CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Lucie Drysdale who has been selected as a member of the NSW Public Schools Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SWO). Lucie successfully auditioned for this elite ensemble and is involved in weekly rehearsals outside of school hours.

SCHOOL EQUESTRIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Last week Lillie Heath proudly represented Bowral Public School in the Interschool’s Vaulting Championships at Sydney Equestrian Centre. Congratulations to Lillie who came 2nd out of 16 competitors!

SPORTING HOUSE ALLOCATION

When students are enrolled at BPS they are allocated to a sporting house whether they are in Kindergarten or in a higher grade. All siblings are allocated to the same house as they enter school for the convenience of families.

There is a carefully planned and monitored system for allocating sporting houses. Numbers of students across the range of age groups and total house members is constantly being monitored and balanced.

The school can control house number equity to a large extent when placing students into houses on their enrolment. What we cannot control is where we lose numbers in houses when families leave. The student population is constant ebb and flow and from time to time one house will randomly lose more students than another.

This cannot be made up by moving existing students between houses as most students identify quite strongly with their house colour and events and would not willingly change. We have to wait until new families arrive and allocate them into the vacancies.

Discrepancies are closely monitored and as soon as possible rebalanced. This system is in place to promote equity and enjoyment for our students in their sporting house competitions and events.

HOE DOWN

Friday is our annual Hoe Down! Fingers crossed for fine weather... I look forward to meeting up with lots of families.

If you are coming to the Hoe Down, can you please make sure that your own children are supervised at all times. While children stay in the top playground where Hoe Down activities are held this isn’t a problem but if they go to the bottom area of the school, to the grassed playground or to the climbing equipment there will be no formal supervision. Thank you for your help with this.

MOSS VALE SHOW

Every student in our school will receive a free ticket to attend the Moss Vale show which will be held this weekend. Please note that the tickets are free single day passes that can be used on any one day.

ROAD SAFETY AROUND THE SCHOOL

I am pleased to report that Highway Patrol officers and Bowral Police are conducting extra patrols around the school zone in the afternoons. This will enhance the safety of our students. Please make sure you observe the road signs and obey the road rules when dropping off and picking up your children.

HARMONY DAY

At Bowral Public School we are celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 22 March. All students will be invited to wear the national costume of another country in the world. It may be a country which they are connected to in some way, or a country which has some significance for them. Harmony Day celebrates our country’s diversity and the message in 2013 is “Many Stories, One Australia”. Start getting those costumes ready for a colourful day of celebration.

NEWSLETTER

This is the last week that paper copies of the school newsletter will be sent home, unless they have been specifically requested.

NEW P&C COMMITTEE

Congratulations to the newly elected P&C Committee comprising Kay Paviour President, Kate Bow and Elizabeth Fairleigh Vice Presidents, Sally Terry Secretary, Meredith Wakeman, Prue Wade and Shelley Gillis Executive members.

Thank you to all of those members who put up their hands for other positions and sub-committees. A detailed list will follow in next week’s newsletter.

Unfortunately the position of Treasurer hasn’t been filled. I am assured that this isn’t an onerous job and that there is wonderful support in the background. If you are interested in taking on this position, please contact Kay Paviour via our school office.

Finally, a big thank you to all of the parents who are so willingly giving up their time to support our school in so many different ways. Bowral Public School is a positive place where quality learning occurs every day and our students are lucky to be supported by our fantastic parents.

Wendy Buckley
PRINCIPAL

REMINDER DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8 March</td>
<td>P&amp;C Hoe Down, 5pm—7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11 March</td>
<td>School Council Meeting 6:35pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 15 March</td>
<td>P&amp;C Bulb Fundraiser orders returned</td>
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<td>ICAS ‘University Testing” entries due</td>
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<tr>
<td>18—22 March</td>
<td>Stage 3 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22 March</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28 March</td>
<td>Easter Parade 12 noon, K—Year 2</td>
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<td>Friday 29 March</td>
<td>Good Friday—Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1 April</td>
<td>Easter Monday—Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Friday 12 April</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>29—30 April</td>
<td>School Development Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 May</td>
<td>Students return Term 2</td>
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</tbody>
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**Kindergarten ‘Silly Sock Day’**

Last Friday the Kindergarten students wore a variation on their usual school uniform. They wore ‘silly socks’ to school! They also cut out ‘salubrious scarves’ and looked at other objects in the environment starting with the letter ‘S’. The purpose of this day of fun was to raise phonemic awareness. By listening carefully to beginning sounds in words the students increase their skills of reading and spelling. The children greatly enjoyed participating in games and activities inspired by the socks and scarves. Hopefully they will remember the letter ‘S’.

*Virginia Pridham*

**‘BULLY NO MORE’**

All children from Kindergarten to Year 6 very much enjoyed the itinerant performance ‘Bully No More’. This play highlighted the effects of bullying and presented possible strategies for dealing with bullying in the school environment. Although the play was humorous students were encouraged to identify bullying behaviours. The actors explored possible causes of these behaviours and offered some courses of action. This was a very worthwhile experience for our students.

*Virginia Pridham*

**APOLOGY**

Max Davis-Rice name was omitted from Individual Swimmers at Regional Carnival. Max was selected to swim in 50m breaststroke at Regional.

**ICAS ‘UNIVERSITY TESTING’ FOR YEARS 3 TO 6**

A reminder that the closing date for the return of entry forms for the ICAS test is Friday 15 March. Please ensure that the entry form and money is in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and class clearly marked on the front and handed in to Mrs Oszurko.

**ENTRY FORM AND PERMISSION NOTE**

I give permission for my child ______________________ of class ________ to participate in the following 2013 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools: ‘University Testing’ for Years 3 to 6. This entry form and money must be returned to Mrs Oszurko in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and class clearly marked on the front by Friday 15 March 2013.

*** Please tick the subject you are paying for your child to enter ***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY</th>
<th>COMPETITION SUBJECT</th>
<th>COST</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 21 May</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Wednesday 5 June</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>Monday 17 June</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 18 June</td>
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<td></td>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Wednesday 31 July</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 13 August</td>
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I am paying a total of ______________ by  *cash  *cheque (made out to BPS)

Signed ___________________________ Date_______________________
As our P&C AGM on Monday night our 2013 committee were elected:
President: Kay Paviour, Vice Presidents: Kate Bow and Elizabeth Fairleigh, Secretary: Sally Terry, Treasurer: pending, Executive members: Meredith Wakeman, Prue Wade and Shelley Gillis.
This team will lead the school through various fund raisers and work with the whole school community to provide the best resources for our children. Please feel free to join us at our next meeting, Monday 13 May 2013.

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS
Next Tuesday morning, 12 March, you are invited to come along to an 'informal chat' with some of us older/experienced school mothers. We will be happy to answer any 'housekeeping' questions that may have arisen as you and your child have settled into school. We remember, as first time school parents, that things are not always clear about the 'going ons' of school activities and life. Apart from information this will be an opportunity to meet some other kindy parents.
Hope to see you there for a chat.

HOE DOWN
Kinder parents, our job for Hoe Down is to dehusk a few hundred cobs of corn and then insert sticks(!) This activity will happen from 2pm Friday 8 March, near the canteen.
All helpers will be much appreciated.
Thanks
Kay Paviour
P&C President

P&C BULBS FUNDRAISER
Due date for bulb orders to be returned is Friday 15 March.

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Sarah McMahon</td>
<td>Lisa McLean</td>
<td>Lucy Tumanow-West</td>
<td>Jane Crebert(10.30)</td>
<td>Sue Cruickshank</td>
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<td>Nicole Smith-Bertram</td>
<td>Vida Carden-Coyne</td>
<td>Shelly Davis–Rice 10:30</td>
<td>Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Lesley Staats</td>
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<td>Tracy Greenough</td>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>Karina Murray</td>
<td>Niki Caton</td>
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<td>11 March</td>
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<td>Kate Bow</td>
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<td>Shelley Gillis</td>
<td>Tara Cooke</td>
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<td>Jacquelyn Monk</td>
<td>Emma Bragg(11-3)</td>
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<td>Tracy Greenough</td>
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<td>Sarah McMahon</td>
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<td>Jane Crebert(10.30)</td>
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<td>Kate Bow</td>
<td>Patsy Bingham</td>
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<td>Deb Townsend</td>
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<td>Vida Carden-Coyne</td>
<td>Niki Caton</td>
<td>Lyn Brady</td>
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CLOSE THE GAP DAY 2013
Please join us for activities including smoking ceremony, health checks and vaccination catch-ups, information stalls and a BBQ lunch.
Bowral Hospital, Milton Park entrance
10am, Tuesday 19 March 2013
Aboriginal Health staff available.
Bowral Hospital is committed to helping close the life expectancy gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians.

COMMUNITY NEWS
NSW Sport and Recreation have three new programs – fitness challenge, circus skills and a team challenge for the April 2013 school holidays.
Enquiries: Emma Cappetta
T (02) 4228 5355
E emma.cappetta@communities.nsw.gov.au

Wingecarribee Shire Council is pleased to be able to promote a NSW Government initiative - the Home Power Savings Program. Call 1300 662 416 to book your FREE in-home power assessment or visit savepower.nsw.gov.au/ freepowerformoreinformation.
Come one, come all
to our annual Hoe Down!

We look forward to seeing friends and families of Bowral Public School students on Friday 8 March 2013

5pm - 7pm

Dust off those cowboy boots, checked shirts and hats.

Come and enjoy our parents and friends ‘Hoe Down Band’

Eat a sausage sizzle $3
Corn on the cob $2.50
Delicious Coffee (the real McCoy!) $3.50 or $4 with cake
Delicious baked treats
Fairy floss $1
Chips, drinks and lollies too!

And of course, buy a ticket for our ‘Goose Poo’!!

$5 ticket to be in the running for $1000 prize money!

WET WEATHER PLAN

overcast-drizzle will go ahead
raining will be cancelled

Available to purchase at the Hoe Down and then from the school Canteen $10 each