Principal’s Message

Year 3-6 and I had a lovely afternoon last Friday at the Murrurundi Golf Club, pitching, putting and driving. The weather was superb and the venue one of the prettiest places I have seen in my travels teaching around New South Wales. We are very lucky to have such great facilities in our local area and really appreciate the generous assistance of the Golf Club gents, Allan, Greg and Mick for taking small groups of our learners and experienced young players. Thankyou also to Mr Roser and Mrs Wilson for staying and playing as well as Mrs Axon, Mrs Crowe, Mr Speck and Mrs Watson for providing transport.

Mayor for a Day

Congratulations to Darcy who is the Blandford PS winner of the Mayor for a Day competition for 2014. Darcy has been invited to the Scone Shire Chambers on Monday 25th August along with the winners from other Shire primary schools to read his entry to the Council meeting attendees where the overall winner will be announced. Well done Darcy!

Hunter Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition

Good luck to Camilla, Samantha, Bridie, Charlotte, Kandice and Sam who are representing our school today at Singleton Heights PS. The children have been practicing their speeches over the past fortnight with the help of Mrs Coffey. Thankyou to parents for transporting your students to this event.

We had great fun and great learning during our Celebration Day activities last Tuesday 5th August.

Miss Sidney organized an outdoors orienteering treasure hunt, Mrs Cooper presented Indigenous Dreamtime stories about the Southern Cross and Tiddalik the Frog.

Mrs Coffey investigated new books from the Children’s Book Council Book Week awards and our children made artworks with Ms Fox with inspiration from a range of Indigenous women artists.

The P&C ladies served their signature delicious hot meat and gravy rolls, with a cold popper and watermelon for dessert. Thanks ladies from all of us.

Gifted and Talented program at Scone High

Seth and Mitchell will be visiting Scone High School today to attend the Gifted and Talented outreach program for students in Years 4-6 from the local primary and outlying small schools. Both of our boys are excited about a day of Science and Maths activities.

Farewell and Welcome back

We farewell Mrs Tuckwell this week as she finishes her long relieving position in our office. We have really enjoyed Mrs Tuckwell’s happy smile and appreciate her hard work keeping our school on track.

Welcome back to Mrs Clinch who is much better after eighteen months of leave. Merris has spent the last four Mondays getting back into the swing of work at Blandford with the help of Bev. Merris will be back to work as of next Monday 18th August.

Isabel Fox Principal
Region Athletics Carnival

Information has been received for the Regional Athletics Carnival on Friday 29th August at Glendale in Newcastle. Our team is as follows: Emily Bramley, Anekah Bettens, Lachlan Teague and Darcy Cornall.

Year 6 Photos—orders due

The Year 6 group photo needs to be ordered by Monday 18th August so we can send the order in. The photos are available to be viewed in the Admin office.

Students of the Week

K-2

Aaliyah—great work in number

Jensen—great work in reading

Y3-6

Angus—for consistent effort

Anekah—improved attitude to work and other students

Canberra Excursion 1st-5th September 2014

Please return medical and permission notes, as well as finalise your payments for our excursion to Canberra, by Friday 22nd August.

Many thanks for your help with this and a big thankyou to our wonderful P&C for the subsidy they have provided for each of our students.

ASSEMBLY THIS THURSDAY AFTERNOON—14TH August 2014 at 2.45pm

Parents and friends are invited to our mid term assembly to be held in our library this Thursday afternoon at 2.45pm.

Our Mayor for a Day winners will be presented with their prizes and certificates as well as our usual class awards.

Father’s Day Stall

Our Year 6 students will be holding the Father’s Day stall at school on Thursday 28th August. Gifts will be $5.00 with gift bags or wrapping included.

This is a fun activity for our children and a good opportunity for our school leaders to manage and organise an event as well as accounting for finances and setting up of their shop.

There will be opportunity to purchase extra gifts for grandad or poppy as well.
The Department of Education and Communities (DEC), our governing department, has recently updated the Code of Conduct documents for teaching and non-teaching staff in NSW Public schools.

This policy was presented at the last P&C meeting and is available to read at the office.

This presented an opportunity to revise our Blandford PS Code of Conduct Policy for Parents, Volunteers and Visitors. A copy of this was also circulated at the P&C meeting and a copy is also attached for your information.

Reminder from Mrs Cooper

Would Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 parents please ensure readers and word cards come to school each day? Also would you check for ‘used’ readers—quite a few are now missing from our reading boxes and at a cost of about $10 per reader it is a costly exercise to replace them.

Thankyou to all who supported the morning tea stalls for K,1,2. We raised nearly $100 which will pay for the setup cost of our ‘crabarium’. Unfortunately our first two crabs have died—maybe it is too cold in our classroom at present. More crabs will be purchased when the weather warms up.

K,1,2 Sport last Friday

Mrs Nicky Western visited our school courtesy of Upper Hunter Shire Council to provide a gymnastic lesson for the younger children. Nicky will return this Friday under the same arrangement with UHSC. If parents feel this is a worthwhile experience we can engage Nicky under a private arrangement for some more Friday afternoons. This will involve a cost to parents of approximately $6 per child per week.

Please let Mrs Cooper know what your thoughts are on this as soon as possible. (A note in your child’s homework book will suffice)

An upcoming excursion

A steam train is stopping at Murrurundi railway station on 28th August at 2.50pm. As our theme this term is ‘Transport’ this is a great opportunity for K,1,2 to experience transport from the olden days. We will travel on the school bus to see the train arrive at the station and come back to school once the train has departed for Quirindi.

Late Notice: There is a possibility that, we can catch the train at Scone and travel on it to Murrurundi………….watch this space!

Mr Young visits Blandford Public School

Mr Young our School Director, called in last week with a visiting Educational Director from Finland, Mr Pentti Terho. Mr Tenho thanked our students for his visit in Finnish which was fun and told us about the bears which live in the woods there, an interesting cultural exchange!
Please note the change of date for the Belltrees Horse Sports which was to have been held at the Moonan Sports Ground on 24th September 2014.

Change of date to Friday 7th November. Entry forms are available at the office. If you have already entered and are not able to participate on the new date, please let Mrs Clinch or Ms Fox know ASAP. Entries due by 8th September.
Zone Athletics Carnival at Singleton

Kandice, Ebony, Anekah, Charlotte, Bridie & Jarna with their masterpiece ‘The Crocodile’.