This afternoon we are looking forward to seeing you at our 3 way conferences. This is a great way to find out what is happening in your child's class and to set learning goals that we can work towards together. If you have forgotten to make an appointment for this evening or you have a conflicting commitments, please contact the school to make an appointment for a different time.

Dubbo District Rugby League Teams

Congratulations to the following students:

Under 11’s Team:
Jamari Fernando Stanley and Kaiden Hill.

Opens Team:
Steven Kehoe, Keith Fernando, Jacob Toomey, Kyle Boney, Josh Jenkins-Bamblett and William Nelson.

These talented young men will now play for a place in the Western Region team on the 7th April at Apex Oval.

Bike riding

This week we have had many infants children riding their bikes to school without helmets. This is extremely dangerous. Young children do not develop their peripheral vision until primary age. Please make alternative arrangements if your child in K-2 is riding their bike to school.

Science and Engineering Challenge

Our Stage 3 students will be participating in this fantastic event. It is an opportunity for students to think creatively, logically and laterally to problem solve. Mrs Hall will be supporting the students at the challenge.

Netball Gala Day

Don't forget to return your notes for this opportunity to participate in an inter-school challenge.

Have a great week!

Anne van Dartel
Principal
LIBRARY NEWS...

We have lots of new books for the library. So let’s get these books on the shelves! This Friday, there will be a book covering session held in the library. If you wish to volunteer your time, please see Miss Mercuri.

DATE: Friday 14th March
WHERE: Library
TIME: 9am-11am

Morning tea will be provided. Thank you.

Yum, Yum Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

Buninyong P&C are holding a Hot Cross Bun fundraising drive through the Earlyrise Baking Company.

You have the choice of Traditional, Fruitless, Double Choc or Mocha.

If you are interested please call into the office and fill in your details along with your payment of $7 before the 4th April.

All orders will then be delivered for collection on the 11th April at the school.

Taronga Western Plains Zoo

Taronga Western Plains Zoo Education Centre’s Zoo Adventures is a school holiday program for students attending primary school aged 5-12 years, to be held during the April 2014 school holidays. This education program is designed for school-aged students and all activities are run by qualified staff.

Dates: Monday 14th April to Thursday 17th April 2014
Tuesday 22nd April to Thursday 24th April 2014

Age: 5-12 years
Time: 8.30am to 3.30pm
Cost: Early Bird Special - $40 per child per day (if booked before Friday 4th April 2014).
Normal Rate - $55 per child per day (bookings after Friday 4th April 2014).

How to Book:
All information including booking form and daily activities can be found on our website http://www.taronga.org.au/ZooAdventuresDubbo. Contact the zoo on 6881 1433.

Volunteers

We have applied through Centrelink to become a registered Volunteer Organisation, which was successful. That means our school community can come in and work voluntarily throughout our school, after the mandatory child protection checks and DEC mandatory training, we can sign off on Centrelink forms.

If you’re interested in being part of this wonderful opportunity, a note will be attached to next week’s newsletter for you to complete.
The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program is coming to Buninyong Public School! This is a revolutionary approach to food education which focuses on pleasure, flavour and fun. Students will not only experience growing and harvesting their own fruit and vegetables, but will then have the opportunity to prepare, cook and EAT tasty meals. Students in Stage 2 will engage in lessons beginning in Term 2, but the entire school will be able to use the garden to make learning fun and purposeful. We are very lucky to be the only school in Dubbo to be running the program which is a long term commitment. Mrs Agnew and Mrs Hall have just spent 2 fabulous days in Sydney learning all they can about gardening and cooking with kids. They would really love it if parents could join in the fun and get involved. You don’t need to have a green thumb or be able to cook. Check out the pics. It's a great way to learn!!!

Stage 2 Excursion

Stage 2 excursion is now full. If you have not paid and would like to go please put your name down at the school office on the waiting list. The remainder of the money can be paid at any time.

All payments must be finalised by 3rd April.

Healthy Eating Message...

Breakfast provides brain food
Eating breakfast each morning improves children’s learning, concentration, behaviour, overall nutrient intake, and establishes healthy eating patterns for life. Some quick breakfast options include:

⇒ wholegrain cereals and reduced-fat milk
⇒ baked beans on wholegrain toast and a glass of reduced-fat milk
⇒ fruit smoothie and toast
⇒ toast topped with cheese and sliced tomatoes
⇒ egg on toast with a glass of reduced-fat milk
⇒ wholemeal or wholegrain toast or fresh bread, with margarine spread plus a topping, such as tomato, reduced-fat cheese or baked beans
⇒ reduced-fat yoghurt, fruit and raisin bread
⇒ fruit salad and yoghurt.

Serve breakfast with a glass of water or milk to get children hydrated.
Why is attendance at school important?
Regular attendance at school is essential to assist students to maximise their potential. It is the duty of the parent of a child of compulsory school-age to cause the child to be enrolled at, and to attend, a government school or a registered non-government school. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. At Buninyong we do this in a number of ways.

What is a Personal Attendance Plan?
If a student's attendance falls on or below 80%, a Personal Attendance Plan (PAP) is put in place. This plan is signed by the teacher and the parent so that the parent is aware that their child's attendance has fallen below the required attendance expectation. The student's attendance is then closely monitored. Parents are invited to work with the school to help increase their child’s attendance rate. Once a student’s attendance rate has increased to above 85%, their PAP becomes inactive and their attendance is no longer monitored. If a student's attendance does not improve, they will be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer for further intervention.

Why might parents receive a phone call?
When a student has been absent for 2 consecutive days, someone from the school will phone. Parents will be asked why their child is absent and when they can be expected to return. Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven school days. Parents can do this by:
- Ringing the school before or on the day of absence
- Speaking to the class teacher
- Sending in a note

*All illnesses and injuries must be clarified: e.g. tonsillitis, head cold, bronchitis, stomach bug, fever, flu, broken arm, toothache, headache, stomach ache etc. “Sick” is not an acceptable reason.*

It is very important to keep contact details up to date for easy communication between parents and the school.

What are Buninyong Bucks?
Buninyong Bucks is school money that can be used at the school office to pay for:
- Excursions
- Sport
- Performances
- Uniforms
- Discos

*Students receive bucks for coming to school on time every day.*

*More information about Buninyong Bucks will be made available at different times throughout the year.*