Welcome to week 6. The term is certainly flying by.

**Principals Message**

The children have been in full swing practicing for the upcoming Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Eisteddfod. The Belltrees students will be competing in the small schools section on Thursday morning starting at 9:30am. We will be performing an Aussie classic; Waltzing Matilda but it will be performed with a twist. Last years students learnt sign language for a few songs with Mrs Cap and they will be performing the song with vocals and sign. It has been a fantastic experience for last years students to teach our 8 new students the song in sign.

If you are in Muswellbrook on Thursday and are looking for some quality student vocal performances come along to the eisteddfod at St James Hall, Skelletar Stock Route, Muswellbrook and support our school. Entry is $3.00 for adults. Children are free. We hope to see you there!

**NAPLAN** has now finished for another year. The students were happy to finish the tests and all hope the practice tests and preparation has paid off. Well done to our year three and five students for the efforts they put into these assessment tasks. Results will be sent to parents and the school later on in the year.

**Belltrees Sports** – This exciting annual event is coming up again. 12th June is the date to add to the diary. We will have a similar program to last year. Parents have received the permission notes and medical notes. It is essential we have these notes on file so in the event of an emergency the teachers follow the correct procedures. If your child is in the 8 yrs and above section and wishes to participate in the high jump and long jump you must sign a separate note. (It was attached in the group of notes sent home)

This is always a wonderful community and social sporting event and we thank the White family for again allowing the small schools to host the event at Belltrees cricket ground. Our Belltrees parents will be off the hook this year with Blandford families in charge of cooking the BBQ. We will still have our rostered time in the canteen and need some helpers for the preparing of the sports grounds on the 11th at 11am.
Tuckshop: Red day - Thursday 4th June, 2015. Menu to come next week. We can have two Red days per term in accordance with the Healthy Canteen guidelines. This will be the first one for term 2!

PDHPE: Mrs Scott has asked me to inform parents that for the remainder of term 2 our PDHPE unit of work will cover topics to do with child protection. They will discuss key points such as safe and unsafe touching, yes and no feelings and people you can trust. This is a challenging unit, however it is compulsory in all DEC state schools. If your child has any issues, questions or concerns about the unit, please don’t hesitate to come and see either Mrs Scott or myself. Thank you!

Hunter Inter Schools Primary Public Speaking Competition - 2015
Our small school has been invited to participate in this wonderful speaking event later on 12th August. This competition is open to all Primary aged children from Kindergarten to year 6, in the Hunter Zone. I am able to nominate 2 students from each stage. If your child is interested in this great competition please let me know. I have to put our entries in by the 3rd June. Topic is free choice and if selected I will provide further details to those students. It is held at Singleton Heights Public School.

Mr Young Visit - Last week we had a visit from Mr Young. He came to Belltrees for a termly catch up with myself and to tell the students a new story. He was very impressed with our new data walls we have placed in our classroom for reading and spelling. The children have a new spelling bee and reading bug and when their reading levels or spelling improves their avatar moves up the hives, or stack of books. If you are interested in what is going on with our data walls we would love for you to come and have a look!

Pet Care - The students were treated to a visit from Pet care, a traveling road show teaching children the importance about safe dog handling and pet care. Ghost and Jackie came along and shared in an information session with the children.

Commemorative Garden - Our ANZAC Commemorative Garden is well under way I have planted the ANZAC Rosemary and the ANZAC Bottlebrush. We are waiting for the rest of our plants to arrive before we hold a special opening presentation and morning tea. We have entered an ANZAC Commemoration Competition with our garden as the entry. Here’s hoping we may be recognised for our efforts!
ANZAC Commemorative Garden so far........