NEWSLETTER - TERM 1 WEEK 9 - 2014

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

March

Tuesday 25  Author visit - Nette Hilton
Thursday 27  Police visit - Stranger danger / Road Safety—K -2
Friday 28  No Friday run
           School Cross Country
Monday 31  Year 6 Young Leaders Day Conference Sydney
Thursday 3 April  Australian Plant Society 2:00pm-4:00pm
Friday 4  Bong Bong Cross Country
           Garden working bee
Monday 7  School Performance - ‘The Right Balance’ - 1:45pm
Friday 11  Easter Hat Parade
           End of Term Assembly 1:45pm
Sunday 13  Berrima School Markets

4/5/6 Excursion to the ABC

Last Thursday 4/5/6 boarded a train at 7.45am and headed to Sydney for an excursion to the ABC studios in Ultimo. Before they arrived at the studios they had lunch in Chinatown. The food was yummy!
4/5/6 Excursion to the ABC - con’t

Then 4/5/6 headed to the ABC studios for their behind the scenes tour. Some of the 4/5/6 students became news reporters and we even had a natural at the weather report!

After our tour we headed to the set for our live webcast with ABC Splash. It was a great set with lots of people buzzing behind the scenes. There was a lot to remember to do but the students did an amazing job! They even got to meet Costa from Gardening Australia who was really funny and very knowledgeable. He also loved his very own Berrima Public School Children’s Garden Calendar. 4/5/6 represented themselves and our school with pride. Many compliments about them were received on the day. Well done 4/5/6 we are so proud of you all!

Thank you to Geb Blake for organizing this amazing learning experience for our children, to Megan Moore and Ros Caddy for helping out on the day and to everyone who tuned in to watch. If you missed the webcast it is available for you to watch now on ABC iview.
Carpathon

On Friday afternoon the students of 4/5/6 headed down to ‘Berrima Beach’ to join the carpathon and fish for carp. They were under the knowledgeable guidance of Tim Lancaster. While no one caught any fish, all had a great time, and Miss Dann even learnt to fish with a hand reel! Thank you to the parents who joined us for the afternoon.

Additional School Photos

In addition to the individual and class photos, the school photographer has also sent us a whole school photo. This is available to view in the school office and will cost $10 to order. Please complete order form in the office along with payment. Orders will not be placed without payment. There is a school captains’ photo and a Yr 6 photo for those families interested in purchasing those as well.

Cross Country

This Friday 28 March will see the running of the School Cross Country. All the children will have the opportunity to run in their age groups with boys starting shortly before the girls. We will be starting the races after recess. While some children are taking part in their races some of the other children will be participating in ball games activities. If there are any parents who are able to spare some time at one of the check points could you let either Mrs Temporal or Mr Ryan know that you are available to help. The events should all be completed by shortly after 1:15 pm.

We will be hosting the Bong Bong Small School Cross Country on Friday 4 April. All ten small school will be taking part with about 450 children involved. We are also running some of the ball games while the cross country races are on so that all children have the opportunity to take part in the ball games while they are not running. These events are always pressed for time after the running of the cross country races. The P & C will be holding a food stall on the day.

Woolworth’s Earn and Learn

We finally received our supplies from the Woolworth’s Earn and Learn voucher scheme. This is a huge boost to classroom supplies. This year’s focus was to order new maths games, this has been very successful with student engagement levels in mathematics. Thank you to all those who worked hard collecting so many vouchers for our school and to the parents who volunteered in counting and collating the vouchers.
Voluntary School Contribution

What is voluntary contribution? Voluntary Contribution helps provide basics educational resources for the benefit of students. The monies paid to the school will assist us in purchasing classroom requisites e.g. books, pencils, scissors, paint, glue sticks, paper etc. I would like to advise you that contributions are voluntary and payment is a matter for decision by parents and guardians.

The fees have been set as follows: 1 child $35.00

Family $45.00

Yr 4/5/6 $150.00. If your child was in this class last year and you payed for laptop usage you will not be required to pay again.

In regards to families, the eldest sibling will be invoiced. Your child will receive their invoices this week.

If you’re wishing to pay via the internet you may do so.

The bank details are:

Westpac
BSB 032-001
Account No. 11-6917

Please make sure when processing your payment you enter your child’s name as this will make identifying the payments successful.

Author Visit

Tomorrow we have the privilege of a well-know author, Nette Hilton, visiting our school. Nette has written books such as ‘A Proper Little Lady’, ‘Prince Lachlan’, ‘A Long Red Scarf’, ‘The Web’ and ‘Strays’. If you’re wishing for your child to buy a book please send money in on the day. Also, a reminder if you would like to sit in on her writing workshop in the morning from 9:30-11:00am with 4/56, you’re most welcome. If you haven’t already done so please complete the attached permission note and drop it into the office along with payments.

Pumpkin Competition

Please come to the school office and inspect ‘Jeffery’ the massive pumpkin. There is a guessing competition running at the moment. There a 3 competitions; 1 - guess the weight,

2 - guess the circumference,

3 - guess both.

All entries need to be in before Wednesday the 2 April. “You have to be in it to win it”, the winners will be drawn at the morning assembly.

Young Leaders Day

On Monday 31 March, Miss Dann and her Yr 6 students will be travelling to Sydney and attending the Young Leaders Day.

The main focus on the day is to help the children develop strong leadership skills. They will have the privilege listening to some guest speakers, including Ita Buttrose and Andy Griffiths. We look forward to a full report from the students next week.

Incursion - permission note attached.

The School Performance Tours will be visiting our school to perform ‘The Right Balance’ on Monday 7 April. This is a dynamic and engaging performance that provides young people with strategies for building positive relationships.

Students are taken on an interactive journey of discovery filled with easy to remember strategies for dealing with frustration, bullying and the difficulties in sustaining relationships.

The show inspires students to adopt positive attitudes towards finding the right balance of self-control and assertive behaviour, needed for building and maintaining healthy relationships.
After our AGM last week the following people have been elected/re-elected to our P&C:

President: Megan Moore
Vice President: Peter Goulder
Sec: Denise Howes
Tres: Lonni Bedson
Uniform coordinator: Jane Lawler
Market coordinator: Callie Sims

I know I had written last week that I wouldn’t stand for the role of President however I have now agreed to one more year! I look forward to working with Pete Goulder and Denise Howes, the new members of the P&C for this year. I would like to say thank you to Tracey Boyd who has been the Vice President of the P&C for the last few years and has always been helpful and supportive to me and the school.

Our P&C has 2 meetings each term. On Monday night we discussed the possibility of holding one of those meetings during the day, either straight after assembly or at 2pm before school pickup. If you would be available and interested in attending a P&C meeting at one of those times please take the time to fill out the quick survey in the office. This will help us determine what time would be better for most people.

CARPATHON

Thanks to those parents who came and helped with the BBQ over the weekend. Participant numbers were down this year and this is the first time the school has been used as Carpathon Headquarters. We provided a sausage sizzle at the weigh in each day on Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunchtime. Though we weren’t run off our feet, we made some money and the school will receive a donation from the organising committee.

BONG BONG CROSS COUNTRY

On Friday 4th April our school will be hosting the Bong Bong cross country event. We usually cater for 450 students who attend from all the small schools across the Southern Highlands. In addition to providing a BBQ lunch on the day we also have a cake stall so any donations of cakes, biscuits, slices, popcorn, jellies etc are all welcome. We will also need some volunteers to help out on the BBQ, cake stall and to make up some salad rolls in the morning. If you are able to help out for an hour on the day please fill out the form below and return to the P&C box in the office. Each parent usually wants to see their own child run so we make sure you can get out from behind the counter to cheer on your child - don’t think that by volunteering you won’t get to watch the race.

Yes, I can help serve at the school BBQ/cake stall on the day of the Bong Bong Cross Country

NAME: ..............................................................................................................

PH NUMBER: ...................................................................................................

We will need helpers from 9am through to 2pm

Please let me know if you have a preferred time you can help............................................

THANK YOU
Meeting opened by: M Moore 8.05

Attendance: Jane Lawler, Megan Moore, Lonnie Bedson, Tracey Boyd, Denise Howes, Danielle Brooker, Maree Goulder, Tim Ryan

Apologies: Kelly Waring, Kimmo, Callie Sims, Karen McNally, Megan Stone

Adopt Minutes previous: Feb 2014 moved: Lonnie sec: Jane

Matters arising from previous minutes:
- Year 6 jerseys organised. Should be here this week for backs to be printed. Several people have tried to contact Fred via phone – don’t want to start deck without speaking to him first. Decided that Megan would write letter to him. Glenn to contact service finder to come to school and advise location of services where deck will be built.
  Maree Goulder requested a copy of deck plans. Her father maybe able to help out with building.

Correspondence:
In:
- Various fundraising brochures
- Invoices and statements
- Invite to P&C annual conference 2014. Concern about our insurance

Out:

Treasurers report: Balance: $17817.79

General: Books have been audited by Mr Withers.
Student Injury Insurance is due for payment. We need to put info with newsletter to receive an overall view. General opinion not to pay, we feel we are over insured.


Uniform report: balance approx. $5145.87
Books with auditor.

Principals report: (attached)

General Business:
- Carpathen: this weekend - school to provide BBQ at weigh-in each day, in return school will get a donation from event
- Tennis court hire: General Store now closed down, all tennis money, keys and booking sheets have been taken to Stones Patisserie. Stones’ are happy to be the holder of the tennis court keys but we’ll wait and see what happens at General Store before changing signage on the tennis court. Believe there are plans for General Store to open again in future.
- Bong Bong xcountry to be held here on Friday 4th April. We will need cakes, slices etc to sell.
- Ethics class maybe offered as an alternative for non scripture. Megan attended an ethics class at Mittagong PS and spoke with the coordinator there who could come to Berrima.
• Megan to pass contact details onto Tim. This could be offered as an alternative to those students currently attending non-scripture.

P&C meeting times – Discussion that each term we will hold one P&C meeting in the evening and one during the day. We will put an option in newsletter in regard to meeting time to find if mornings straight after assembly or afternoon before pick up would suit parents. Concern was raised about having a lot of younger children running around the school without supervision while day time meeting is being held – need to address that.

Next meeting: 12/05/14 at 7.30pm
Meeting closed: 9.40pm
Next school Market: 13/4/14

Principal’s Report
P & C Meeting
March 17, 2014

Need to organise a system of prompt payment for Julie, the cleaner.
   It is taking too long for her to receive payment for cleaning before the markets.

Carpathon organisation?
   Sausage sizzle

Funding Support for the school / wish list.
   Social /Music Program for some children experiencing difficulty with literacy
   It’s a drumming program that promotes hand eye coordination and decoding skills
   through reading music. 1/2 day per week $4 000
   Some difficulty in organising to fit it to our timetable at the moment

School Photos
   Distributed today
   Seems a quality product
   Very prompt
   A very nice complementary school picture

LED lighting proposal
   Electricity cost remain a constant problem,
   Success with the installation of the Solar hot water service that is working well without any electrical backup at this point.
   Hoping to connect this through to the staffroom and remove a further hot water service
   Currently looking at a proposal put forward to change all the fluorescent lighting to LLED lighting.
Cost approximately $9,000 to change all current tubes. The outlay is claimed to be recovered within 2.5 years. It seems a case of spending money to save money. Is there anyone with connections or information in these areas to verify the data presented? Is there some way we could co-fund this project? Currently looking at annual electricity bills of approximately $600 per month or around $7,000 P.A.

Arborist assessment
Last week an arborist undertook a comprehensive assessment of all the trees on the site and adjacent boundaries. He identified 35 trees as need removal. However, not all these trees are in areas were students and staff either meet or play. The Department will be reviewing the final report and paying for the removal of trees thought to pose a risk of harm. No trees were identified as of imminent risk. Now awaiting his detailed report. Any work to be carried out would be done by a company that has been contracted to take on this task statewide.

Bong Bong Cross Country
Friday April 4
450 children
Will organise to run cross country events and ball games simultaneous as we did last year. No set breaks for morning tea or lunch as such.
STUDENT WELFARE

The Bullying. No Way! team sends thanks to our school for participating in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence.

Close to one million students from more than 2,100 schools participated in ‘taking a stand together’ across the country and it is schools such as ours that are helping to shape how bullying is addressed amongst Australia’s future generations.

The flags the children made for Harmony Day & Anti Bullying Day on Friday look fabulous hanging around different areas in the playground.

International Day of Happiness- (last Thursday March 20). A profound shift in attitudes is underway all over the world. People are now recognising that ‘progress’ should be about increasing human happiness and wellbeing, not just growing the economy at all costs. All 193 United Nations member states have adopted a resolution calling for happiness to be given greater priority and March 20 was declared as the International Day of Happiness – a day to inspire action for a happier world.

Ongoing International Happiness Challenges: (more to follow next week)

1. Have a positive view of the future.
2. Taking extra good care of your body.
3. Laugh and have fun.
4. Enjoying quiet time of peaceful thinking & rest.
5. Reflecting on the past in a positive light.
6. Connect with friends.
7. Express gratitude & appreciation.
8. Forgive - let go of the past.
9. Offer Assistance to someone that may need some help.
10. Send a Letter or card of thanks to someone for their kindness........ Smile!

Netty Dubokovich - Chaplain.... “Speak Life”
AUTHOR VISIT
PARENT/CAREGIVER CONSENT FORM

Next week, on Tuesday 25th March, the whole school is lucky enough to have a visit from the well-known children's author Nette Hilton.

Nette has written books such as 'A Proper Little Lady', 'Prince Lachlan', 'A Long Red Scarf', 'The Web' and 'Strays'.

Nette will be selling a range of her books on the day that will cost up to $20. If you chose to buy a book please bring your money on the day. **This is separate to the cost of the incursion - $4.00.** She is also very happy for you to bring any books you already own if you would like them signed.

Parents, if you would like to sit in on her writing workshop in the morning with 4/5/6, you are more than welcome to join us from 9.30-11.00am.

The total cost of this visit will be $4.

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RETURN SLIP

I do / do not consent to ____________________________________________ of class ____________

participating in a visit by author Nette Hilton.

Signed .................................................................................................................. Date.........................................................

I enclose $ 4.00 cash / cheque / direct deposit. BSB-032-001 A/C - 116917

If you're wishing to make direct deposit please make sure you enter your name and the name of the excursion so that your deposit can be identified.
PARENT/CAREGIVER CONSENT FORM

All students will have the opportunity to attend an in-school excursion on **Monday 7 April 2014**, ‘The Right Balance’.

This in-school excursion has been planned as it relates directly to strategies for building positive relationships.

The total costs of the incursion will be $5.00

**Please have permission note and money in by Friday 4 April 2014.**

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**RETURN SLIP**
I do / do not consent to _______________________________ of class ____________


Signature____________________________________ Date____________________

I enclose $ 5.00 cash / cheque (please circle)

I enclose $ 5.00 cash / cheque / direct deposit. BSB-032-001 A/C - 116917

If you’re wishing to make direct deposit please make sure you enter your name and the name of the excursion so that your deposit can be identified