

BONALBO CENTRAL SCHOOL

'Lifelong Learning for a Positive Future'

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Principal:
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Keith Larsson
Corinne Miller
Judy Voisey
Megan O'Meara

SCHOOL NEWS

Term 3 Week 8, 2009



Car Rally Pit Stop ↓



↑ Jindabyne Excursion ↑

SES Cadets ↓



Year 7 River Trip ↓

Dates to Remember:

September 23, 2009— P&C Meeting
September 23-25, 2009—4/5/6 Camp
September 23, 2009—
Bloodwood Shield/Footy Colours Day
September 25, 2009—K-3 Dorrroughby Excursion
September 25-October 1, 2009—Year 11 Exams
September 28-October 1, 2009—
Year 10 School Cert. Trials
September 28, 2009—Primary Performing Arts
September 29, 2009—School Photos
September 30, 2009—Primary Assembly 2.30pm
October 1, 2009—PPP Parenting –at Pre School
October 1, 2009—SPORTS ASSEMBLY
October 1, 2009—Secondary Disco
October 2, 2009—Driver Training Program
October 2, 2009—Last Day of Term 3
October 19, 2009—First Day of Term 4



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Term 3 comes to a close

We have had a very busy term. During term, Mr Larsson moved up to higher duties for a few weeks so I am relieving as Principal, Mr Tucker is relieving as Deputy Principal and Mrs Tucker is relieving as Head Teacher English. The students have had some exciting excursions and events as evident from the contents of this newsletter. Still to come this term are the 4/5/6 excursion to Stradbroke Island, the Primary Performing Arts Festival and the whole school Sports Assembly.

Numeracy Literacy Day

On Friday 4th September, we celebrated the advantages of being a Central School when all the students from K-11 formed multi-age teams and competed in numeracy and literacy games. There was a wonderful atmosphere of cooperation and it was inspiring to see the students confidently displaying their knowledge of numbers and word skills.

Year 10 students led the numeracy activities and Year 11 students worked in the background to assist with the smooth running of the day including the barbecue lunch.

A big thank you to the students and all the organisers of the day, especially Mrs Voisey, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Tucker, Mr Tucker, Ms Hillier and Ms Goldstein.

Book Week / Book Fair / Primary Book Parade.

Once again, our Book week activities were highly successful.

Thank you to everyone who bought or donated a book or came in costume or helped with costumes.

Week with a camera

Mrs O'Meara's class have had an exciting time with a Kyogle council initiative 'A week with a camera'. The visiting organisers were impressed by the students' enthusiasm, perception and skills.

Bloodwood Shield

Our new inter house sporting competition, The Bloodwood Shield, moved to the second round on Wednesday with a fiercely contested Netball match. After Alpha's win at soccer in Round One, it was 'do or die' for Beta this week. Beta overtook Alpha and won 9-6. Top scorer was Miri Quirk. Congratulations to all participants and spectators. Next week will be Round Three – The Decider. Alpha and Beta will face off for an Oz Tag match.

SES Cadets

Our SES cadets looked very impressive this week kitted out in their PPE (uniforms) and talking on portable radios like seasoned professionals. Led by Chris Scofield the cadets are learning about the nuts and bolts of emergency service. The group also visited Bonalbo fire station, where RFS fire fighters Alan Ihaka and Greg Dollin showed students how the 'sister' organisation worked at a local level.

The cadets will have two more sessions this term on Wednesday 23rd September and again on Wednesday 30th September.

Jindabyne Excursion

A highlight of many a student's time at Bonalbo Central is the Jindabyne Trip, and this year's excursion was no exception. Camp staff were impressed by the keen participation and willingness to rise to a challenge displayed by Bonalbo students.

Thanks to Mr Lawrence, Ms. McGann and Mrs Seymour for their care and vigilance.

Driver Training

I encourage all Year 10 and 11 students to take part in the Driver Safety Training Day on the last day of this term. Notes will be coming home soon.

School Photos

School Photo day will be Tuesday 29th September. (Last Tuesday of this term)

Please make sure that your child is dressed at their best in school uniform.

Holidays

Term 3 finishes on Friday October 2, 2009 and resumes for both students and staff on Monday 19 October, 2009. I take this opportunity to wish all students and their families a safe and happy holiday.

Ms Miller
Relieving Principal

PRIMARY NEWS

Term 3 has been very busy. Students have been involved in a number of exciting activities and they should be commended on their participation and enthusiasm. We have also had a number of events where parents have joined us and we would like to thank you for your interest and involvement.

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about" Angela Schwindt.

Staff Changes for Term 4

Mrs Kate Armfield will be taking maternity leave from the end of the term. Kate has worked very hard this year to ensure all K/1 students have been involved in rich learning tasks. It is an exciting time for Kate and we wish her well. Miss Breanna Doohan will be teaching K/1 for the remainder of the year and staying with us during 2010. Breanna brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the position and we welcome her to our staff until Kate's return.

During the holidays Ms Voisey is having an operation on her feet and will be taking leave for the first 3 weeks of Term 4. Mrs Kathleen Collis will be teaching Yr 2/3/4 during this time.

Book Week & Book Character Parade

Students enjoyed dressing up for the Book Character Parade recently. They dressed for the theme of 'Going on a Book Safari' and paraded in front of parents and relatives. There was much laughter as students introduced themselves and took to the catwalk. Many students and parents also took the time to visit the Book Fair in the Library. The fortnightly Award Assembly was held after the parade and we congratulate all students who received awards. Most of our students are consistently following school rules and taking the opportunity to take part in as many learning opportunities as possible. Our next **assemblies** are on **Wednesday 16th September** and **Wednesday 30th September** at **2.30 p.m.** You are very welcome to attend.

Excursions

Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 are travelling to the **Dorroughby Environment Centre** on **Friday 25th September**. We are leaving school at **8 a.m.** and returning to school at approximately **7.30 p.m.** This will be a worthwhile educational activity for all students. Permission notes have been sent out. Please make sure these are returned to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 are travelling to **North Stradbroke Island** on **Wednesday 23rd September** and returning on **Friday 25th September**.

As both of these excursions are for educational purposes it is hoped all students are able to attend.

Casino/Kyogle Performing Arts

Students from **Years 2 to Year 6** will be taking part in the Performing Arts on **Monday 28th September**. We will be travelling from the school by bus at around midday for our rehearsal at 1.45 p.m. Students will then be making use of a hired room at the Casino RSM Club for some activities and walking down to McDonalds for dinner before returning to perform at the Civic Centre. All students need to be picked up from the Civic Centre after the performance. Tickets for this event can be purchased from the Front Office of the school as soon as possible. No tickets will be available at the Civic Centre on the night.

Literacy/Numeracy Week Activities

During Week 6 students and staff were involved in a number of activities to highlight the importance of Literacy and Numeracy. On Friday 4th September students from Kindergarten to Year 11 took part in Maths Tabloids, A Spelling Bee, Spelling Championship, Theatre Sports and Speak for a Minute. Thank you to all staff and students who made this day a great success and hopefully it will become an annual event at Bonalbo Central School. A huge thank you to Mrs Hobbs for her Numeracy organisation, Mr Tucker and Mrs Tucker for their organisation of the spelling events, Ms Goldstein and Ms Hillier for their organisation of the theatre sports and speak for a minute, and Mr Karni, Michael Tucker and Eddie Edwards for the organisation of the BBQ lunch. Congratulations also to those students who won prizes. We hope your students enjoyed this event as much as we did.

NAPLAN

Results of the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy have been received and student reports have been posted home for students in Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9. On Tuesday 15th September staff had the opportunity to analyse the data and begin planning for future programs. If you have any queries about these results please speak with your child's teacher.

PSP Conference

Ms Miller and Ms Voisey attended a two day Priority Schools Program conference in Sydney recently. It was a great opportunity to learn more about programs other schools are implementing and to hear of recent data involving the effects of Quality Teaching on student results and staff performance. Both staff members have returned from the conference with many ideas to share with staff.

GAIL

Ms Voisey will be attending her last day of Getting Ahead in Literacy on Friday 18th September at Ocean Shores. She visited Tabulam Public School on Monday 14th September to view a lesson with Miss Gardner and Miss Hall. On Friday she will be taking student work samples along to the session.

Class Activities:

K/1 – have been writing some very interesting factual descriptions with Mrs Armfield. Some of the students read these out at the recent assembly and we learnt some very interesting facts about crocodiles. K/1 students are working very hard on their reading skills and are reading with fluency and expression. Year 4/5/6 students assisted K/1 students to publish their factual descriptions on the computer as part of a peer tutor activity.

2/3/4 – are continuing their work with Poetry. We have quite a few very talented poets in the classroom. All students have completed many different types of poems. We are continuing work in Science on Simple Machines. Spelling is a focus in class at the moment and we are working hard to transfer new spelling skills into our writing.

4/5/6 - are currently working on angles in Numeracy with Miss O'Meara. They are getting very excited about their excursion which is coming up soon. 4/5/6 are also currently completing work on their H.S.I.E. and Science units of work. Students are continuing their work on Information Reports.

Closing thought:

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no-one can take it away from you" BB King.

Primary Staff

Portfolio Interviews for 2009

All secondary students in years 7 to 10 will have their Portfolio Interviews in week 6 of term 4 (23rd to 27th November).

As in previous years, all students will be interviewed by a panel of three people (a teacher, a community member and another student). At the interview they will be asked to show evidence of their learning (i.e. their portfolio of tasks) and to talk about their learning throughout the year. Students need to be encouraged at home to work on putting all completed and marked portfolio tasks into a folder, along with completed review sheets. They should have ONE TASK FOR EACH SUBJECT, each clearly designated as a portfolio task, by the time their interviews happen. Your support in helping them find these tasks and get them ready for presentation will be appreciated, as will any time you can spare to help them practice their responses to the interview questions. They will have copies of these questions available by the beginning of term 4.

Again I will be seeking any parents or community members who have a day to spare during the portfolio interview week to sit on one of the interview panels. If you have done this in a previous year, it will be similar in organisation (with some tweaking to the questions) but I'm always looking for newcomers, too. If you are available and interested, please let me know – primary parents as well as secondary are most welcome to get involved. No specific credentials needed, just a genuine interest in the learning of our young students. Please ring me at school (66651205) or at home (66655188) if you are keen, or if you want to know more.

Jan Maslen, Head Teacher Secondary Studies

Year 9 G&T Maths Quest – Goonellabah Sports and Aquatic Centre

On Thursday 3rd September four Year 9 students (Davida Ryan, Jack Neilsen, Anna Bain and Chantelle Montgomery) participated in the G& T Year 9 Northern Networks Maths Quest as part of National Literacy Numeracy Week.

Bonalbo was one of 17 teams represented. The day included three events; an individual event, a team event and a relay event. The students enjoyed the day and we plan to enter again next year, as this is to be an annual event.

Thank you to Cynthia Ryan for providing transport to Goonellabah.

Mrs Amy Hobbs

Head Teacher Mathematics/Science

Agriculture

Year 8 students completed building their no-dig-garden using materials purchased with the grant funds provided by Coles. They have planted lettuce, capsicum, chilli, beetroot, tomatoes, corn, purple beans, butter beans and radish. We have put into place a drip system to water the garden so that it uses minimal water. This is on a timer and irrigates the garden at night.

BOOK FAIR

Another very successful Book Fair to celebrate Book Week.

Special thanks must go to Mrs Gillespie in the library who selects the Book Fair books, runs the Fair and then does all the paperwork needed to finish it up.

Mrs Gillespie will now be choosing new books for the library which will be bought with the commission on the Book Fair sales.

Thank you also to the primary staff for running the ever popular book character parade and to everyone who supported the Fair this year.

As a thank you I donated a voucher for a book of choice to a lucky buyer and this year it was Laynae Okkonen – well done. Laynae chose a craft book which should see her busy during the upcoming school holidays.

YEAR 7 RIVER TRIP

Year 7 attended class out by the river at Tabulam last Tuesday where they studied the Bundjalung language and culture, identification of rocks, the use of rocks to make stone implements and how to live in harmony with the environment. Mr Lawrence set the theme of “so little, so much” and students proved how much they could do with what was found in the natural environment.

It was a wonderful day and thanks must go to the Aboriginal people who made the day by sharing their knowledge – Poppy Harry Walker and his grandson Luke, Aunty Gertie Robinson and Rachel Moore. Thank you also to Mr Lawrence for his management of the day and to Mr Taikakara for assistance and filming.

Sharon Tucker

Jindabyne Snow Trip

The excursion to Jindabyne from the 5th to the 12th September 09 was awesome. Bonalbo students travelled by train and bus and arrived at Jindabyne bright and early in the morning. The train trip consisted of games, reading, sleeping and getting to know the students from Woodenbong. Some of the activities that we participated in on the first few days were a walk into Jindabyne where we celebrated Mitchell's 16th birthday, rock climbing where Blake and Nathan excelled by climbing over an overhang and Blake up a crack in the wall, initiatives where Bonalbo and Woodenbong really worked well as a team, mountain bike riding where Mrs Seymour struggled, high ropes course where we conquered our fears and cookout where we had to cook our own steaks on rocks over a fire, year 9 had a little trouble lighting their fire, while year 10 had trouble making some damper.

Night time activities consisted of games, movie night, jindy markets. The disco was a highlight with all the girls getting dressed up and Blake had his hair straightened, we then danced with the Ku-Ring-Gai and Woodenbong students, some people danced closer than others. Trivia night which was won by the famous MA'S HELL TEAM after Kayden told a joke which had the whole place in laughter.

However the real fun started on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday when we went to the slopes of Blue Cow. Students were ready to carve it up both skiing and snow boarding. Each day we had a 2

hour lesson in the morning which allowed us to learn the basic skills, we then had free ski and board time where we were adventurous and started to really get the skills to go on some harder runs. Some groups went to terrain parks, while another skied over to Perisher, some went to Mt Guthega and others had instructors that pushed you over. All students had a really good go and most excelled on the slopes, even Brenden carved up on a black diamond run (or so he says).

There were no serious injuries and everyone had a great time. The food was alright, however the showers were really bad.

FUNNY QUOTES:

Mitchell: "I think the wheel just fell off"

Anna: "Do trains have wheels???"

Student: "Where is Bonalbo?"

Jack C: "It's just near Byron Bay"

Kayden: "There's more to life than being really, really ridiculously good looking"

Thank you to all the students for their excellent behaviour. Big thanks to Mr Lawrence, Miss McGann and Mrs Seymour for looking after the students and organising the trip.

Deadly Days

The Indigenous students in Years 7 to 12 attended Deadly Days in Grafton on September 3, 2009. It was an educational workshop, organised by TAFE and is designed to give students ideas for future career pathways. There were hands on workshops, cultural awareness and self esteem activities.

Students got to meet sporting heroes and participate in a Hip Hop workshop, the main attraction was Jessica Mauboy.

I would like to thank Gertie Robinson for driving the bus, Rachele Vine from NRAH and Mrs Zervos.



Rachel Moore
AEO

Breakfast Club Saved

Thank you to the following students and staff who have volunteered to help serve and tidy up at Breakfast Club:

Nafu Lal, Chloe Stubbings, Addison McCormack, Hamish Bernhagen, Jake Laurie, Jordan Bowan, Justin Williams, Ben Cooper, Reuben McAlpine, Taylor Moore, Kaluha Robinson, Pae'i Sankey, Gertie Robinson, Mandy Close and Rachel Moore.

The volunteers undertook training in hygienic food service with the Red Cross last week.

If any adults or students would like to add their names to the roster please let Toni Sheppard know, or leave your name at the school office.

Numeracy Literacy Day celebrates words and numbers.

Our first annual celebration of words and numbers, held on Friday week 6, was an outstanding success. It brought all students and staff together to use words and numbers in creative ways.

The day started with a rotation of Maths activities ranging from computer/smart board exercises to geometric patterns. It was particularly gratifying to watch high school students helping younger primary students. Geometric patterns produced during the session are on display on the school foyer entry doors.

Next came the whole school Word Challenge: a series of word knowledge/ spelling rounds with the students, young and old, working in teams. Congratulations to all the students who put their spelling reputations on the line and entered the Individual Spelling Knockout.

Ms. Goldstein hosted a public speaking competition called **Speak for Thirty Seconds**, during which Patrick Davitt, in particular, distinguished himself with his considerable gift for the gab.

The day concluded with Ms. Hillier's hotly contested **Theatre Sports**, in which teams were tasked with creating drama on the spot. The Primary team went in hard and matched it word for word and gesture for gesture with the secondary teams.

Hopefully the day reinforced the notion that words and numbers belong to everyone and that the more we use them the better we get. We're already planning for next year's event.

Fireman Jack

Congratulations to Jack Cooper, who has signed up with Bonalbo Rural Fire Brigade and is already half way through his Bush Fire Fighter training.

It's the Fire Danger Period, and all fires, other than cooking fires, require a permit. Georg Vancsa at Bonalbo News is our local Permit Issuing Officer. Permits are free.

Bach in a Minuet

No, that's not a spelling error. Year 9 /10 Music students are busily preparing their performance items for a concert of Baroque music next Thursday. Unfortunately this will be a private recital for their assessments, but we're hoping that the musicians will present their interpretations of Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and Pachelbel at the 7/8 Concert later this year.

Fringe Benefits

The World Rally has come and gone. The dust has settled, but there are still some rally-based activities to come. Terry Moody, of Old Bonalbo, has negotiated with the World Rally organisers to provide some driver safety training free of charge to our students. The training is presented by professional racing drivers and instructors.

On the last day of this term Year 10 and Year 11 students will take part in the CAMS Ignition Driver Safety Training Programme, which will be run on the Bonalbo Crown Reserve near Woodworths Road, Bonalbo.

This is a great opportunity for our students, and, as Terry Moody says, 'If it saves one life on the road, it will be worth it.'

Dave Tucker.

MOSH

Manage Own Spelling Habits

Who remembers the old saying, 'Add an 'e' and make the vowel say its name'?
Cut becomes **cute**, **dam** becomes **dame**, and **fin** becomes **fine** when you add an 'e'.

What happens to the sound of these words when you add an 'e'?

mat.....
sit
tub
bit.....
rat.....

What happens to the meaning of a word when you add an 'e' to the end?

P&C Report

Thank you to everyone who supported father's day stall and raffle. Our total takings were \$350.00. Our next big event is the bull ride, volunteers are needed for the night, also if anyone could make some coleslaw that would be appreciated.

We have not had a meeting for the last few months, as there have not been enough people attending. Please come along and discuss how we can better help our school.

Next meeting will be:

Wednesday 14 October 2009 -4/5/6 classroom. 3.30pm

*Rose Duffy
President*

Casino Vacation Care

Casino Vacation Care will run from Tuesday 6th October until Friday 16th October 2009 between the hours of 8.15am and 5.00pm. The daily fees for Vacation care are \$32.60; however you may be entitled to a reduced fee if you get Child Care benefits. Enrolment forms need to be returned before Wednesday 30th September to the Casino Neighbourhood Centre at 31 Walker St. Any enquiries, please phone 0427 622 898 or email; casinovacationcare@hotmail.com



Sports Assembly



Thursday October 1, 2009
2pm

This is a whole school assembly to reward sporting achievements from Term 1 to Term 3

All parents are welcome.



WOODENBONG Yowie Country MARKET

LAST SATURDAY EVERY MONTH
8am-3pm Woodenbong Sub-Hall & Grounds
Live Entertainment. Jammers welcome. Variety of stalls.
BBQ food. Plants. Children's Playground. Wheelchair
access & Amenities. W.A.G (Woodenbong Arts Group
Inc.) members will be doing live demonstrations of their
arts and crafts. Interaction welcome.

NEXT MARKET:

SATURDAY 26th September

Contact: Nicole 0266351426 Carey 0266351176

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October 2, 2009

THIS OFFER IS VALID UNTIL:

18 SANDILANDS ST, BONALBO • PHONE 6665 1109



The RRISK Program aims at reducing adolescent risk taking associated with alcohol and drug use, driving and celebrating. RRISK builds resilience by providing students with knowledge, skills and attitudes to help them make responsible decisions. The RRISK seminars are designed to enhance curriculum based Drug and Road Safety Education, Pastoral Care and Welfare Programs.

The key messages are:

- Plan ahead
- Know the facts
- Make informed decisions
- Look after your friends

All Year 11 students will be participating in the program on Wednesday 18th November.

Young People and Risk Taking

Risk-taking in adolescence is not only normal; it is an essential part of learning and personal development. Every healthy adolescent takes risks as he or she grows towards independence. Most researchers agree that if there is no risk there is no growth. A common problem for some young people is their inability to evaluate the potential risks and consequences of everyday behaviour. 77% of adolescent deaths are caused by road crashes – many of these are the result of risk taking.

Road safety research shows up to 85-90% of road crashes are caused by human factors – tiredness, inexperience, alcohol use, speeding and failing to use a seat belt. Road crashes occur but many “accidents” on the road are preventable.

Thrill seeking, the desire to impress one’s friends, feelings of invincibility and the search for new experiences are all motivating forces that drive many teenagers.

Students in Year 11 are invited to attend a one day RRISK seminar at:

Lismore: Southern Cross University on the 18th November

The RRISK Program aims to raise student awareness about the consequences of everyday risks involving alcohol and drug use, driving and partying.

Talking to Young People about Alcohol and Drugs

It is best for education about alcohol and drugs to begin before young people are exposed to personal decisions about their use. Young people who have accurate information, coping and decision making skills and understand the issues, will be in a good position to make responsible decisions about alcohol and drugs.

Parents and carers can begin this education in the home and support school and other programs such as the RRISK Seminars. Parents also provide a powerful role model when it comes to drinking and attitudes to alcohol and other drugs.

Take time to talk. For example, sitting down with the young person in your care and mapping out a plan of action and what to say if they are offered drugs or alcohol can help equip them for the almost inevitable real event. Listen to what the young person in your family says about alcohol and drugs and follow up with a discussion. Take the opportunities when they come up during everyday activities, for example:

- When you pour a glass of alcohol
- When alcohol or other drugs are mentioned on TV or other media
- When using or giving out medicines
- When your young person has an assignment on alcohol, smoking, medicines or other drugs.

It is important to understand that in some situations young people may take risks. Sitting down afterwards and helping them identify where things started to go wrong enables them to consider what they could do differently the next time they are faced with a similar situation.

Look for information about the RRISK Program and risk taking at our new website

www.rrisk.com.au

