PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents,

NAPLAN 2013

In May 2013 the “National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy” (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia. The results of these tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. The tests will be conducted for all students from 15 to 17 May. Specifically, Language Conventions and Writing will take place on Tuesday 15 May, Reading on Wednesday 16 May, Numeracy on Thursday 17 May and Friday 18 May, has been set aside as a Catch-up day. This day has been scheduled for students who missed tests or were absent. Would parents with children in Years 3 and 5 please mark these dates on your calendar. Thank you.

University Research Program to improve student behaviour and learning

Associate Professor Stuart Johnstone and his team of researchers in the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong are conducting research which seeks to improve behavioural and learning outcomes for students. They are looking for students who are in Years 3 to 6 to participate in the research. If you think that you and your child would be interested in participating in this very important research you can contact Prof. Johnstone directly via his email at: sjohnsto@uow.edu.au Or alternatively if you would like to view an information pack and register your interest in the research, you can visit: http://tinyurl.com/focuspocus13 For a brief summary of the research please see Prof. Johnstone’s comments later in this newsletter.

School Disco

The school disco last Friday evening was a huge success. All students clearly enjoyed the night. I think one of the highlights must have been the teacher and parent ‘dance off’ against students. On behalf of our students, I would like to thank the Year 6 Farewell Committee for organising the disco, and to also sincerely thank all the parents and teachers who gave up their time to cook and sell food and drink, sell tickets and disco merchandise, and to provide supervision to ensure students were safe at all times. Thank you.

Staff Development Days

The DEC has set aside the first two days of next term as Staff Development Days. On Monday 29 April we will be joining the staff of Bulli High School and eight other primary schools to engage in professional learning around student engagement, ‘21st Century Literacy’ and issues relating to the embedding of cybersafety in the Australian Curriculum as well as schools’ legal and duty of care obligations as it relates to the internet. On 30 April we will spend the day examining the structure and the content of the new Australian English Syllabus. The implementation of this syllabus is mandated from the beginning of 2014 in all schools across Australia. We will examine the syllabus in detail and consider the broad implications of the syllabus for work in our school, and reflect on our understanding of English as a discipline. We will also identify new or unfamiliar material in the new English syllabus and evaluate what knowledge and skills we need to have in place for its successful implementation. We will also evaluate our current teaching programs and resources in relation to the new syllabus. This day will form the first of a series of professional learning activities over the course of
the 2013 school year that the staff of Bulli PS will engage in to ensure the successful implementation of this new document.

School Holiday
I wish all our students a safe and happy school holiday. Students return to school on Wednesday 01 May 13.

As always, please remember that you are more than welcome to contact me directly, at any time, if you have any school related issue or concern you wish to discuss with me.

Best wishes,
Ernest Vella

MATHLETICS NEWS
Congratulations to the following students who achieved Mathletics awards.

GOLD AWARDS:
2HT  Evan G
3/4vK  Elisha L
4/5W  Tyler J

BRONZE AWARDS:
KH  Nate S D
KR  Michael G
    Finjas S F

SILVER AWARDS:
K/1R  Eleanor Mc
3/4vK  Zane T
    Jai D

Mathletes of the Week
K–2  TAYLOR C
3–6  NATHALIA T

PENNANT
Special congratulations to the following students:

BELEN C P
MACKENZIE C

HONOUR CERTIFICATES
Congratulations to the following students:
K/1R  ISABEL C
1P  KYRON L
2/3P  MACKENZIE C
4/5W  KURT L
5/6C  GRACE T H

MERIT CERTIFICATES
Congratulations to the following students:

KH  Taylor C
    Hailee L
K/1R  Belen C P
    Charlotte M
    Tessa P
    Angus R
1P  Sam W
2HT  Cora D
    Ava H
    Blake P
    Amelia S
3/4vK  Jago R
5/6B  Riley M
    Harry W
5/6C  Amelia H
    Grace T H
    Kayla M
    Paris T
    Alexander W

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL RECYCLING COMPETITION
We have two children from our school who have prepared posters in preparation for this competition. Currently the posters are displayed in the Bulli Fruit Shop and Flame Tree Co-Op. They will soon be removed and sent to the Council for judging. We wish Ben J and Chilton S good luck as they are looking to win some money to put towards their garden project.

Mrs Hiscocks

RECREATIONAL SPORT
All instalment payments for recreational sport were due last week. If you have any outstanding monies to pay they are now overdue. Please forward these payments to the school as soon as possible.

Debbie Wedeman

STEWART HOUSE COLLECTION - REMINDER
Please return the filled bags to your child’s classroom for collection, no later than Wednesday 8th May.

Debbie Wedeman

CHECK LOST PROPERTY
There are a lot of items currently in our lost property bin. In particular we have a large number of plastic containers. If your child has lost anything please come and have a look through the bin. We will be sending all unclaimed items to a charity Op Shop at the end of term.

CANTEEN NEWS
Roster
Thurs 11/4  Brittany P & Rhiannon P
Fri 12/4  Chrissy A & Kate M

HOLIDAYS
Wed 1/5  Michelle C
Thurs 2/5  Nadine S, Sam M & Alissia S
Fri 3/5  Melissa C & Tristesse F

Kym Brown, Canteen Co-Ordinator
kymbrown5@bigpond.com, 0405 258 478
COMMUNITY NEWS

WOONONA GIRL GUIDES
Would you like to have fun, experience exciting challenges and make new friends? Girl Guides is part of an international organisation that offers a weekly program for girls in various age groups. They are encouraged to think for themselves and to gain life and leadership skills in a safe environment with qualified leaders. Woonona Dolphin Guides is for girls aged 7-10 years and meets on Tuesday nights. Woonona Guides is for girls aged 10-14 years and meets on Monday nights. Both groups meet at Woonona Guide Hall in Strachan Park, Woonona (between Ball St & Princes Highway). For those of you who are over 50, female and have had any past roles in Guiding either as Leaders enthusiastic parents or in Support Group the Trefoil Guild is a group that meets monthly in Woonona to continue their adventures in Guiding. For more information please contact the District Leader on 0450 632 774, or Girl Guides NSW membership on 1300 GIRLGUIDES (1300 447 548). Check out Girl Guides at www.girlguides-nswact.org.au

ARTSPACE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Tuesday 16 April 2013 for kids 3 to 16 years as well as some great guest artists. Artspace places are limited so get in quick. To book, complete the enrolment form on our website or call 4283 9967

FOCUS POCUS: a training program to improve behaviour and learning.
The ability to control impulses, focus attention, and keep information in memory are essential for good behaviour and successful learning. Our research shows that we can enhance these abilities, and also behaviour, by playing specially-designed computer games for 15-20 minutes/day for 5-6 weeks.

ST GEORGE ILLAWARRA DRAGONS APRIL HOLIDAY CLINICS
LOOKING FOR A FUN DAY OUT THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS? WHY NOT EXPERIENCE RUGBY LEAGUE FIRST HAND AND MEET SOME DRAGONS AT THE SAME TIME.

THE DRAGONS AND NRL ARE CONDUCTING THREE CLINICS THIS APRIL; HEAD TO DRAGONS.COM.AU/REGISTRATION FOR MORE INFORMATION.

APRIL 16 – BOMADERRY SPORTING COMPLEX
APRIL 17 – WIN STADIUM, WOLLONGONG
APRIL 18 - WIN JUBILEE OVAL, KOGARAH

STUDENT EXCHANGE
STS Student Exchange are seeking Aussie families who are busy, friendly, interested in other cultures and willing to welcome an STS exchange student into their family. Our volunteer host families provide room & board and treat their host son or daughter as a member of their own family. Call us today to start your adventure! 1800 263 964 or email us at stsf@people.net.au Website: www.sts-education.com.au

CHOIR – WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
Thank you for your support for Term 1. I hope your children are enjoying CHOIR this year.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR NEXT TERM
Term 2 - CHOIR will begin on WEDNESDAY, 15th May, as I will be away overseas.

NEW STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN TERM 2
I can be contacted via email: carmel.lnrdd@gmail.com OR please see Mrs Hiscocks for a form.

THIRROUL ACADEMY MUSIC DANCE DRAMA
Open day Saturday April 13 – Book your free trial music lesson. Phone 4268 5033 or Facebook us musicdandedrama.com.au

CARESOUTH
Caresouth is a local charity who helps children and families in our region who are doing it tough. They are holding their annual Auntsies & Uncles colouring-in competition to raise awareness of the program. If you would like to enter the competition simply pick up a colouring-in form from the school office.

Thank you for your support for Term 1. I hope your children are enjoying CHOIR this year.

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I can be contacted via email: carmel.lnrdd@gmail.com OR please see Mrs Hiscocks for a form.

THANK YOU AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SINGING WITH YOU NEXT TERM. YOURS IN MUSIC AND SINGING. CARMEL