



# NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWS FROM BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL

24 NOVEMBER 2014 ISSUE 35

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**Notes to be returned to the school's front office:**

**SLR Aquatic Unit permission note** due now

**VET Metals** due by 25<sup>th</sup> November

**Primary Swimming Program** due by 27<sup>th</sup> November

**Year 7 Excursion to Mildura** due by 5<sup>th</sup> December



## Students of the Week

Week 8, Term 4



Year K/1/2	Michael Gorman
Year 3/4	Vicente Ugarte
Year 5/6	Denym Tebetebe



Education & Communities

# Principal's Perspectives

Welcome all parents and students to Week 8 of Term 4.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Stobon Lloyd who was awarded her 20 Years of Service Certificate this week. On behalf of the Balranald Central School community a sincere "thank you" and congratulations on a job well done. Stobon's dedication to her work and the support she gives our students is second to none. Once again, congratulations and thank you.



Last week, the premier, Mike Baird, and the Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli, announced the next stage of the school Resource Allocation Model (RAM). The RAM is a more equitable, efficient and transparent funding model that underpins our reforms to devolve more decision-making to principals and communities. Schools receive funding and equity loadings based on socio-economic backgrounds, Aboriginal students, remote/isolation and English language proficiency. The new model will allow Balranald Central School to build on the increased decision-making authority to respond to local needs to improve our students' learning outcomes.

Our Year 9 & 10 students returned last week from Myuna Bay. This was an opportunity for students to engage in an assortment of challenging outdoor and social activities. The benefits of the excursion cannot be underestimated as it gave our students the opportunity to develop team work skills in a series of testing places and situations. Please see full report on this excursion on Page 4 and 5 of this Newsletter.

Our HSC students have well and truly completed their examination obligations and are now contemplating the start of the next phase of their lives. On Saturday they had the opportunity to share the evening with their families and the many people who have contributed to their successful completion of their formal school life at their Formal. A great night was had by all. We wish the class of 2014 all the best as they forge their own futures in various ways and in various locations.

Aaron Flagg  
Principal

## Weekly Quiz

Students need to cut out and return their responses to Mr Flagg by the Friday of each week.

Correct responses will be put in a hat and drawn on Monday mornings.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - \$5.00 canteen voucher

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - \$2.50 canteen voucher

### *This week's quiz*



Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Why are the following people important or famous?

1. *Who won the Brownlow Medal in 2014?*

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Who was the most recent Australian to win the men's singles title at Wimbledon?*

\_\_\_\_\_

3. *What is Michael Clarke's current Test batting average?*

\_\_\_\_\_



# School Happenings

## Primary Sport

Our Intensive Swimming program starts in week nine of this term. Students will need to bring their swimming clothes, towel and a pair of thongs (to wear to and from the pool) to school; students will get changed in and out of their swimmers at school. Students with a Season Ticket are covered for pool entry; the cost for those students without is \$2 a day or \$10 if paid upfront on the first day (i.e. you will get a 50% discount). This \$10 will cover the two week program.

## Transition

On Thursday we had students from our 2015 Kindergarten enrolment visit our school. On the same day our Year six students participated in the High School transition program with the highlight being the 'Pinnacle of Success'. It was exciting to see our new students finding out about their school while our senior students found out more about the place they will spend the next part of their learning journey.

## 2015

We are in the process of organising our class structures for 2015. At this point in time we will have Mrs Lockhart, Mrs Harper, Mrs Stevens and Mr Scott all working with our primary classes next year.

## Week Nine Assembly

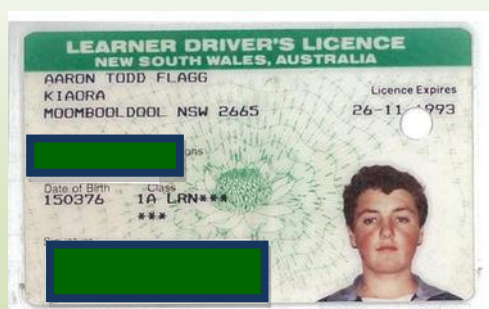
Our final assembly of the year will be hosted by our Year 5/6 class in week 9. This assembly will be held at 2pm on Wednesday, 3 December to accommodate our swimming and circus program. During this assembly our Year 5 students will present their speeches for the role of School Captain in 2015.

## Year 6 Graduation Assembly

In week 11 we will hold our graduation assembly for our Year 6 students. The assembly will be on Tuesday, 16 December at 1.30pm in the school hall. This is a very special celebration of the wonderful learning journey these students have taken so far and they would love to see their family and friends in attendance to join them.

***Is your child planning on driving a motor vehicle to and from school?***

***If Yes – A current parent agreement/permission form must be signed and kept at the school.***



## Canteen Corner

### RED DAY WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

*all the usual treats & goodies...*

Bag of Red Frogs \$1.00

Frog in a Pond Jelly Cup \$1.00

Furry Friend/Chomp/Curly Wurly \$1.00

Bag of Wonka Twists \$1.50



## P&C XMAS RAFFLE

**First Prize - Ipad Mini**

*(valued at over \$300)*

**plus various other prizes!!**

If you would like to sell some tickets in this fantastic raffle and help out the P&C, please call into the front office and pick up a book.

Raffle will be drawn at  
Presentation Night  
on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December

## Junior AECG Meeting

at the School Library  
Period 2 (9.50am - 10.40am)  
2<sup>nd</sup> December  
for all Indigenous Students  
between  
Year 4 and Year 12

## YEAR 9 & 10 MYUNA BAY EXCURSION

What a week!!

18 students and 3 adults boarded the bus and we left for Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Camp on Sunday, 9 November.

It is a long way to Lake Macquarie and 12 ½ hours later we started unloading the trailer. Highlight of the trip was listening to Whitey's music for an hour!!

The week started with the giant swing and the giant swing started with the weak - as we sent Lloyd up to test the strength of the ropes. Lloyd then set the scene with his unbridled joy at surviving. The giant swing lifts you over 20m in the air and when you pull the release rope you then swing (feels like your death) until you run out of screams (didn't happen with Chloe Calleja). Mrs Harper (let's call her 'Braveheart') chose the novel way to ease her fears as she plummeted to earth. She put her voice box on quick fire yelling words like fire truck, no luck, go suck, no luck ... again (I think that's what she was yelling!!)



After lunch we made our way to the boat shed to test out the kayaks. Paddling around the lagoon and then on to a choppy Lake Macquarie was loads of fun. Back to the lagoon again for games time. The idea was simply to see how many could end up in the water. White and Braveheart ended up very wet, very quickly and with some persuasion (and trickery) nearly all students ended up smelling like the stinking lagoon.

Day 1 finished with a night of Ten Pin Bowling where not a great lot happened. Except maybe Lloyd following the ball down the alley.

Day 2 started with rock climbing. All the students found this exhilarating and challenging. Madison (Spider Girl) Jess was a natural and Tommy (Talk too Much) Salau performed well for the lads. What Mrs Braveheart lacked in ability she made up for in her language development.

After lunch we took to the little sailing boats on the smelly lagoon. This is a great activity and all boats stayed afloat for most of the afternoon. Will and Harro were masters, Jordyn and Chloe M sailed well and Braveheart and Calleja got stuck in the reeds. The

most casual sailors were Trent and Dante who couldn't see what the fuss was about.

As the afternoon progressed, capsizing seemed to be a popular pastime, with even the lazy sailors (Shania and Issy) putting it in the drink. Boat Lloyd (Kobe and Murray) produced the most whinging with Kobe being blamed for all their misfortune. There would be more sailing later in the week. Tuesday night was movie night and what a treat was in store, a big coke and popcorn for \$12 ..... unbelievable!!!

We also watched some chick flick (I have forgotten its name) that was the highlight for some of the boys. Kobe was overwhelmed by the story line and Brendan couldn't believe they fitted it into 2 hours. How good was that Whitey? 'Yep', I said.

Wednesday morning started with a mapping/puzzle type activity followed by raft building. Groups were carefully chosen with everyone looking for good knot tiers, good thinkers and then good sailors. Adam, Jack, Will, not Trent or Lloyd, were quickly snapped up and, as it turned out, for good reason.

Team Adam, Trent, Dante, Spider Girl and Braveheart built the most successful raft both in and out of the water.

Team "Talk it up Tom" had Harro, the Militto crew and Tom, and one knew that success was never going to be on their agenda.

Team Calleja contained Jordyn, Will, Kobe and Brendan and they looked like the dark horse of the challenge early on. Then they built their raft. The only time Captain Calleja didn't smile for the week was when their raft sank out in the lagoon.







Team Issy contained Jack, Caitlyn, Kiandra and Shania. They started behind the eight ball when their mapping activity was sabotaged. Jack was the ideas man but everyone chipped in to build something that actually floated. When it was eventually capsized Shania gave the best Titanic impersonation, determined to go down with the ship.

Lloyd helped most of the teams after his own team, Team “Talk it up Salau”, disowned him.

The kids will talk about this activity for years.

The afternoon was spent abseiling down a 100m high wall. (Actually 20m, but looked really high from on top). Freaking out as you step backwards off the ledge was a common feeling and Braveheart’s language on the way down was also becoming common. Overcoming fear is a big part of the camp and this activity certainly did this.

Wednesday evening was spent with Mr Steve Ross on a tour of Newcastle. Most time was spent at Nobby’s Beach with the kids exploring the sand and the sea. It is amazing how wet you get in ankle high water. Kobe and Jordyn enjoyed the water as did Jack and Madison. Following the beach was a trip to Cold Rock where Dante spent \$20 on a litre and a half of ice cream. He finally found something to spend his money on. A quick trip to Macca’s and Wednesday was done.

Thursday started with the high ropes course. This is also very daunting when you are standing on a thin wire or hanging from a harness 10 metres above the ground. Adam, Tom, Kobe, Will, Brendan, Harro and Trent (I think) as well as Jordyn and the Pocket Rocket Shania all managed the highest course. Madison “Spider Girl” also excelled here.

After a brief visit to the Archery arena all focus was on sailing on the other side of the lake. These boats were bigger, with 4 or 5 members of each crew. The wind was ideal and the sailing was brilliant. This, I believe, is the actual highlight of the trip. These boats really rip across the water and all the kids soon worked out how it was done. Madison and Kiandra were positive they saw a shark and the Militto girls were positive that all types of monsters lay in wait beneath the surface of the lake. (Too many Harry Potter movies) Boat Bax had 5 on board and spent some time taking on water. But with Issy steering and Jack on the rope it stayed in an upright position. The smiles on the kids faces says it all with these activities.

After a night of shopping the Myuna Bay trip was over. Up at 5.30am and on the bus by 6.30am was a good effort on the final day. Twelve hours later we were all safely home. Many thanks to Braveheart for her organisation and to Lloyd for his support and fine driving skills in the bus.

Thoughts on the trip:

*“The movie was something else” - Jack*

*“The old man following me around Coles was exciting” – Brendan*

*“Love Rosie was a rippin film” – Kobe*

*“When I lost my wallet. Oh, and spending time with Mum Kate, Dad Lloyd and Uncle Whitey” – thanks Harro*

*“The best think was when Mad’s, Lloyd, Kiandra and I nearly fell off the boat into the sharks and jellyfish” – Chloe C*

*Jordyn’s best moment was when Chloe Calleja started crying and nearly fell when abseiling!*

*Chloe Militto was impressed with Braveheart’s language use. Jordyn tripping in the cinema was also a highlight.*

*Caitlyn and Shania left Issy stranded on the shore when a gust of wind sent them out into the lake without her.*

*Issy and Shania were impressed when Caitlyn fell out of the sailing boat.*

*I thought this was funny too – Maddy was excited to see Lloyd throw himself with the bowling ball down the ten pin alley.*

*Apparently .....’s farting prowess is the stuff of legends also.*

*Dante, Trent, Tom and Adam were impressed with everything!!*

*What a trip.*

Richard White



## TERM FOUR – 2014

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 8 A</b>	<b>24 NOVEMBER</b> <i>Exec meeting</i>	<b>25</b> <b>Bronze &amp; Silver Awards due for processing</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Secondary Sports Day	<b>28</b> <i>Primary Sports Day</i>
<b>Week 9 B</b>	<b>1 DECEMBER</b> <i>Exec meeting</i> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i> <i>Merit Awards due for processing</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i> <i>Primary Assembly @ 2pm</i> <i>Primary 2015 Captain Speeches</i>	<b>4</b> Secondary Sports Day <b>Maths in Trade Olympiad</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>	<b>5</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>
<b>Week 10 A</b>	<b>8 DECEMBER</b> <i>Exec meeting</i> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>	<b>9</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i> <b>K-12 Presentation Night &amp; Art Exhibition</b>	<b>10</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>	<b>11</b> Secondary Sports Day <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>	<b>12</b> <i>Primary Intensive Swimming</i>
<b>Week 11 B</b>	<b>15 DECEMBER</b> <i>Gold &amp; Silver Award Excursion</i>	<b>16</b> <b>Year 6 Graduation @ 1.30pm</b>	<b>17</b> Last day of school for students <i>Primary Class Parties and Pool Day</i>	<b>18</b> <b>SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY – PUPIL FREE DAY</b>	<b>19</b>

## TERM ONE – 2015

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 1 B</b>	<b>26 JANUARY</b> <b>Australia Day</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Week 2 A</b>	<b>2 FEBRUARY</b> <b>SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY</b>	<b>3</b> <b>SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY – PUPIL FREE DAY</b>	<b>4</b> Yr 1 to 12 First Day of School	<b>5</b> Secondary Sports Day	<b>6</b> <i>Kinder First Day of School</i> <i>Primary Sports Day</i>
<b>Week 3 B</b>	<b>9 FEBRUARY</b> <i>Exec meeting</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Secondary Sports Day <b>K-Yr 12 Twilight Swimming Carnival</b>	<b>13</b> <b>No Classes</b> <b>Canteen Closed</b>
<b>Week 4 A</b>	<b>16 FEBRUARY</b> <i>Exec meeting</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Secondary Sports Day	<b>20</b> <i>Primary Sports Day</i>
<b>Week 5 B</b>	<b>23 FEBRUARY</b> <i>Exec meeting</i> <i>Merit Awards due for processing</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Primary Assembly @ 12pm</i>	<b>26</b> Secondary Sports Day	<b>27</b> <i>Primary Sports Day</i>
<b>Week 6 A</b>	<b>2 MARCH</b> <i>Exec meeting</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>School Photos</b>	<b>5</b> Secondary Sports Day	<b>6</b> <i>Primary Sports Day</i>
<b>Week 7 B</b>	<b>9 MARCH</b> <i>Exec meeting</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Secondary Sports Day	<b>13</b> <i>Primary Sports Day</i>

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