Principal’s Message

What a wonderful day we had at Ellerston in Week 5! We had a fun, though long bus trip with Belltrees, a delicious lunch and cuddles with the Tasmanian devil joeys, Angel, Archie and Duke. It was so good to see our Y3-6 students meeting up with the friends they made on the Canberra excursion. We hope to organise another combined excursion with our small schools again next year.

Congratulations to:

Ebony for Reserve Junior 9 year old girl champion at Belltrees Horse sports.

Sam, Darcy, Emily and Chelsea for: representing our school at the Remembrance Day ceremony and wreath laying last week at Murrurundi.

Charlotte for her flute performance at the Upper Hunter Conservatorium Soiree this week.

Orientation Day

Another great day organised by Mrs Cooper for our new kinder students and their families was had last Wednesday. A warm welcome to our three new families; Natalie & Jamie Turner and Darcy, Jennifer & David Bettington and Macarthur and Lucy & Rob Scott and Robert. Best wishes also to our “old” families and their kindies; Ruth & Clinton Roser and Jorja, Farah & Rashid Shahid and Zara, Stacey & Ejaaz Hussain and Aaiesha and Joh & Nathan Teague and Henry.

Year 2 also enjoyed their orientation morning in the primary classroom.

School Management Planning process 2015-2017

Following my short conversation at the last P&C meeting and information in the last newsletter, I extend an invitation to interested parents who wish to have input into our new school plan.

A short meeting is planned for Wednesday 10th December from 2.30-3.15pm. Come along with your hopes and wishes for our school in the future, the areas in which we excel and your ideas for improvements and innovations in our teaching and learning, citizenship and community connections and engagement.

I have uploaded a copy of the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians (Dec 2008) onto our school website for your information. Please read through this document if you have a spare moment over the next several months as it makes clear the directions we are heading in, in our work as parents and teachers in the years ahead.

Absences

I will be away from school next week: on Monday attending a finance training workshop with Mrs Clinch and Thursday & Friday at Primary Principals and Invermein meetings. Miss Sydney will work with my class as usual.

Scanning the horizon for rain—thinking about you all in this dry weather.

Isabel Fox Principal
Students of the Week

K-2

Isabella—Wonderful student

Bailey—Showing a settled attitude when listening

Y3-6

Charlotte—Organised, complete, neat, finished on time! Well done.

Chelsea—Head down, tail feathers up! Ready for high school. Well done.

Citizenship Award  Brock and Quinn

Thank you to Brock and Quinn who have helped with lifting and carrying, gardening, moving computers and sorting out lots of little problems this last week. Well done gents!

Thanks also to Clinton who has made and installed new flyscreens in our kitchen. This will stop all of the bugs who came for supper at our Presentation night last year.

Library News—Book Swap—11th November

WOW—We had a great book swap with many books coming into the library and every student taking a book home. We raised $40 for Indigenous Literacy Program.

WiFi and Computer Labs

Our new wifi system was installed last week and Ms Fox spent yesterday reconfiguring our classroom computers. We have 5 new laptops and 2 new hard drives to replace several old desktop computers which have been decommissioned.

The children are using the laptops today and enjoying having these on their own work desks, freeing up classroom space and taking us a little further into 21st century learning.

Our P&C has firm plans to purchase tablets for class use, with the wifi system making this much easier and another exciting technology development at Blandford PS.

Year 6 Morning Tea

Year 6 and I are heading up to Nelliebelle’s next Wednesday for their special morning tea. This has been such a fun tradition over the past few years and I enjoy chatting with our soon-to-be Year 7s and eating cake.

Best wishes to Darcy, Sam, Emily and Chelsea as they complete seven happy and eventful years at our small school here in the country. What a wonderful place to learn and live!

Our school leaders are also looking forward to their orientation days over the next few weeks at their respective high schools. Enjoy!!

Graduation Dinner—for Year 5 and 6 students

Aah Pizza Bella, Scone Thursday 4th December 6.00-8.00pm. Students need to have prepared a short 1-2 minute speech.
Presentation Night Performance

We have begun practicing for our presentation night play performance this week. Everyone is in the “swing” and requests for costumes and bits and bobs will be made soon.

This is always a fun night and a chance to show the skills our children have been learning in our Dance/Drama program with Mrs Harris each Thursday this term.

Tennis and Lawn Bowls—this Friday 21st November.

It is K-2’s turn for tennis lessons this week. Lisa will hopefully arrive early in the day to complete the junior student’s last tennis lesson before it gets too hot. We will decide to shorten these lessons if the weather is too hot.

As it is predicted to be 39-40 degrees by the afternoon this Friday, we have decided to cancel lawn bowls for Year 3-6.

RED HANDLED FORKS
PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOU HAVE ANY RED HANDLED FORKS THAT BELONG TO THE SCHOOL. WE HAVE HAD 6 GROW LEGS AND WALK.

Murrurundi Cricket
If you are interested in playing cricket at Murrurundi on Saturday mornings you can go to Wilson Memorial Oval from 8.30—10.00am. Cost - $2 each week. Bring a hat, water bottle and a piece of fruit. For more information contact Sallina 6747 1388.

School Management Planning process 2015-2017
Wednesday 10th December from 2.30-3.15pm—school library

I am interested in being part of the parent and community meeting to discuss the new School Management Plan 2015-2017 for Blandford Public School.

Signed ____________________________ Date ____________________________
Small Schools Fun Day at Ellerston