Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 1st March   - P &amp; C AGM - 7.30 pm</td>
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<td>Fri 4th March    - Clean Up Australia Day for schools</td>
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<td>Mon 7th March    - Premiers Reading Challenge begins</td>
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<td>Mon 7th March    - Yr 7 2017 Forum at Colo H.S. 5.30 - 6.30PM</td>
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<td>Frid 11th March  - Fundraising event for Jackson Koopman</td>
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<td>Mon 14th March   - Parent Assembly</td>
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<td>Mon 21st March   - Harmony Day (wear orange!)</td>
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<td>Fri 25th March   - Good Friday</td>
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<td>Mon 28th March   - Easter Monday</td>
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<td>Fri 8th April    - Last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>Wed 27th April   - Term 2 begins for students</td>
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Further information will be provided regarding these changes at each stage of implementation. We thank you in advance for your understanding and patience as these changes occur.

Zoo Excursion K - 6

At the beginning of Term 2, the whole school will be attending an excursion to Taronga Zoo to celebrate the Centenary of the zoo. All students will also be making lanterns of the endangered Regent Honeyeater. The lantern kits have been provided by the zoo. These lanterns will be on display during the Vivid Festival in Sydney. We are very excited to be involved in an activity to raise awareness of endangered animal species and to help celebrate the anniversary of the zoo. For participating in the activity, each student will receive a free ticket to attend the centenary celebrations in May.

Due to the financial management system change as mentioned above, we will be requesting that this excursion is paid for in full by Wednesday 27th April to ensure ease of payment to vendors at the time of the excursion. Information regarding this excursion will be attached to the next newsletter.

Young Leaders Day

Today Clara, Mali and Patrick attended the Young Leaders Day at Olympic Park with their parents. The students had the opportunity to hear famous Australians share their inspiring stories about their leadership journeys and their pathways to success. For example they will include Andrew Scipione - NSW Commissioner of Police, Ben Austin OAM - Paralympian, Nathan ‘Dubsy’ Want - Youth Speaker, Leticia Lentini (Panellist) - Event Magician, Google and Scott Tweedie (Panellist) - TV and Radio Presenter.

Students from all over NSW travel far and wide to attend this exciting event and share their leadership experiences with other young leaders. We are looking forward to hearing about the day from our leaders on their return to school tomorrow.

District Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our Small Schools representatives - Laura, Kaid, Arien, Abby, Cassie, Mali and Aliza who competed at the District Swimming Carnival last Friday.

We are proud to announce that Laura has been crowned Senior Girls District Champion which is an amazing achievement! We wish her all the best at Regional Swimming Carnival.

P & C Meeting

Tuesday 1st March

The Staff Room 7.30pm

Bilpin Public School P & C Committee are as follows

President: Darryl Carle 4567 1018
Vice President: Angie Pirie 4567 7469
Treasurer: Nicole McEvoy 4567 1351
Secretary: Nikki Wheen 4567 1154

Please feel free to contact any of these representatives if you have any concerns you wish to discuss.

LMBR

Hawkesbury schools will this year migrate to a new management systems for finance and student wellbeing. The process for this migration will begin later this term and we will be fully migrated in late Term 3.

This process involves substantial training for Mrs Chapman and myself that will take place this year and later in the term.

The Department has recommended that to allow for migration of this management system, any major school events be reorganised to allow for smooth transition. Due to the significant changes in payments to vendors and how money is receipted, the advice is to have minimal activities occurring during Term 3 and 4. For this reason, the Years 4/5/6 Canberra/Snowy excursion has been cancelled. A Sport and Recreation Camp has been booked at Yarramundi YMCA in place of this excursion to take place towards the end of Term 2.

We are halfway through Term 1 already and it has been a busy one! Outlined below are a few changes and events that will be taking place this year and later in the term.

P & C Meeting

Tuesday 1st March

The Staff Room 7.30pm
P & C AGM

The P & C AGM will be held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 1st March in the staffroom. There will be a number of positions changing hands this year. We would like to once again thank Angie Pirie and Nicole McEvoy for their extremely hard work and valuable support in the positions they have held on the committee, as well as the countless hours they have contributed to fundraising efforts over the years. Thank you ladies!

We welcome all who wish to attend to find out what is happening at school this year.

2016 School Swimming Champions

This year’s champions are:

- **Junior Girl Champion**
  - Abby
- **Junior Boy Champion**
  - Jahvis, Kye (tie)
- **11 Years Girl Champion**
  - Mali
- **11 Years Boy Champion**
  - Jack
- **Senior Girl Champion**
  - Laura
- **Senior Boy Champion**
  - Kaid

Colo High School Community Forum

Year 6 students and parents are cordially invited to attend an information evening for families eligible to enrol at Colo High School in 2017. This meeting will provide parents and caregivers with the opportunity to learn about the programs offered at Colo. The forum will be held at Colo High School from 5:30 - 6:30pm on Monday 7th March.

Apple Collection

There are still bags of apples collected by Year 3 as part of the ‘Adopt-a-Tree’ program, left over. If any families would like extra apples, feel free to collect a bag after school. A very big thank you is extended to the Tadrosse family for their generosity in allowing our students to participate in this valuable and exciting activity. We would also like to thank the P & C for continuing to sponsor our school tree to ensure the tradition continues for our Year 3 students.

Bus Travel

There have been recent reports of inappropriate behaviour on buses, particularly in the afternoons. The students are frequently reminded of appropriate bus etiquette and the importance of travelling in a manner that is safe, respectful and responsible to ensure bus drivers are not distracted. If your child travels to or from school by bus, it would be appreciated if you could reinforce this message before other actions need to be taken.

Bus Behaviour

It is expected that students conform to the normal standards of good behaviour on buses. They must remain seated at all times and should wait until the bus is stationary before alighting or boarding. Under no circumstances should students hang out of windows.

Repeated instances of poor behaviour may result in the withdrawal of the privilege of free travel or suspension in line with DoE policy in relation to expulsion and suspension.

Code of Conduct:

To ensure students safety and the comfort of other passengers, students will:

- Behave safely at all times.
- Respect the needs and comforts of other passengers.
- Respect bus property by not marking or damaging it.
- Always follow instructions about safety on the bus.

Show their bus pass or ticket to the driver on boarding and when requested.

Students will not:

- Distract the driver except in an emergency.
- Smoke, eat or drink on the bus.
- Allow any part of their body to protrude from the bus.
- Fight, spit, use offensive language or place their feet on seats.
- Throw any article inside, or out of, the bus.
- Alter, deface, misuse or fraudulently obtain a bus pass. Give, lend or transfer their bus pass to another student.

Canteen News - Michelle Coe

There is a new price list attached to this newsletter as there are a few items we cannot get anymore and a couple of new ones. Thank you everyone for supporting the canteen. We have some very hungry kids!

Parents rostered on for the next fortnight are as follows:-

- **Thursday 3rd March**
  - Elizabeth Peters and Cheryl Baird
- **Monday 7th March**
  - Helen Newman and Vanessa Smith
- **Thursday 10th March**
  - Tessa McLaughlin
- **Monday 14th March**
  - April Vigurs and Rachael McKInlay

Library News

This term in the library I have introduced the ‘Reading Throne’. I would like the children to bring in their own books from home or use books they have borrowed from the library to share and recommend to other students. They will give an outline of the book, say what they enjoyed about it and maybe read a short passage form it. I hope this will encourage students to try books recommended by their friends.

Not long now until the Premier’s Reading Challenge begins on 7th March. Students will be bringing home their reading record folders soon.

Clean Up Australia Day

This Friday 4th March, our school will be taking part in Clean Up Australia Day. Please send in a pair of gloves and a bag for your child to collect rubbish. The classes will be given different locations on our school site to clean and tidy.

Jackson Koopman Fundraising Event

On Friday 11th March, our school will be holding an event to raise funds for one of our ex-students, Jackson Koopman. Jackson is 17 years old and has been fighting cancer for most of his life. He has endured many surgeries and unrelenting bouts of chemotherapy. Funds will go towards helping make Jackson's life as comfortable as possible.

For $5, the students are invited to wear their favourite 'sports' mufti and have a sausage sizzle at lunch time. There will also be a variety of sports activities and games being played together as a school
after lunch on Friday. The students are invited to bring along some gold coins to be able to participate in games and activities.

There is a community Fundraiser being held at the Last Round Training Facility on Sunday, 13th March. The staff will deliver the funds raised to Jackson on this day. For more details, visit http://www.facebook/jacksonkoopmantugofwarchallenge

Choir

Thank you to all of the families for bringing their children early on Friday mornings for choir rehearsal. The last two weeks have been very successful and we will be continuing to run rehearsals at 8.45am - 9.20am for this term. The songs have been chosen for the Hawkesbury Music Festival and the students will be getting their folders and CDs very shortly.

PULSE - Sydney Opera House Years 3 & 4

All students in Years 3 & 4 are invited to take part in the PULSE Performing Arts concert at Sydney Opera House this year. If your child enjoys singing and would like to have a fantastic opportunity to sing on the stage of the Opera House, please fill in the permission note given to the students and return it to Mrs Oram.

Happy Birthday

We would like to congratulate the following students who will celebrate their birthdays during the month of March. They are Eli (11 yrs old), Hugh (6 yrs old), Mali (11 yrs old), Peppa (5 yrs old), Abby, 8 yrs old and Brayden (9 yrs old). We hope you all have a great day on your birthday.

Chicken News

We are very excited that our chickens have started laying eggs! We will be selling the eggs at the front office and using the funds to buy their food. We will keep you updated each fortnight as to how many half dozens we have available to buy or come in and ask at the office. No eggs will be going home on the bus, if you would like to purchase them they will be $2 for half a dozen.

If you have any spare egg cartons at home, we would be grateful if you could bring them in so that we can recycle them.

Mrs M Mackie
PRINCIPAL

CLASS NEWS

KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 1 - Mrs Oram and Mrs McCloy

The students have worked hard to continue learning new routines and settle in to group work. We have begun reading groups and would like to thank all of the parents who are helping!

We know you are all very busy and many are not able to commit to every week. Any day you are available and would like to come in and help would be fantastic. There is always a group who is in need of a 'bingo' word caller or a board game umpire!

The students have begun working on their own calendar to hang up in their bedrooms, hopefully they will come home at the end of this week. This is to help them with numeral identification, knowledge of months, ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc), days of the week and seasons. Please help them to cross off the dates each day at home.

Home readers are able to be brought in whenever your child is fluently reading their book and would like to change it.

Year 1 Homework - this week they will be completing Unit 3. Congratulations to all of the Year 1 who have been trying so hard and completing their spelling tests with fantastic results! Please cover their spelling list and read out each word for them to write down in their books. There is also a short dictation on the reverse side of their spelling words for them to complete.

CLASS 2/3 - Mrs Mackie

Reading Groups for Year 2 to 6 began last week and students have settled into this new routine. We welcome any parent helpers who are able to attend from this week onwards. We know that time is precious and that everyone has busy schedules so we appreciate any time that can be given. Reading groups will take place from 10:25 until 11:15am.

The majority of students have been making a pleasing effort with their homework. Homework is due daily for marking. If your child has a number of extra curricular activities on after school and is unable to hand their homework in daily, please ensure it is brought in on Friday mornings.

In the next few weeks, Year 3 will receive NAPLAN style questions to complete as part of their homework to prepare for the upcoming assessments that occur early next term.

In Personal Development and Health, Years 2, 3 and 4 have been learning about bike and road safety. Students have been creating informative posters to raise awareness about bike safety gear and equipment.

Home readers are due this Friday for exchanging. Remember that library books and readers from home can also be recorded in reading diaries.

Cross Country practice will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Have a great week!

CLASS 4/5/6 - Mr Hynds

My students have done very well in completing their new homework routine over the last few weeks, and I am very impressed with the quality of their work. Keep it up!

Our 5 week unit for writing is persuasive texts. The purpose of this style of writing is to influence or persuade the reader. We will be planning, drafting and publishing texts attempting to use correct structure and language forms to match the purpose of this writing.

Our Reading routine is now in full swing and the students have been working well on the literacy activities they will be completing this year. Thank you to those who have volunteered as reading helpers for this term, but we are happy to accommodate any more. Mrs Mackie and I are more than happy to have anyone come along and help in our classrooms at 10.25am, even for a week here and there. It is certainly of great benefit to all our students.
In our road safety unit we have been discussing tips for ensuring helmets are in good working order. Over the next two weeks we will be looking at bike safety checks students can do themselves and some strategies they can use when riding near the road.

We have been completing fundamental movement activities each Tuesday afternoon and the students have enjoyed exploring balance and how we can improve it. We will be looking at how we can balance on different body parts while reinforcing the different components of static balance.

Congratulations to all students in my class for their effort at the District Swimming Carnival. Special congratulations to Laura who was named Senior Girls Champion.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

IRONFEST will be held at Lithgow Showground on 16th & 17th April 2016.

Aiming to educate through entertainment, Ironfest features historical events over these days – jousting and other events depicting accurately extremely interesting periods in history. The re-enactments are very dramatic, featuring artillery, cavalry and infantry, and there is a fully authentic military encampment, hospital and blacksmith’s workshop. Lots of roving entertainers, music, dance, woodturning demonstrations, birds of prey, as well as Australian made goods on sale at the stalls.

Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Sunday 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

For more information you can visit the Ironfest website at www.ironfest.net

AT GATE DURING IRONFEST:
One day - Adult $40; Conc. $30; Child $25; Family $95.
2 Day Weekend - Adult $55; Conc. $45; Child $35; Family $140

FAMILY TICKET includes 2 adults and 3 school age children. Any extra children over the age of 6 are to have their own ticket.