Welcome to week 4!

What spectacular weather we have had over the weekend. I hope that everyone was able to get outside and enjoy the sunshine. I hope this is how it continues.

Here at Belltrees we had a very busy Education Week last week. We had poem practice, zone practice, choir practice and public speaking practice. Who says small schools miss out?????

We celebrated Education Week and our ‘local heroes’ with a wonderful garden opening on Thursday morning. Firstly thank you to the parents, community members and special guests who came along and shared in this special event with our students. Students and visitors listened intently as our special guest Mr Harry Willey, Scone Historian spoke about the ‘local heroes’ from Belltrees who went away to fight in WW1. He spoke of their bravery and the battles they were in. His address was very interesting and informative and certainly gave an insight into the lives of these local lads.

Our second guest speaker, Mr George Clementson, President, Scone RSL Sub Branch spoke about the Scone teenagers who this year made the trip to Gallipoli and their solemn recounts of their visit. He recalled through their own stories the trip over and the thoughts running through their heads. The voyage through the seas and the landing at the Gallipoli Peninsula. I know the two addresses certainly moved me and it produced wonderful discussion with the children afterwards.

The students performed ‘A Tribute to the ANZAC’ beautifully and with such pride and respect. It was simply outstanding. Well done Belltrees students!

Our ANZAC Commemorative Garden was opened and we all enjoyed a lovely morning tea. Thank you to parents who provided a plate to share.

Below are some photos from the event.
Education week also saw the Belltrees students participate in the Wollemi Education Week Assembly held at Scone High School. The students performed in the small schools choir, singing Waltzing Matilda in sign. They stood and sang so proudly and looked amazing. I look forward to seeing what we can do with the small schools choir in the future.

Congratulations to our award winners on the night as well.
Student award: Emily Taylor
Non Teaching award: Doreen Roots
Community award: Richard Carter
Teaching award: Johanna Teague
Thank you to parents for transporting your children to this wonderful celebration of public education.
A few brief pieces.....

Parking - Due to student safety, it is a requirement that cars reverse park into the car park if leaving their car. They can park in the driveway only if dropping off, or picking up. Please refrain from parking there and exiting your car. If no parks are available you may park on the lawn. Thank you for helping to keep our students safe.

Flashing lights - Another effort to keep our precious people safe is the NSW Roads and Maritime Services have installed the 40km flashing signs outside the school. Please remember to slow down to 40km/hour during these school periods. Thank you

Book Week is on its way this year. The Belltrees Book Fair is coming up in week 7. Again we will be participating in a book week parade, dress up and luncheon. The theme for this year is ‘Under the Sea’, Explore an ocean of books. So put your thinking caps on and talk with your children about what they may like to dress up in. It is always such a great day.

Pesky Critters - Tis the season to look out for the nasty nits... Please check your child/children’s hair regularly and treat if necessary. Please ensure you inform the school if your child has had any indication of head lice and we will put out reminders to all parents and help rid the lice from school. Thank you for your support.

Public Speaking - The day has arrived. The Small Schools Public Speaking Competition kicks off tomorrow. The competition begins at 9:30am with the Infants children in the office and the Primary students in the classroom. Please ensure your child/children have lots of practice working on the 3 P’s we have left, (Prepare, we have already done), Pander, Posture and Practice. Encourage them to work on their eye contact, tone and expression. We are all very excited about the competition and look forward to welcoming Ellerston, Blandford and Murrurundi students. Please remember morning tea and a water bottle, and lunch if you have not ordered a lunch pack. We also welcome audience members, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends, are all welcome to attend and support the children.

There will be no heat ups tomorrow.

Blandford Horse Sports - Has been cancelled indefinitely. The P & C committee apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Singleton public speaking - Next Wednesday and Thursday there will be a number of our students representing the school at the Zone Inter Schools Public Speaking Competition. Jessica, Skye, Eddie, Emily, Hayden, Lachlan and Emma we wish you all the very best. Permission notes will be sent home on Wednesday.

Have a great week everyone!

Johanna Teague
Relieving Principal.