Principal’s Message

Empathy is...
seeing with the eyes of another.
listening with the ears of another.
and feeling with the heart of another.

Meeting Correction and Apologies
An error was made in the last newsletter, and Mrs Jones would like to sincerely apologise for this.

The notice should have stated:
“All interested parents and community members are warmly invited to attend a meeting in the school library on Monday, 31st March, commencing at 6.00p.m.
At this meeting, the Director of Schools, Mr Young, and our principal, Mrs Jones, will be sharing information about school programs, student goals and future teacher and learning opportunities.”

For further information, please contact the school office on 65461148.

Weekly Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 17</td>
<td>Homework sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rainforest challenge commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 18</td>
<td>Life Education Van visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 19</td>
<td>Library books due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Meeting 3.15 -4.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 21</td>
<td>Student banking, sport and music, homework returned</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 24</td>
<td>Homework sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 26</td>
<td>Library books due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visit from Mr Young, Director of Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 28</td>
<td>Student banking, sport and music, homework returned</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zone Cross Country trials</td>
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</tbody>
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Life Education Van
Next Tuesday is shaping up to be an exciting and educationally inspiring day. Staff and children from Ellerston and Rouche Public Schools will be joining us for a non-stop day of Healthy Harold, orienteering and bicycle safety and riding skills.

Thanks to all families for your prompt return of permission notes and lunch orders – it has been a great help to the ladies in the office!

Please remember that children are to wear sports uniform on Tuesday, and should bring along their own bicycle helmet if they have one. Helmets will be provided to those children who do not have their own. Please note that bicycles will be provided by the bike educators.
Student of the Week
Congratualtions to Jessica Cameron who is our Week 7 “Student of the Week”.
Jessica, in Year 1, has been working incredibly hard to improve her handwriting and daily journal entries. She is making sure that she gives her best every single day, and is always smiling and kind.
Jessica has settled in to Belltrees Public School very well, and is a proud and happy student – fantastic work!

Stewart House
Please find attached a donation envelope enclosed with this newsletter. Stewart House provides respite for needy children in NSW public schools, and allows the children to have a holiday, whilst at the same time receiving health and medical checks.
This facility is completely funded by donations from teaching staff and school communities. Please offer your support by placing your small change into this envelope and returning to school by the date marked on the envelope.
Your contribution, no matter how large or small, will make a difference to children throughout the state.

Scone Horse Trials – VIP Catering
The Belltrees P&C committee members would like to sincerely thank parents and community members who generously cooked quiches, cakes and slices and provided other donations for the Horse Trials held last weekend. We had fantastic feedback from the VIPs and judges on the quality of the food.
A huge thanks to those who assisted with their time setting up and helping out over the weekend. It was greatly appreciated and made our job a lot easier.
We also held a very successful raffle, raising $395. Winners of the raffle were:

1st – S. White
2nd – A. Davies
3rd – R. Brandt

Many thanks to Upper Hunter Fire Protection, Landmark Townsend and Muswellbrook Steel Supplies for their generous donations and to all those who purchased tickets.

Belltrees P&C committee
Health and Dietary Conditions

Thanks to the families who have updated their child’s medical and health records since last week’s newsletter request. We are now in the process of retyping individual health care plans for these children, and will ensure that staff are provided with the necessary information to keep your child safe and happy!

2014 School Ambulance Cover

Since 2012, the Department has negotiated an agreement with the NSW Ambulance Service to commence an annual licensing arrangement for school student ambulance cover for all public schools in NSW. Arrangements for the scheme have now been confirmed for the 2014 school year.

The Ambulance Cover Scheme provides assurance that if a student has an accident or falls ill whilst at school or on an organised school excursion or activity, and requires the ambulance service, the cost will be met through the scheme.

Emergency and Smartphone App

In a joint initiative, Commonwealth and NSW emergency services portfolios recently launched the Emergency smartphone application. The application is free and available to download on all Apple and Android smartphones.

When activated, the Emergency+ application provides users with their GPS reference, which can then be reported to an emergency call taker to pinpoint the physical location where the services are required.

More than 65 per cent of calls to 000 are made from mobile phones. Sometimes mobile phone users are not aware of their physical location – making it difficult for emergency call operators to dispatch emergency services.

The application assists callers to more accurately inform emergency operators of their location using the smartphone’s GPS capability to support the timely provision of services.

The application includes the numbers for Triple Zero (000), the Police Assistance Line (131444), the State Emergency Service (132500), the National Relay Service and Health Direct Australia (1800 022 222).

For information on how to download the Emergency+ application, a training video and other further information, please access the following Australian Government website: