



NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWS FROM **BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL**

16 November 2020 **ISSUE 17**

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Absences

If your child is absent you can send an SMS to school number 0419 420 286.



FOR SALE

Fresh farm eggs
\$4

Available at the
front office

Remembrance Day

The BCS community assembled to pay their respects to the fallen. At the end of the ceremony, students were asked to sign a pledge – the words of which are written below.

"I am young and I am worthy, I am brave and I am strong. I can truly make a difference; my path is up to me. This is my commitment – To be the best that I can be."



Education

PRINCIPAL'S PONDERINGS

It is quite a busy period at the moment with yearly exams taking place. Staff are marking examination papers, giving feedback, assessing student grades and writing reports. My thanks to the students who have hopefully prepared well for these exams and will reap what they sow. Thanks also to the staff for their dedication to quality assessment whilst still maintaining high expectations with their teaching.



I had the pleasure of escorting our School Captains to the Remembrance Day ceremony at the town Cenotaph last Wednesday. Seth Paton, Macy Lloyd, Kadison Dalton and Rhiannon Lanteri all spoke very well and were excellent ambassadors for our school. Meanwhile

back at school we were conducting our own Remembrance Day Ceremony in the hall. My thanks to Mrs Matarazzo, Mrs Helgeland and all the staff who contributed to this sombre and important event.

A reminder to all parents and students in secondary that we are in the final window of BEAR (Balranald Engagement & Achievement Register) for 2020. Scores will be posted on Friday 10th December and will be a snapshot of their last 5 weeks of learning, indicating how students have responded to exam feedback and how well they are preparing for 2021.

Congratulations to Ms Chalk and her students for gaining second prize in the “Looking through our

Window” photo competition for Rural and Remote schools. (see photos on page 10 of this Newsletter.) The prize money is to be spent on a project/initiative that involves the student voice (eg. SRC or student representative group) to enhance their learning environment.

Thanks to Ian Backhouse who spent the last week instructing students and staff on the finer points of surfboat rowing on Lake Marimley. Conditions were surf-like on Wednesday afternoon with onshore winds whipping up a good swell, making it interesting for Mr Cutting and the Year 10 crew but making Mr Backhouse feel right at home. Mr Cutting is now making preparations for the school Beach Carnival that was postponed from Term 1. This carnival is being held at Lake Benanee (public space near Euston) on December 15 with only students and staff being able to attend at this stage due to COVID restrictions.



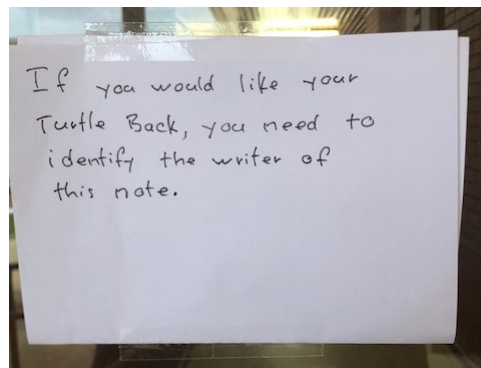
Gus Comí

Hull's Happenings

Year 8 Science

The Year 8 class completed their practical assessment last Monday. They were required to separate 1g of salt from a solution using the evaporation method that they designed. The scientific write up for this assessment is due today via their Google Document. Last Wednesday, someone left a note on our Science Lab door explaining that they had stolen our turtle, Bubbles. Year 8 performed a chromatography experiment, where we separate colours based on their density, and concluded that the ink from Mr Christian's pen matched the ink found on the note. Mr Christian confessed and Bubbles was returned back to his tank.

Year 8 End of Year Science Examination is on today. The students will be assessed on forces, structure and properties of matter and separation. The Separating Mixtures unit will conclude this week and we will move onto the Solar System to finish off our year in Science.



Year 9/10 Science

We have been busy in class finishing off our Chemical Reactions unit. Students have been investigating Acid/Base reactions, metal displacement reactions and the affects acid rain has on our historic buildings and environment. Students completed a practical assessment task last Tuesday, where they created an activity series of metals with acid. Students concluded that Magnesium was the most reactive in hydrochloric acid while Copper was the least reactive.

Year 9/10 End of Year Science Examination is also on today. Students will be assessed on chemical reactions, electricity and dynamic earth units. We will finish our Chemical Reactions unit this week and move onto a practical skills unit and forensic unit to conclude the year.

Year 12 Chemistry

Seth has been busy this fortnight with equilibrium calculations. He performed a depth study, which looked at how we can use colourimetry to calculate concentrations of chemical species. Seth then uses this data to calculate equilibrium constants for specific reactions. Over the next few weeks, we will be looking at specific equilibrium reactions in action.



Balranald Central School P&C
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
BONANZA!!



THERMOMIX

(valued at \$2269)

1st Prize:

OR



\$2000 CASH

YOU GET TO CHOOSE!!!

2nd Prize - \$500 CASH

3rd Prize - \$200 CASH

\$20 per ticket (limited tickets available).

Get in quick!

Drawn via live video on Monday 14th December.

**Tickets available from P&C Committee Members, School Front
Office and Sports Shop.**



We visited the site where Kingsford Smith landed in 1933, taking lucky locals for joy rides. The students gave Mr Comi a brief history lesson. Thank you, Mr Comi, for driving the bus.

Can you believe this man travelled on the wing of the Southern Cross from Broome to Port Hedland? He certainly was desperate to get home!

Year 1/2 have been learning about people and places of historical significance. We enjoyed a visit to Friends of the Southern Cross where we learnt about Sir Charles Kingsford Smith. "Smithy" made the first transpacific flight, taking over 83hrs to complete. A huge thank you to Mr Jacka and Mr Pope for helping us to appreciate our local history.



Please
fasten
your
seatbelts
for take-
off!



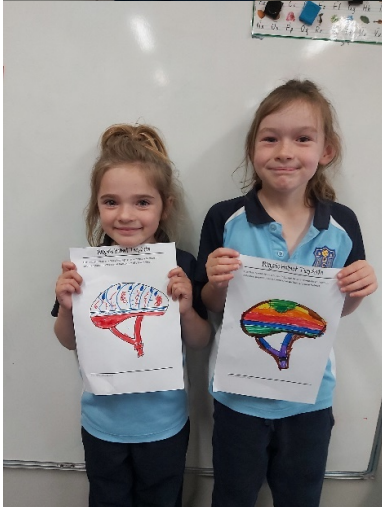
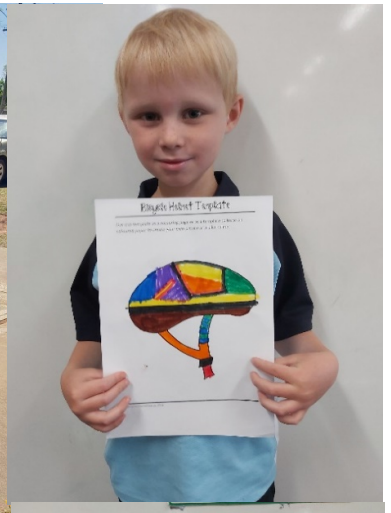
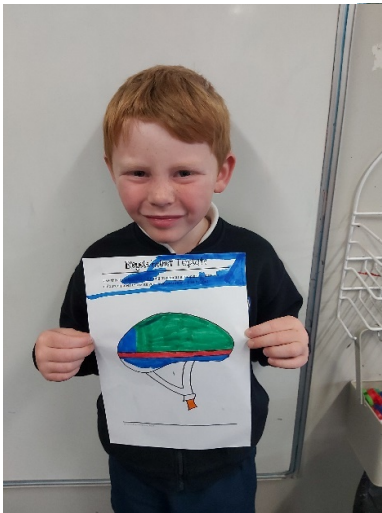
Did you know the Southern Cross was made from fabric and didn't have side windows in the cockpit? It really is amazing how far we've advanced in such a short time.

Mr Spinks' impressive working shearing shed.

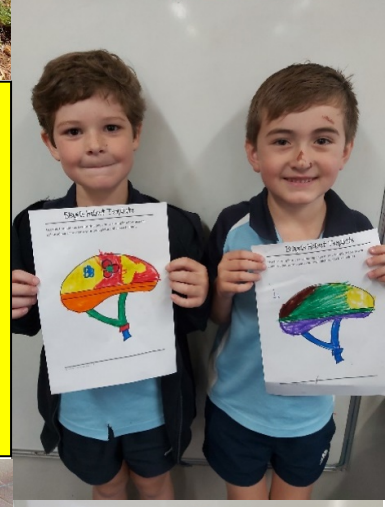


Learning about Balranald's rich farming history.





K/1/2 ENJOYED A VISIT FROM CONSTABLE MCINTYRE LEARNING ABOUT ROAD SAFETY



Students were keen to measure themselves after learning they have to be 145cm before they can sit in the front seat. Sorry kids, there's a bit of growing to do yet!





Sarah Mitchell

Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning

Bronnie Taylor

Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday, 08 November 2020

MENTAL HEALTH HUB FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Students, parents and teachers will now have easily accessible mental health advice and support at their fingertips, with the NSW Government today launching their new online *Mental Health Hub*.

Minister for Education Sarah Mitchell said the website has been developed to ensure advice is available to anyone who needs it, at any time.

“Mental health support for our students has to be varied and accessible for everyone,” Ms Mitchell said.

“We know that overwhelmingly students do their own research before they reach out for help, so we need to make sure that information is accessible and designed for our school communities.

Minister for Mental Health Bronnie Taylor said the *Mental Health Hub* will be a useful toolkit for students, parents and teachers.

“The hub has some really practical resources, from tips on how to start a conversation with someone doing it tough to finding ways to improve their own mental fitness,” Mrs Taylor said.

The website is broken down into three categories; information for parents, information for teachers and information for students.

“The hub has been designed for everyone in the school community, I encourage anyone who has questions, stressed or wants to know how to support people in their lives,” Ms Mitchell said.

The site can be accessed by teachers, parents and students across every school sector, including independent and catholic schools, and has had input from leading mental health advocacy groups, including ReachOut, headspace, Kids Helpline and Beyond Blue.

The Mental Health Hub: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/counselling-and-psychology-services>



Planning,
Industry &
Environment



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTIVE PRIVATE DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLIES ON RURAL AND REMOTE PROPERTIES

Balranald Shire Council is undertaking a survey of water adequacy and quality for the *Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Project* funded by the NSW Department of Local Government and assisted by NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. This is being done in order to:

- help to ensure that everyone can have adequate and safe household water supplies
- better appreciate the water supply problems being confronted by residents in the Shire living on rural properties or using rainwater tanks
- identify any possible health risks that may be present due to the quality of the water that is being used

Council are inviting people on rural and remote properties in the Shire who are dependent on private sources of water for their household use to participate in this collaboration. Private sources include surface water from farm dams or creeks or rivers, ground water from deep or shallow bores, and rainwater tanks that capture runoff from roofs.

People in Balranald and Euston who have rainwater tanks for household use (eg drinking, cooking, showers, bathing and children's play) are also invited to participate in the project by completing the survey.

Here is the web address (url) for the survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DGDQWVB> (You may need to cut and paste this into your web browser).

Or use the following QR Code through your mobile phone.



We would like to have your completed questionnaire by Friday the 30 October.

Please encourage others to complete the survey.

For further information please contact:

Peter Waterman, Adjunct Professor, Institute for Land Water and Society, Charles Stuart University

Email: pw.ems@bigpond.net.au

Mobile: 0418 628 431

Winning photos from the 'Looking through our window' photo competition

