Welcome to week 8, and to the wonderful rain!

Students have had a much quieter week this week. They have enjoyed learning about new and interesting things and having a few challenges sent their way. The students this week will be challenged with some problem solving in mathematics. We are exploring the use of speech bubbles in literacy, along with a rich focus on adjectives and imaginative writing. We are continuing on our Roald Dahl adventure with Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and the children are excited that we will be participating in a world event on the b’day of the famous author on September 15th. We will join in with others from around the world to celebrate Roald Dahl and the 50 year anniversary of Charlie Bucket and Willy Wonka. The Belltrees students will be participating in a simultaneous sing along of a famous Wonka song ‘Pure Imagination’. They will see parts of the Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Musical held in London’s Theatre Royal Drury Lane. It will be scrumpdiddleumptious!

What’s coming up?
Tomorrow we will be having an open morning tea here at Belltrees at 11am. Cupcakes for a Cure is a wonderful fundraising organisation raising money for Kids with Cancer. So come along

We are also celebrating SASS staff week and the wonderful work our ladies and gents do in our public schools. Our SASS staff are dedicated to ensuring the school runs smoothly, Thank you to Liz and Michelle, Dorry and John for all their hard work in our small school!

On Thursday four children will be participating at the Elite Bull Sale. The students will be runners when people bid and we know they will represent the school with pride and respect. Parents please return the permission notes to school tomorrow- Wednesday.

Request from the P & C:
P & C are catering for Thursday’s Bull Sale and would like some donations of cakes/slices, etc to sell on the day. Any donations can be left at the school and will be collected on Thursday morning. Thank you!

Request from Mrs Teague:
Tomorrow being Cupcakes for a Cure could each family please donate 6-10 iced cupcakes and send to school. Cupcakes will be sold for 50c each. Thank you!

Have a great week everyone!
Musica Viva:
Next Wednesday 10th September, we will be travelling to Rouchel P.S for the last of our Musica Viva experiences this year. We will be treated to a fantastic Indonesian musical display and the children will be very involved.
If you could please sign the attached permission slip and return it to school by Monday 8th September noting if you are able to assist with transport as well. Many thanks!

Father’s Day
This special day of the year, the first Sunday in September has come around again. I would like to wish all the fathers and grandfathers from our school community a wonderful father’s day and I hope you enjoy your special day with your children and grandchildren.

When is it the right time?
After the discussion of this week surrounding shifting the starting age of children beginning school to 5 ½. I thought I might put this article in, just to remind parents, children are all different, they all have their unique qualities and idiosyncrasies. They all learn at different rates and meet milestones at different ages. At one time or another, most parents wonder how their child is stacking up in school. Part of answering that is knowing when kids should learn to read, write, and do different kinds of math?

Pat Wolfe, EdD, education consultant, former teacher, and author of Building the Reading Brain, says you can tell by kindergarten-age whether children are likely to have trouble with reading. "Can they hear rhyming words? Do they know that squiggles on a page stand for sounds when they talk?" These are key pre-reading skills that lay the foundation for reading.

Often children start reading in the first grade. During that school year, watch for these signs of reading difficulty:

- confusing letters
- connecting the wrong sounds with letters

Remember
1st September: SASS Staff Week
3rd September: Cupcakes for a Cure 11am
10th September: Musica Viva at Rouchel PS
9th October: Little Mermaid Civic Theatre
22nd October: Public Speaking Competition.
25th October: Beef Bonanza
7th November: Belltrees Horse Sports
28th November: Presentation Night

Daphne Carter Memorial Tennis Tournament at Woolooma held on Saturday 20th September. Please see attached invitation.

Please find attached an invitation for a NSW Waratah’s rugby camp held in Tamworth on September 25th. With the recent success of the NSW team it would be a great opportunity to learn some skills from the best!
• skipping words, not remembering words, or frequently guessing at unknown words, rather than sounding them out

If your child is having trouble reading by the end of first grade, begin by talking with her teacher to find ways to resolve the problem.

Some suggested age specific skills.

Ages 4-5: learning pre-reading skills

Kids learn to:

• substitute words in rhyming patterns
• write some letters
• pronounce simple words
• develop vocabulary

Ages 6-10: learning to read

Kids learn to:

• read simple books by mid-first grade and know about 100 common words
• understand that letters represent sounds, which form words, by mid-first grade
• enjoy a variety of types of stories and talk about characters, settings and events
• remember the names and sounds of all letters and recognize upper- and lowercase by second grade
• read independently and fluently by third grade
• sound out unfamiliar words when reading

Ages 11-13: "reading to learn"

Kids learn to:

• read to learn about their hobbies and other interests and to study for school
• comprehend more fully what they've read
• read fiction, including chapter books, and nonfiction, including magazines and newspapers.

There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island.” — Walt Disney

So please, oh PLEASE, we beg, we pray, Go throw your TV set away, And in its place you can install, A lovely bookshelf on the wall.” — Roald Dahl, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory