EVENTS AT A GLANCE

June

Wednesday 4 University Science Test
Friday 6 Friday run
Sunday 8 Berrima School Yard Market
Monday 9 Queens Birthday holiday
Wednesday 11 Conservation Volunteers Working bee
Thursday 12 Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal—Bowral
Friday 13 No Friday run
Bong Bong Athletics Carnival—Eridge Park
Monday 16 University Writing Competition
P & C Meeting 9:10 a.m - Meet in the library
Tuesday 17 University Spelling Competition
Thursday 19 Lantern Walk
Friday 20 Stephanie Alexander Course—Berrima
Thursday 26 Festival Of Instrumental Music—Sydney Opera House
Friday 27 End of term Assembly 1:30 p.m.

SRC Movie / TV Character dress up day

The SRC held a very successful fund raiser last week with a huge participation rate and so many children (parents) going to so much trouble to dress up for the occasion. A total of $236 was raised towards the purchase of a replacement slippery dip.

Camp Quality Puppet Show

Our children were audience to a highly professional puppet show presented courtesy of The Camp Quality Foundation. The children were a very appreciative audience, enjoying the jokes, and indirect learning about bullying and the problems and issues associated with the disease cancer. Our School Captains were also able to present the performers with a donation of over $95 towards cancer research. The performers were highly complimentary of the manners and interest shown by the children of Berrima.

Conservation Volunteers Working Bee

We are very fortunate to again have the Conservation Volunteers visiting our school on Wednesday June 11. We will be working at the front of the school cleaning up the Hume Highway frontage. We still needs loads of newspaper to spread under mulch if you have a collection at home. Any parents interested in helping out on that day would also be most welcome.
Bong Bong Athletics Carnival

Coming up on Friday week there will be the Bong Bong Small Schools Athletics Carnival. This carnival is held at Eridge Park and the carnival runs at two levels. At one level children who have qualified to participate in an event will participate at a competition level. All other children participate in the same events but at a more social level where they are competing against their own best effort.

The infants children also take part in the athletics carnival. They participate in a tabloid of athletic events similar to the events taking place in the primary carnival.

All the children will be travelling by bus to the carnival. We will be leaving the school at 9:15 ready to start the carnival at 10 o’clock. Children wishing to participate in the 800metres event will need to make their own way to Eridge Park and be there ready for the first race at 9 a.m. A permission note is attached to this newsletter.

P & C Meeting Guest Speaker

The next P & C meeting will be the daytime meeting beginning at 9:10 Monday June 16. There will be a short presentation by Belinda Giles, the PhD student who carried out a research project on the amount of exercise our children are getting through their work in the Stephanie Alexander Program. There will an opportunity to ask questions following the presentation.

Payments Due

Athletics Carnival - Due Wednesday 11 June - $5.00 per child
Cooking Levy - Term 1 & 2 - Now due.
Festival Instrumental Festival - Now Due
School Voluntary Contribution Fees - Now Due

Data Collection

Attached is a letter from the Department of Education and Communities in reference to students with disabilities. If you wish for your child not to be counted in the data collection you MUST complete the attached form and return it to the school before the end of Term 2, 2014. A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive.

Lantern Walk Workshop

THIS WEDNESDAY – June 4 we will be holding a workshop to construct some components for light installations on the track. All materials, instructions and good coffee and company will be provided. Would love your help in the library any time between 1.00-4.00pm this Wednesday. Be a part of making this a magical night. If you have a good pair of scissors, please bring these along.

No need to RSVP, just turn up.

Lantern Walk—Apple Crumble

Anchors Fresh Fruit & Vegetable has kindly offered to supply us with apples at no charge. The ‘deal’ is that parents go to Anchors to collect 1-2 kgs of apples at a time. We need about 20kgs. It would be a great help if you can pop in to Anchors this week, tell them you are Berrima School family and drop of the apples to school to be turned into yummy apple crumble. Thanks.
Thinking About Things

Study: Having lots of books is great for children's school performance. Photo: Supplied


Growing up in a home with lots of books and being read to as a toddler have a bigger impact on the performance of a child starting school than their temperament or socio-economic background, new research shows.

To determine the best predictors of a child’s ability to be organised, pay attention and stay on task in class, Queensland University of Technology and Charles Sturt University researchers tracked nearly 3500 children from birth to age six. Overall girls did better than boys when they started school, as did children from higher socio-economic backgrounds, according to the data from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children. But the researchers found the quality of a child’s learning environment when they were toddlers was the most significant indicator of their ability to manage themselves at school.

"It was strongly predictive of academic, social and emotional outcomes later on," said Sue Walker, an early childhood expert at QUT’s Faculty of Education.

Children who grew up in homes with lots of books and who enjoyed being read to for longer periods were most likely to perform well when they reached school. The research found a child’s learning environment at home was a better predictor of functioning than their temperament, ethnicity or the quality of their relationship with their parents.

"When they come to school they’re prepared to learn effectively," said Associate Professor Walker, who will present her findings at an international behavioural development conference in Shanghai next month.

"They can pay attention in class, stay focused on tasks, and keep belongings organised."

Experts believe these executive functioning skills are more crucial for a child’s school readiness than their ability to read, write or count.

Professor Walker said that if a parent placed a high value on literacy, as shown by the number of books they had, they would read to their child regardless of their socio-economic status.

Being read to often increases a child’s vocabulary and enjoyment, and requires them to pay attention and remain engaged.

Professor Walker said any kind of engagement with a child when they were young would benefit their development, including involving them in music and playing games that focused on memory skills.


Questions:

How often do I read to or with my child?  Do I demonstrate the value of reading for pleasure by reading myself?

Have I continued reading to or with my child after they started school?
2 June 2014

Dear Parents,

Nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability – 2014

Our school is participating in the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability.

We will be collecting information already available in the school about the support that is being provided to students with disability. Better data will help the Government plan for students with disability.

The data collection will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be involved in any testing process.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities will provide data to the Australian Government from all NSW public schools in such a way that no individual student or school will be able to be identified. In this way, we will ensure the privacy and confidentiality of all students.

All information is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. Information about the Australian Government’s Privacy Policy can be found here: http://education.gov.au/condensed-privacy-policy. Information about the NSW Government’s privacy policies can be found here: http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection you must complete the attached form and return it to the school before the end of Term 2, 2014. A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive.

Further information about the data collection can be found on the Australian Government Department of Education website:


If you have any questions about your child being included in the data collection please contact the school.

If you need help with English to make an enquiry contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will call the number you provide and get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

Kind regards

Timothy Ryan
Principal
If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection, please complete the attached form and return it to the school before the end of Term 3, 2014.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability – 2014

I/we __________________________________________

Name of parent/carer

do not wish my child ____________________________ to be counted

Name of child

for the purposes of the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability.

Parent/Carer signature: ___________________________ date: __________

NATIONAL BETTER BUDDY BANDING TOGETHER

In preparation for our Banding Together Day (which won’t be June 13, due to the Bong Bong Small School’s Athletic Carnival)...I would like to request that 1 litre washed milk bottles be sent in for lunch time games held possibly Monday June 16. These will be used for skittles-10pin bowling under the COLA, as well we will have 3 legged races, egg & spoon & sack races.
STUDENT WELFARE

Last week Mrs Kennedy & I were speaking about resilience. I came across the article yesterday & thought I’d share it with you.

Excerpt from writings of Bob Gass.

"During their famous expedition, American explorers, Lewis and Clark, faced incredible hardships. On reaching the Missouri River, they thought the worst was over - then they saw the Rockies! Instead of the easy ride downstream that they’d expected, they faced their biggest challenge: retreat or start climbing! Looking back, they realised it was in conquering the Rockies that they gained the confidence they needed for what they’d face later.

John Maxwell writes, ‘...you will become a better, stronger, wiser and more resilient person through solving problems.’ Sociologists who study resiliency - the ability to bounce back - tell us that people handle trauma in two ways. They either give up because they’re afraid, or they grow up by developing the capacity to handle it. What makes the difference? Instead of acting like victims, resilient people: (1) take charge of their lives; (2) refuse to relinquish their values; (3) refocus on their goal. A challenge is a gift, a blessing in disguise. Quitting is always simpler than enduring. But it produces a pattern that’s hard to break; one you live to regret. So if you’re thinking, 'This class or relationship is too hard, I want out,' or, 'This job isn’t what I expected or this task is too hard... I’m quitting! Remember, you develop resiliency by “hanging in there” in situations you don’t like or can’t change.”

We can develop resilience in our children, leading by example & encouraging them not to quit - teaching them perseverance & reaching the goals we set for ourselves & those children set for themselves or required by parents & teachers. Goals can only be met, when we face challenges head on and chip away at them little by little until we have the breakthrough & achieve what we set out to do. Often this is setting small daily markers, in order to meet the desired end. Resilience -it’s a trait well worth cultivating!

Netty Dubokovich- Chaplain- “Speak Life”....

P&C NEWS

The Berrima community turned out in force last Friday night to farewell Kay, Geoff and Stuart, who have run the local Post Office for many years. A big thank you to Pete, Maree, Sam and Joe Goulder who set up and ran the BBQ on the night and were ably assisted by Alisha and Ryan Winley, Belinda Temporali and Tim Ryan. Local residents were very generous on the night with many giving donations to the school without even buying a sausage! Being part of a small community it really pays to have a presence at these types of events. On behalf of the P&C Pete Goulder presented Kay and Geoff with a voucher to Stones Patisserie and a school bag that had been signed by many of our students.

At the last P&C meeting we decided to accept the offer made to us by local organisers to run the Carpathon next year. We believe this is an event that we can grow and will be a good fundraiser for our school.

LANERN NIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

We are finalising the menu for the night and will send out an order form later this week. We ask that you pre-order and pay for food so we know what quantities to prepare. The menu will be similar to previous years with soups, macaroni cheese and sausage sandwiches available.

SCHOOL MARKETS THIS WEEKEND

Are there any people out there who can help out with the BBQ?? Being the long weekend this is a busy weekend for Berrima but a really hard one to get any helpers on the BBQ. Please let me know ASAP if you are free to help out for an hour or so OR let me know if there is a sporting club/association you belong to that might want to run the BBQ this market.

Thanks,
Megan – m:0413 482 731 E: moorefamily21@bigpond.com
Tempura Fritters

Fresh from the garden: beans, broccoli, snowpeas, spring onions, sweet potato, zucchini

Recipe Source: Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation

The fresh vegetables you use for this dish will depend on what you have available in your garden. Use the below as a guide, but have a think about how you can slice up whatever is in season. Cut up as much as you think you will need for your diners. Serve with your homemade aioli.

The key to tempura batter is to make it thin and loose, not thick and dense – add a little more cold water if you need to.

**Equipment:**
- Steamer
- Metric cups
- Large mixing bowl
- Mixing spoon
- Deep frying pan
- Metal tongs
- Slotted spoon
- Serving plate and small bowls for aioli
- Absorbent kitchen paper

**Ingredients:**
- 1 egg
- 1 cup very cold water
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- Snowpeas or beans
- Zucchini
- Sweet potato
- Broccoli
- Spring onion or onion
- Aioli (made by another team)
- Canola oil for deep frying

**What to do:**
- Steam the broccoli for just 2 minutes and allow to cool completely.
- Make one batch of tempura batter. Combine the egg with the very cold water. Stir in the flour until just incorporated – do not over-stir (the batter should be a little lumpy, which makes the tempura crisper).
- Slice the vegetables into long strips (5 cm) about the thickness of your thumb.
- Before service (do not start until all other groups are 15 minutes away from serving otherwise your batter will go cold and soggy) heat 2–3 cups of oil in deep frying pan until a drop of batter cooks immediately.
- Drop each piece of vegetable into batter and lightly coat. Place very carefully into the hot oil and cook until golden.
- Take out with slotted spoon and put onto kitchen paper. Keep going until all vegetables are done.
- Serve on plates with small bowls of aioli on the side.
Meeting opened by: M Moore 7.40pm

Attendance: Megan Moore, Tim Ryan, Megan Stone, Jane Lawler, Denise Howes, Peter Goulter, Laney Clancy, Kimmo, Daniell Brooker

Apologies: Kelly Waring, Tracey Carter, Lonnie Bedson, Callie Sims, Kate Bendle, Tom and Anna Longworth

Adopt Minutes previous: 17 March 2014. Moved – Jane Sec – Danielle

Matters arising from previous minutes:
* Kitchen deck. Services located. Storm water pit needs to be dug first.
  * Glenn and Fred still busy, also need to check kitchen hire before proceeding.
  * Glenn has a contact for the safety fencing at the appropriate time. Megan will look into having post holes and storm water pit dug.

Correspondence:
In: Fundraising brochures, bank statement, invoices for cleaning and phone
Out: nil

Treasurers report: Balance $20,873.31
Uniform report: Balance $4,924 with $300 to bank.
Current orders approx. $1,200 and $1,500 to pay.
Suggested that notice go in newsletter outlining winter uniform available for girls as some still wearing summer dresses.

Markets: Being Mothers Day was successful day. Approx. $1,300 raised from BBQ, flowers and fruit stall. Buskers were very popular.

Principals Report: (attached)

General Business:
* Request from parent to consider pedestrian crossing on Oxley St. Mr Ryan advises that school population too small for this to succeed.
* Results re P&C meeting times show that from the 10 responses received the preference was fairly evenly split – Mondays 9.00am or Fridays 2.30pm.
  * Next meeting to be held Monday morning June 16.
* Friday 16May is Jamie Oliver “cook off”. Officials have been invited and Deb has requested approx. $100 from P&C for ingredients.
* Berrima P&C has been given the opportunity to run future Carpathons, usually held on 3rd weekend in February. Participation is usually $10 child, $15 adult and additional $7 for licence. Wingecarribee Council usually gives $4,000 to cover costs for insurance and advertising. Prizes come from local businesses. Next year Highland Tip Trips want to sponsor in return for taking the fish. Lots of potential and plenty of people willing to give advice.
* Markets. Dwindling number of stall holders and ongoing difficulty finding volunteers from parent community. Last resort would be to abandon markets altogether. If we outsource then the Dept Education would run the tenders and we would lose degree of control. Another option is to appoint a manager who would make a profit and return a fee to P&C. Currently markets worth about $8,000 - $10,000 in income.
  * Otherwise we could consider dropping back to 5th Sunday of every month which would result in 4-5 major ‘events’ for the year. Megan to talk to one of our current stall holders to see if he would like to take on management also to see how other stall holders would feel if market days were reduced. Recognised there is huge potential to make money from school kitchen on market days, again volunteers needed.
* Tennis Court. Stones are happy to continue holding the key so signage will be changed to reflect new arrangements.

Next meeting: Monday June 16 at 9.00am Meeting closed 9.00pm
Donation
Fortunate to receive a large donation from a school family
This will be assisting with the purchase of new readers and assisting with the payment for the LED lighting.

LED lighting
We have completed the change-over to LED lighting
Went ahead with the change as we were restricted by a change in a government subsidy that was available at the time of purchase but has since been discontinued

Arborist assessment
Last week we had a second arborist undertook a comprehensive assessment of all the trees on the site and adjacent boundaries,
He did not identify any trees that posed an imminent threat.
Some branches on the big tree should be cut back however his overall summary was far more realistic.
I will await his report with interest.

Mini Working bee
To cement a base for the new aero composting bins
To remake the step beside the garage at the vegetable garden to make it into a ramp
Not too many helpers needed

Voluntary Contributions
$1290 received to date
$1625 outstanding
Therefore less than 50% have contributed so far

Laptop subsidy
$755 paid to date
$2545 outstanding
This is to cover replacement and repairs as necessary

Kitchen / lunch money
58 invoiced
23 paid to date
Lantern Walk - Wanted

Do you have any spare/ unused lampshades, the material and wire frame type? We need as many as we can get for an installation for the Lantern Walk. If so, please drop into the office.

This year it’s BYO lanterns for the students in Yr 1—6

Students will NOT be making their lanterns in class this year (except for Kindergarten). They will be making something in class to decorate a tree, but their creative work will be in place on the tree for the evening, so they will need a lantern from home to walk through the forest.

This means making a lantern at home or purchasing one for each child and adult attending. We gave you some images as inspiration last week and here are a few more.
On 13 June 2014 Berrima Public School will be participating in the Small Schools Athletics Carnival, which will be held at Eriddle Park.

The Children will compete in the usual athletics events plus some novelty events. Events will commence at 10.00am.

We are expecting to leave school by 9:15am and returning approximately 2:30pm in time for the afternoon school bus. We will be travelling by bus to the venue at a cost of $5.00.

The children will need to wear their red sports uniform. Please make sure your child/ren bring with them a hat and a drink bottle. Can you please apply sunscreen to your child/ren before they come to school, as this will save time?

Even though there will be a canteen operating on the day we do suggest to pack an extra drink and some snacks.

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RETURN SLIP
I do / do not consent to __________________________ of class _________

travelling by bus to Eriddle Park to participate in the Small Schools Athletics Carnival on 13 June 2014.

I do / do not give permission for my child to receive medical treatment in case of an emergency.

Signed: ___________________________ Date: _______________________

☐ Enclosed $ 5.00 cash/cheque

☐ Direct deposit - BSB-032-001 A/C - 116917

If you’re wishing to pay by direct deposit please make sure you enter your name and the name of the excursion. This helps to identify your deposit.
Bong Bong Athletics Carnival
Canteen Price List

BBQ Sausage Sandwich $2.00
Egg & Bacon Roll $4.00

Popper $1.00

Bottled Water $1.00

Ovalteenies 70c
Slinky Apples 50c