THANK YOU MORNING TEA

Have you volunteered your time at our school? The students and staff of Bellingen Public School would like to say “thank you” to all the parent and community volunteers who have supported, and worked in our school, during 2015.

Please come to our Thank you Morning Tea tomorrow on Tuesday, 1st December at 11:15am at our school hall.

We look forward to seeing you there.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Each month we receive a double pass to Sunday at the Movies here in Bellingen. Congratulations to Gypsy Rowe who received this pass last week as recognition of consistently handing in her electronic device every morning at the front office. This clearly demonstrates our school value of integrity and sets a great example for her fellow students travelling on her bus. Well done and thank you Gypsy. Personal devices such as iPods, phones and iPads must be handed in to the front office on arrival at school. This is school policy and is for the protection of all students. Reminding your child to follow this rule would be greatly appreciated.

Tomorrow we are holding our annual Thank You morning tea for those parents and community members who have helped us throughout the year in so many ways. Whether it is driving students to an event, reading in a classroom, helping in the canteen or accompanying an excursion - we thank you and value your contribution and partnership with our school. We also look forward to welcoming many more volunteers to assist in the school in 2016.

Next Thursday, 10th December is Presentation Day. It will start at 9:30am and should finish around 11:00am. Please join us as we celebrate the achievements of our students.

There is lots on between now and the end of the year. Make sure you check dates in this newsletter or on the Skoolbag app.

Have a great week.

Elizabeth Mulligan, Principal

REMEMBERANCE DAY PHOTOS
Meals on Wheels Giving Tree
Each year gifts are collected by an Open Arms Care representative for distribution by Meals on Wheels to our elderly residents on Christmas Day. Families are asked to please bring in a wrapped gift with a label showing if the gift is for a man or woman to our front office asap. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile program which has been a tradition at Bellingen Public School for over 11 years.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT STATEMENTS
To assist with end of year processes we would appreciate that all accounts be finalised by now as they are overdue.
Important - Violin/Band & Instrument Hire
All music tuition fees should now be finalised. Failure to pay these fees by end of term will jeopardise your child's place in the program.
2015 Music tuition fees that are NOT finalised, will jeopardise students place in this program for 2016, places will be offered to students on the waiting list.
Thanking you in advance.

MUSIC PERFORMANCES
Kindergarten Concert (Music Class)
Kindergarten will present “Jesus Christmas Party” – a play with music on Monday, 7 December at 10am.
Stage 1 Choir
Stage 1 Choir will perform in a concert of songs on Monday 7th at 1pm
Both performances will be held in the hall. We would love to see parents and carers come and hear the beautiful voice of our younger students.

CANTEEN NEWS
We are now approaching the end of the school year and with that, a season of celebration. Not that ending the school year is anything to celebrate. Six weeks when our diminutive knowledge sponges must endure a lack of mind expanding activities will not be easy to handle. Remember we still have almost three weeks of school left so our happy students can still make the most of this.
The celebratory season is to commemorate a politically correct, non-religiously specific, not commercially exploitive celebration, which will occur the week after school breaks up for the year.
The special this week will be in keeping with the traditions of a politically correct, non-religiously specific, not commercially exploitive seasonal celebration. It will be turkey schnitzel, served with cranberry sauce and a fresh salad. The special will not be available until Thursday and Friday when it will sell for $3.50 or $5.00 with a drink
Feeding your children to a better education,
Eddy Vardabasso
Canteen Supervisor

Bellingen Public School BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Program
BPS is researching the possibility of a Bring Your Own Device program at the school. We are currently looking at the support for such a program and have devised an online survey for this purpose.
If you click on the web link below it will take you to the survey, which will only take a couple of minutes to complete. Your feedback will be greatly appreciated and will allow us to fully assess the viability of such a program.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SSNWSFB
Thank you for your time
Mel Wilton
CT coordinator

RARE MUSICAL OPPORTUNITY
JUNIOR PROMS – Friday, December 4, Uniting Church Hall
Please take advantage of the tremendous musical experience provided by our own town’s Youth Orchestra!
Annie Phelan, conductor, invites all school children of Bellingen to an informative concert featuring all the instruments of the orchestra. Children will hear the lovely tone colour of the various instruments as many of the orchestra members have been preparing short melodies to share. The orchestra will present music, familiar to children. The repertoire includes themes from the Pirates of the Caribbean, Rocky, Harry Potter, ‘In the Hall of the Mountain King’ and even a narrated version of Goldilocks and the Three Bears with sound effects!!
The Bellingen Youth Orchestra is made up of students representing all high schools in the Coffs district, however, most players have fed through to the Orchestra from our primary music programme. There will be many familiar faces for our children to recognize. The concert will be fun and to experience this in Bellingen is extraordinary.
Don’t miss out. It is through intimate musical experiences that children get a feeling and a desire to learn an instrument with a sound that resonates in their hearts.
Liz Scott
**Why is regular school attendance so important?**

Bellingen Primary School works closely with children and parents in connection with attendance so that each child can achieve their full potential. By law, all children of compulsory school age should attend school each day that it is open. Parents are legally responsible for making sure that they attend regularly.

Consider the negative impact of poor attendance upon the following:

- their learning,
- their friendships,
- their self-esteem and
- their confidence.

Bellingen Primary monitors the attendance of every child in the school and in partnership with the Home School Liaison Officer, we will work and support those children and their families who are not attending school regularly.

90% attendance sounds good, but means that your child misses:

- one half day each week;
- nearly four weeks every school year; and
- over one school year in a school career.

**Letting us Know** - You are required to provide the school with an acceptable explanation within seven days of your child's absence. You can ring the front office, use the schoolbag app or send a note in to your child's teacher.

**Timekeeping** - Timekeeping is also important in the education of your child. If your child is persistently late then they are missing out on important consolidation work as well as the start of the lesson.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

BORROWING OF LIBRARY BOOKS FOR HOME HAS NOW FINISHED FOR THE YEAR.

Please start searching for and returning all library books. Some overdue book notices will be sent out this week.

**BOOK FAIR**

A HUGE thank you to all who supported our Book Fair and Orangutan stall.

With the commission from Book Fair we will earn over $700 in new books for the school library. The orangutan stall raised more than $1100, proceeds of which will go to COP, Centre for Orangutan Protection in Borneo.

Thank you for all who came and purchased goodies, and of course a HUGE thank you to Tembi, JoJo, Indy and Yasmin for their work with the COP fundraising activities this term.

A reminder that students are expected to wear full school uniform every day. This includes a school hat. Caps and hooded jumpers are not permitted.

**BUS APPLICATIONS**

Students in year 2 who are progressing to year 3 and have a bus pass would have recently been sent a new application form. Students may reapply if they fall under the following criteria.

- The straight line distance from their home address to school is 1.6 km or further.
- The walking distance from home to school is 2.3 km or further.

Students who do not fit this criteria may contact the office for details on how they may appeal and apply for a bus application.

**Canteen Roster - Nov/ Dec**

| Mon 7 | Leonie Jennings, Jackie Vassallo |
| Wed 2 | Donal O'Suilleabhain, Maree Martindale |
| Thu 3 | Dan Pullinger |
| Fri 4 | Julie Young, Leonie Jennings |
| Tue 8 | Leonie Jennings |
CURRENT NOTES

* Giving Tree Note
* Junior Proms – Youth Orchestra
* Year 6 Farwell Dinner note
* Year 5 note for Year 6 farewell disco
* Year 6 note for photos Kinder photo
* FOEI Enrolment forms (with the orange note)

Diary Dates

November

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 30</td>
<td>Closing date for Library Competition</td>
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December

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 1</td>
<td>Thank you Morning Tea</td>
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<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>4.15 Guitar Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>All Schools Orientation Day - Bellingen High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>Junior Proms, Uniting Church Hall</td>
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<td>Mon 7</td>
<td>Year 7 Parent/Carer Information Evening, 5pm-6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 7</td>
<td>Kindergarten Music Concert, 10am in the Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 7</td>
<td>Stage 1 Concert, 1pm in the Hall</td>
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<td>Tue 8</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
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<td>Wed 9</td>
<td>Combined Piano Concert 9-11</td>
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<td>Thur 10</td>
<td>Presentation Day</td>
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<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>Reports out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>String concert in the hall, 1pm to 3.10 (includes solo performances and shared afternoon tea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 16</td>
<td>Last of Term for Students</td>
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Community Notices - Bellingen Public School does not endorse these products or services.

Bellingen Drama School presents...

The younger group performing their swashbuckling romp – ‘The Stolen Pearl’

TWO SHOWS!

At the Scout Hall on Bowra St

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th December, 5pm both days

Entry by gold coin donation – aaaaar!