**Principal's Message:**

**ANZAC SERVICES**

Anzac commemorations at our school and in the community were solemn occasions, where all of our students acted in a respectful manner. I was incredibly proud of all of our students. With approximately 280 students participating in the town march, we had the biggest number of students march in recent memory. Bowral Public School was also declared “best school” at the march. Congratulations to all Bowral Public School students.

**APP AND FACEBOOK**

If you haven’t visited our Facebook site, you really should have a look. Recent school news, snippets of our school day and snapshots of school events are being posted on a regular basis. The video of students singing at our Anzac service still brings a tear to my eye…even though I have watched the video several times! Your feedback about our website is always welcomed. [https://www.facebook.com/bowralpublic](https://www.facebook.com/bowralpublic)

We now have many, many parents accessing our Skoolbag app. We send messages and alerts via this app and as time goes by we are using it more and more. If you don’t have the app yet, you can download it from the app store….just type in Bowral Public School.

**2015-2017 SCHOOL PLAN**

Our new school plan has now been published on the school website for all parents to read.

**ETHICS**

classes for K—Yr 6 students will now commence Week 5, 19 May. Notes were sent home to all students who do not attend scripture classes last term. If you have lost your note or require more information, please talk to your class teacher.

The **NAPLAN** 2015 tests are fast approaching, with the assessments to take place on 12, 13 and 14 May. NAPLAN helps parents and educators to see if our children are meeting important numeracy and literacy standards – good literacy and numeracy levels are fundamental to a child’s learning and development.

**OPPORTUNITY CLASSES**

Please note that the information sent home last week and also in today’s newsletter about Opportunity Classes is NOT the Southern Highlands Academically Gifted Class. Information about that class will be given to parents towards the end of the year.

**WORKING BEE**

This Sunday we will have a working bee at school from 10am—12noon to repaint some of the existing playground markings as well as paint some new handball courts. We may even get some gardening done! Materials will be supplied (although a rake and wheelbarrow is always appreciated)…we hope that lots of parents can join us to brighten up our school. A sausage sizzle will be held for all to enjoy afterwards. Please note the working bee will NOT be on if it is raining! If you can attend please email Meredith Wakeman meredithwakeman@hotmail.com

**Wendy Buckley, PRINCIPAL**

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**REMINDER DIARY DATES**

- **Thursday 30 April** • St. 2 Storm Boy excursion
- **Friday 8 May** • Mothers Day stall
- **12—14 May** • NAPLAN Yr 3 & Yr 5
- **Monday 18 May** • ICAS: Computer Skills
  • P&C meeting
- **Thursday 21 May** • School Photographs

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**FRIENDSHIP TREE:**

This week saw the School Representative Council (SRC) launch our friendship tree initiative. The purpose of this is to provide a strategy for children who find themselves alone during recess and lunch breaks. Some children can find the less structured playground setting quite overwhelming at times. Trees have been identified in each of the top and lower playgrounds—both of which have seats underneath them. At lunchtime only, there will be a small basket of quiet activities near the tree—books and the like. Both trees are available at recess also—just not with activities.

- The tree provides a place to go at recess and lunch if you are on your own.
- You might go there to find a friend or meet a new one!
- You can sit under the tree and read if you’d like some quiet time
- Other children might notice someone on their own at the tree and invite them to join their game or spend time with them
ANZAC DAY RECOUNT

Anzac Day was on Saturday 25 April 2015. It was one hundred years since the Anzac soldiers landed at Gallipoli in Turkey during World War 1. We remembered them by making poppies and reading stories about them including Simpson and his donkey. We also held an Anzac ceremony at school and sang the song ‘I'll Always Remember’. On Saturday, there was an Anzac march along Bong Bong St in Bowral. Sophia L, Sophia T, Finn, Meg, Declan, Andie, Helena, Daisy, Hayden, Katie and Mr Cayzer marched from our class in the school group. Eden marched with the Girl Guides. James, Jemmason and Isabella went to the dawn march. In the march, you had to stand in rows of four so that you didn’t get lost. No cars were allowed to drive along the road while we marched. There were thousands of people who watched us, including Josh from our class. Eden said “I really loved marching and how they think about the soldiers”. Andie said “I really liked the march and it made me feel happy”. Finn said “I liked the march but not really the waiting”. Katie said “I liked the march and there were a lot of people clapping as we marched past them.” Sophia T said “Mrs Pridham did a very good job at teaching us how to march”. After the march, there was a ceremony in town next to the war memorial. It took about half an hour to finish. We listened to a band, we sang the national anthem and we said some prayers. Our school won the shield for being the best school at the march. After the ceremony, we went home with our families. Other things that 2C students did on Anzac Day were: Violet: “I went to the beach to see the air force fly past for Anzac Day. Then we came back to Bowral to write our ancestors’ names on some leaves and put them next to the Vietnam War Memorial. I had lots of fun.” Isabella: “When I got home from the dawn service, I got our ingredients out for Anzac biscuits and then we started making them. It took us three hours. After we left them in the oven, we went out the back for a little and then we checked on them. I brought them into school because I wanted to share them for Anzac Day.” Katie: “When I finished marching, we watched the people in Sydney march.” Lucy: “I didn’t go to the march but I watched some marches on TV and then we played some games.” Grace: “I didn’t march because it was my birthday. I opened presents and watched the news about Anzac Day.”

Written by 2C

University of Wollongong - Enrichment Opportunities for Gifted Children
Learning Labs in the July School Holidays for students in Years 1 to 6. Each workshop is held at the University of Wollongong and pitched at two years above your child’s grade level. Topics include: 3D Modelling and Animation, Devising Drama for the Theatre Space, The Joys of Writing, Graphic Design, It All Ads Up ….. for more details see the website: www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/learninglabsyr1-yr6/index.html
For Supporting Documentation from the school please see Mrs Swan. Closing date 19 May 2015.

On Tuesday 28 April I had a fall in the lower playground—silly thing to do I know! I would like to thank the lovely Kindy boy who returned my belongings to me. Unfortunately I don’t know your name but THANK YOU!
A BIG THANK YOU as well to those who came to my aid, it was very much appreciated.

Kind regards
Nicole Zervos
RUGBY UNION
Hugo Fay was Bowral Public School’s sole representative at the Zone Rugby Union trials in Goulburn at the end of last term. He was a fantastic representative of our school and the Wingecarribee district and was successful in gaining selection in the Tablelands Zone Rugby Union Team. He will represent the school and the zone at the South Coast Regional trials in Week Four of this term. We congratulate Hugo on his success and wish him further success at the next level.

NETBALL
We hosted the Tablelands Zone Netball trials at Eridge Park last Friday. Five of our students, Jessica Tyrrell, Anneliese Wansey, Rosie Thompson, Jemima Wansey and Olivia Bow represented the Wingecarribee District at these trials. The girls played against teams from Goulburn, Yass and Queanbeyan and acquitted themselves very well. The Wingecarribee Team was very strong and dominated against Yass and Goulburn. The game against Queanbeyan was much closer and a great game to watch. Congratulations to Olivia, Jessica and Anneliese who were selected in the Tablelands Zone Team. The Zone Team will compete in the regional trials and carnival at Berkeley this week. Congratulations and good luck girls!!

FOOTBALL
The South Coast Regional Football trials were held in the last week of Term One. The Tablelands Zone teams participated in these trials. Amelia Horn, Charlotte Hampshire, Willow Crebert and Maddison Laws were members of the girls’ team and Harry Pinczi and Jack Malcolm members of the boys’ team.

The boys had a great day at Kiama playing football at a high level and representing our school and the zone with pride. Harry Pinczi caught the eye of the selectors and was named in the possibles/probables squad but unfortunately just missed out on selection in the South Coast Team.

The girls’ team travelled to Nowra. It was a great experience for them, playing football at a high level against other teams of girls, as usually they play in competitions made up mainly of boys. We are very proud of their efforts in making it to this high level.

Congratulations to all our football players on their achievement this year.

GIRLS HOCKEY
Congratulations to Molly Knowles for being selected into the South Coast PSSA Girls Hockey Team. Molly will be travelling to Murwillumbah 26—28 May to compete at the NSW PSSA Girls Hockey Championships. Molly, we wish you and your team all the very best. We are looking forward to hearing about the big event when you get back. Good luck!

NETBALL
On Tuesday, the Bowral Public School Netball Team of Jessica Tyrrell, Anneliese Wansey, Olivia Bow, Tiahna Edwards, Rosie Thompson, Jemima Wansey, Zoe Phillips, Grace Ayling and Lily Harmey had their first outing, participating in the Netball NSW Schools’ Cup. We travelled to Goulburn to participate in the round robin for the district finals. After over a week of very wet weather we were lucky to have a beautiful calm, sunny day and perfect conditions for netball.

As we have not had the opportunity to start training, this competition provided a great opportunity for all the girls to play a lot of netball in various positions on the court. I was very impressed with the determination and commitment shown by all the girls and their willingness to adapt to fit in with the team needs. In all six of our games they easily overpowered their opposition and displayed some great teamwork, gaining in confidence and improving with each game. As undefeated winners of this phase of the competition the team has qualified for the regional finals of the Schools Cup which will be played in Queanbeyan later this term.

Thank you to Kate Bow who umpired, Buffy Pittar who scored and the parents who provided transport for the team and were great supporters throughout the day.

The team will play again next week in the first rounds of the NSWPSSA knockout competition. We are all looking forward to some great netball games this term.

Jane Bell & Emily Montanari

STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE
Stewart House, the charity sponsored by the Department of Education and Communities, regularly conducts a donation drive. Going home tomorrow, is an envelope requesting a $2 coin or equivalent, for a chance to win a $4000 family holiday. Envelopes and their contents can be returned to the school no later than Thursday 14 May when they will be collected by Stewart House. Many thanks for your kind and generous support. Emily Montanari
Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for opportunity class placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 22 July 2015.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2016, you need to do so soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 27 April 2015 in a printed application information booklet and at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. The application website opens on 27 April 2015 and closes on 15 May 2015. No late applications will be accepted.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance after 27 April 2015.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

Yours sincerely

Principal

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Note: This is a notice to your primary school that you intend to apply only. It is NOT an application.

To apply you will need to register and then apply through the High Performing Students application website shown above.

Cut along the dotted line and return the completed slip below to this school by next Friday.

Intention to apply: Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2016

Student’s name: ____________________________ Class: ______________

I am interested in applying for opportunity class placement in 2016 Yes [ ] No [ ]

I have internet access and will be applying online [ ]

OR

I do not have internet access and would like to receive a printed application form [ ]

Signature of parent/carer: ____________________________ Date: ______________

Note: This is a notice to your primary school that you intend to apply only. It is NOT an application.

To apply you will need to register and then apply through the High Performing Students application website shown above.