Welcome to week 5!

Goodness me how this term is flying by!

Last week we had a lovely week here at Belltrees with the celebration of Grandparents Day, and school photos. Tuesday saw grandparents from far and wide join their grandchildren at school for a lovely morning tea, followed by some great interactive activities. We started with a great bite to eat and then we shared a fantastic book called ‘My Grandpa is a Champion’! Students then had the opportunity to read to their grandparents from a selection of books. The looks on the faces of our grandparents was priceless when they were listening to the children read.

Our special guests looked through the classroom and had a sneak peak at the students work and then we headed outside for some old fashioned fun! Everyone was involved in hopscotch, marbles, ‘knock em down’ and elastics. It was great to see all the grandparents playing the games and hearing the stories of when they played it at school.

The children had spent some time writing special letters and making cards for their grandparents and at the end of the day it was time for the grandparents to return the favour. They all wrote some lovely messages in chalk to their grandchildren and these messages will then go in their year book at the end of 2014.

What a fantastic morning it was and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all grandparents for coming to celebrate this special day with our pupils.

Darcy and Mr Taylor (Top)
Dorry, Jess and Skye (Bottom)
Our Grandparents Day – 28th October, 2014

Lachlan and Mr & Mrs Plowman

Mrs MacCallum & Jock

MacCallum & Maxwell families looking through the school work!

The Taylor family playing elastics!

Marbles under the tree!

The Maxwell family (they had an early Grandparents Day)
Kinder Orientation:
Emma has today finished her third week of Kindergarten Orientation, and we are loving having her here at Belltrees! She has been learning about all routines and rules of school life and doing some ‘real school work’. Emma has been enjoying the classroom and playground interactions and we hope this Orientation will prepare her well for her start to school in 2015!

Achoo, Achoo, Achoo!

Even through the weather is warming up and we are spending time in the pool, river or under the sprinkler, we are still coughing, sneezing and got runny noses. If each family could please send in two boxes of tissues that may see us through until the end of the school year. Thank you!

Belltrees P & C Horse Sports

This Friday the Belltrees P & C are hosting the Horse Sports. They have children coming from far and wide to participate in this event and we would ask families if they could support the P & C with donations of cakes/slices/bisuits for the day. If these could be sent to school on Thursday that would be great!

The P & C have recently purchased a fantastic shade sail for the playground area, and a new reading benchmark kit for the classroom. Staff and students thank them for their contributions to our small school.

School Planning Day

Last Thursday, Principals across the Upper Hunter and New England areas came together for a Professional Development Day in Scone. We learnt all about the new school panning tool and how to write the 2015-2017 school plan. The new school plan involves a large amount of community and parent consultation. This is something that I would like to achieve and so I ask that parents and community members spend a few moments and have a think about the strategic directions you would like to head in for the school. We welcome all comments and suggestions. A meeting will be held in the coming weeks at a date and time to be advised.

Dates for Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th Nov 2014</td>
<td>Ellerston Fun Day &amp; Miss Hill beginning her Practicum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th Nov 2014</td>
<td>Belltrees P &amp; C Horse Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th-21st Nov</td>
<td>Sydney Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Nov 2014</td>
<td>Presentation Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Dec 2014</td>
<td>Community Carols Night</td>
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<td>17th Dec 2014</td>
<td>Last Day Term 4</td>
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Have a lovely week everyone, stay safe and be kind to each other!

Johanna Teague