PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Today, as we celebrate Harmony Day, I am reminded again how fortunate we are to live in an amazing country. Our children have no experience of war, poverty or famine. They travel in safety each day to school, enjoy fresh food and fresh air, and know that they are cared for by a community. I’m looking forward to our ‘kite making’ today as I know it will evoke warm memories of my travels in India. Such an amazing country! Amid the poverty and the appalling living conditions, children still find time for pleasure – and flying kites is a popular pastime. Their kites are similar to the ones students will make today. My young children didn’t speak Hindi but there was no barrier when it came to having fun – flying kites and playing cricket provided a universal language! I think we can all learn valuable lessons about life, acceptance, resilience and tolerance from children. Enjoy these precious moments because they grow too quickly. Look, listen and learn from your children. This week’s quote comes from Anne Frank ‘I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better, that this cruelty too will end, that this peace and tranquillity will return once more.’ Let’s all count our blessings!

WINNERS!

I love the fact that the first response I had to last week’s ‘quiz’ came from a grandparent! Thank you David Gore. Yes, the quote was from the classic Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carrol. The second answer came from ex student Stephanie – congratulations! A surprise is coming your way.

This week’s feature book is called ANZAC Biscuits by Phil Cummings and Owen Swan. It’s a simple, moving story of a family torn apart by war but brought together through the powerful simplicity of baking biscuits. It’s available at our library. Don’t forget, as parents you are always welcome to borrow books to share with your family.
CONGRATULATIONS again to the canteen team for their award winning efforts. As well as their representation at the awards in Sydney this week, they have been applauded by the ‘Thermomix’ company for their use of this amazing technology in the preparation of wholesome, preservative free food for our students. As one of the team commented – ‘YOU GUYS ROCK!’ I couldn’t agree more. Have a wonderful week! Check out the links below for some interesting reading.

Facts about fractions
If you’ve forgotten 3/5 of primary school maths and 7/8 of high school maths, what’s left? Ah ha! Kids need help learning how to add fractions too. The only thing left is to print these fact sheets.


Amazing Art
Autumn’s the perfect season to take a trip to a gallery. The popular ArtExpress exhibition connects us to the inner lives and self-expression of high school students. Amazing works are on show throughout NSW. Check out the calendar. Find out more: http://art-express.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/

Sounding out aloud
Making phonics fun. Help your child learn to read by sounding out their words. Here are some tips to help your child gain confidence reading.


Deborah Scanes

Cross Country
Our school’s annual cross country will be held this Friday morning at Old Bar Oval. All students from K-6 will be involved. Students are requested to wear their school sport uniform and suitable running shoes. A drink bottle containing water and a wide brimmed school hat are essential. Please label all hats, drink bottles, jumpers etc with your child’s name.

Year 2-6 students will need to bring their own recess - no recess orders will be available from the canteen. K-1 students will go to the oval at approximately 11.30am. The cross country will hopefully be concluded by 1pm and all students will return to school for lunch. Students may order lunch as usual from the canteen. All students leaving early from the oval MUST have their names marked off at the recorders desk.

Life Education Van
The Life Education Van - along with Leanne and Healthy Harold will be visiting our school next week. (Life Education is a program that teaches children to make informed choices about safety, healthy living, medicines, bullying, peer pressure, the effects of smoking and alcohol and strategies to use to manage feelings, emotions and safety situations). A free parent session will be held in the Life Education Van from 11.30am - 12 noon on Monday 25th March. If you have not already paid for your child’s visit - please forward the $6.50 to your child’s teacher before the day of their class visit.

P&C News
Exciting Announcement
On Tuesday 19th March our Wonderful Canteen Supervisor Sheryl McNamara was awarded “2nd Place” in the Healthy Kids Association Awards for NSW. This is a very prestigious award and we wish to once again congratulate Sheryl Mcnamara.

Rewards currently available. For 10 tokens are: Wallet, money box (Spen, Addy, Pat Cred or Pru), handball knuckles. Keep saving!
students are keen and happy, and love spending time with their tutors.
If you are interested in volunteering for our tutoring program we would love to meet you! Grandparents are especially welcome. Tutoring runs from 9.30 to 10.30 every morning with different tutors every day, you can choose your day or elect to be on our usual call list. Please contact the school if you are interested or want more information about our tutoring program.

Saturday Cricket

HOW’S THAT!!!!
Alex Slade captained the Old Bar Under 12 cricket team to championship glory against Wingham. This championship team featured Old Bar Public School up and coming cricket stars Riley Davies, Jackson O’Conner and Josh Shoesmith. Memorable moments of the games were: One handed catches by Riley Davies – how does he do it? Run out by Jackson O’Conner and Riley Davis. Not to mention Jackson’s tight bowling – the opposition could barely score a run against him. Amazing innings by Alex Slade giving Wingham a run target to chase. Almost hatrick by ex-Old Bar PS Olivia Williams in the semi’s. Spectacular fielding slides by Josh Shoesmith and ex Old Bar PS Jasmine Davies. What’s next….tour of India?

and her marvellous volunteers along with the Canteen Committee. They have all combined to achieve the award winning new menu. The majority of the finalists are also eliminating additives and preservatives from their menus. This re-enforces what we have done so far and continue to monitor. The changes are gaining momentum and we are leading the way in our region. Congratulations!!!

Harmony Day Thursday 21st March
Thank you very much to the great team of volunteers who assisted with our Harmony Day Lunch. Your smiling faces and support is very much appreciated.

Cross Country Friday 22nd March
The P&C provide fresh fruit for all students on this day. Please if you can spare some time Friday morning, come up to Old Bar Oval from 9-15 to assist preparing and serving the fruit for the children.

Volunteer Tutoring Reading Program

Our tutoring program is up and running for 2013. We are working with students from years 2 and 3 this term and some big improvements have been noted! The
Taree Auskick AFL Centre, FREE “Come and Try Day”,
Being held on Sunday 24th March, at Johnny Martin Oval, Taree, where activities will begin at 10am and conclude at 12pm.
A BBQ will be available and we encourage all boys and girls aged between 5 and 12 years old to come along to experience what AFL Auskick is all about, learning the fundamental skills of Australian Football and taking part in a modified game while having a lot of fun!
Registrations will be taken on the day for the 2013 Taree Auskick Season which begins on Sunday 7th April 2013.
For more information please contact Taree AFL Auskick Centre on 6553 3345.