

# BONALBO CENTRAL SCHOOL

*'Lifelong Learning for a Positive Future'*

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Principal:  
Deputy Principal:  
Assistant Principals:

Keith Larsson  
Corinne Miller  
Judy Voisey  
Megan O'Meara

## SCHOOL NEWS

Term 4 Week 5 2009



All dressed up  
for Mock  
Interviews ⇄



Year 7  
Cooking class  
↓



Questacon ⇄



### ***Dates to Remember:***

November 23, 2009 Portfolio Interviews Year 9  
November 24, 2009 Portfolio Interviews Year 8  
November 24, 2009 ESSA Year 8  
November 25, 2009 Year 6-7 Transition Day  
November 25, 2009 Kindy Orientation  
November 26, 2009 Portfolio Interviews Year 10  
November 27, 2009 Portfolio Interviews Year 7  
November 27, 2009 Primary Rewards Day Ballina  
November 30-December 11, 2009  
Intensive Swimming Program K-6  
December 1-2, 2009 Rural Outcomes for Schools  
December 3-4, 2009 Boys Camp  
December 3-4, 2009 Girls Sleepover  
December 10, 2009 PRESENTATION NIGHT  
December 16, 2009 Last Day of School-(Students)



## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **My Absence**

At the end of Term three and start of Term four, I spent seven weeks working as School Education Director in Lismore. This was a valuable learning experience for myself, as it provided the opportunity to visit and support 30 schools. Some of the ideas I gathered from talking to Principals will assist in supporting the further development of our school. I would like to thank Corinne Miller, Dave and Sharon Tucker who relieved as Principal, Deputy Principal and Head Teacher English respectively. I believe everyone gained something from the experience.

### **Examinations**

Last week was a very big week for our students with Year 12 completing their Higher School Certificate, Year 10 completing their School Certificate exams and Year 7-9 completing their Semester Two formal exams. All exams ran smoothly with special thanks for the staff and students who acted as reader writers for some of our students. These people were Deslie Bender, Robert Collier, Chloe Stubbings, Jude Wright, Alex Roffey, Charlie Taikarara, Rachel Moore and Eddy Edwards. Thank you also to Lynda Price who accepted the position of HSC and SC supervisor. Lynda was particularly impressed with the mature approach our Year 10 and 12 students took towards the exams and would like to thank all the Primary students for their good behaviour and keeping noise levels low during their breaks while the exams were in progress.

### **Portfolio Interviews**

Next week Portfolio interviews will take place. Thank you to Mrs Maslen for her organisation and for the staff, students and parents who have volunteered to make up interview panels. All students will hopefully be well prepared for the interviews and will take it seriously. We believe this is a very valuable process for developing employability skills such as organising ability and interview technique.

### **Mock Interviews**

Two weeks ago Year 10 participated in Mock Interviews which is an important component of the Work Education course. The interview panels were made up of community members from the Casino area. They were Charlie Cox, Hilton Fatt, June Grace and Judy Davis. The panels were delighted with the way the students performed and the manner in which they prepared themselves. Thank you to the students for their effort, the community members for giving up their time, and to Mrs Larsson for her organisation and preparation of the students.

### **Breakfast Club**

Thank you to Red Cross Breakfast Club volunteers for their ongoing work each week in providing breakfast for our students and to the Lions Club for providing a BBQ each month. I have been informed that the Lions club have donated \$1000 to the Red Cross to assist in running the breakfast club at our school. This is greatly appreciated and is a further example of what excellent support the Lions Club provides for our community.

### **Rural Outcomes of Schools (ROOS)**

Attached to this newsletter is a letter relating to a rural schools study. This study provides the opportunity to advertise the effective programs we have put in place over the years. This information will be useful for other rural schools. We will also get the benefit of information received from other rural schools involved in the study. Parents and Carers who I have not already spoken to, and who are interested in being involved, please contact me at school as soon as possible. The five people visiting want to have relaxed discussions with a broad cross section of people including Parents, Community members, teachers and students who have a positive story to tell about the school.

### **Building Education Revolution (BER)**

Our school is very fortunate to have received millions of dollars worth of funding to allow the construction of some excellent facilities over the next 18 months. Work has already commenced with replacement of roofs and gutters and renovation of some existing rooms. The new Science Centre commences in the next few weeks, the Multi Purpose Centre upgrade commences by the end of the year and a new trade training facility commences by the middle of next year. New landscaping plans for the school have commenced to beautify the school and replace many of the trees which have been removed. We are hoping to have all work completed by the Centenary in March 2011.

*Keith Larsson*  
*Principal*

## PRIMARY NEWS

The term is very quickly getting away from us. There are a number of very important events happening in the next few weeks so please check the calendar items and also notes coming home with your child. Remember green notes require an action of some kind and must be returned to school as soon as possible.

### Milk Bottle Tops

Some students are remembering to bring their milk bottle tops to school. Students can place these in the large blue box in the primary staffroom. A huge **thank you to Caroona Hostel** for supporting Bonalbo Central School with sending in milk bottle tops. We have raised **\$204.40**. This money supports many very worthy programs in the primary school and as you can see is a simple way of raising funds.

### Shirts for Art

During Art in the primary all students will paint at various times. All students need to have an old shirt to put over their school shirts when they do art. This will protect their school shirts from being permanently damaged. We only purchase non-toxic, water-based paint for students to use. However, as many of you are aware this paint can be very difficult to wash out of uniforms. From experience it is best to wash the paint out as soon as possible in cold water only. Once they have been washed it is almost impossible to get any further paint out.

### Rewards Day

The primary rewards day is on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. We are travelling to Ballina to the Waterslides and also to Alstonville to visit 'A-Maze'n'Place'. A green note was sent home with students on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. Students who are attending need to be at school ready to leave at **7.30 a.m.** The cost is **\$7.00 per student**. All students will need to bring recess and lunch with them on the day and be dressed in sun-smart clothes with shoes, a hat and sunscreen along with their swimmers and towels. Notes need to be returned to school by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

### End of Year Concert

Our end of year concert will be held on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. Details will be sent home shortly.

### Presentation Night

This will be held on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. All parents and friends are welcome to attend this very special night where students will be recognised for their hard work and special skills.

### Staff Development Days

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** and **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** are pupil-free days this year in line with Department of Education Policy. Many staff are attending Professional Learning in Lismore with staff from many other schools. The **last day for all students** this year is **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**.

### School Visits

Megan O'Meara and Judy Voisey visited Kyogle Public School and Nimbin Central School on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November and will visit Woodburn Public School on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November. We will use information from these schools to assist us in introducing some aspects of the Positive Behaviour for Learning program. In 2010 there will be opportunities for parents and students to also have input into this program. Primary staff will also be discussing this at the staff development day on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

### Best Start Training

Ms Voisey will be attending Best Start Training on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November. This program is used to assess all kindergarten students in the first week of school.

### Kindergarten Orientation

4 students attended the first kindergarten orientation day last Wednesday. They participated in Brain Gym activities, and then made a magic hat after reading 'The Magic Hat' by Mem Fox. We also sang 'The Bumble Bee Medley'. We had a lovely morning getting to know each other in readiness for 2010. Further Kindergarten Orientation Days will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m. and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 9 a.m. till 11 a.m. A meeting will be held for parents of our new students on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30 a.m.

### **Merit Assembly**

Our last merit assembly for 2009 will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2.40 p.m.

### **Reports**

Reports for all students in primary will be finalised and sent home in Week 8. Assessments are currently being completed. If you would like to speak with your child's teacher after the reports are sent home please ring the office to make an appointment.

### **Literacy/Numeracy Day**

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November parents are invited to join us for some fun activities. By the time you receive this newsletter we hope many parents and relatives will still be talking about this day. Stay tuned for more information about what we did in the next newsletter.

### **Green Up/Clean Up Day**

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November all primary students will be involved in this activity at our school during the morning session. This is a great activity for our students and our environment. Money raised can be sent to school as soon as possible or by **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**.

### **School Landscape/Gardens**

As you are all aware many of the large shady trees have had to be removed from the primary area. Damage to drains and guttering has necessitated this. Currently a committee is working with a Landscape Architect and experts in landscape gardening to plan future plantings which will not need to be removed. We are also applying for grants to provide shade covers for our students. Our hardworking P&C are also planning fundraising activities to support this. It is very important for students to always have a hat and plenty of water, especially in this current heat wave.

### **Change of Routine**

With so many things happening this term it is even more important to let us know if your child is going home a different way. As part of our duty of care to students we will always send students home the normal way unless we receive a phone call or a signed note. This relieves stress for both your child and the staff. Thank you to all of those parents who let us know of any changes. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

### **Closing thought**

*"Education is equipping our children to walk through doors of opportunity."* Oscar Wilde.

*Primary Staff*

### **ESSA**

The Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA), a mandatory test for all Y8 students in NSW government schools, will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009. This is a diagnostic test providing information on what students know and can do in Science. It is based on the Y7/Y8 Science syllabus. More information about this test has been sent home to all families of Y8 students.

### **Y6 Orientation**

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009, all Year 6 students from our feeder schools have been invited to an orientation day in the secondary department. They will be participating in an introduction to secondary school, music and a science lesson and sport at the pool in the afternoon. This day is a valuable day to introduce our future Year 7 students to the school. Parents and carers of these students are invited to attend part or all of the day.



### **The Digital Education Revolution**

We are expecting our Year 9 laptops this week (17-20 November) and commissioning and distribution will happen Wednesday 25 November 2009.

**BCS CENTENARY 2011-Easter, 23 April 2011 – 16 months to go**

A meeting was held at the Bonalbo Bowling Club on 12 November and progress was made with planning. The next meeting will be at the same venue on 25 February at 6pm. Anyone with an interest is very welcome to attend.

Please help us by: Publicising the date to anyone who went to BCS  
Encouraging them to send an RSVP to the school via email or phone  
[bonalbo-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:bonalbo-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au) Phone: 02 66651205

And writing a short memory of time at the school and sending it to Sharon Tucker at the school as soon as possible – via email or on the form attached to this newsletter.

**Boys Will Be Boys**

Our Boys' Camp is on again. It will happen in Week 7, Thursday and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> December. Last year we started the camp as an extension of the school's Rock and Water programme to give every boy in the high school the chance to do manly things in a manly, cooperative way. Every man needs to be able to switch between competition and cooperation, and the camp activities are aimed at getting the boys working together to get jobs done, and competing for the fun of it.

The Bush Paintball was a big hit last year, and we hope to expand on and refine the model. This time we will ask the boys to re write the rules before we start. We will also spend more time producing 'ammo', so that the games can go for longer.

Once again, we will prepare a hangi for the evening meal. The logs for our log challenge will be easier to handle this year, but teamwork will still be essential. There will be water activities, bush footy, and the quad bike will be back.

We will be depending on parents to help with transport to and from the camp. The camp will be free, but it is essential that permission notes are returned in time.

**And Girls Will SO Be Girls**

The Girls' Sleepover will happen at the same time as the Boys' Camp. Basically, while the boys are away, the girls will take over the school for a festival of femininity and celebration of responsible womanhood. Stay tuned for details.

**Answer to the Brain Strainer.**

As you may remember, Georg Vancsa, of Bonalbo News came up with this problem:  
You have a hole infinitely deep, and you want to dangle an infinitely long wire rope of 5 tonnes breaking strain down the hole. What length of wire will you be able to dangle down the hole?

Answer: 5 tonnes' worth. Once you have more than five tonnes of wire hanging down the hole, the wire rope will break.

**End of Year Concert**

Years 7 and 8 are working on items for their concert which will be held in Week 8.  
Year 9/10 Music students and The Rats are also preparing items.  
If the MPC is shut for renovations by then we will have to find another venue.  
Stay tuned.

*Dave Tucker*

**CWA Land Cookery Competition**

Everyone is invited to participate in the Local CWA Land Cookery Competition.  
For details contact Jennifer Taylor on 66653145.  
The judging will be done by a CWA Land Cooking Judge at Bonalbo Central School on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009.  
Please sign in at front office on arrival and meet in the Food Technology Room at 12 noon. Bring a plate to share for a bite to eat and tea/coffee.  
Judging will begin at 1pm.

*S. Taikakara*

**P&C Report**

We have been asked to hold a BBQ for the Primary Christmas concert, donations of coleslaw would be appreciated.

Santa will arrive so if you would like your child to receive a present on the night, could you please purchase one to the value of \$5 - \$10. Make sure you put their names on the presents. We will collect them on the night. We will also be selling chips, drinks, lollies, glow sticks, and novelty toys.

We need more parents at our meetings, please let us know if a different time or day would suit better.

*President  
Rose Duffy*

**Casino TAFE**

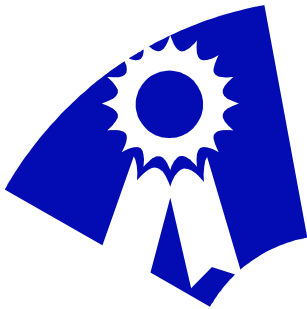
Applications are being taken now for Semester 1, 2010. If you are interested in studying next year please contact the campus on 6661 2000 or website [www.nci.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.nci.tafensw.edu.au) for more information.

# Presentation Night

December 10, 2009

Start Time 7.00pm

*All Welcome*



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ **For Sale** ★

★ Coloured Leghorn ★

★ Bantam Hens ★

★ and ★

★ 1 Red Australorp ★

★ Bantam Rooster ★

★ \$5.00 each ★

★ Contact: ★

★ Bonalbo Central ★

★ School ★

★ Front Office ★

★ 66651205 ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



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THIS OFFER IS VALID UNTIL: December 4, 2009

**18 SANDILANDS ST, BONALBO • PHONE 6665 1109**