**Principal's News**

**2016-2017 Year 6-7 High School Transition**

Mrs Paula Graham, Principal of Maitland High School, along with Rob Eaton, 2017 Year 7 Year Advisor visited our School on Monday afternoon and spoke with our Year 6 students to provide an overview of some of the exciting programs on offer in Year 7. Students were very excited after the visit and are looking forward to further transition visits later in the year.

Year 7 Expression of Interest forms for 2017 will be sent home next week, and must be returned to the school office by 18th March, 2016. Please note that, due to an amendment of the Department of Education's Enrolment Policy, it is highly probable that Grossmann High School will not be accepting out of zone placements in 2017. Students will be zoned to a high school based on their residential address, regardless of their current primary school. The EOI form will also have the name of your child’s local high school. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

**Student Achievements**

Good luck to our Hunter Swimmers competing at the Regional Carnival today. In other sporting news, Nathan, one of our former students, who is now in Year 8 at Maitland High School, is off to the National Triathlon Competition in Hervey Bay Queensland. Nathan has been part of the Talented Sports Program at M.H.S, this is an excellent initiative that M.H.S offers their students. Nathan placed sixth overall and was first out of all of the Public School students. What a wonderful achievement for Nathan and our terrific Public School system. If you are interested in the Talented Sports Program please contact M.H.S for more information. Congratulations Nathan, we are proud of you!

Thank you to the students who have participated in our annual Talent Quest. Students and teachers have been very impressed by the wide range of talents and skills that have been on display this week. It is a very tough competition. Best of luck to all of the participants.

**Tell Them From Me Student Survey**

This year B.P.S will again take part in the Tell Them From Me Survey. The survey aims to improve student learning outcomes by giving our students a voice so they can let us know what we are doing well and what we could do better. We really value the feedback and we have used the information provided to drive our learning outcomes by giving our students a voice so they can let us know what we are doing well and what we could do better. We really value the feedback and we have used the information provided to drive our success in the future. The survey is confidential; it is completed online during the students technology time. Participating in the survey is voluntary, more information will be sent home next week.

**National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**

The NDIS is a new way of providing individualised support for people who have a disability. Support is based on the level of disability and how much help is needed to take part in activities. If you or your child have a disability, you may be eligible to apply for the NDIS. For more information visit the website www.ndis.gov.au or call 1800 800 110 to speak to someone from the NDIS team.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Ashleigh Blayden

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**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th March</td>
<td>Hunter Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th March</td>
<td>Hunter AFL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th March</td>
<td>PLP BBQ – 5:30pm</td>
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<td>Friday 18th March</td>
<td>Zone Netball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd March</td>
<td>Combined Scripture</td>
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<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31st March</td>
<td>Zone Winter Trials - Hockey and Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1st April</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8th April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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**Parents Online Payments (POP)** on school website - "$ Make a payment" tab (school payments only not P&C)

**P&C Website** [www.bolwarrapandc.wordpress.com](http://www.bolwarrapandc.wordpress.com)

**Online Uniform and Lunch Orders**


**School Facebook Address**

[www.facebook.com/BolwarraPublicSchool](http://www.facebook.com/BolwarraPublicSchool)
Pink Information forms are now overdue, these forms provide valuable up to date contact information for the school. Please return to the front office as soon as possible.

Bolwarra School Council

Bolwarra school council is seeking one parent and 1 community member to serve on the School Council. The school council is a group responsible for setting the direction and goals our school will take in the future. Nomination forms can be obtained from the front office, more information can be found on the skoolbag app.

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

Talent Quest

Thank you to everyone who has performed or been a part of the audience at the talent quest this year. So far we have raised over $250!

The performances with the highest scores so far are:

Day 1 Ivy and Grace - 5H - Synchronised swimming
Day 2 Luke -3B - Dancing to “Geronimo”
Day 3 Ella - 2B - Singing “Call Me Maybe”

Other semi final performers will be announced next week. Semi finals will be held during week 8, details to be confirmed closer to the date.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the Talent Quest.

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: Rheef, Audrey, Violet

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.
Canteen News

FLEXISCHOOLS 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.

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<tr>
<th>2016 TERM ONE</th>
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<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 4/3</td>
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<td>WEEK 7 MON 7/3</td>
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<td>THUR 16/3</td>
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<td>FRI 17/3</td>
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Thursday 8/3  1 Volunteer (12.30-2.30)
Friday 11/3  1 Experienced Volunteer (9-2.30)
Friday 1/4    1 Experienced Volunteer (11-2.30)

Thank you to the wonderful people who volunteered their valuable time to support our school.
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.

- **Gifted and Talented Students (GATS).** Parent Information sessions Wednesday 9/3/16 - 6pm at Rutherford Public School. Wednesday 16/3/16 - 6pm At The Junction Public School
- **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**
- **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 Eric Loi ericloimusic@bigpond.com**
PARENTAL ONLINE PAYMENTS - POP

Just some basic information to let you know some of the functions that are available.

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 bolwarra_p.school@det.nsw.edu.au. Click on “Make a Payment” and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard.

MONTHLY APPRECIATION TO DONORS

Thank you to the following donors who have contributed to our school for the month of February.

Tony Cant Real Estate - 464 High St, Maitland NSW 2320
Ph: (02) 4933 6299 www.tonycant.com.au

Rare Meats - 135 Windermere Rd, Windermere NSW 2321
Ph: 0470 246 490 raremeats.com.au

EWI Photography - 4 Gardenia Cl, Bolwarra Heights NSW 2320
Ph: 0402 329 922 ewiphotography.com.au

Furneys Stock Feeds - 78 Racecourse Rd, Rutherford NSW 2320
Ph: (02) 4932 4455 www.furneysstockfeeds.com.au

In sincere appreciation for supporting our school. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated school community. Apologies if we have overlooked anyone.

ABSENTEE NOTICE

My child ...........................................of class ............ was absent on (date) .......................................

For the following reason ............................................................................................................................

Parent signature: ....................................................................................................................................