



the BONNELLS BAY Newsletter

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Learning Alliance

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PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

Term 4 Week 5

Stronger Smarter

Last week I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to work closely with Principals and community members from across both East and West Lake Macquarie education networks at the Stronger Smarter leadership conference. Throughout the week, there was a strong focus on developing and maintaining High Expectation Relationships.

As a basic precept, everyone has the right to feel safe, to be treated with fairness, to be valued and feel accepted for who they are. But understanding high expectation relationships is about more than that. As we have grown up in society we unconsciously take on board a variety of stereotypes. These can include stereotypes about indigenous people - 'they're lazy'; about girls - 'they're no good at maths'; about boys - 'they're aggressive'; or about poor people - 'they just don't want to work'. Unfortunately, unconscious belief in these stereotypes can lead to us treating people differently. We lower our expectations of students and of each other.

Stronger Smarter says, "No, we're not going to accept that." Instead we need to have high expectations of each other. We need to expect our Aboriginal students to work hard and get good grades, our girls to solve problems in maths, our boys to be kind and respectful and students from all families to have aspirations. We need to expect that ALL our students will be Strong and Smart.

Stronger Smarter is based on the work of Dr Chris Sarra who started the Stronger Smarter Institute after his time serving as principal of Cherbourg State School in QLD. He turned the school around by supporting the mostly indigenous students to believe that they could be Strong and Smart and that they didn't have to behave according to negative stereotypes.

At Bonnells Bay PS we have been working with the AECG and the other schools within WSLA to develop cultural programs for our students and to develop staff competency in understanding the cultures of our Aboriginal students. We will continue to work with community to support indigenous students in being Strong, Smart and successful.

Kindergarten 2017 Orientation Sessions

The final of 5 orientation sessions was held for our incoming Kindergarten students today. A big thank you to Kristy Bubendey who has led this process and to the Kindergarten teachers who have given her their support. It has been lovely to see this new group of students feeling so welcome and comfortable in our classrooms. Thanks also to the Year 5 helpers who have been terrific in supporting both their buddies and the teachers in making these orientation sessions a success.

Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition

This prestigious competition is open to Year 5 and 6 students from across the Hunter each year. This year we had 60 students enter the competition. We had many students receive either a merit or distinction award. A special mention to Cassie S who received a High Distinction. Congratulations to all the students that participated.

KK & KD Renovation

Two of our Kindergarten classes have had quite a bit of upheaval this week as their rooms have been repainted. KK was completed yesterday and is looking fabulous! KD is underway and the work should be completed within a week. The gutters on the building have also been replaced. In the meantime, the two classes are working out of the library. The students have done a great job of adjusting to these changes and I appreciate the flexibility shown by the teachers as they work out of alternative spaces.



These renovations are a part of the DoE's planned maintenance schedule.

Enrolments

Please let the office know if you are definitely leaving our school at the end of this year, as this has a huge impact on our class formation for the new year. We are currently very close to 18 classes for 2017 but 3 or 4 students leaving or arriving may affect how many classes we form.

If you are aware of anyone moving in to the area, then please encourage them to contact us ASAP so that we can begin the enrolment process and ensure that they are counted in our numbers.

Karin Hird
Principal

2016 DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

November

Friday 11 th	Mufti/Silly Sock Day Remembrance Day
Monday 14 th	Infants Assembly 2.30pm
Tuesday 15 th	P&C Meeting 6pm
Thursday 17 th	Book Fair and Dress Up Parade
Monday 21 st	Primary Assembly 2.30pm
Wednesday 23 rd	P&C Disco
Monday 28 th	Infants Assembly 2.30pm

December

Wednesday 7 th	School Performance
Wednesday 14 th	Presentation Day Year 6 Farewell
Friday 16 th	Last Day of Term 4

Notes Home This Week

Community Partners

Canteen Roster – Term 4 Week 6

Monday 31 st Oct	Kylie W, Gabriela V
Tuesday 1 st Nov	Vicki M
Wednesday 2 nd Nov	Natalie P, Natalie M, Leeann H
Thursday 3 rd Nov	Terri K, Mary W
Friday 4 th Nov	Rebecca K, Gabriela V

Library News

Our Scholastic Book Fair and Dress Up Parade is only a week away! The students will preview the fair on Wednesday 16th November. They will bring home a wish list of the things they might like at the fair. The fair will open for sales at 9am on Thursday 17th November. Our dress up parade also happens on Thursday. Students are asked to follow the theme 'Australia: Story Country'. Think anything Australian! The parade will commence at 10.15am on the hard court behind the hall. Following the

parade parents are invited to stay and have a picnic lunch with their children. The fair will continue to be open for sales during lunch and will close at 12.20pm. I am looking forward to seeing all the students in their costumes and want to thank all the parents and caregivers for the effort they go to, it is much appreciated.

The library is beginning its transition to a new database system. The official launch is not until the end of February next year. There will be many great features in the new system that the students will be able to access from home. This is a busy time ahead!

There will only be a few more weeks of borrowing left in this term. Please return all over due library books ASAP. All books need to be returned, so the library is in order ready to start fresh in 2017.

'Reading is my favourite sport' Anonymous

Happy reading ☺ Mrs Wood

MUFTI/Silly Socks Day

This Friday, 11th November, we will be holding a mufti/silly socks day to raise money for Ronald McDonald House Charities. RMHC do a wonderful job in supporting families with sick children while they are in hospital. They also provide educational support for school-aged children who need prolonged stays in hospital. Please support the day by bringing along a gold coin donation and wearing sun-smart and school appropriate out of uniform clothes and your silly socks pulled up high. It should be a fun day for a great cause.

Bonnells Bay Summer Spectacular

The Bonnells Bay Summer Spectacular will be on Wednesday 7th December. Get ready for an afternoon of amazing summer songs and performances from our talented students. Keep an eye out for the flyer coming home this week with more details.

P&C News

Major Raffle

Congratulations to Sharni P from 1L who won the 1st early bird prize. I will be drawing the next early bird prize on Thursday, so if you returned your sold raffle tickets by last Friday, you will be in the draw to win a family pass to SuperStrike Bowling, Warners Bay. Please return all raffle books whether they are sold or not by this Friday 11th November.

Please **DO NOT** throw your raffle books out. I need every book returned so the tickets are all accounted for. If you can't sell the book or can only sell a few tickets, please return the book to the office.

AGM

The AGM is this Tuesday, commencing at 6pm in the staffroom. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the P&C or would like to be a part of the committee please come along. We are in need of volunteers to join the committee. We hope to see some new faces. The November meeting will follow the AGM.

Upcoming Events

Friday November 11 – Raffle tickets to be returned
Tuesday November 15 – P&C AGM
Saturday November 19 – Tuggerah Shopping Centre (raffle ticket selling)
Wednesday November 23 – Disco

Have a great week.
Therese Blair
P&C President

Ethics

Special Offer for Nov/Dec: Free training! Hurry up and get your name down for free training to become an ethics teacher. We offer a unique training program and a fully scripted lesson base – this means that you don't need a teaching or philosophy background to become one of our teachers. So far Bonnells Bay PS has 3 volunteers booked in to take advantage of this great offer. To join them apply online at primaryethics.com.au or contact Donna on 0400 396 088

This week in ethics classes stage 3 will be starting a new topic: Should we take circumstances into account? This topic encourages students to consider the idea that when making moral judgments it is important to take circumstances into account.

To learn more about our curriculum, go to primaryethics.com.au.

Donna Foster Co-ordinator

NSW RFS Santa Run –10th and 11th December

Santa and his elves are once again heading to the Morisset Peninsula! To help him get around, Peninsula Rural Fire brigade will be taking Santa around the Morisset Peninsula on his sleigh escorted by some fire trucks! Santa's tour of the Morisset Peninsula will be on the weekend of 10th and 11th December. Stay tuned for more details in the next few weeks; however, we are aiming to cover Yarrawonga Park to Brightwaters via Balcolyn and Mirrabooka on Saturday, with Bonnells Bay via Morisset Park on the Sunday. You can also find out updates on brigade activities, fire messages and Santa's location at <https://www.facebook.com/PeninsulaRFS/>.

Please join us with your children to celebrate Santa's travels around the Peninsula.

Regards

Santa and his elves at Peninsula Rural Fire Brigade

Bonnells Bay Family Day Care

We have 2 vacancies for 2017 on a Tuesday.

- All government fee subsidies available
- Small group of children
- Pre-school teacher for 20 years.
- Registered with Lake Macquarie Family Day Care
- Please call 0401 573 567 for a viewing.

SAVE THE DATE Friday 2 December 2016 Get involved and be part of International Day of People with Disability



10am to 2pm

at

Speers Point Park

Free activities including
BBQ lunch

For more information 4921 0430



Westlakes Domestic Violence Committee

White Ribbon Morning Tea

Monday 21 November
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James street, Toronto

Cost \$10 payable at the door
RSVP: westlakesdvc@gmail.com

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