FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to those parents who joined us during **Education Week**. The performances at Education on Show on Tuesday night simply stunned the audience with the depth of talent of students and teachers across our Community of Schools. Congratulations to Miss Cowan, Mrs Lawrence and our Dance Group and to Miss Scott and the String Ensemble for their outstanding efforts on this night.

The **BIG BREAKFAST** was also a huge success last Tuesday. Prepared and cooked by staff, this community event brings the whole school community together. Despite the very chilly start to the day around 300 egg and bacon sandwiches were served to students, parents grandparents and staff. A huge thanks to Kate Sommerville for her organisation and to Bellingen IGA, the Greengrocer, Coles and Woolworths for their support of this event.
I would like to acknowledge the seven Stage 3 students who applied to be Principal for the Day. Any one of these students could have performed this role. Their applications were outstanding, making the decision extremely difficult. Emmaline Bowes sat in ‘the big chair’ for the day last Thursday and carried out her duties with a high degree of diligence and integrity. Congratulations Emmaline.

Staff News
Mrs Gilmore, our Office Manager, is on leave this week. Mrs Stockton was due back from leave this week but has fallen ill. We wish Mrs Stockton well for a speedy recovery. Sandra Ruming and Cati Storm will continue to do their fantastic job in the office. We ask for your patience as we organise staffing around these changes.

Work Health and Safety Policy requires that the school conduct drills for such things as evacuations and lock downs. A lock down drill will be conducted this week.

Have a great week.
Elizabeth Mulligan, Principal

2015 PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY

Today before I became principal I thought of our school and who would best fit the role, I didn’t 100% think I would get it but when I did it was such a surprise and relief that I could help my school.

Today I helped out around school. I gave out awards at the Whole School Assembly. I spoke about the District Athletics Carnival at the Whole School Assembly. I toured a parent and child around the school. I helped kindergartens read and much more. But today I learnt more about my school and about the people surrounding me. I was supported the whole way through this exciting adventure by my very helpful and kind friends, teachers and family.

If I was in year five I would definitely consider this role as one of the opportunities to go for! I did go for school captain and sports captain but I wasn’t successful in getting those roles, but I had to remember that S.R.C was another opportunity. I went for S.R.C because I wanted to help change our school, then I found out that finally I could help my school. Then when the opportunity of Principal for a Day came up I thought “this is another big opportunity and if I get the role I can do something else to get to know my school better, I should have a go”. The point is never give up even when your down. Remember that there are other great opportunities out there waiting for you!

Sincerely,
Emmaline Bowes, 2015 Principal for the Day

Wholesale School Assembly

Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who were recipients of the Student of the Month award at last week’s Whole School Assembly. These students have demonstrated outstanding attitude and citizenship at school.

K Magenta  Bodhi Logar-Rundle
K Purple  Rhianna Stockton
K Orange  Deegan Young
1 Aqua  Elias Filmer
1 Magenta  Dakoda Dillon
1/2 Orange  Opal Childs
2 Aqua  Mimi Campbell
2 Purple  Rami Hartfiel
3 Magenta  Faith Anderson-Smith
3/4 Aqua  Ciara Russell
3/4 Purple  Mimi Campbell
4/5 Orange  Lisa Adamson
5/6 Aqua  Jasmin Vassallo
5/6 Magenta  Rebecca Stockton
5/6 Orange  Eden Rees
5/6 Purple  Nixon Neal

If you ordered pies or lamingtons as part of the P and C’s pie drive, please remember the collection day is this Wednesday 5th August. Pies will be delivered to the school at 2.00pm and will be available for collection between 3.00pm and 5.30pm from the school canteen. We will endeavour to box up larger orders but please bring a canvas bag or box if possible for orders of up to 5 pies. If children are collecting the pies please also ensure that they have a bag so that pies don’t get squashed in transit. Volunteers will try to ensure that all orders are given out as efficiently as possible.

(Note: We still urgently need people to help hand out the pies in the school canteen on 5 August between 3pm and 5.30pm. If you are able to assist us please contact us on the numbers below).

We hope you enjoy your pies. Many thanks to Urunga Bakery for being so helpful. For all further information, please contact Elektra Macdonald on 0412336090.
ATHLETIC CARNIVAL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding athletic capabilities.

Jnr Boys - Kyan Upsall
11yrs Boys - Peter Conroy
Snr Boys - Baily Sipple
Jnr Girls - Yasmin Ball
11yrs Girls - Jasmine Cheers
Snr Girls - Ruby Matthews

BELLINGEN PUBLIC SCHOOL’S DANCE GROUPS

Congratulations to the wonderful Bellingen Dance Group. Both dance groups performed twice last week as part of Education Week. They performed wonderfully at both Bellingen High School, as part of the community schools on show and at our whole school assembly last Thursday. They are a dedicated bunch of girls, who have practised every Friday since Term 1 to produce a high quality dance routine. I was extremely proud of all the girls.

I would also like to thank Mrs Lawrence for putting together one of the dance ensembles and Mrs Pregnell and Kristy Livingstone who oversaw the dance rehearsals while Mrs Lawrence is on leave and led the making of all our stunning dance costumes. Lastly a big thank you to all the parents, grandparents and staff for assisting in making the girls dance costumes, this was a great effort by all and now a fantastic resource the school has for future performances.

Renae Cowan, Dance Coordinator

Attendance

To give your child the best chance for success at school you need to send them, on time, every day!

If a child misses an average of nine days per term, (that’s less than one day a week) during their primary school years, they would have missed a whole year of learning by the time they reach Year 7.

Any absence from school should be explained within seven days of the absence with a note or phone call to school.

MOVE TO LEARN

Move to Learn will start again this week. This program gives the students in Years 1 and 2 a well-earned ‘brain break’ on Tuesday mornings and me the opportunity to get to know these classes and their skills in fine and gross motor activities. Parent helpers are more than welcome if you would like to join next term

Elizabeth Mulligan

LIBRARY NEWS

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
A huge thank you to the families who donated books at our recent breakfast.
We raised over $300 in donations for books to enhance our literacy units.
That’s about 25 new books.
Still not too late if you would like to donate $15 to purchase a book for the school’s valuable reading program.
See me in the library or the lovely ladies at the office.
Great effort.
Carole McFaul and the literacy committee

LIBRARY BAGS

COME AND DECORATE A LIBRARY BAG!!!!
Library bags are very useful for protecting library books. I have plain calico library bags for sale for $1.50. If your child would like to decorate one at school with fabric markers the cost is $4 to cover the cost and replacement of the markers.
Thank you
Carole McFaul, Librarian

Canteen Roster - August

Tue 4 - Leonie Jennings
Wed 5 - Raelene Mc Mahon, Donal D’Suilleabhain
Thu 6 - Elizabeth Joyce
Fri 7 - Leanne Harding, Dan Pullinger, Sue Travis
Mon 10 - Jo Barr, Leonie Jennings
Tue 11 - Leonie Jennings
CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

Critical thinking allows for multiple responses, unspecified answers, various perspectives and interpretations, and recognition of order among chaos. Often regarded as equivalent to higher-level thinking, critical thinking requires individuals to engage in more complex processes. This kind of thinking assists individuals in their quest for greater understanding and responsible, independent inquiry.

Parents can help us work toward creating students who can become thoughtful and innovative problem-solvers.

Parents can demonstrate critical thinking by pondering aloud the most efficient way to do household chores, considering the most economical purchase to make at the grocery store, monitoring your progress toward your personal goals, or approaching social issues in your community. Describing how you think and solve problems is the best way for you to instill similar thinking patterns in your children.

The process of thinking should be emphasized through these interactions. The ultimate goal is for our children to be able to employ critical-thinking strategies in everyday life without prompting from parents and teachers. Reasoning at high levels is one of the most valuable skills parents can foster in their children, one that will prepare them for success.

UNIFORM SHOP

The P & C Uniform shop currently has on special Girls Long Pants $10 and old style Surf Hats $5. Why not buy an extra hat as a spare. Order forms can be picked up from the office or go directly to the Uniform shop which is open Mondays and Fridays from 8.40 until 9.30.

CANTEEN NEWS

We, apparently, have all survived Friday’s blue moon and Education Week, even the big Education Week breakfast which was not even prepared by the competent and dedicated canteen staff and helpers. The teachers did a wonderful job preparing a hearty breakfast with tea, coffee and orange juice to drink. But now we can all go back to eating the delicious and spectacular food prepared in the canteen.

This week’s special will be curried prawns and rice. The special as usual will be available on Thursday and Friday only and at a cost of $3.50 or $5.00 with a drink.

Feeding your children to a better education,
Eddy Vardabasso, Canteen Supervisor

EXCURSION BUDGETING

Excursions can be paid off weekly, fortnightly/monthly or as it suits your family budget. Below are some of the major excursion costs and the number of weeks till final payment must be received.

Lake Keepit Excursion, August 31 – Sept 4 @ $310 – 3 school weeks approx $103/week
Cascade Excursion, Aug 12-14 @ $100 – Due Now.
Canberra Excursion, Nov 9 –13 @ $530 – 10 school weeks approx $53/week.

P & C MEETING

The P & C are meeting tonight in the school library, all parents and carers are welcome to attend. The meeting starts at 7pm.

Diary Dates

**August**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue 4</td>
<td>Move to Learn – first day for Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 4</td>
<td>Closing date Yr 4 Cascade Permission note</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 5</td>
<td>P &amp; C Pie Pick up date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon10-Wed 12</td>
<td>Cascade Camp 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12-Fri 14</td>
<td>Cascade Camp 2</td>
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<td>Fri 14</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Tue 11</td>
<td>ICAS Mathematics</td>
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<td>Thurs 20</td>
<td>Musical Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21</td>
<td>Musical Matinee and Evening Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 31</td>
<td>Lake Keepit excursion</td>
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**September**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri Sept 4</td>
<td>Lake Keepit excursion</td>
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**November**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9 – Fri 13</td>
<td>Canberra Excursion – Yr 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 21 &amp; Sun 22</td>
<td>Family Portrait Fundraiser</td>
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CURRENT NOTES

* NSW Premier’s Sporting Challenge
* P & C Pie Orders
* Year 5 Lake Keep It Medical note

PIES ARRIVE THIS WEDNESDAY

Bellingen Public School is once again participating in Woolworths Earn and Learn.
Collect a sheet for your stickers or leave your stickers in the box in the office.

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