Principal’s Message

Today I’m meeting with a group of parents and teachers to talk about some playground enhancements in the infants’ playground. Money raised from the ‘Fun Run’ last year has been earmarked for this project and we are excited to finally start moving on this venture. We are thinking of enlisting the assistance of parents (a working bee perhaps?) and are making approaches to the local ‘Mens’ Shed’ for their expertise and advice. Shade shelters are high on the list of priorities as well as additional storage space for outdoor equipment. If you have any creative ideas or can lend a hand when we get to the construction stage, please contact myself or Liz Cronk. We’ll keep you posted!

The Great Debate – HOMEWORK!

It was a lot of fun! An affirmative and a negative team made up of teaching staff presented some excellent arguments based on research and personal experience. We looked at the ‘homework’ issue from the point of view of the student, the teacher and the parent. No one seemed to like it much! There was a lot of robust discussion and finally a consensus. We are now in the process of formulating a ‘Homework Policy’ that will be sent to parents as soon as it’s completed. In a nutshell…. READING is the only mandatory task set for homework. We are asking all parents to ensure their children READ for at least 20 minutes every night. This might be a child reading independently, a parent reading to a child or a child reading to a parent. As we formulate the policy, we will include more guidelines and suggestions for parents. We want all students to know the joy of books and reading. If you don’t have books in your home, please see myself or Mrs Hennessy. We’ll organise books! Let’s get started, 20 minutes everyday! I think we are going to see a read-
Cyber Safety

Believe it or not, primary school students are candidates for cyber bullying. We had several incidents last year of students sending and receiving messages that were threatening, rude and/or demeaning. It’s a difficult one to tackle. These links might be helpful in offering some strategies to avoid problems in the home.

What is Kik and why is it popular?
Kik is a free texting app popular with younger teens who generally have a limited texting plan or use an iPod Touch.

Find out more about Kik messenger:  http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/technology-az/-/technology_glossary/7w0F/5353/Kik+messenger


I hadn’t heard this for a long time – after a particularly hectic and somewhat emotional week last week, it just hit the spot. I hope it resonates with you as well. God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference. - The Serenity Prayer (Reinhold Niebuhr).

Have a great week!
Deborah Scanes

PSSA Girls Cricket
Congratulations to Lara Slade on her selection in the Hunter Regional PSSA Girls Cricket Team. Lara has also been selected as co-captain of the Hunter Team. She will travel to Barooga in the south of NSW to compete in the State PSSA Girls Cricket Carnival next week, where she will be vying for selection in the NSW State Team. Go Lara!

Hockey
Old Bar year 4 students attended a Hockey Gala Day with Wingham, Wingham Brush Public Schools and St Joseph’s Wingham at the Taree Recreational Grounds last Friday. Children participated in activities such as ‘dogs and bones’, ‘dribbling the ball’, ‘pass and trap’ and ‘hitting the target’. Children were involved in warm-up activities along with a guide to the names and use of all hockey equipment. The Gala Day was hosted by the Wingham Hockey Club. All our children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and engaged whole heartedly in all activities. A great day!......Mr Darling & Mr Denley

STUDENT BANKING
3 Winbins - Lachlan Bowman (KL)
2 Winbins - Koby Jones (KM)
1 Winbin - Chloe Gale (5/6F)
and Emily White. Vice Captains - Jake Charlton and Sarah Ollerton.

Piano teacher in the Old Bar Area
I’m currently taking on students for the coming year. I have a University degree in music. I also studied piano performance at University. I’ve put students through AMEB examinations up to and including 7th grade. I’ve taught students, both adult and children, from beginners to 7th grade. I recently bought a gorgeous piano which students will really enjoy learning on. If interested, I’d be happy to answer any questions.
I am currently charging $22.50 per half hour. I am taking lessons on a Thursday afternoon from 4.30, as well as after 6.00 on Monday.
I can be contacted on: 0478679708 or 65536972

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Left: I’m so excited on receiving my award!!