BILPIN PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Excellence in Learning and Technology

2517 Bells Line of Road, BILPIN 2758
Telephone: 4567 1154 Fax: 4567 1388
Email: bilpin-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.bilpin-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Term 4 Week 2

Monday 12th October, 2015

Dates to Remember

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We have a very busy term ahead of us with many exciting activities planned for the students.

Bilpin Flower Show

Well done to all of our students who entered their work in the Bilpin Flower Show competitions and to those who won prizes. It was great to see so many entrants completed by the students at home and school.

We would like to thank Barb Miller and the Garden Club Committee for providing the students with such lovely prizes.

Photos of the entries are featured at the end of the newsletter.

Year 7 Ambassador’s Visit

The Year 7 Ambassador’s Day is scheduled for Monday 19th October. Our Year 6 students will get the opportunity to once again chat to their Year 7 Advisors for next year and also find out some more important information ready for 2016.

Class 4/5/6 Excursion

In the last week of term, Yrs 4/5/6 travelled to Bathurst, Wellington and Dubbo. On Day 1 the students visited the Mount Piper Power Station where the students learnt important facts about the process of making energy from coal. At the Bathurst Goldfields they learnt about the history of the goldfields, different mining methods and what life was like in the past. The concluding activity was the highlight for all students - gold panning! Unfortunately no one struck it rich. However, some students were lucky enough to find some quite sizeable specks of gold.

We stayed the night at Wellington Caves then got up bright and early to visit Dubbo Western Plains Zoo on the second day. The animals put on a great show. On the way home we stopped in at the Sheep and Cattle Drome in Bathurst. We were treated to a very interesting shearing and milking demonstration as well as a performance by the animals in time to music. It was a very enjoyable experience for all.

I would like to thank Mr Hynds and Mrs Chapman for organising this great opportunity for the students. I would also like to thank Campbell Lewis for keeping us all safe and for his entertaining and informative anecdotes throughout the trip!

Hawkesbury Garden Competition

Last term students, staff and parents spent much time beautifying our gardens in preparation for the Hawkesbury Garden Competition.

The judges for the garden competition visited our school during the holidays and were very impressed with our grounds. A presentation night for entrants will be held at Windsor RSL on Wednesday night 21st October. We are looking forward to finding out how we fared!

Longneck Lagoon Stage 2

This Tuesday four students from Year 4 will be attending an enrichment program titled ‘Who Killed Kermit’ at Longneck Lagoon. Students will use their critical thinking skills to solve the mystery.

P & C Meeting

3rd November 2015
The Staff Room 3.30pm

Bilpin Public School P & C Committee are as follows

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Darryl Carle</td>
<td>4567 1018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Angie Pirie</td>
<td>4567 7469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Nicole McEvoy</td>
<td>4567 1351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Nikki Wheen</td>
<td>4567 1154</td>
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Please feel free to contact any of these representatives if you have any concerns you wish to discuss.
Hawkesbury Dance Festival Performance
On Wednesday 14th October, our dance group will be performing at the Windsor Function Centre. I would like to wish the students all the best of luck for their performance on the night. The students have put a great deal of time and effort into rehearsing the dance and are sure to put on a fantastic performance for the audience!

Belrose Public School Band Performance
On Wednesday of this week, Belrose Public School will be coming to Bilpin to perform for our students as part of their school tour through the Blue Mountains and the Central West.

The band will perform after Scripture. We are looking forward to their visit and performances.

Absences
We have had a number of unexplained absences this year and as it is a legal requirement, we ask parents to let the school know verbally or in writing if your child is absent. Please contact the school office if you need information regarding prior absences. School notes will be sent home with students if an explanation is not received within 7 days of an absence occurring. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our records up to date. Please read the attached Departmental information for parents, regarding absences.

Year 5 Leadership Training Day
On Wednesday 28th October our Year 5 students will have the opportunity to attend the Year 5 Leadership Training Day at Grose View Public School. The purpose of this day is to provide students with the opportunity to learn about different leadership styles, the skills required to make a great leader, the opportunity to undertake public speaking activities, how to make good choices and be a good role model. The students will also have the opportunity to develop friendships with our local feeder primary schools.

A permission note for this event is attached to the newsletter.

Camp Quality fundraiser
On Friday 9th October, the Camp Quality Princesses car visited our school. Between 17th and 24th October the Camp Quality exCarpagde will be held. The journey will begin in Narrabri and head up through Queensland, finishing in Goondiwindi. Damon in Class 2/3 is growing his hair to donate to make for a wig for a child undergoing treatment for cancer. On Friday a muffit day was held to raise money to support Damon in his efforts to raise funds for this very worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who supported Damon on the day. He raised $190. We would also like to thank Gabrielle for organising this unique opportunity to have the car to visit us prior to setting off on its special tour. The students had a wonderful day!

Grandparent’s Day
Next Wednesday, 21st October we will be celebrating Grandparent’s Day. The students will be completing an invitation for their grandparents to attend an afternoon tea on the special day.

The celebration will begin at 2pm with grandparents invited to complete a special craft with the children in their classrooms. After this, we will have a combined afternoon tea in the weather shed, where the children will have the chance to serve their grandparents some sweet treats. If grandparents are not available on the day, parents are more than welcome to take their place.

K-3 Excursion
On Monday, 26th October, Years K-3 will be going on an excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park. The students will be able to explore the park, watch keeper presentations and animal feeds as well as taking part in a hands-on lesson.

There is a permission note attached with all of the relevant information. Please make sure it is returned to school by next Monday, 19th October.

Kindergarten Transition Day
The next Kindergarten Transition Day will take place on Tuesday 3rd November. The children are invited to bring their lunch and arrive at 1.15pm to eat lunch with the school children. They will then stay for some afternoon activities and finish at 3.25pm. Parents are more than welcome to drop off their children at lunchtime and pick them up at the end of the day.

Kindergarten Orientation Day
Kindergarten Orientation Day will be held on Tuesday 10th November from 9.25am - 11.50am. Parents are invited to attend an information session in the library. There will be information about enrolment, school uniforms, school banking, the BEST Start assessment and much more. There will also be a chance to chat to the teachers about any questions you may have about your child starting school. The new kindergarten students will complete activities in the K/1 classroom during this time. They are invited to pack recess and eat this with the school children at 11.25am.

Choir - Mrs Oram
The choir will be continuing to rehearse this term at lunchtime on Wednesdays. We are rehearsing for our performance at Presentation night and completing auditions for concerts we will be applying for, which will take place in 2016. If your child still has their black folder, please make sure it is in their bags on Wednesdays.

Youth Eco Summit (YES)
On Thursday 22nd October, Years 4/5/6 will be attending the Youth Eco Summit at Sydney Olympic Park. YES is a curriculum-based sustainability festival for school students and their teachers. Recognised by the United Nations and the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage, YES promotes student leadership and features student sustainability practices. With interactive displays and experiences, student and school showcases, and free teaching resources YES brings sustainable action to life for students in Stages 2-6.

The Youth Eco Summit excursion is an exciting activity that ties in with our school environmental project. Students will attend workshops about raising chooks, sustainable gardening and a Taronga Zoo program on mammals. These topics relate to the various programs we are implementing in school at present.

During this term each class will be conducting surveys to identify our local fauna. Surveys begin this Friday with K/1 who will be conducting a study about our floor coverage creatures. The permission note for YES is attached to the newsletter.
Henny Penny Hatching Program
As most of you know, the K/1’s have had some special visitors for the last week. We have 11 new members of the class, who are adjusting very well! Our baby chicks are very gorgeous and when they grow up, will be living at school to provide us with eggs and teach the children about sustainability.

If you would like to have some baby chicks of your own, they are available for you to buy at $1 per chick. If you are thinking of buying chicks, it is important that you buy a minimum of 2 chicks, as they will get very lonely and are used to being part of a flock.

There are also starter packs available through the Henny Penny company. They are $28.00 each. The packs contain: 1 large feeder, 1 large drinker, 2kg feed, bedding material and an information sheet on how to take care of your chicks.

If you would like chicks and starter packs, please let Mrs Oram know by this Thursday at the latest and they will be ready to collect on Friday.

Award Assembly
Our Award Assembly will be held in Week 5 this term, due to the Year 5 Leadership Day. The Assembly will begin at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 4th November. Parents whose children are receiving class awards will receive a note to invite them along.

Canteen News - Angie Pirie
Hi everyone, welcome back to our last term of the year. There will be no hot chocolates this term due to warmer weather, but sipper straws and cold milo will be available to fill those tummies and make them cool. Our Pizza slices @ 30c and garlic bread @ 50c will still be available for recess. Frozen grapes on sticks will be available @ 50c each.

The Canteen roster is attached to the newsletter and we will require volunteers to fill in those gaps. So please, if you can help out and keep our kids happy with their special treats, please let Mrs Chapman or myself know on 0414 570 365.

I just wanted to advise you all that this is the last term as the canteen co-ordinator and I intend to resign my position at the end of 2015. I have really enjoyed my position as the co-ordinator over the last 6 years. If you are interested in taking on this position as from the beginning of 2016, please see Mrs Mackie.

National Trust Women’s Committee Visit
Ladies from the National Trust Women’s Committee have asked if they can visit our school for a picnic lunch on Saturday 7th November at 1pm. We need to provide them with a nice lunch with sandwiches, cake, tea/coffee, juice and fruit.

We would like to volunteer to help out making about 70-100 sandwiches on that Saturday morning (around 11.00 am) to help fundraise this event. Some helpers would be greatly appreciated and will only take a small amount of time to help and will be a great fundraiser for the school. If anyone cannot make it, but would still like to help out we will need cupcakes made as well (muffin size).

If you would like to help out, please phone or text Angie Pirie on 0414 570 365.

Dawn Dunlop Thank You
Last term Dawn Dunlop taught the students how to French Knit. Each student made a section of French knitting to be joined together to wrap trees at Penrith Regional Art Gallery. We would like to thank Dawn for donating her time, knitting spools and wool to help support the school in this activity.

CLASS NEWS

Kindergarten/Year 1 News - Mrs Oram & Mrs McClay
We hope you all had a relaxing break and are ready for a busy term 4!

We are completing two literacy units this term. One involves completing different writing pieces around our hatching chickens. The students will be writing information reports, life cycles and descriptions. The second unit we are completing is called ‘moving pictures’. The students will be watching different moving texts such as movies and writing about them.

Reading Groups—We are still holding reading groups up until Week 10 this term. Our reading times are; Monday 9.45am, Tuesday 10.30am, Wednesday 10.30am, Thursday 9.45am and Friday 9.30am. We have a reading box set up for any parents who would like to read one on one with the children.

Homework—Everyone is continuing to swap their home readers on a regular basis, which is fantastic. Please keep testing your child on the sight words they bring home every day, this will help with their reading fluency. Year 1 Maths homework is unit 25 this week and unit 26 next week.

Talking and Listening - this term, we will be completing topic talks instead of news. The first topic the students will be talking about is ‘All About Me.’ Please help your children prepare a short talk about themselves. This can include; My pets, my family, my favourite drink, food, book and anything else interesting about them. Below is the day your child will be completing their first topic talk.

This week (Week 2)
Wednesday - Ben, Gemma, Clare
Thursday - Mia, Annika, Charlie
Friday - Finn, Keira, Billie

Week 3
Monday - Luke, James & Lilly
Tuesday - Isaac, Leander, Bailey
Wednesday - Khannah, Brandon, Tara
Thursday - Oskar, Sam, Joel
Friday - Kye, Zane, Olivya

2/3 Class News - Mrs Mackie
This term students will complete their Mentals book during class time. If your child still has their Mentals book at home, please return it to school as soon as possible.

Home readers will come home next week to be in sync with Reading Groups which will begin next week. Due to the number of interruptions during the next few weeks, reading group sessions will not run on consecutive days.

This term we are studying modern and traditional fairy tales in class. Public speaking homework has been designed to support this topic.

The students will also be completing a unit on chickens as follow up to the Henny Penny Hatching program. The students have greatly enjoyed watching the chickens hatch and grow each day.

We will be completing a comprehensive bird survey in a few weeks time to identify the bird species found in our school grounds. Data collected at this time will be used to inform future planting. The survey will be conducted each year to monitor bird populations to assist us in providing a habitat that supports these identified species.

Reports will go home in Week 10 of this term. If you have any questions about your child’s progress prior to that time, please feel free to make an appointment with me at a mutually convenient time.
Welcome back everyone to what is a very busy term.

Our spelling and homework activities will commence this week. As many students are involved in out of school activities and excursions over the next few weeks our Reading routine will be slightly altered and may need to be completed at different times and on different days. It would be best if any reading helpers check with us for days and times or wait a few weeks till our routines return to normal.

In Maths we will be covering a wide amount of topics over the next fortnight including decimals, number patterns, place value, addition and subtraction, division, identifying 3D shapes and graphs.

In Literacy my students we will be completing a number of activities to do with chickens. We will be researching and writing explanations on their life cycle and the development of the chick inside the egg.

I hope Aisling, Olivia, Lachlan and Lachlan enjoy their visit to Longneck Lagoon tomorrow.

We are also looking forward to a visit from teachers and student ambassadors from Colo High next Monday to give our Year 6 students more important information about high school life.

Our class is also looking forward to our excursion where we will be joining in activities at the Youth Eco Summit on Thursday 22nd October.

**BILPIN FLOWER SHOW**

Mia - First Prize (Fairy Garden)

Olivia - Second Prize (Fairy Garden)

Damon - First Prize ‘Jay Carroll Award’ (Flowers in a Teapot)

Vegetable Creature
Cassie - 2nd Prize
Alana - Highly Commended

Kyle
Train - Highly Commended

K-2 Category Winners
Garden on a Plate
Isaac, Lilly & Mia

Grades 3 - 6
Creature Habitat
Joel, Nikola & Mitchell

Back row - Alana, Kaid, Olivia & Damon