PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Greetings all and welcome to Week 4.

I was delighted to hear of our swim teams excellent results at the Zone Carnival yesterday. Congratulations to all the team on your efforts and performances. I was also delighted to hear of the wonderful behaviour and attitude displayed by all our children. I would also like to thank the organising teachers and parents who went and supported the children. Your efforts are always appreciated.

Whooping Cough Alert
There has been a large increase in whooping cough notifications in the Hunter in the recent past. A large part of the increase is in school aged children. NSW Health have provided information about whooping cough to parents and carers of children attending NSW schools.


Lateness to School
Unfortunately we still have far too many children late to school. Bonnells Bay starts at 9.30am and it seems very reasonable to expect children to be at school ready to begin lessons at that time. We have a large number of children regularly coming to school at 9.45am or later. I know and accept that sometimes things happen and children are late but the regularity of some family’s lateness is unacceptable. It not only disrupts spelling which is done first up each day but it seriously affects your child’s learning. Here are some scary facts about lateness.

When your child misses just 10 minutes a day, that equals 50 minutes of learning each week, which is nearly 1½ weeks per year and therefore, from Kinder to Year 12 that is nearly ½ a year of school. When your child misses ¼ hour a day that equals ½ a day of learning a week which is 4 weeks a year and therefore from Kinder to Year 12 that is nearly 1½ years of learning.

Our Home School Liaison officer has been informed and is monitoring the attendance.

Bomb Threats to Schools
Parents will have read about the bomb hoaxes that have plagued schools across NSW and Qld in the recent past. Bonnells Bay has regular practices of evacuation and lock down procedures and is current with all the Safety practices needed to keep our children safe. We had another practice today so we are always ready for any event or threat. Please speak to children if they ask about this issue and reassure them we need to practice to be safe.

School Fees
Please be aware that optional school fees are now due, the fees are $30 for a single child or $60 for a family. These fees go to help pay for extras that we provide for all the children in the school. While no child will be disadvantaged by non payment of school fees we ask that parents consider paying the fees if able.

Have a great week.

Mark Stiller
Principal

BOOK PACKS AND VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS 2016

The price for the 2016 Book Pack is:
$50 for the first child or
$90 for a family of two or more children
Payment plans are available.

Once paid the students will receive their book pack in class.

The Voluntary School Contribution for 2016 is:
$30 for the first child
$60 for a family of two or more children
2016 DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

February
Friday 26th Mr Stiller’s Last Day

March
Wednesday 9th Disco
Thursday 10th Stage 3 Camp
Friday 11th Stage 3 Camp

Canteen Roster
Week 5
Monday 22nd Michelle M
Tuesday 23rd Vick M, Kylie W
Wednesday 24th Gabriala V, Katie L
Thursday 25th Rebecca K
Friday 26th Michelle M, Rita S, Gabriala V

New helpers are always welcome in the canteen, if you can help out one day or even one hour to serve the children at lunch time, once a month please come and see us at the canteen.

Don’t forget Milkshake Monday’s!
Nachos available Tuesday’s!
We have Gluten Free Chicken Nuggets and Vegetarian Nuggets available, both 60c each.

Library News
Please remember to send K-2 students with a library bag to be able to borrow books for home. Sometimes the 3-6 students may need a gentle reminder about borrowing and returning too! The returns trolley is at the library door from 9am each morning.

It’s great to see the students enjoying the library space during lunch and recess also. We are experiencing some difficulties at pack up time though. Please take some time to discuss with your children the importance of packing up after themselves. It is a great habit to have both at school and home.

Please remember to record the Premiers Reading Challenge (PRC) ID number from any library books being read at home. The PRC ID number is located on the top left hand side of the front cover. If your child didn’t receive a paper copy of the reading log this week, please ask for one.

Happy Reading
Mrs Wood

P & C News
We had a fantastic turnout for our first meeting of the year. It was great to see so many new people at the meeting. We are planning an exciting year with some good fundraisers throughout the year. We are always looking for new ideas and helpers, so if you have any suggestions for us please pass them on through the school office.

Mr Stiller’s Last Day
Our very first fundraiser for the year will involve Mr Stiller. Mr Stiller has agreed to allow the children to tape him to the wall. The P&C will be selling strips of tape 1m in length for $1. Children can purchase these strips on Mr Stiller’s last day Friday 26th February. This will happen during the lunch break and we are sure the students will really enjoy having a bit of fun with their principal.

Disco
The first disco is on Wednesday 9th March. The disco for K-2 students will commence at 5pm and conclude at 6.15pm. The 3-6 disco will commence at 6.30pm and conclude at 8pm. It is important for all parents/carers to be prompt on conclusion of the discos to collect their children. Parents/carers must enter the hall in order to take children home. As the first disco is at 5pm, we will be serving party pies and party sausage rolls for $1 each and then hotdogs will be available in between the two discos for $2.50. Anyone who can volunteer some time at the disco would be greatly appreciated.

Have a great week.
Therese Blair
P&C President

Zone Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all our students who participated in the Zone Swimming Carnival yesterday. The venue was great, the weather was brilliant and the students’ performance was excellent. Our sincere thanks to parents that were able to attend, your assistance and support is always welcomed.

Koby J was successful in progressing to the Regional Swimming Carnival for the junior individual medley, junior 50m breaststroke and 10 years 50m freestyle. Imogen B will participate in the 12 years 50m breaststroke and freestyle. Good luck and congratulations to Koby and Imogen, well done.

Chicken Pox and Head Lice
There has been a case of chicken pox reported in the school. Also head lice are about again, so please check your children’s hair.
Ethics
Ethics classes will start this Friday, though it will take a couple of weeks to get into a rhythm. If you nominate to have your child in Ethics, please promptly return the form to the school so we can confirm class numbers. I will be giving a weekly update of what we are doing in each stage, so parents have an idea what happens in Ethics classes, and also to encourage conversation about Ethics at home. If you have any questions, or if you would be interested in becoming part of our team, call or text me on 0447771946 or visit www.primaryethics.com.au.
Erin Turriff, BBPS Ethics coordinator.

Bonnells Bay Progress Association Inc.
The next meeting of the Bonnells Bay Progress Association Inc. will take place on Wednesday 2nd March 2016 at the Bonnells Bay Youth & Community Centre commencing at 7:30 pm. The Guest Speaker will be Laurene Mulchay who is the President of Southlake U3A (University of the Third Age).

Within the last 12 months U3A has gathered together some 250 members locally and meets monthly. If you would like to find out more about this Community Group and the multiple interests they provide attend this meeting. There will be time for questions following Laurene’s presentation.