inducted at Presentation Night, on Monday, 15 December 2008 and the school captains and vice captains announced.

Jane Bell
Stage Three Leader



A very big 'thank you' to Justine McKinlay, the P&C team, Kay Paviour and the JIG volunteers for the wonderful help they gave to the Kindergarten Orientation on 12 November.

We had over 100 parents on the day which the P&C and JIG provided tea / coffee and delicious treats. A crèche was also provided for "toddlers" of the parents. Thank you to those who provided cakes and slices.

Julie Flemming



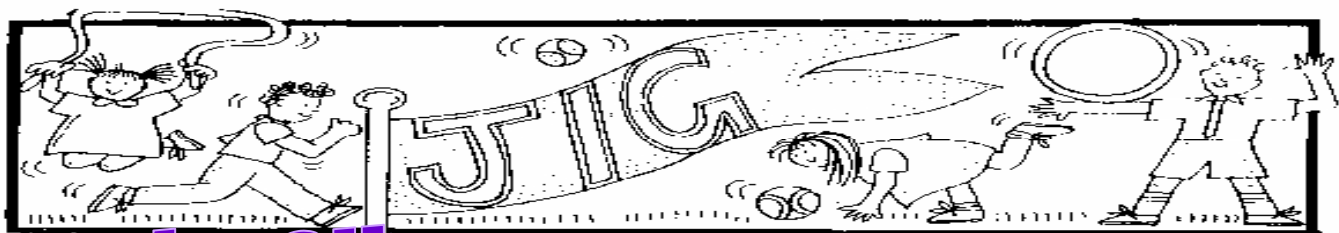
A big thank you to Kirsten and Andrew Deakin along with their children, and to everyone who turned up to help paint the markings on the bottom playground on Saturday. Everyone worked really hard and made a tremendous difference to the area. We are hoping to see more people there this weekend so we can finish the bottom playground and get some things done in the top playground for the big kids. Again, the times are 12pm – 4pm. 3D Paints also need to be thanked again for their contribution to this project.

Please find attached again the form to be completed if you would like to attend the First Aid Course the school is hosting on 29 November. The Kids FIRST Aid website is www.kidsfirstaid.com.au.

Just a quick note about a new product the canteen will be introducing as part of a 'meal deal' shortly. There will be an announcement in assembly about a new drink called 'OKF Sparkling Fruit Drink". I want you to be aware that this is not 'soft drink' but a lightly carbonated water with a drop of juice and very little sugar. It will come in a 245ml plastic ring pull can and will only be sold as part of this deal at this stage.

Hope to see you on Saturday.

Justine



Thank you

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers that assisted with the crèche for the Kindergarten Orientation. The children enjoyed it as I'm sure the parents did.

Thank you also to the few people who gave delicious homemade teats for morning tea, they were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The ongoing support of our few volunteers continue to let us provide the school with significant contributions.

Thanks again

Kay Paviour for JIG

COMMUNITY NEWS



St Jude's Anglican Church Bowral
presents

'MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE'

A shipwrecked Christmas Pageant
set on Notonthemap Island
6pm Christmas Eve

Wednesday 24 December 2008

At St Jude's Anglican Church

We are looking for children in years
Kindergarten to Year 5 to join our choir.

Enquires Annabel Michie M: 0402 117 834
or 4861 1327



Atelier SCHOOL for CLASSICAL BALLET

presents ... **EVER AFTER**

A child's fate

A woman's spirit

A Prince's destiny

A love Ever After

A CINDERELLA STORY



SATURDAY 29TH OF NOVEMBER 6:30PM

& SUNDAY 30TH OF NOVEMBER 2:30PM

2 SHOWS ONLY!! BOWRAL HIGH SCHOOL

All tickets \$10.00 - children under 2yrs FREE

Tickets available at

The Creative Kid (10 Boolway St Bowral)

or ring JOANNE on 0438 861 367

All proceeds to Make-a-Wish Foundation

Would YOU know what to do if a CHILD is CHOKING, BURNT or FITTING?

If not, then you need to come to our "Kids FIRST Aid" information session.



Kids FIRST Aid -A First Aid program for parents and carers' of children 0-16yrs

Kids FIRST Aid presentors are front line medical professionals. Our 3-hour program identifies 10 common emergency situations involving children and provide the most relevant and up-to-date first aid responses, including: poisoning, fits and fevers, CPR, asthma & allergic reactions and burns.

Bowral Public School P&C will be hosting a Kids FIRST Aid session

Saturday 29 November 2008 2:30pm - 5:30pm

Cost: \$55 per person - incGST. Includes take home material

Please encourage parents, friends, grandparents and other carers to come along.

RSVP 21 November 2008 - School Office

Accidents always happen, but the right knowledge can make a difference

I (print name) _____ would like to attend the Kids FIRST Aid session

Saturday 29 November 2008 2:30pm - 5:30pm

I will also be bringing _____ additional adults to attend the program

Total people attending _____ @ \$55 per person = Total Payment: \$_____

Please return this slip, plus cash, cheque or credit card details, back to the office.

NB: Cheques to be made payable to Kids FIRST Aid Pty Ltd.

Payment type: Visa / Mastercard / Bankcard (please circle relevant card)

Name on card: _____ (Please Print) Card Expiry: _ _ \ _ _

Number on the card: _____ Signature: _____