Term 4 Week 4
Tuesday 27th October, 2015

Dates to Remember

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<td>3rd Nov</td>
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<td>4th Nov</td>
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Hawkesbury Dance Festival Performance

On Wednesday 14th October, our dance group performed at the Windsor Function Centre. The dancers performed third last and put every ounce of effort they could muster into an amazing performance.

I would like to thank Miss Carroll for the time and effort she put into choreography in Term 1 and would like to also thank her for coming to the performance on the night to help out.

I received many comments from staff and parents from other schools praising the dancers’ efforts. Well done boys and girls!

Belrose Public School Band Performance

On Wednesday 14th October, Belrose Public School Band performed for our students as part of their school tour through the Blue Mountains and the Central West.

The band greatly impressed our students through their skilful playing. We hope to see them pop in again next year.

Hawkesbury Garden Competition

On Wednesday 21st October, Mrs Oram, Mrs McCloy, Mrs Hulbert and I, attended the Hawkesbury Garden Competition Awards. I am extremely pleased to announce that our students received a ‘Highly Commended’ award for their work with the vegie gardens and the apple trees.

Overall, the school received second place in the staff gardens! We were very excited to hear the results and know that others love our school grounds and much as we do.

I would like to thank everyone who has worked on the gardens throughout the year, particularly Michael Eugene and Lesley Hulbert. We would like to congratulate Lesley and Paul Hulbert for winning their category ‘Seniors Garden’. Bilpin was well represented in a number of categories with the beauty of our area being displayed in all its glory!

School Swimming Scheme

The School Swimming Scheme run by the Department of Education will be occurring from Monday 16th November till Friday 27th November for students in Year 1 through to Year 6.

We strongly urge you to carefully consider your child’s swimming skills and enrol them in the 2015 School Swimming Scheme. Please remember that this is your decision as a parent, not your child’s.

A permission note is attached to this newsletter and needs to be returned to school by Wednesday 11th November together with your payment. Payment can be made by using the Parent Online Payment option (POP) on the school website: - www.bilpin-p.school.nsw.edu.au

Youth Eco Summit (YES)

On Thursday 22nd October, Class 4/5/6 attended 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.

P & C Meeting

3rd November 2015
The Staff Room 3.30pm

Bilpin Public School P & C Committee are as follows

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<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Darryl Carle</td>
<td>4567 1018</td>
<td>Please feel free to contact any of these representatives if you have any concerns you wish to discuss</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Angie Pirie</td>
<td>4567 7469</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Nicole McEvoy</td>
<td>4567 1351</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Nikki Wheen</td>
<td>4567 1154</td>
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Students had a fabulous time learning how to create hydroponic gardens, sustainable gardening, chook facts and a Taronga Zoo program on mammals and reptiles. These topics relate to the various programs we are implementing in school at present.

It was a very wet day but the students’ spirits were far from dampened. I was very impressed by the enthusiastic participation in discussions by our students. They listened attentively and respectfully to all of the presenters. We were very proud of their efforts. We hope to trial some of the new gardening strategies in the near future!

I would like to thank Damien Feneley, the Principal of Grose View Public School who at the beginning of the year invited us to be part of the Click, Connect, Collaborate project. Due to being involved in this project, the bus for the day was fully subsidised for the students which meant that the cost for the day was vastly reduced. We greatly appreciate this generous gesture.

K-3 Excursion - Featherdale Wildlife Park

The students had a fabulous time at Featherdale Wildlife Park yesterday! They learnt a lot about the different Australian animals and had the chance to pat a shingle back lizard, a tawny frogmouth, a children’s python and a koala.

Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who came along to help supervise the students, you helped make the day run very smoothly!

Enrolments 2016

At present we are in the process of planning for 2016. If you know of a child that was intending to enrol next year that has not yet done so, can you please let the office know. If you happen to be leaving next year but have not yet notified any staff member, please notify the office as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

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 2.30pm on Wednesday 4th November. Parents whose children are receiving class awards will receive a note to invite them along.

National Trust Lunch Fundraiser

On Saturday 7th November, a group of ladies from the National Trust will be stopping in at Bilpin Public School for a picnic lunch at 1.00 pm during their Blue Mountains bus tour.

We need to provide them with a nice lunch with sandwiches, cake, tea/coffee, juice and fruit. We would like some volunteers to help out making about 70-100 sandwiches on that Saturday morning (around 11.00 am) to help fundraise this event.

If anyone cannot make it, but 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. Some helpers would be greatly appreciated and will only take a small amount of time to help and will be a great fundraiser for our school.

Henny Penny Chicks

We have had a fantastic response to the Henny Penny Hatching Program, with many more families asking if they can purchase day old chicks. We will be placing one more order to the Henny Penny Hatching program. If you would like to buy day old chicks, please fill in the attached order form and send the form back to school by this Thursday 29th October. Please remember that you need to purchase a minimum of 2 chicks. Michelle, our Henny Penny chook expert has told us that she is able to try and sex the chicks, however there are no guarantees. The chicks are $1 each. If you need a starter pack, it is $28 and comes with a feeder, waterer, 2kg of food, wood shavings and a ‘How to look after your chicks’ guide. Mrs Oram will let you know when the chicks are ready to be picked up.

Kindergarten Transition Day

Just a reminder that the next Kindergarten Transition afternoon will be held next Tuesday (3rd November) from 1.15-3.25pm. The students are invited to bring their lunch and eat with the ‘big children’. Parents are more than welcome to drop off their children at 1.15pm and pick them up at 3.25pm.

Grandparent’s Day

Thank you so much to all of the parents and grandparents who attended our Grandparent’s afternoon last Wednesday! We were overwhelmed with the amazing turn out of family members and look forward to making this an annual event.

The students had a fantastic time showing the grandparents their rooms, creating a craft for their family to take home and sharing afternoon tea together. A special thank you to Mrs Chapman and Michelle Leer for helping to set up (and pack up) the classrooms and the library for the afternoon tea.

Whole School Photo

On 19th November we will be having our whole school photo taken at 9.30 am as the first photo taken early in the year was not successful. If you could mark this date on your calendar so the children will be at school by 9.30 am and in full school uniform.

Year 7 Selective High School Entry 2017

If you are considering a selective high school placement for your child for 2017, you can apply online via www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement between 13th October and 16th November 2015. An information booklet is available at the school office for those who are interested in applying.

Offers of placements are made on the basis of the Selective High School Test results and school assessments. The tests will take place on Thursday 10th March 2016.

Kindergarten Information/Orientation Day

We will be holding our Kindergarten Information/Orientation for the parents of students starting school in 2016 on Tuesday 10th November from 9.45 am - 11.25 am. We look forward to once again seeing our new students and welcoming them to our school.

During the morning parents will meet in the library for an information session about school procedures and requirements. During this time our new kindergarten students will be completing activities with Mrs Oram in the Kindergarten classroom. They will also get a chance to meet their buddies who will be looking after them during the first few weeks of 2016.

A uniform presentation will commence at 9.45 am and parents wishing to order uniforms MUST pay cash or cheque, payable to the Bilpin P & C, otherwise orders cannot be filled. Payment CANNOT be made online via the school website.
Year 5 Leadership Day
On Wednesday, Year 5 will be attending the Year 5 Leadership Day for the Colo High feeder schools, at Grose View Public School. Students will be in mixed school groups for the day learning about effective student leadership skills. Our captains will also be attending the day to speak to the Year 5 students about their leadership experiences as well as be special helpers. A group of Year 10 students will be leading small groups throughout the day. The day is a valuable opportunity for the Year 5 and Year 10 students to develop their leadership skills.

Red Day - Friday 30th October
The 11th annual Day for Daniel Morcombe will be held on Friday 30th October and endeavours to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm prevention. It is about educating children through child safety and protection initiatives and helping empower our children to ‘Recognise, React and Report’ if they feel something is not right.

Wear Red and Educate is the theme for Day for Daniel as we strive to take action and conduct child safety activities in our school to help in “Keeping Kids Safe”. We are asking the students to wear red on Friday or just an item of red clothing to acknowledge a ‘Day for Daniel’.

A very happy birthday to those students who celebrated their birthdays in October. They were Jahvis (9 yrs old), Lily (10 yrs old), Damon (9 yrs old), Sasha (8 yrs old) and Lachlan (10 yrs old).

We have five students who will celebrate their birthdays in November. We wish them a happy birthday - Charlie (6 yrs old), Annika (6 yrs old), Brandon (6 yrs old), Bailey (10 yrs old) and Finn (6 yrs old).

Mrs Melanie Mackie

Canteen News - Angie Pirie
Thank you for the many offers to help out on canteen for this term. We only have one date vacant and that is Thursday 3rd December. If you are able to assist, could you please phone Angie Pirie on 4567 7469 or Mrs Chapman in the school office, so we can keep the canteen open.

Thursday 29th October - Kelly Haines
Monday 2nd November - Isabelle Lester & Angie Pirie
Thursday 5th November - Michelle Leer
Monday 9th November - Vanessa Smith & Helen Newman
Thursday 12 November - April Vigers and Vanessa Smith
Monday 16th November - Rebecca and Margaret Tadrosse
Thursday 19th November - Michelle Leer

This Thursday 29th October, we will be celebrating Halloween as part of our RED week.

The following spooky items will be on sale:-

- Gummy Eyeballs and Body Parts - 20 cents
- Lollipop Rings and Eyeball Pops - 50 cents
- Witches Finger biscuits - 30 cents

So don’t forget to try some creepy treats!

Also I would like to advise that this will be my last term as Canteen Co-ordinator. I have really enjoyed the last 6 years seeing all the kids grow and getting to know them and I loved to see their happy little faces to buy our special treats. If you would like to take on this fun, enjoyable and rewarding position and help fundraise and make a difference for our school, please let myself or Mrs Mackie know.

CLASS NEWS
K/1 Class News - Mrs Oram and Mrs McCloy
Welcome back to our prac teacher, Mrs McGown! She was off to a flying start on Monday at our K-3 excursion. Mrs McGown will be with us for the next 3 weeks and we look forward to having her back in the classroom.

We are so pleased with the huge amount of effort the children are putting into their topic talk. Thank you to all of the parents who have helped them prepare by writing palm cards, typng out their speech-es etc.

Our next topic talk will be part of our Literacy Unit, ‘Moving Pictures’. The students will be bringing home some information, which will outline the day they will present their talk (week 5 or 6), an example of a similar talk and a marking rubric, which will explain how they will be marked.

2/3 Class News - Mrs Mackie
This week students will only have spelling and their speech to work on for homework due to our excursion.

At next week’s award assembly, we would like to invite our parents along to see our performance of ‘Snow White and the 12 ½ Dwarves’ that we have been working on since last term. The children are very excited about performing for anyone who might be able to come along!

We apologise that home readers have not been sent home yet this term. Readers will be sent home on Monday of next week.

We look forward to seeing you at the assembly next week.

4/5/6 Class News - Mr Hynds
Our spelling and homework activities will continue this week. As many students are involved in out of school activities and excursions again this week our Reading routine will be back to normal next week. We will also send home reading folders to accompany this work for next week.

In Maths we will be covering a wide amount of topics over the next fortnight and also be completing some assessment activities in preparation for reports going home later this term.

In Writing we have completed explanations on a chicken’s life cycle and the development of the chick inside the egg. The students have now chosen a particular variety of chicken to research to create an information report to be published on the computer.

I hope Year 5 enjoy their Leadership Day activities tomorrow at Grose View School and learn some important skills for the future.
SNAPSHOTS OF OUR BUSY FORTNIGHT