Education Week was a wonderful success at Bowral Public School. At our Open Day we celebrated the achievements of all of our students alongside our grandparents and parents who visited throughout the day. A big thank you to everyone who contributed in some way to make the day so successful. I know you will agree that the work done by our volunteers and canteen manager and assistant in The Beehive was outstanding, thank you all!

**KINDERGARTEN 2016**

It’s time to enrol for Kindergarten in 2016. We are holding our orientation sessions earlier than usual this year and would love to have enrolment forms at school as soon as possible. If you have neighbours or family friends with a kindergarten aged child, please encourage them to enrol now.

**PARENT SENTIMENT SURVEY**

Last year we surveyed parents, asking how we could make our school even better. The results of the survey have been used to make improvements to our school and formed the basis for our strategic directions in our school plan. This year we hope that you will take the time to complete the survey again. We welcome your responses.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BowralPS2015

**NEW BUILDING**

You will have noticed that a new fence has been erected at Banyette Street. This is the beginning of our building program. New demountables (including toilets) will be in place by the end of term. Students in classes 5M, 5H, 6G and 5/6Z will relocate to the new demountable classrooms at the end of this term.

**ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Anticipating the new building project beginning in 2015 and expecting disruption to existing learning spaces, our academic enrichment program was planned as offsite activities for this year. In past years we have hosted workshops in-school and invited experts in particular curricula to conduct workshops for the students who were deemed to require extension in a particular area. Students who are deemed to fit the criteria as Gifted and/or Talented are those who we aim to extend and enrich in these sessions. The Department of Education’s definition of Gifted and Talented students is: “Giftedness refers to potential distinctly beyond the average for the student’s age and encompasses a broad range of abilities in the intellectual, creative, socio-emotional and physical domains. Talent denotes achievement distinctly beyond the average for a student's age as a result of application to training and practice.”

At Bowral Public School we are continually exploring our teaching programs to ensure that we are catering for all students and their unique abilities. Whether a child struggles with their learning, is talented at sport or has a gift in an academic area we try to facilitate them all reaching their potential.

We are currently exploring options to continue our academic enrichment program in 2016, with different expectations for those students participating. Staff are currently meeting to determine what the program will look like in 2016. In Term 4 there will be an opportunity for some students to be involved in an enrichment activity by attending the stage show, Matilda—The Musical. Please read the following information carefully…..

**Matilda – The Musical**

Inspired by the twisted genius of Roald Dahl, with book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, Matilda is the captivating musical masterpiece from the Royal Shakespeare Company that revels in the anarchy of childhood, the power of imagination and the inspiring story of a girl who dares to change her destiny.

Bowral Public School has secured 62 tickets to see this musical at the Lyric Theatre on Wednesday 4 November 2015. Matilda is a book with complex characters and appeals to many students at our school. Many families may have already purchased tickets to attend the show.

Due to the universal appeal of this story, we are opening up the opportunity to interested and motivated students to take part in this enriching experience. The cost of the workshop and excursion will be $80 and this can be paid in instalments once an offer of a place is made. We will be running a discussion group at school on the morning of the excursion about the book. Students will need to prepare a short 3 minute talk on their favourite piece of writing, character or phrase within the book. These talks will be given in small groups of 5 and monitored and facilitated by teachers.
We are now calling for expressions of interest from students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 to take part in this day. If your child would like to attend this “Matilda – The Musical” day, they need to prepare a hand written statement as to why they would like to attend and what they are hoping to gain from the day, on an A4 piece of paper (maximum) and submit it to the front office where it will be time and date stamped. The first 60 students who submit an appropriate application and have behaviour that will be of credit to their school will be offered a position. The closing date for these expressions of interest will be Friday 14 August, however if we receive over 60 applications, places will be offered in order of time and date of receipt of applications.

Student assistance is available, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see Mrs Buckley once your child’s attendance is confirmed, if you require financial support.

LIBRARY BOOK FAIR

Many parents and grandparents purchased books for our library last week and those books will soon be available for borrowing. As a result of your generosity we will have even more wonderful books for our students to read. The organisation of the Book Fair does not just happen. It is thanks to the hard work and dedication of our wonderful teacher/librarian, Mrs Jenny Henderson. We are very lucky to have Mrs Henderson at Bowral Public School.

Wendy Buckley
PRINCIPAL

Book Fair success!!

Once again the generosity of our school community has made our annual Book Fair a great success. The school has benefited from just under $7000 worth of books donated to our library. Thank you very much everyone for your support.

True to our promise, the donating students will get to borrow the books first however getting them processed is quite a big task. We would be very grateful for any assistance with the covering of these books so that we can get them out to the children as soon as possible. If you can help by taking a few books home to cover it would be much appreciated.

Please call in to the library before or after school to collect books and contact.

Jenny Henderson, Teacher/Librarian

SCIENCE FAIR AT BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Attention all fans of science! This Tuesday 11 August the Southern Highlands Academically Gifted (AG) Class will be holding their first Science Fair in the Bowral Public School Hall. The scientists of the AG Class have been researching, predicting, experimenting and discovering many amazing things and would love to share it with the community. This is a great opportunity to not only get an insight into the AG Class but see some seriously awesome scientific experiments. The Science Fair will commence at 6pm and conclude at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

NETBALL

Last Thursday the Bowral Public School Netball Team travelled to Queanbeyan to participate in the round robin for the regional finals of the Netball NSW Schools Cup. It was a very early start and the temperatures around Lake George were nearly freezing but when we arrived in Queanbeyan the conditions were quite pleasant, with no wind and some sunshine. This did not last very long and the day became progressively colder as the wind blew from the Snowy Mountains.

The Round Robin competition was divided into two pools, the winners of the district competitions in one and the runners up in the other. As winners we were in the toughest group and had to face some very good competition. The team played some fantastic netball with all the girls giving one hundred percent in every game. We had to make lots of changes to our line-up as we were without Jess Tyrrell who had played goal defence in all our previous matches. I was very proud of the girls who supported each other brilliantly and willingly changed positions for the benefit of the team. The standard of netball was much higher than in previous years and although we were defeated in our three games, the scores were close and the games all very competitive. It was a great day out and the girls should all be very proud of their efforts.

This competition was the end of the season for the Bowral netball team. I would like to congratulate everyone involved in the team this year, Jessica Tyrrell, Anneliese Wansey, Olivia Bow, Grace Ayling, Rosie Thompson, Lily Harmey, Jemima Wansey, Tiahna Edwards and Zoe Phillips. They represented our school with pride, always gave their best, supported each other, trained hard, developed their skills and had lots of fun. They have been a delightful group to coach and made me very proud. I am sure they have many years of success in their chosen sport and look forward to hearing of their achievements.

I would also like to thank all the parents who provided transport, scored, time kept and who gave great support to the team throughout the season. A special thanks must go to Kate Bow who umpired all our games with great skill!

What a great year of netball!

Jane Bell
AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR TOUR OF HONOUR HOSTED BY BOWRAL HIGH SCHOOL

On Wednesday 29 July, my fellow school leaders and I were extremely privileged to have the opportunity to attend the 2015 “Australian of the Year Tour of Honour” at Bowral High School. Several other schools from around the district also attended. Presenting were three acknowledged and respected recipients of Australia’s most esteemed award. Deborra-Lee Furness, known to many as the wife of Hugh Jackman, had been awarded the NSW 2015 Australian of the Year for her outstanding work in advocating for adoption and children. The NSW 2015 Local Hero recipient, Reverend Graham Long, had received his award because of his exemplary work at the Wayside Chapel, helping drug addicts, chronic gamblers, homeless people and people suffering from mental illness. Finally, the NSW 2015 Young Australian of the Year, Genevieve Clay-Smith, had been recognised for her inspirational work in allowing people in remote communities or with disabilities to experience the wonder of film.

The Bowral Public School Leaders listened as they each shared their stories of how they became the inspirational and valued people they are. I noticed that each speaker had suffered hardships or setbacks throughout their life, but dealt with and learnt from these experiences. I know we all felt extremely fortunate to attend this event. It was intriguing to discover little things about these people that inspired them to become who they are today.

We were also lucky to have a question time with the presenters. One of our school captains, Mia Gillis, asked an intelligent and thought-provoking question to Deborra-Lee Furness – “What inspired you to become an advocate in the areas of adoption?” All the school leaders appreciated this session, as we got to learn more about each of these speakers and now have a thorough understanding of how each speaker views how to be successful in life. Reverend Graham Long gave us a provocative quote that I clearly remember: “Don’t have a dream, have a destiny.” I think this highlights how he is helping people, giving them guidance towards “a better life, and in my view is good advice for everyone.

Overall, this excursion was a fascinating opportunity to further develop our leadership skills and meet with some of the nation’s greatest people. I know that the school leaders and I got a lot out of it and we can use what we have learned to make a better school, community, country and world. The day ended in a fantastic way – a photo with Deborra-Lee Furness!

By Ava Lambie

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The Amazing Excursion To The Archibald Prize And Romeo And Juliet

First we woke up at 6 o’clock in the morning. We got to school, the teachers called the roll and we got on the bus. Then we did the boring trip to Sydney and got to the Archibald prize. Then we went inside and saw a big orange wall with Mahatma Ghandi’s last speech. Then we got split up into groups. We had eight people in our group. First we went to see the winning Archibald prizes with our groups. The winning prize looked like a skeleton with black wings. It was based on the artist that went to jail but another person helped him so he based the painting on the person that helped him. He added wings that represented what set him free.

Next to the Archibald prize winner, there was a man holding a cigarette and smoking. This was a man that came runner up. This was his second year coming runner up. There were so many other landscapes and portraits. If I told you them all we would be here all day! After we looked at some more prizes we went to the Sydney Botanic Gardens for lunch. Everyone went to sit near a stream that had eels in it! A whole group of Ibises came over. They are a type of bird with a huge curved black beak. They were pecking through everyone’s bags for food.

Then we went to see Romeo and Juliet. We had to walk there because it was in the Opera House. It started off when some of the characters were fighting. Later they had some dinner and had a mask party. Juliet started dancing and Romeo fell in love straight away. They just stared at each other then Juliet went to sit down. Romeo copied her and then he told Juliet a love speech. Later Romeo and Juliet got married. But since Romeo killed Juliet’s cousin, he had to be hanged. Juliet’s parents told her to marry a man called Paris but she didn’t want to marry him so she drank a potion that made her sleep for two days. Romeo thought she was dead, so he drank a poison bottle and died. When Juliet woke up she saw Romeo dead so she grabbed a dagger and stabbed herself. It was a very sad ending but they wanted to die.

We got back on the bus and went home. It was the most amazing excursion ever. THANK YOU TEACHERS FOR LETTING US HAVE THIS AMAZING EXPERIENCE.

By Charlotte Florida and Pepper Davies 3/4C.

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REMEMBER DIARY DATES

| Thursday 6 August | Festival of Instrumental Music—Recorders Mimosa Concert—Opera House |
| Monday 10 August | ICAS—Mathematics Test |
| Saturday 15 August | P&C Trivia Night, 6:30pm for 7pm start |
| 31 August—11 September | Life Education Van Visit |
| Friday 7 August | K-6 Brainstorm Performance |
| Wednesday 12 August | Moving into Teens Program—Year 6 |
| 1—3 September Tuesday 8 September | 2016 Kindergarten Orientation Days Kindergarten Parent Information session |
| 26—27 August | Author Visit—Stephen Michael-King |
The Buzz from the Beehive . . . . . .
The Beehive Canteen has most successful Open Day ever!!
An Enormous Thank You to every single person who contributed to the success of Open Day this year. Our canteen staff, committee, volunteers and all of the incredible bakers who made the yummy treats we had for sale, worked hard to make the most money we have ever made on Open Day.
The day was well organised, calm and ran like a well oiled machine. As I repeatedly say we are a lucky school to have so many parents willing to help out and even luckier to have 2 friendly permanent staff making sure our Canteen is running so efficiently.
Thank you!
Shelly Davis-Rice
Canteen Convenor

Our P&C is made up of a small group of dedicated members who give their time to contribute to our school community and provide additional resources to the school. At Bowral Public School we are supported by two permanent sub committees who manage our most valuable resources - the uniform shop and the canteen. At certain times of the year these two aspects of the P&C become especially visible and on Open Day our Beehive canteen was certainly buzzing. Due to their hard work and the generosity of all the families who contributed delicious baked goods for sale, it was a great day at the canteen. Thank you to everyone involved with this success.

Plans are well underway and tickets are selling for our biannual trivia night on Saturday 15 August. We have lots of great Silent Auction items up for grabs and these will be advertised in next week’s newsletter. Due to the generosity of The Bookshop Bowral we have $50 vouchers for each of the 8 members of the winning table. Don’t miss out, tickets are available for purchase until Wednesday 12 August (unless sold out prior).
The link for online purchasing is — [http://bpstrivia.eventbrite.com.au](http://bpstrivia.eventbrite.com.au)

Meredith Wakeman

P&C President

To order tickets via the front office, complete the order slip and return with payment -

**Bowral Public School Trivia night—Saturday 15 August 2015**

Please allocate ___________ seats on the ______________________________________ table

Purchaser ______________________ Telephone no __________________________

Team coordinator ____________________ Telephone no ______________________

Eldest student at BPS ________________ Class ______________ $20 per person

Amount enclosed $_______________ (cheques to Bowral Public School P&C)
TRIVIA NIGHT

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST
6.30PM (FOR A 7PM START)
BPS SCHOOL HALL
THEME - THE LETTER “B”
COST $20 PER PERSON

COME AND JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF LAUGHS AND FUNDRAISING FOR THE ANNUAL P&C TRIVIA NIGHT. ENJOY A RAFFLE, SILENT AUCTION AND PRIZES FOR BEST DECORATED TABLE, BEST DRESSED MALE AND BEST DRESSED FEMALE.

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH EVENTBRITE
HTTPS://BPSTRIVIA.EVENTBRITE.COM.AU
OR VIA THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

TICKETS ON SALE UNTIL
WEDNESDAY 12TH AUGUST
ADULTS ONLY EVENT

A BAR WILL OPERATE ON THE NIGHT WITH BEER, WINE, SPARKLING WINE AND NON ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AVAILABLE (NO BYO DRINKS)
BYO SNACKS OR DINNER

TABLES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF EIGHT PEOPLE, INCLUDE YOUR TEAM NAME AND ORGANISER’S DETAILS WHEN YOU PURCHASE.
IF YOU ARE NOT A PART OF AN ORGANISED TEAM, INDIVIDUAL TICKETS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED AND SEATS WILL BE ALLOCATED AT A TABLE- INDICATE “P&C” UNDER ORGANISER’S NAME.

DONATIONS OF GOODS, SERVICES AND VOUCHERS FOR OUR RAFFLE AND SILENT AUCTION ARE BEING SOUGHT.
CONTACT MEREDITHWAKEMAN@HOTMAIL.COM