



Burren Junction PS

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 2

Thursday 28th July 2022

'Look, Listen and Think'

From the Principal

Welcome back to Term three. Looking at the calendar it is going to be another busy one. The highlight for all I am sure will be the excursions taking place in Week 6.

K-1-2 are going to be heading to Wee Waa Museum on Monday 22nd August. Year 3 will go to Lake Keepit from Monday 22nd August to Wednesday 24th August and 4-5-6 will head to Jindabyne and Canberra from Sunday 21st August to Friday 26th August. The 4-5-6 excursion note will be sent home today. I know there is a lot of paperwork, however, it is all a requirement with the additional note as we are going skiing.

We have welcomed Mr Ptolemy to our school and he has taken everything in his stride. He is happy to be involved and has also been happy to get on a mower, fix a door or any other jobs while we are still filling the GA position.

Yesterday, we had our school photos and the children all looked very smart. Gail from Montage who takes the photos commented that she finds our uniform the nicest of all the schools she photographs, and I know we would agree that our school winter uniform is really nice.

Interviews

Parent interviews are being held next Wednesday afternoon for children in K-4. We did trial booking interviews using the Sentral App with 5/6 and it was successful last term. If you go into the app, you will see an interview icon. Available timeslots will be shown, and they are filled on a first in basis. They are also able to be changed if you need to. If you are having any difficulty, just contact the front office and Mrs Schwager can manually add your appointment in. Interviews are an opportunity to discuss the student reports and check in on your child's progress for the first half of the year. As the time is limited, if you have areas you would especially like to discuss it is good to bring this up at the beginning to allow this to be a focus.

Working Bee

While we are having interviews, we will also try to clean out the GA shed. The P&C will organise for a truck/ trailer to be there and if you are waiting or finished if you can give 10 minutes, it should make it easy.

Focus on Fluency

As a whole school we are undertaking a project to improve our student's fluency in both reading and writing. Fluent reading is reading that is expressive, well-paced and sounds like speaking. Fluent reading assists students with their comprehension. As a staff we are all completing training in the Department of Education Fluency Professional Learning module and new fluency assessment tool. I have been working closely with Nichole Maloy, Literacy Consultant, to build this project and have asked Rowena school staff to join us on August 11th where we will work with Nichole to analyse a range of school data and look at ideas to move forward.

In addition to this Mrs Stump has organised a Reading Challenge where as a whole school we are trying to read as many books as possible this term. Children create paper chain links for each book, or 100 pages read for older children, and we are going to see how far the chain will go. Mrs Stump is aiming to get her personal chain to reach the hall. It will be a collaborative effort in the end. Mrs Stump will open the library each Tuesday at lunchtime for students to read or borrow. If children need to borrow during the week, they can return their books to Mrs Schwager.

To develop writing fluency, we are as a school, starting each morning with 10 minutes of writing. Children are given a prompt- maybe a picture, a sentence or, last week one activity I did when teaching 2/3/4 was the two words were "pumpkin and dinosaur" and children could take that any way they wanted. The focus is on children just writing all they can in this time and the aim is to improve children's confidence and fluency.

To keep consistency across the school we are all doing our literacy block in the morning and numeracy after recess.

Life Education Van

This week all classes went to visit the Life Education Van as did the Pre School. Students learned about making good decisions regarding health and lifestyles. Discuss with your children what they learnt in these sessions. I know 5/6 were full of facts about e-cigarettes and their harmful effects as they came out of the van. It is the first time since Covid that we have been able to have the van visit.



Photo Workshop and Canvas Prints

At the end of last term John Burgess ran a photography workshop for the students to show them ways to take a good shot. Following this, each student provided Helen and Janine one of their photos to have printed on a canvas for the photography show on Friday 10th September. I personally was challenged trying to get my photo successfully through from my phone at a high enough resolution and both Janine and Helen were so patient. The work that has gone on behind the scenes to pull the calendar together has been enormous and I would like to thank them both for all their time, creativity, and commitment to the project. Our students and the community will all benefit from this.

These great photos supplied by John Burgess Photography at the workshop.



Softball Success

Congratulations to William and Harper who have both been selected in the North West softball team to play at the state carnivals this term. They have obviously both put their cricket skills to use and transferred these across to softball.

This term we have also worked to be consistent across the school in our approach to sport. Each Wednesday afternoon students work on ball skills in either cricket, basketball, or volleyball and on a Friday for sport we are starting the term with T Ball for all students. We are excited to have replaced the T Ball kits, which mice destroyed and are also putting together a list of replacement sports equipment- mostly several types of balls to allow us to undertake these activities.



Netball Jenny Wright

On Wednesday 10th August the Jenny Wright Netball Shield will be held in Walgett. This is like the netball cup students participated in a few weeks ago in Narrabri. A note will go out next week to see how many 3-6 teams we will enter. Parents will need to transport students on the day.



Athletics

The zone athletics carnival is being held on August 12th in Wee Waa. I am yet to receive the nomination form and will fill it in as soon as it is received and send to parents to check. Students who are 8 and over who finished 1st or 2nd in an event are eligible for nomination where they meet any qualifying criteria.



Soccer

Great effort by our soccer team 4, 5 and 6 against Attunga in a knockout comp held end of last term. Well done on participating.

Just a final reminder that we do need to be vigilant with Covid cases on the rise. We have been able to manage cases previously, through being vigilant and I encourage you all to stay on top of testing if anyone is symptomatic. Sore muscles, legs, tiredness, cough, and headaches are symptoms we are hearing about with this round of Covid. With excursions all happening in Week 6 it is important that we work together to break cycles of any virus, not only Covid, as early as possible. Have a great weekend,



Kate Slack-Smith—principal



Feeling unwell?
Please stay at home

School Check In

Parents and the community please note you need to register with the School online login system. (QR Code)

- If you enter the school grounds to attend sport, or extracurricular activity.
- If you are taking your children early, sport or sick.
- If you drop your children off late

This is instead of the paper sign in we used to have prior to Covid. It is used for evacuations and keeping up to date with who is on the school premises and is required for WHS.

School App

If you know the time you are taking your children early you can fill in a future absence request. Put the time in the notes rather than check them out with QRG. Great if you are in a hurry.

Interviews K-4

These are being set through the School App so pop onto it to set your times, feel free to contact the school if you are having problems using the app.

Sentral App Calendar



Term 3

3 Aug Mid Year Interviews K-4
10 Aug Jenny Wright Shield - Netball 3/4 & 5/6
12 Aug Zone Athletics—Wee Waa
9 -12 Aug Moorambilla for Boys (Camp Baradine)
12-15 Aug Moorambilla for Girls (Camp Baradine)
8 -19 Aug ICAS Digital Technology, Writing and English

22 Aug Wee Waa Museum Excursion K-2

22-24 Aug Lake Keepit Excursion 3

23-25 State Rugby Union

21- 26 Aug Canberra Excursion 4-6

29-2 Sept ICAS Maths

2 Sept North West Athletics

13-17 Sept Moorambilla Boys (Camp Dubbo)

13-16 Sept Moorambilla Girls (Camp Dubbo)

10 Sept Art Show

18 Sept Flower Show

23 Sept Last Day Term 3

Term 4

10 Oct First Day for students Term 4

19-20 Oct State Athletics



Awards given out at Friday Assembly last week.

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Education