**EVENTS AT A GLANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9</td>
<td>Gold Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10</td>
<td>Thank you morning tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17</td>
<td>Reports go home with the children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12</td>
<td>No Friday run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 14</td>
<td>Berrima School Yard Markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15</td>
<td>School Pool Day - Bowral Pool - permission note attached</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16</td>
<td>School Pool Day - Bowral Pool - permission note attached</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overnight Playground Camp and Talent Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>School Development Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 17</td>
<td>Clean Up Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Last Day of Term for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children return to school Wednesday January 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**NEWSLETTER - TERM 4 WEEK 10 - 2014**

**Berrima Skip Off**

Last Wednesday Mrs Thiessen organized the Annual Berrima Skip Off. The children have been practising and training over the past couple of weeks. Some children have even learnt to skip in that time.

Year 6 children began the competition, skipping for as long as they could until there just two competitors left. These two then had a rest while the other grades competed. The two finalists from each grade plus a few other wild card reentries then took part in a final.

Tension was high. Nerves were on edge. Equipment was checked and rechecked. Music was in readiness for the final to begin. All skippers, kindergarten to Year 6 got underway confidently. All went well for a short while until there were a couple of stumbles and missed steps. Soon it was down to just two combatants. Lauren [redacted] from Year 6 with a “poetic” loping style and April [redacted] with an easy jumping style. The clock passed 2 minutes. On they skipped. The clock passed 3 minutes. On they skipped. Then at 3 minutes 20 seconds Lauren experienced a stumble and lost power. Her race was over. April [redacted] (Year 1) coasted to victory at 3 minutes 29 seconds. Her name will now appear on the perpetual trophy.

With the school raising approximately $30.00 we have been able to purchase chickens, eggs and seeds for the struggling families around the world through World Vision.

Congratulations, April [redacted]
Friday Run

Last Friday the final Friday run for 2014 was held. There was a fabulous turn out of around 40 children. Having a third of the school regularly turn out on a Friday morning is a great thing for their fitness. It is also a pleasant event socially as many of the children also like to walk the course and chat along the way. The game of Duck or Car Park at the end is always enjoyable too.

My sincere thanks to the mums who have assisted with the breakfast each Friday morning throughout the year. Karen McNally, Kelly Arnot, Shantelle Harkness have been the mainstays of organising the breakfast over the year. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Year 6 Farewell

I was exceedingly proud of our graduating Year 6 students on Friday evening. They conducted themselves very responsibly. They enjoyed a great evening sharing each others company for a final time as Year 6 students. The Year 5 soaked up the occasion of the event and I feel it is this aspect that has added to the emotion of the evening.

And as if this was not enough they then presented their speeches. Each and every child spoke of their passion and commitment to Berrima Public School. They made heartfelt comments about their experiences and the teachers and staff who have helped make their experience at Berrima specials. I was quite moved and very proud of you all.

A fine tradition has been established in this farewell evening with the quality of presentation getting better as each year passes.

Thank you to Ros Caddy for all your efforts in organising the farewell. Thank you also to the interior decorators: Denise Howes, Chris Caddy and Shantelle Harkness.

The evening of course would not be as exciting or interesting without the effort of Miss Dann and her helpful year 5 Students. The effort in putting together the photo power point was also up to its usual high standard. Thank you Miss Dann.

Reports

On Wednesday this week your child will be bringing home their end of year school report. Please take the time to read the report with your child and discuss it with them. It will also provide an opportunity for some personal goal setting for the coming year.

If the report raises some concerns for you by all means contact your child’s teacher to make an appointment to discuss your concerns.

Playground Camp and Talent Show

Reminders: Monday
Pool Party Day—send morning tea, lunch and hat. Canteen will be available but not for lollies.
Camping set up from 5 p.m.
Parents are to supervise their children.
Children need to nominate their act to be in the show. (Children may only appear in one act.)

Tuesday
Remember to indicate how many are staying for breakfast.
Children will make their lunch at school. (wraps). Morning tea will be provided.
KIDS ON SHOW

Last Friday evening four budding artists from Berrima Public School were in attendance for the awards presentation at the Bowral and District Arts Society, Kids on Show exhibition. We have been long time supporters of this excellent opportunity for the display of work by aspiring artists from our local schools. Our winners were;
Chloe [redacted] and Charlotte [redacted] with their Lion collage
Toby [redacted] and Barry [redacted] were the other winners.
I can thoroughly recommend a visit to the BDAS Gallery to view this excellent exhibition
Well done Mrs Young-Whitford and Year 1.

CHRISTMAS CHEER AT THE SCHOOL MARKETS THIS SUNDAY 14TH

Father Christmas will be there at 11:00am to delight the kids, along with the school’s choir, other live music, a jumping castle and a number of great stalls with lovely gift ideas such as beautiful scented candles, jams, soaps, girls hair ribbons (school colours) and much more.

DONATIONS FOR SCHOOL STALL.

For our school stall, are you able to help by making/buying some Christmas treats for the kids to sell? Ideas; Shortbread, white Christmas, choc balls, mint sauce, pickles. Handmade Christmas decorations, flowers, anything with a Christmas twist, anything without a xmas twist. Goodies can be dropped to the office on Friday or brought to the market on Sunday. Thank you.

Hope to see you there even if it’s just for a ho ho hour

SCHOOL RAFFLE:

A botanical print from local artist has been very kindly donated. Raffle tickets are for sale in the office $2 each or 3 for $5. Please buy your tickets this week as we will be drawing the raffle on Friday at assembly.

School Banking

This Wednesday is the last "School Banking day" and students should bring in their weekly deposits.

A big thank you to all the conscientious savers over the year and keep up the good work next year.
I will be finishing up as School Banking Coordinator and Mr Ralph Kater will be taking up the position. Everything will follow on as usual in the new year.
Have a wonderful Christmas and a well deserved break. Ros Caddy.

School Banking Rewards

Congratulations to the following students who have earned 10 silver Dollarmites tokens through the School Banking program and have redeemed their tokens for fantastic reward items.

Joshua [redacted]
Ethan [redacted]
Garden News
There will be a working bee this Friday, weather permitting. We will have the working bee in the garden with morning tea. If you can spare an hour, 1/2 hour or anytime we would love to see you there. Kick off start at 9:00am

Cheers Maree

STUDENT WELFARE

Excerpt from www.kidsmatter.det.nsw.edu.au

Family Strengths as Identified by Australian Families.

- Communication – listening to each other and communicating with openness and honesty.
- Togetherness – sharing similar values and beliefs that create a sense of belonging and bonding.
- Sharing activities – spending time together doing things they enjoy, for example, sports, reading, camping, playing games.
- Affection – showing affection and care on a regular basis through words, hugs, kisses and thoughtfulness.
- Support – offering and being able to ask for support, with family members knowing they will receive assistance, encouragement and reassurance from one another.
- Acceptance – understanding, respecting and appreciating each family member’s unique personal qualities.
- Commitment – seeing family wellbeing as a first priority and acting accordingly with dedication and loyalty.
- Resilience – being able to withstand difficulties and adapt to changing circumstances in positive ways.

Families in this research also identified that the biggest challenges in family relationships were communication breakdown, parenting issues and difficult relationship dynamics. Acknowledging existing family strengths is a good starting point for addressing challenges and building stronger family relationships.

Key Points for Building Better Family Relationships

- Emphasise positive communication
- Remember that good communication starts with effective listening. Encourage talking by listening actively to other family members to better understand their perspective.
- Make regular ‘quality time’ a priority
- Families benefit from having time to unwind and relax with one another. Making sure you have un-pressured time to spend doing things you enjoy together makes for positive relationships.
- Offer support
- Appreciate more than criticise one another and be ready to offer help when needed.

Next week: Communication Skills for Building Relationships.

Netty Dubokovich...Chaplain....“SpeakLife”
Berrima Public School P&C Meeting

Friday 28 November

Meeting opened: 4.15pm  Chaired by Pete Goulder

Attendance: Denise Howes, Pete Goulder, Jane Lawler, Tim Ryan, Latesha Cassar, Kellie Waring, Michelle Richardson, Karen McNally

Apologies: Maree Goulder, Megan Moore, Lonnie Bedson

Adopt minutes previous meeting.  Moved Denise, seconded Jane

Principals Report: (attached)

Report from de-brief meeting regarding Art Feast.

Profit from ArtFeast was approx. $6,800. At this stage those involved were supportive of the idea of repeating the weekend next year. Much was learned from the first experience and some of the costs associated were ‘one-off’ e.g. hanging track. Sub committees would be formed to manage each aspect of the weekend - being café, workshops, artist submissions, promotion etc. The exhibition was the most amount of work for a relatively small return, however it is a major draw-card. The garden shop was successful though it was felt most people missed it altogether. Needed better signage or to be relocated. There may have been some confusion with the plants being sold under the COLA on market day.

Café was huge success, luck was on our side in terms of weather. Quality of food was excellent and was perhaps under-priced.

Workshops were great return for minimal effort and could be expanded on. Class art was successful, future events would include small individual pieces so that more families could be involved in purchases.

Minimal return from opening night party. Whilst it was never meant to be a major revenue raiser some things could be improved upon. We could dispense with the “free drink” as part of the entry ticket. Too difficult to monitor amongst other things.

Proposed that subcommittees should be formed up to six months in advance of next year’s event. The quiz night is also due to be held next year – should also have a subcommittee. Tim said the school was finalising the calendar for 2015 and together with the P&C all care to be taken that we are not dealing with too much at any one time. No yr5/6 camp next year.

Correspondence in/out: fundraising material in. Letter sent out to Berrima townlife to thank them for the donation of $1,000

Treasurers Report: Current balance $28,453.44

Uniform Report: Balance $3,676 approx, with this amount due out in Feb. $87.50 has been paid into this account which is for tennis. Students from Sutton Forest are being provided their uniforms by Dept of Ed. This may create a cash flow problem as the uniforms are being taken now with Tim to submit an invoice to Dept sometime in the future. Still researching an alternative supplier for school dress. There will be some change from the current style which is unavoidable.
P & C CON’T

Market report: Last market was very successful obviously due to the increased traffic from Art-Feast. Quite a variance in what stall holders paid and some were even given a free spot to boost the numbers. Approx. 35 stalls, BBQ takings were about $700 for all up profit of approx. $1,200 (?) Usual problems with getting sufficient volunteers to man the BBQ. Latesha is looking for help with the next one, being Xmas market (14Dec). Will talk to Mr Paviour re choir singing Xmas carols, Miss Dann re dance troupe performance, making sure Santa has the market on his calendar! Jane to look at running school shop with flowers/cakes etc. The more children are involved in activities at the markets, the more it brings in their families therefore, traffic.

General business:
Plans for last week of school. Jane said what works best to provide lunch after the overnight camp is to make it an ‘activity’. Chicken breasts cooked and cut up, salad ingredients made available and with the senior children helping, small groups coming through at a time to make their own lunch. On Monday 15th, prior to o’night camp the school will be going to Bowral Pool. P&C normally provides breakfast for campers.
Lunch orders go home for Tuesday – families pay and P&C provides.
Motion to provide funds (in accordance with previous years) moved by Denise and seconded by Jane.
Tim to allow sufficient time for P&C address at final assembly.
Families leaving the school this year are: Caddy, Vale, Morris and Alcorn. All these families were also involved in the establishment of the new kitchen.

Kitchen deck.
Glenn Conney has agreed to calculate materials list and organise the ordering. This will need to be done soon to ensure materials here for early Jan. Plan is to call for volunteers and complete deck before school returns. Pete’s father in law happy to take on supervision of project. Tim advised that several trees will be removed to make way for new classroom location. He hopes that this building will come from Sutton Forest and may even become a new library with the existing library becoming our new classroom.

Carpathon update.
Carpathon held over weekend 20/22feb. May look like a fishing expo. Many retailers interested in having tents. McDonalds have sponsored $500 worth of child entries. May be potential for small schools to come together on the Friday for a lesson on the environmental benefits of the event plus some fishing activities. Many supporters on board and looks like being a major event. School to keep the proceeds from registrations plus opportunity to run a BBQ etc.

Meeting closed 5.28pm
Next meeting should be Friday 13th Feb to coincide with ‘meet the teacher’s night’.
1. Assistant Principal Position has gone to merit selection which is currently underway.

- 4 member panel including an AP from another school as the Director of Education's representative
- Completed by early week after next week

2. Financial Support

- Thank you for the financial support over the past month especially with swim school,
- Swim School very successful this year.

3. Cleaning

- Our current cleaner has decided to retire to pursue a new career
- Will be replaced over the Christmas holidays

4. End of year planning

- End of Year Assembly
- P & C Presidents report very early in the program
- Presentations?
- Pool day
- Talent Night
- Overnight Camp / Breakfast

5. 2015 Planning

- As outlined at the previous meeting
- Numbers are still shaky for a new class
- Planning for the positioning of a new classroom has taken place.
- A classroom will not be allocated until numbers are allocated next year.
- Therefore classes have yet to be finalised
There has been some confusion with food orders, please ignore last week's note.

OVERNIGHT CAMP ORDER FORM—please return this form by FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER

Overnight camp – The P&C will be providing breakfast for campers and their families on Tuesday morning. For those camping please indicate below how many bacon/egg rolls or servings of cereal you will need.

FAMILY NAME: .................................................................
Bacon and Egg roll(s).......................................................... Qty
Cereal..............................................................................

ACTIVITIES DAY – please return this form by FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER

On Tuesday ALL students will be involved in a number of different activities, one of these will include making their own lunch. To cover the cost of lunch and morning tea on Tuesday each child is required to pay $5.
Please complete the form below:
FAMILY NAME: ................................................................
No. of children........................................ x $5 TOTAL PAYMENT= ............
Please indicate by ticking the box below what your child would like on their sandwich OR any special dietary requirements they might have. All children will be making their own sandwich so can choose which salad items (if any!) they want. **Payment made to P &C – NOT school account**

CHILD’S NAME..................................................(SPECIAL REQ’TS)..........................
HAM & SALAD ☐ CHICKEN & SALAD ☐ VEGETABLES ☐ CHEESE & SALAD ☐

CHILD’S NAME..................................................(SPECIAL REQ’TS)..........................
HAM & SALAD ☐ CHICKEN & SALAD ☐ VEGETABLES ☐ CHEESE & SALAD ☐

CHILD’S NAME..................................................(SPECIAL REQ’TS)..........................
HAM & SALAD ☐ CHICKEN & SALAD ☐ VEGETABLES ☐ CHEESE & SALAD ☐
PARENT/CAREGIVER CONSENT FORM

On Monday 15 December 2014 all Berrima Public School students will be participating in the activity day held at Mittagong Swimming Pool.

We will be travelling by bus to the pool. The bus will be leaving at 9:30am and returning approximately 2:30pm in time for the afternoon school bus. There will be no cost as the P&C is funding the day.

All staff will be accompanying this activity day and all have emergency training.

The children do not have to wear their school uniform; however we are requesting that all children wear suitable clothing to and from school. Please make sure they bring with them a towel, hat and rash vest.

There will be a canteen available on the day for the children to buy food and treats. I also suggest a drink bottle that can be filled up with water to keep them hydrated.

Please apply sunscreen before coming to school. There will be designated times throughout the day for the children to reapply.

RETURN SLIP

I do / do not consent to ____________________________ of class ________

to participate in the activity day held on 15 December 2014 at Mittagong Pool.

☐ I give permission for my child/ren to travel by bus.

☐ I give permission for my child/ren to receive medical treatment in case of an emergency.

☐ I understand I need to apply sunscreen before school.

Signed: ____________________________ Print Name: ____________________________

Date: __________ Daytime Phone number: ____________________________
Berrima Townlife Inc invites you to

Carols By Candlelight

6.30 p.m. Saturday
20th December

Grounds of
Holy Trinity Church,
Argyle Street
Berrima

Enjoy Carols under the stars

Bring chairs, rug & a picnic hamper or purchase sausage sandwiches, coffee, drinks.

Information: Katrina Harvey
katrina.harvey@bigpond.com
ph: 4877 1116