Principal’s News
Welcome to our first edition of our revamped weekly newsletter. Our new look newsletter aims to streamline information in a succinct and easy to read way. I hope you enjoy our new format.

After a spate of bomb threats occurring throughout NSW and around Australian schools, yesterday, Bolwarra P.S became a victim of these threats. A note was sent home yesterday detailing the events. We followed our school evacuation procedures and Department of Education guidelines and our evacuation was conducted in a calm and orderly fashion. I would like to thank the excellent staff of our school for their professionalism and grace under pressure and also our wonderful students who were brave and resilient in a very out of the ordinary day. Thank you to our parents and our community for your support and understanding throughout this event.

Maitland Learning Community Leaders Days
Last Thursday, 12 students leaders accompanied me and Ms. Dimmock to MLC Leadership Day at Tenambit P.S. Students listened to the inspirational stories of Mr Lorin Nicholson, the first vision impaired man to cycle across Australia with his brother who is also vision impaired. I have included the link to a documentary of their trip if you are interested. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5OJBs7paul

Lorin spoke of leadership traits such as persistence and resilience, demonstrated what it was like to be vision impaired and inspired us by playing beautiful music on his guitar. The leaders then participated in group activities. It was an inspirational and wonderful learning experience for all involved.

Student Achievements
Congratulations to our team of swimmers who represented our school at the Zone Carnival on Tuesday. Well done to the following students who have been selected to compete in the Hunter Regional Swimming Carnival: Boys Senior Relay team - Ollie, Fletcher, Isaac and Callan, Senior Girls Relay team - Georgia, Hallie, Laila and Zoe. Hallie, Ollie and Charlee from Year 4 will all be competing in individual events too. Best of luck for next week, everyone!

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29th February</td>
<td>Hunter Girls Cricket Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd March</td>
<td>Hunter PSSA Swimming- Maitland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4th March</td>
<td>Hunter Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th March</td>
<td>Hunter AFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th March</td>
<td>PLP BBQ – 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18th March</td>
<td>Zone Netball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd March</td>
<td>Combined Scripture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>Zone Winter Trials - Hockey and Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31st March</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1st April</td>
<td>Hunter PSSA Netball - Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8th April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Working with Children Check
Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who have been coming into the school to assist with a myriad of activities, lovely to see many new and familiar faces. Before you volunteer for an activity, can you please call in at the office to ensure that you have the correct paperwork. We do not want to deter any helpers but this is a mandatory requirement for all Department of Education Schools as it helps us to keep all of our students safe. The Working with Children Check can be done on-line, this one lasts for five years and can be used in any school, anywhere in the state. Please see the information at back of the newsletter for more details.

Thank you for your continued support.
Best regards,
Ashleigh Blayden

School Website  www.bolwarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Parents Online Payments (POP) on school website - “$ Make a payment” tab (school payments only not P&C)
P&C Website  www.bolwarrapandc.wordpress.com
Online Uniform and Lunch Orders  www.flexischools.com.au
School Facebook Address  www.facebook.com/BolwarraPublicSchool
Office News

Parent Online Payments (POP) has come to Bolwarra Public School. For basic information, see at the end of this newsletter. More detailed information is available on the school website and a hard copy will be available at the office.

OPAL Card
The OPAL Card is replacing bus passes from Term 1 2016. Many students with a current bus pass won’t need to reapply, as a new pass will be issued automatically. However, you will need to complete an application form if:
• Applying for a bus pass for the first time
• Enrolling in Kindergarten
• Progressing from Year 2 to Year 3
• Progressing from Year 6 to Year 7
• Changing name, school and/or address
• Requesting a new additional pass as a result of a shared parental responsibility situation
For further information, see the fact sheet at the end of the newsletter.

Bolwarra Public School now has Skoolbag!
Skoolbag is a great ‘school-to-parent-communication’. Download the FREE Skoolbag App on your smartphone through the iTunes App Store or Google Play.

K – 6 News

Environmental News
The new Environmental leaders are settling in to their positions well and carrying out their duties of recycling for the school. In the holidays we lost five of our chooks, we now have only two left who are enjoying their spacious surrounds. Due to the extreme hot weather we have been unable to participate in many of our normal activities. We are still collecting cans and ringpulls etc.

Talent Quest
The Bolwarra Talent Quest is on again! Year 6 will run the Talent Quest as their Student Council Fundraiser. This week (Week 5) students were able to sign up to showcase their talents. Performances will commence next week (Week 6).
Students K-6 will be able to view the great talent as audience members during Lunch 1. Entry to watch the Talent Quest is 50c per session.

Choirs
Junior and Senior Choir have begun learning their songs, for the primary Proms and Festival of Choral Music.
The Boys Choir are sounding terrific, and are rehearsing for Choralfest being held in May. Expressions of interest were sent out to those children interested in joining our area MLC Choir. They will perform during Education Week.

Birthday Book Club
When it is your child’s birthday, they have the opportunity to donate a book of their choice (already purchased by the library) for the small cost of $6.00. After paying, the children can come to the library and select a birthday book. The books will be presented to the children on assembly. Each book will have a special message inside saying who has donated the book. The birthday child will be the first to borrow the book.
The following children have recently joined the Bolwarra Birthday Book Club: Kristian C.

P&C News

Guess What’s Coming????
Keep an eye out for the arrival date to secure your extra early bird offers soon. The new Entertainment Book for 2016/17 full of awesome discounts and deals. They are currently in print with the presale and early bird offers almost ready to go! Watch this space for an arrival date to secure your book and extra early bird offers.

Sydney Weekend Shopping Trip – Gather Your Friends For a Fun Weekend Away!
Join us for an overnight shopping trip (1½ day warehouses, half a day Birkenhead Point) on Sat & Sun Oct 29 & 30, 2016. Price will be approximately $280.00 (to be confirmed) which will include coach transport, morning tea & lunch on Saturday, Saturday night accommodation and breakfast Sunday.
To secure your seat a $50 deposit is required by Wednesday March 30. Please include your name, phone number & email address with payment to the office. Please note the deposit is non-refundable but fully transferrable. Numbers are limited and seats will be allocated as deposits are received so be quick to secure your seat and avoid disappointment! All funds raised will go to the Bolwarra Public School P & C for technology for our beautiful children. Should you have any questions please contact Melinda 0419 496 941 or sydwarehouses@gmail.com and keep an eye out for the flyer coming home soon. Payments to be made to the P&C not the school.
Canteen News
The Term 1, 2016 roster was sent home recently. Thank you to the wonderful people who volunteered their valuable time to support our school. Can you spare a few hours to help with the P&C’s major fundraiser for the school? The Bolwarra School community would like to say a big “Thank You” to Tony Cant Real Estate for proudly supporting our canteen by supplying the Tony Cant Team of volunteers.

FLEXISCHOOLS IS BACK OPEN
The P&C would like to apologise for any inconvenience with the earlier announcement of Flexischools closure due to technical issues. We have since sorted these issues and are happy to announce Flexischools ordering is back open.

FLEXISCHOOLS UPDATE: If you are a Flexischool user please ensure you have updated your child’s class for 2016 before their next lunch order, new class lists are now available. If you have any queries regarding this process please phone Flexischools directly on 1300 361 769.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>9.30-2.30</th>
<th>9-11</th>
<th>11-2.30</th>
<th>12.30-2.30</th>
<th>ANZAC BISCUITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRI 26/2</td>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>Cheree</td>
<td>Winkelman</td>
<td>Jo Beeching</td>
<td>Rebecca Whiteley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 6</td>
<td>Carol</td>
<td>Sjostedt</td>
<td>Shannon</td>
<td>Grech</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 29/2</td>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Boucher</td>
<td>VACANCY</td>
<td>Melissa Boucher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUES 1/3</td>
<td>Lynda</td>
<td>Gibbs</td>
<td>Narelle</td>
<td>Milling Kelli Auld</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THUR 3/3</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Perry</td>
<td>Greata</td>
<td>Pollard Belinda Kent Duong Rebecca Croese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>Anita</td>
<td>Whitehorn</td>
<td>Esther</td>
<td>Jones</td>
<td>Anita Whitehorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 7/3</td>
<td>Tracy</td>
<td>Mortimer</td>
<td>Anette</td>
<td>Peel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUES 8/3</td>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>Radford Mia Fraser</td>
<td>(1pm)</td>
<td>Rana Reynolds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THUR 10/3</td>
<td>Tony Cant Team</td>
<td>Katherine Seddon</td>
<td>VACANCY</td>
<td>Janien Fuller</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 11/3</td>
<td>Tony Cant Team</td>
<td>Jo Beeching</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are a few vacancies left on this roster. Helping in the canteen is a great way to be an active member of the school community, to meet other parents and to support the canteen as a major fundraiser for our school. We still have many, many shifts available to fill so grab a friend and come and see how easy it is helping out in the canteen.

It is a legal requirement for all volunteers to fill and sign the working with children check form. It is also a requirement to provide 100 point identification to accompany this form. Please attend the office to complete this form. If you need any more information please phone Tiffany or ask in the office. If you have already done your WWCC online, please give your number to the office to input into the system.

Thanks, Tiffany (0429 402 848)

Community Notices
Full details on community noticeboard.
- Tilly’s Play and Development Centre. All enquiries 49387211 or bolwarra@tillyschildcare.com.au
- Summer Sports Camp 18th – 22nd April, 2016 Maitland Indoor Sports Centre, Rutherford see supersportscamps.com.au for more details
- Ultimate Cricket School 11th- 13th April, 2016 Robins Oval, Maitland see supersportscamps.com.au for more details
- Special Weekend Cartooning Workshop Maitland (NSW) on Sat 19th – Sun 20th March at East Maitland Scout Hall, Jubilee Street, East Maitland
- Kids Fitness Class at Paterson Public School $10 per week phone Dani Shearman 0411 783 790
- Girl Guides, St John the Baptist Hall, Cnr John & Church St, Largs contact Sandra Hebert on 0418 160 402 or email HERBSHAVEN@bigpond.com
- NDIS information session 2nd March, 10am-2pm, Barkuma Neighbourhood Centre, 76 Lang St, Kurri Kurri or call 49 371 094
- If your child is interested in learning to play the guitar or bass guitar, either during school hours or after school please call me on 0419 642 096 or email me at ericloimusic@bigpond.com
PARENTAL ONLINE PAYMENTS - POP

Just some basic information to let you know some of the functions that will be available. We will have more detailed information for you next week.

Did you know that you can make payments to your child’s school online?

We have launched a new online payment portal linked to your school’s website to make it easier for you to pay for school related payments. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

What expenses can be paid online?

- Voluntary School Contributions
- Subject Contributions
- Excursions
- Sport
- Creative and Practical Arts
- Sales to Students
- Other

When?

This payment method will go live on 28th January 2016.

How?

Log onto School site at bolwerrap.school@cet.nsw.edu.au. Click on “Make a Payment” and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard.

---

Working With Children Check

100 POINT IDENTITY CHECK – GUIDE

70 points – **Only one** of these items may be included to verify the name of the preferred applicant.

- Birth Certificate
- Birth Card issued by the NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages
- Citizenship Certificate
- Current Australian passport
- Expired Australian passport which has not been cancelled and was current within the preceding 2 years
- Current passport from another country or diplomatic documents

40 points – **More than one** item may be counted (the first item used from this list is worth **40 points**; any additional items used are worth only **25 points each** unless it is an Acceptable Reference under AUSTRAC Guideline No.3, which is always worth 40 points.)

- Current driver photo licence issued by an Australian state or territory
- Identification card issued to a public employee
- Identification card issued by the Australian or any state government as evidence of a person’s entitlement to a financial benefit
- Identification card issued to a student at a tertiary education institution
- A financial body certifying that the applicant is a known customer

35 points – **More than one** item may be counted. Name and address of preferred applicant verified from any of the following:

- Document held by a cash dealer giving security over property
- A mortgage or other instrument of security held by a financial body
- Council rates notice
- Document from current employer or previous employer within the last two years
- Land Titles Office record
- Document from the Credit Reference Association of Australia

25 points – Verify name of preferred applicant from **one or more of these**:

- Current credit card or account card from a bank, building society or credit union
- Current telephone, water, gas or electricity bill
- Foreign drivers licence
- Medicare Card
- Electoral Roll compiled by the Australian Electoral Commission
- Lease/rent agreement
- Current rent receipt from a licensed real estate agent
- Records of a primary, secondary, or tertiary educational institution attended by the applicant within the last 10 years
- Records of a professional or trade association of which the applicant is a member

---

For a preferred applicant under 18 years, only one of the documents below needs to be sighted: