



NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWS FROM BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL 11 DECEMBER 2012 ISSUE 39

INSIDE

- Principal's Notes (page 2)
- K-12 Notes (pages 3 & 4)
- Term 4, 2012 Calendar (page 10)

ANNUAL PRESENTATION NIGHT

Tuesday, 11 December

Students need to be at the School Hall at 6.45pm

P&C Raffle Tickets

Need to be handed in to the front office by Tuesday, 11 December (sold or unsold)

Maitland Grossmann High School Visit



Last week Balranald Central School students enjoyed a visit from 20 Year 9 students from Maitland Grossmann High School and their teachers Mr Steve and Mrs Nicole Ross. Students from both schools really enjoyed this experience. The visiting students come from a school of 1300 and when they saw our secondary students lined up for assembly they wanted to know where the rest of our students were!! Their excursion included a visit to Mildura, Mungo, Clare Public School, Hillerman's wheat farm to name a few. Thank you to all those who billeted these students.

Students of the Week

For Week 10 Term 4, 2012:

K/Year 1/2	Isaac Lloyd
Year 3/4	Drew Lloyd
Year 5/6	Daniel Woolhouse



PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVES

Welcome back to week ten of Term 4. So we have reached the penultimate report for the year. I could say that I have not really been looking forward to this point but that may be a little white fib. Last week we hosted the visit of a very eager group of Year 9 students from Maitland Grossmann High School. We managed to find enough places for them to be billeted for the time they were here. In that short time it is amazing just how attached they became to the families. At the final dinner that was held at the school on the Thursday night there was a real feeling of emotion on all sides. This was to thank all the host families and give everyone the chance to say goodbye as they were due to leave at 7am the next morning. The following had major roles Michelle White, Ellen Sendy, Richard White and staff from Maitland Grossmann all combined to deliver a feast fit for a king. To the extent that staff were rewarded with a pizza lunch the next day that was greatly appreciated. The most significant outcome of the exchange was that there is now talk of a reciprocal visit in the future. The other bonus was the change in the students that had taken part; On Monday when they arrived at school there was a level of uncertainty about what they may gain from this trip. By Thursday all those feelings had truly been swept away with the chatter and sharing that was going on between everyone who had been a part of this program. One of the interesting comments by a staff member was that a student had asked were they there yet when they had just reached Goulburn. It just seemed too cruel to tell them they still had more than 8 hours still to go.

Last week saw the final week of Bell Shakespeare. There was very much a case of mixed emotions from one and all. The presenters who had been here for two weeks were full of praise for all the students who had participated. This included students from Clare Public School and St Josephs during that time. While students were at times challenged by what they were doing everyone did immerse themselves into the experience and gained an enormous amount from the opportunity. I would like to thank Miss Caryn Jones for all the work she put into making this program such a worthwhile success for all concerned.

This week will see the students perform a live show for the benefit of students and parents alike. I understand that there is a heightening level of anticipation mixed with a number of other emotions. But I am assured that it will be all OK on the night. To be honest if students

were not feeling some level of anxiety we would all be worried.

We have experienced some level of staff movement during this term. Mr Tim Allen who had accepted a position at Condobolin Public School has since been successful at merit selection for the position of Principal at Yanco Public School. Well done sir and very deserved. We have had a replacement appointed in the Assistant Principal position. I would like you all to welcome Mr Bruce Scott recently of Jerilderie Public School and before that from Booligal Public School. He has had experience as a Principal of small schools and is looking to work in a larger school. He will be a very welcome addition to our executive team. I will be very sorry to see Mr Duncan McLeod leave us at the end of the year. It seems that matters of the heart far outweigh all the many things we can offer. In truth that's probably how it should be. I am currently looking for any suitable applicants to fill this position. The final cherry on top of all of this is that Miss Megan Baker has been successful at merit selection in gaining the Principals position at Clare Public School. What a fantastic outcome for everyone, except perhaps our school. Oh well, in a way we were prepared as I did release her to do the relieving position this term. No surprise that she was quite outstanding in the role. Congratulations to all those staff, you will be missed enormously by both staff and students alike and the community. Go forth and prosper.

Staff will be having a well-deserved night out to celebrate a truly outstanding year for the school. This will give us the opportunity to farewell some quite outstanding people. I, the staff and students have missed the professional and personal connection that Miss Nella Menta has maintained with the school over many years. She has now resolved to move her family so they can more easily access the universities of their choice in the very near future. Even this year her loss has been quite a palpable thing. I can only imagine how that will impact over the next few years. Mind you I have heard that she still intends to return at some stage in the future, so while we have lost her for the time being this will be a mere gap in her time at the school. All our best wishes for you and your family.

All the best

K-12 NOTES

Assistant Principal's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received an Assistant Principal's Award at last Friday's Primary Assembly:

K/1/2 – Logan Gaston, Vinci Ugarte, Shelley Dalton, Lachlan Camin

Year 3/4 – Lani Dalton, Bonnie Jolliffe

Year 5/6 – Chloe Calleja, Kobe Lloyd

Primary Merit Certificates

Congratulations to the following students who received a Merit Certificate at last week's Primary Assembly:

K/1/2 – Rylan Dalton, Shelley Dalton, Mitchell Carmichael, Charlie Ross, Mason Dalton

Year 3/4 – Faith Jolliffe, Keely Gaston, Tanisha Stevens, Darcy Carmichael, Mikayla Bax, Asipeli Kauyaca, Dominic Gervasi, Lani Dalton, Abbie Renfrey, Hope Militto, Tanisha Stevens, Bonnie Jolliffe, Jackson Li, Hannah Morton, Macy Lloyd, Jenna Leggatt, Paul Murray, Lauren Jess, Nicholas Zotov, Denym Tebetebe

Year 5/6 – Daniel Woolhouse, Sophie Renrey, Madison Jess, Will Morton, Chloe Potter, Marc Vaarzonmorel

100 Nights Reading

Congratulations to Lani Dalton, Hannah Morton, Isaac Lloyd and Bonnie Jolliffe, who have all completed 100 nights of home reading in their READ IT Home reader. Lani, Hannah, Isaac and Bonnie all received a book during last week's Primary Assembly for their efforts. Parents are reminded that all primary students who achieve 100 nights home reading will receive a book award as part of our home reading program.

Proud and Deadly Awards

Lowanna Gwilliams, Tanisha Stevens and Kayla Bell travelled to Deniliquin last Wednesday with Mr Riesinger and Mr Allen to attend the Riverina Region Proud and Deadly Indigenous Awards. The awards were held at the Deniliquin RSL Club and were attended by School Education Director, Ms Vicki Kempton and Principals from the Deniliquin area. Congratulations to the girls, who thoroughly enjoyed the day, especially lunch at McDonalds!

Bronze and Silver Awards Assembly

Because there will be no Whole School Assembly this term, there will be a special Primary Assembly on this Wednesday, 12 December at 11.00am, where Primary students will receive their Bronze and Silver Awards and any other outstanding Primary Awards for 2012. Students and their families will gather in the Rose Garden during recess before the assembly to participate in the traditional morning tea that is held to celebrate the achievement of Bronze and Silver Award winners. Please be aware the deadline for processing of Bronze and Silver Awards has now closed. Families of students receiving awards will have received their invitations in the mail.

Year 6 Graduation

Mrs Linnett is busily preparing organisation for the Year 6 students to celebrate the end of their time in Primary School. This includes the Year 6 Graduation Assembly which will be held on Friday, 14 December 2012 at 9.50am in the school hall. Year 6 students and their parents will also have the opportunity to participate in morning tea during recess. Parents of Year 6 students will receive further details of the celebration of the end of their child's primary schooling shortly, including a get together breakfast with Mrs Linnett before school this Friday.

Bell Shakespeare Company

Last week also saw the end of the visit by the Bell Shakespeare Company to Balranald Central School. The company was here for two weeks and what a two weeks it was! Students from Kindergarten to Year 12 participated in workshops with trained drama educators Huw and Suzanne. This was a fantastic opportunity for staff and students and we would like to thank the Bell Shakespeare Company for coming to Balranald and showing students how inspiring, interesting and relevant Shakespeare can be 400 years after being written.

Primary Student Reports

Primary Reports will be sent home to parents this Friday, 14 December 2012.

K/1/2 Excursion

Last Wednesday Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students travelled to Mildura for their annual curriculum excursion. During their excursion students watched a performance of *Cinderella*. Students travelled on the school bus driven by Woody and were accompanied by Mrs Lockhart and Mrs Harper. Thank you to Mrs Lockhart for organising the excursion. All the students thoroughly enjoyed the day's activities and were excellent representatives of Balranald Central School.

Primary Choir

The Primary Choir still have a number of opportunities to showcase their talents this year. The Primary Choir have been invited to perform at the Balranald Hospital Christmas party on Tuesday, 18 December 2012 at 12.00 pm, and at the Balranald Carols in the Royal Theatre on Sunday, 16 December 2012 at 6.30pm. This follows their very successful visit to the hospital during Education Week, when they performed for patients and staff. The choir will also perform at Presentation Night.

End of Year Activities

As we approach the busy end of the year please keep up to date with the important end of year activities included in the school calendar. These include:

- Tuesday, 11 December 2012 – K-12 Presentation Night
- Wednesday, 12 December 2012, 11.00am – Primary Bronze and Silver Awards Assembly, including morning tea in the Rose Garden during recess before assembly
- Friday, 14 December 2012 – Primary Student Reports sent home

- Friday, 14 December 2012, 9.50am – Year 6 Graduation Assembly
- Tuesday, 18 December 2012 – Primary Choir performance at Hospital Christmas Party
- Monday, 17 December 2012 – Primary Merit Excursion to Mildura Wave Pool

Primary Swimming Program

The Primary Intensive Swimming Program commenced last week and will continue until the end of this week. All Primary students will participate in the intensive NSW Royal Lifesaving Society's *Swim and Survive* Program. It is important for all students to acquire competent water safety and swimming skills and this is a great opportunity to participate in an excellent program provided by Balranald Central School and their staff at no more than the cost of pool entry fee of \$1 per day. **We expect all primary students to participate in this program.** The lessons will take place from 12.00 pm to 2.40 pm daily, with a session for each primary class. Sessions will be taught by primary AUSWIM accredited staff members Mrs Alison Linnett, Mrs Kate Harper and Mrs Laurel Stevens, with Mrs Stevens overseeing the program in her capacity as a NSW Royal Lifesaving Society Instructor and Examiner.

Primary Merit Award Excursion

The Primary Merit Award Excursion for students who have achieved a Silver or Gold Award during the year will take place on Monday, 17 December 2012. Students will travel by bus to Mildura and visit the Mildura Wave Pool and have lunch at McDonalds. A reminder that students who have received a Silver or Gold Award before this year may also participate in the excursion, but have to make a small contribution to attend. After lunch students will have the opportunity to participate in a game of Tenpin Bowls at Sunraysia Tenpin Bowls. Parents of eligible students will have received their letters. Please assist organisation by replying promptly and returning the permission notes.

Maitland Grossmann School Visit

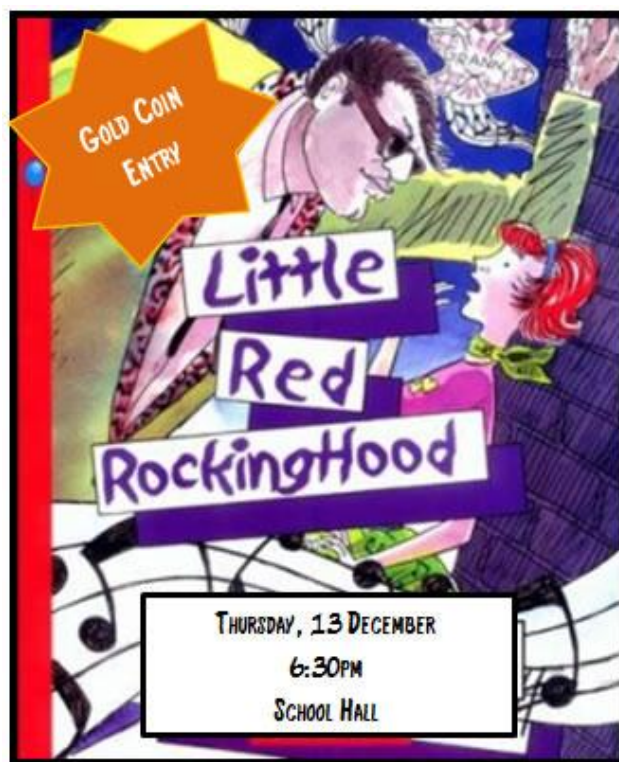
Last week Year 9 students from Maitland Grossmann High School visited Balranald Central School with former Balranald Central School staff member Mr Stuart Ross. Students participated in number of visits to local highlights, including Lake Mungo and also participated in a sporting challenge against Balranald Central School in Tennis and Cricket. We sincerely hope they enjoyed their time visiting Balranald and enjoyed the country hospitality.

Birthday wishes go to:

Kiandra Dalton (Thursday, 13 December)
Maddy Militto (Thursday, 13 December)

Term 4 Upcoming Events

- Primary *Swim and Survive* Program – Monday, 3 December to Friday, 14 December
- Merit Award Excursion, Mildura Wave Pool – Monday, 17 December
- Primary Choir perform at Hospital Christmas Party - Tuesday, 18 December



Canteen Corner

Delicious December Specials:

Cheeseburger \$3.00
Hamburger with Salad \$4.00
Lite Dixie Cup 60c
(yummy with a fresh fruit salad)

THURSDAY 13th Sensational Sorbet Day

Grab an icy cold cup of goodness for only \$1.50
Choose a delicious fruity flavour and watch it
whizzed up right in front of you!



Please settle all canteen accounts this week
Thank you for supporting our canteen in 2012
Watch for the exciting new menu in 2013

Thank you for understanding that we are
running stock out and some items may be
unavailable.

Primary Handball Competition

Last week the primary students participated in a handball competition. The competition was a great success with all primary students getting involved. It was a knockout format and after some highly entertaining and close results it came down to the final four. In the junior primary final Asipeli Kauyaca and Hannah Morton played off with Asipeli winning 5-4.

While in the senior final, it was sibling rivalry at its best, with Drew Lloyd taking on big brother Kobe with Kobe winning 5-2.

The students displayed great sportsmanship and respect for each other throughout the competition.



Junior primary winner and runner-up
Asipeli and Hannah



Senior primary winner and runner-up
Kobe and Drew

Bell Shakespeare

Balranald Central School, St Joseph's and Clare Public School students have spent the past two weeks exploring the wonderful world of Shakespeare with presenters Huw and Suzanne from the Bell Shakespeare company.

Primary students focussed on *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Year 8 worked with the Bard's classic play *Romeo and Juliet* as a way of introducing them to Shakespeare's work and language.

Year 9 will be looking at *Julius Caesar* as part of their English studies next year and the workshops provided them with a brilliant introduction to the text and helped them to better understand the story and the often perplexing language that Shakespeare uses in his plays.

The Year 10 students immersed themselves in *Macbeth* and performed a brilliant moved synopsis in order to cement their knowledge of the challenging text. The group offered fantastic insights when working on characterisation and were particularly enthusiastic about the stage fighting techniques they learnt.

Senior classes were introduced to stagecraft and Huw and Suzanne were kind enough to divert from their Shakespearean program to offer this group some insight into *The Crucible*, which they will study in the course of their HSC.

The Bell Shakespeare experience is one that would generally be quite a costly endeavour; we were, however, lucky enough to be offered this opportunity for free as part of a research project run by Education Transformations in conjunction with Bell Shakespeare.





Balranald Central School P & C invites you to.....



- Friday 21st December ● 7pm
- BCS School Hall
- \$5 each / \$17 family ticket
- Drinks, popcorn & lollies available
 - Lucky door prize
 - ALL WELCOME!





Why is it so important that children drink water?

Water is good for us - our bodies are made up of 50-60% water. Water lost each day through breathing, sweating and going to the toilet needs to be replaced, especially in hot weather.

Adequate fluid intake is essential to good health. Not drinking enough fluid causes dehydration. Any level of dehydration can cause physical symptoms such as poor concentration in class, headaches and irritability.

Children rarely drink enough during break times at school and often forget to drink unless reminded. Crunch&Sip® provides an opportunity to drink water and helps to prevent dehydration.

How much water does my child need?

The recommended daily amounts of fluid for children and adolescents are:

- 5 glasses (1 litre) for 5 - 8 year olds
- 7 glasses (1.5 litres) for 9 - 13 year olds
- 8-10 glasses (2 litres) for 14+ years

Please note a glass is 250 ml

More water is needed if children are exercising or sweating due to heat.

**Thank you for your support for the implementation of
Crunch & Sip this year.
Crunch & Sip will continue in 2013.**



Dear students, staff and school community,

I would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to you all, especially those whom I have had the privilege of teaching during their Year 3 and Year 4 studies.

As you may already know I am leaving the school and moving to take up the position of Principal of Yanco Public School in 2013. I am very thankful that I was given the opportunity to teach and work with you all, as you have been extremely supportive and friendly throughout my time here. Though I am not from Balranald, I never felt away from home, as for the past 5 years Balranald has been my home.

Has it really been 5 years since I arrived at Balranald Central School? This year my journey at BCS ends and it has flown by so quickly. With a heavy heart it is time for us to part ways. We have laughed, cried, learnt, studied, travelled and enriched our lives together over the past 5 years.

To the students who have passed through my classroom. You have all wondered what was ahead of you. You came to my room and we travelled to Lake Mungo and Bendigo. You painted, you sang, you danced and you cheered at carnivals. You rolled down sand dunes and roasted marshmallows. Oh, and hopefully you learnt some literacy and numeracy as well. The look of amazement at experiencing or discovering something for the first time was, and always will be, priceless for me. But most of all, you all certainly couldn't wait to be older!

Now some of you are well on your way through the next chapter in your life, secondary school. At every chapter of life it seems we are always looking forward to what the next chapter will bring. Try to enjoy the present. Tell a loved one how you feel and make the most of the chapter you are at. Appreciate where you are and who you are with. Stop to reflect, and as they say, smell the roses. Do your very best, dream big and study hard.

I have learned many things during my time in Balranald. You have all helped me become a better teacher and better person. I will be eternally grateful for this. I have even managed to understand AFL and learnt to put up with the constant good natured ribbing of the most ardent of Collingwood supporters (Go the Swans, Loui!)

I will not be far away and rest assured you will see me in Balranald now and then, as Caroline and I have made some lifelong friends during our time here and will return. As I bid goodbye to you all I wish you all a very successful future and a life full of joy. May all your dreams come true and you all achieve your goals in life.

I know that wherever you are you will always carry the best qualities that Balranald Central School has given you.

Have a happy, safe and beautiful Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mr Allen

TERM FOUR – 2012

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 10 A	10 DECEMBER <i>Exec meeting</i> <i>Primary Swimming</i>	11 K-12 PRESENTATION NIGHT <i>Primary Swimming</i>	12 <i>Primary Swimming</i> <i>Special Primary Assembly @ 11am</i>	13 <i>Primary Swimming</i>	14 <i>Primary Sports Day</i> <i>Year 6 Graduation</i> <i>Primary Swimming</i>
Week 11 B	17 DECEMBER GOLD & SILVER AWARD EXCURSION	18	19 <i>Last day of school for students</i>	20 SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY – PUPIL FREE DAY	21

Italic: K-Yr 6 *Normal: Yr 7-12* **Bold: K-Yr 12**

\$10 Sports Shirts

For a very short time, you have the opportunity to purchase a Sports Shirt for only \$10! These shirts are to be worn on Sports Day each week. This is a huge saving and won't be offered again, so make sure you fill out your order form attached and get it into the school ASAP!

PLEASE NOTE: *This offer is for ONE SHIRT per student ONLY.*

For any further information contact Lisa on 0428 995 489.



AQUA-FIT EXERCISE CLASSES

**Tuesday & Thursday Evenings
6.30pm to 7.30pm**

Registration is necessary prior to your first session of the season. Sign on/sign off required for each session. Must sign off at the conclusion of the final warm-down activity before doing any other swimming/exercises.

\$2 pool entry fee per session. Season pass holders are no charge. Sessions are designed to cater for adults and older teens. No primary school age children.

Classes will NOT BE HELD when the air temperature at the Pool is below 28°C at 3pm, the water temperature is below 24°C, or the wind/breeze is cool/cold across the water (especially a southerly). Each, or a combination of all these factors is taken into account at 3pm on the date of the proposed class.

The Pool telephone service 5020 1357 is updated to inform whether the session will proceed.

Dates definitely not available at this stage are December 11th, 13th and 25th, January 10th and February 14th.