Principal’s Message

Last week I attended the NSW Primary Principal’s Association State Conference in Sydney. There were 500 principals in attendance from small country PP6 to large PP1 city schools. We were inspired by speakers such as Rosie Batty our 2015 Australian of the Year, and many musical and dance performances by public school students. Our Premier Mike Baird and Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli addressed the conference as well, with information about the Gonski funding agreements and the strengths of public education in NSW.

Personal Development/Health (PD/H/PE) Tuesday 1st December

Ms Jodie Duffel, Community Health Nurse UH Community Health, will be working with our Y5-6 students again this year from 10.00-11.30. Ms Duffel speaks with our students about aspects of puberty and stays with us for a delicious morning tea treat. Permission notes will be attached to a newsletter closer to the day. There is no cost for these workshops.

Snr Constable Sheree Gray from Hunter LAC (Local Area Command—NSW Police) will be visiting our school in the afternoon, to speak with K-6 about cyber bullying, stranger awareness and town & city road safety. Constable Gray will also be speaking with our Y5-6 students about texting and cyber safety which will add to their learning outcomes in the S3 PD/H curriculum.

Professional Learning and End-of-Year

Our students will complete their 2015 year of learning on Wednesday 16th December. Arrangements for a “fun day” will be finalised closer to this date, but swimming appears to be on the cards. The final two staff development days Thursday and Friday 17-18 December will be as follows.

Combined SDD—Thursday 17th with Ellerston, Belltrees and Murrurundi staff at BPS. We will be participating in mandatory training for CPR, asthma, code of conduct & complaints handling procedures.

Mrs Cooper and myself are working on a 10 week after-school training workshop around the new policies and procedures for Teacher Accreditation. This training is in lieu of Friday 18th December.

Term 4 is always busy as we organise programs, activities and workshops around our CAPA (Creative & Practical Arts) curriculum. Thanks for your assistance with costumes, excursion costs and equipment requirements as we head towards our Presentation Night show.

Blandford PS will be closed for the 2015 year on Thursday 17th December.

I will be away from school next Monday 2nd November at the Wollemi Principal’s meeting called by our Director Mark Young. I will be at Scone HS and Mrs Crowe will be working with Y3-6 on their usual learning program.

Isabel Fox        Principal
Students of the Week

K-2  Ayesha—Great work in reading, writing and sounds. Trying hard with numbers.

Zara—Great work in reading, sounds, writing and numbers.

Y3-6  Elinor—Improved spelling and comprehension. Well done Elinor!

Oliver—Improvement in comprehension. Well done Oliver!

Citizenship Award

Angus—a helpful and engaged member of our Y3-6 class. Thanks Angus!

Art in a Suitcase - Tamworth Regional Gallery—Tuesday 10th November—K-6

Ms Kate Armstrong will be visiting our school again this year with several large old-fashioned suitcases packed with art works from the Tamworth Regional Gallery collection. Ms Kate will lead this art appreciation workshop in two sessions, tailored to each of our class groups. Our children will be viewing and discussing high quality original paintings, sculpture and ceramic work.

The cost for this incursion is $1.00 per student. Please return with the slip attached.

P&C Paver Project

Thanks to the P&C committee for organising the paver project to beautify our school and honour past and present students, teachers and principals. Hopefully this job will be completed for our end of year Presentation ceremony on Friday 11th December.

From the archive records accessed for our school—since 1871 to the present day, there have been 21 principals. The early folk were headmasters or Teachers in Charge with the title of Principal being a later title. Interestingly, there are only three lady Principals in this list: Miss Eliza Morris 1885-1893, Mrs Sidonie Coffey 2003-2005 and Ms Isabel Fox 2012-2015.

A copy of these records is available on the admin office notice board if you are interested.

Remembrance Day—Wednesday 11th November 2015—Yr 6

As is the usual arrangement for Remembrance Day, our school leaders will be attending the short service held at the War Memorial Gate at Murrurundi at 11.00am on this day.

Anekah, Brock, Kandice and Teegan will travel with Ms Fox to Murrurundi to lay a wreath representing our school community. Please return the permission slip as soon as possible.

Beersheba Commemoration Saturday 31st October 2015

A good contingent of Blandford PS students have indicated they will be attending the Beersheba Ceremony this Saturday 31st October.

Children are to meet Mrs Cooper and Ms Fox at Wilson Memorial Oval at 10.45 for an 11.00 am start dressed in their full summer uniform including hats please. The boys would look very smart with ties added to their summer uniform as well please.

Anekah will be representing our school reading on this occasion.

Musica Viva

Our last performance from Musica Viva is scheduled for Monday 9th November at Murrurundi. Please return the attached permission note and payment slip.
Reminders

Afternoon pick up
♦ Please come to the school gate to collect your children in the afternoon. Our carpark is a very busy place these days with many large 4WD vehicles and small children. This is a WHS request and your help is always appreciated.

Collecting other students from school
♦ If you are unable to collect your own child from school we require **written permission** or a personal message with details of the person you nominate to collect your child. We often do not have staff on duty in the office and phone messages are not collected in sufficient time on these days. Please **do not** ring the school and leave a message.

Packing
♦ If you are leaving your vehicle in the school car park during the day, for various reasons, please do not park in front of the red letterbox. The mail lady will be unable to leave our post.
♦ Thank you for always parking rear to the fence in our car park.

Kitchen gear
♦ Frozen poppers are a great cool treat on hot days! Please supply your own teaspoon from home as our supply is dwindling. We are also missing red plastic handled forks from our kitchen—maybe they are holidaying in your kitchen?

P&C Meeting this Thursday 29th October at White Hart Hotel—6.00 for 6.15pm in the large meeting room. Please come along to contribute your ideas and assist with the decision making for the P&C.

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Remembrance Day—Wednesday 11th November 2015

I give permission for my child ____________________________ from Year 6 leadership team to travel to Murrurundi War Memorial Gate on Wednesday 11th November 2015. I understand that travel will be with Ms Fox in her car.

Signed ____________________________ Date ____________________________

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Art in a Suitcase - Tamworth Regional Gallery—Tuesday 10th November

I give permission for my child/ children ____________________________ to participate in the Art in a Suitcase workshop on Tuesday 10th November at Blandford PS.

Cost - $1.00 per student.

Amount enclosed $ ____________________________ Signed ____________________________