Principal’s Message

Congratulations to our cross country runners who competed in Zone events at Muswellbrook last Friday. **Millie—1st, Anekah—3rd, Bridie—5th and Samantha—11th** in their respective age group races. **Millie, Anekah and Bridie** will head to Newcastle for the Regional comp on 8th May 2015. Well done girls.

After several weeks of problems with our computer system we should have been up and running this week, however one major problem is still to be rectified. We are finally able to access the internet thank goodness. Mr Guy Hausfeld from the Tamworth office has made three trips down to Blandford, spending most of each of these days sorting out issues and tracking progress.

Lake Keepit

Our combined camp to **Lake Keepit with Ellerston and Belltrees** is scheduled for Week 2 next term and eagerly looked forward to. All notes and deposits should be in by tomorrow at the latest as I have to send the medical and permission notes to camp staff by 6th April. Miss Sidney will be accompanying our students as I will be here at school with those students who will not be attending. Normal school attendance is expected.

Toybox

We have had word from the **Toybox** ladies this week that the Blandford playgroup dates have been **cancelled** for the remainder of the year. There have been low attendance numbers this term, making this venue unviable for Toybox to continue. Please pass on this information to other community members.

Horse Sports Update

The Horse Sports WHS issues have still not been satisfactorily resolved and we await word from the DEC WHS directorate in Sydney for more information. Our P&C committee has put in a claim the date for May 29th, however this may not eventuate and the next date would be September 11th. Thanks for your continued patience and understanding with this issue.

NAPLAN

The dates for the 2015 NAPLAN tests for Y3,5,7 and 9 are 12th–14th May 2015. Tuesday—Language Conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and Writing. Wednesday—Reading, Thursday—Numeracy. Friday 15th as always is the “catch up” day. Attached is an information letter for parents of our Y3 and Y5 students.

UNSW—ICAS Tests

The University of NSW conducts a series of international tests each year which BPS has been involved in in the past. Please see me at school if your child is interested in sitting for these external exams. There is a cost involved for each paper—Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Maths. Please let me know early in T2 as the entry cutoff date for the first exam (Science) is May 6.

Enjoy Easter with your families.

Isabel Fox  Principal
Students of the Week

K-2
Robert—great work, especially for homework
Jorja—always trying hard when reading and writing
Ayesha—great effort in reading and writing

Y3-6
Millie—Hard at work writing persuasive texts. Well done!
Wil—Excellent improvement in Benchmark Reading scores. Great result!

Citizenship Award Camilla—kind, helpful and supportive to students and staff

Australia in the Great War 1914-1918 Commemorative Penny
I have been able to source this commemorative penny which is presented in a blister pack. 10% of the price is donated to the “Soldier On” charity which helps service men and women who have been injured in recent conflicts. I have placed an order for 50 pennies, which should be delivered at the beginning of Term 2. The commemorative packs are $1.50 each.

Please send in your order as soon as possible in a marked payment envelope. This is a first in first served offer and an inexpensive memento for the Gallipoli Centenary year.

Family Energy Rebate
The NSW Government has available energy rebates of up to $150 for eligible families with dependent children. The deadline for accessing these rebates is midnight June 16 2015. The following website has all relevant details for your information.


Work Experience
We have had Hayley and Thalia from Quirindi High School on work experience this week. The girls have been helping with reading groups, craft and maths. Thankyou to our children who have made them welcome, as well as enjoying playing with the “big girls”.

Term 2 Start Date
The first day of school for students in Term 2 will be Tuesday 21st April. Monday is the second of our Staff Development Days (for all NSW public schools).

School Photos— Wednesday 22nd April—Term 2 Week 1
“The School Photographers” who have been taking our annual photographs for the past two years have had some problems with our booked date. Photos will now be taken on Wednesday 22nd April first thing in the morning. We will let you know on Tuesday 21st whether we will be in summer uniform or our winter uniforms. As the weather has been changeable at this time of year for the past several years, it is often very hot as school goes back and winter uniforms are not suitable. Thanks for your help and patience with this. Order envelopes are attached—please return by Wednesday 22nd April.
LAKE KEEPIT CAMP—Monday 27th—Wednesday 29th April 2015

Please return notes and deposit by tomorrow. Reminder that this camp may be paid off lay-by style throughout the year. Please send regular small payments to school in a marked payment envelope.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AROUND THE DISTRICT

Scone Films—Senior Citizens Centre Oxford Rd, Scone, NSW 2337

“The Waler; Australia’s Great War Horse (M) FRI 24th APRIL 7.30pm $15 tickets at the door or pre book at “Serenidipity” Scone.

On the eve of Anzac Day, this film tells of the regiments of the Australian Light Horse in WW1, in the Sinai and Palestine, culminating in the Charge at Beersheba, the ‘Great Ride’ through the Jordan Valley and the capture of Damascus.

Some parts were filmed in the Upper Hunter and involves “local boy” Guy Haydon, from Blandford, and his horse Midnight.

Holiday Soccer Coaching Clinic and Inflatable Field

WHEN: Monday 13th April
WHERE: Bill Rose Sports Complex, Scone
TIME: 10-12pm
COST: $10 per player

To book a spot email nwestern@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au or call 0414-806074

K.1,2 Museum Visit
On Wednesday 22nd April Mrs Cooper would like to take K,1,2 to the olden day toys exhibition at the Murrurundi Museum.

This visit will complement our Science and History units for Term 1.

Please complete and return the attached permission note. We will travel by Keating’s bus which will cost $5 per child.

ANZAC Day March—Saturday 25th April Murrurundi 10.45 for 11.00 am start.

Please send in the slip tomorrow or let staff know if your children will be attending the ANZAC march in Murrurundi. Our seniors lay our wreath on behalf of our school as well as reading the “Prayer for the Queen”. This year we are singing the NZ national anthem as well as reading 2 poems—infants and primary. Your help and attendance is always appreciated and links our children to the important events in their community.

I am marching in ANZAC day …..Yes …..No

Family Name……………………………

Commemorative Penny

I would like ……… Commemorative Coins (first in best dressed)
Family Name………………………………….. Amount enclosed…………..
Grandparent’s Day - Grandparents and other senior visitors helped to create some very interesting sock puppets.

Mrs Lib Adams & Mrs Parkins are two former students from 65+ years ago.