PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Final Fling

I would like to take this final opportunity to thank the community of Bonnells Bay for allowing me to be a part of this wonderful school for the last 6 years. In my time we have seen the school change and evolve into the wonderful organisation it is today. The one thing that has not changed in that time are the children we serve. There have been many ups and downs, some tough love and lots of celebrating in our journey. I believe the end justifies the means and we now have a fabulous culture and a school where curriculum and not behaviour is the focus. I will always remember Bonnells Bay as my best school and I cannot think of a better way to end my 35 year teaching career than in Bonnells Bay.

Cheers and good luck.

Mark Stiller
Principal

Gone But Not Forgotten

In my first newsletter to you I would like to take the opportunity to say a few words about Mark as he prepares to play more golf, travel and enjoy life with Chris in their new home on the south coast. Those of us he leaves behind will continue to benefit from the time he spent at BBPS.

Mark has always put “his kids” first. Everything that he has done in his time at BBPS has been for the students and school community. We can thank him for the wonderful school culture – the ‘Bonnells Bay Way’ - that we all now enjoy. A culture of respect, care, hard work and pride that is reflected in everything we do. Our school is a place that focuses on all students learning and developing into the best people they can be. It is a place of opportunities for all. A place to take risks and accept challenges safely and with support. Mark has created a place where change is embraced and not feared. As he says (often) “if you always do what you’ve always done, you’ll always get what you’ve always got”.

Under his leadership we have come a long way. Mark is a leader who leads by example and is always a good sport. We are a school that is rich in technology and learning resources. We have students who have a voice and a community that is actively involved. We as a staff have been valued, supported and encouraged so that we can now take the next step and continue forward with the journey he began 6 years ago, remembering all that Mark has taught us.

He will be missed but not forgotten, and we will hold him to his promise to be back for the Billy Cart Derby. Mark you’re our “bestest favourite”, thank you for everything you have done and the Bunnies thank you for a new generation of supporters!

Jodie Corrigan
Relieving Principal
**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 29th Michelle M
- Tuesday 1st Vicki M, Gabriala V
- Wednesday 2nd Natalie M, Natalie P
- Thursday 3rd Rebecca K
- Friday 4th Michelle M, Melissa M

Canteen is always looking for new volunteers if you can spare one day a month or an hour at lunch to help serve the kids, please come and see us at the canteen. Return the form on Page 3.

Thank you.

**Library News**
Almost half way through the term already, time really does fly when you are having fun!

We have started a new lunch and recess library use roster this week. The library had become so popular it was becoming too crowded. There is now a fortnightly roster in place alternating days between the infants and the primary students.

Borrowing is well and truly under way. I have restricted students to one book for the moment. I want to ensure everyone develops a good borrowing ethic.

I have spare Premier’s Reading Challenge reading log sheets if anyone needs one.

Happy Reading
Mrs Wood

**P & C News**

FAREWELL MR STILLER!!!!!!

I can’t believe the time has finally arrived to farewell our Principal. We have all been busy planning this wonderful celebration, yet sad occasion. Thankfully due to Mr Stiller wanting to spend his last day (Friday 26th February) enjoying time with his ‘KIDS’ the P&C have arranged to have Mr Stiller taped to the wall. This will be an event you will not want to miss, so lock in 11.30am and show your support by attending this fundraiser.

Children will need to bring $1 if they wish to participate in the event. We will be selling 1m strips of tape, which the children will then use to tape Mr Stiller to the wall. We have secured some donations from local companies in support of this event, which we will name in next week’s newsletter.

On a more serious note, I would like to take this opportunity in wishing Mr Stiller a wonderful retirement. The work he has put into the school has been amazing and as parents I am sure everyone is so proud of the school that Bonnells Bay has become. The relationship between the P&C and Mr Stiller is one of strength, respect and appreciation. You will be sadly missed.

Have a great week.
Therese Blair
P&C President

**Westlakes PSSA Rugby League Trials**
Congratulations to Kade W and Koby J who attended the Westlakes PSSA Rugby League Trials at Keith Barry Oval on Monday. The boys were up against some very talented players within the Westlakes Zone. Our boys represented Bonnells Bay with pride and did an amazing job. Kade W was successful in progressing through to the Hunter PSSA Rugby League Trials.

Mr N Wlodarczyk

**Book Packs and Voluntary School Contribution**
Thank you to all those families that have already paid for Book Packs and Voluntary School Contributions. For those that have yet to pay please send in the money in an envelope with your child’s name, class and payment details when possible. Thank you.

**Farewelling Mr Stiller, Friday 26th February**
Remember to come dressed in red and green this Friday as it will be a Rabbitoh’s theme day to help farewell Mr Stiller. Don’t forget to bring in $1 to buy your 1 metre of tape to tape Mr Stiller to the wall.
Easter Hat Parade and Eggsibition
These events will be held on Wednesday 23rd March at 1pm. The Hat Parade will be for Kinder to Year 2 and the Eggsibition is for Kinder to Year 6. Don’t forget to put this event in your diary. More information will be sent home closer to the day.

Close the Gap
Donations are being taken at the school office for the ‘Close the Gap’ campaign. Your donation will help record and raise the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples around Australia to help them gain better health care.