Important Information

Year 7 2017

Those students who are in Year 6 this year will receive an application for high school in March.

Bulahdelah Central School is the local high school for most of our students. Some students also fall in the Dungog High School, Gloucester High School and Hunter River High School catchment areas.

Students wishing to go to a non-local high school must complete an Out-of-Area application. This can also be found in the Year 7 application package.

Some high schools offer parent information evenings to showcase what their school has to offer students. As I become aware of these evenings I will let families know.

Parent Information Evenings

Bulahdelah Central School: There is not an information evening currently advertised. You can call the school for information on 49974329.

Dungog High School: Wednesday 24th February 2016. RSVP by Friday 19th February 2016. You can call the school on 49923022 to RSVP and for details.

Hunter River High School: Monday 29th February 2016. You can call the school on 49872306 for details.

Gloucester High School: There is not an information evening currently advertised. You can call the school for information on 65581605.

School Organisation

Kindergarten and School Leaders Photo

The Gloucester Advocate will be here on Thursday 18th February to take photos of our Kindergarten students and our school leaders. These photos will appear in the Gloucester Advocate in the near future.

Zone Swimming Carnival

The Zone Swimming Carnival will be on Friday 19th February 2016.

Good luck to those students who are representing our school at the Zone Carnival.

Zone Girls Cricket Trials

We had two students represent our school at the Zone Girls Cricket Trials. Congratulations Mia who was selected in the first six to represent our Zone at the Hunter Regional Trials.

Assemblies

Assemblies for this term will be on Thursdays at 9am. Our first assembly for this year will be next Thursday, 18th February 2016 at 9am.

Young Leaders Day

Our school leaders will be travelling to Sydney to participate in the Young Leaders Day on Monday 29th February 2016. the cost will be approximately $50 as well as money for dinner on Sunday night. Further information will follow in the next few weeks.

Gloucester Soccer Day

A soccer gala day is planned for students in Years 3 and 4 on Wednesday 9th March 2016. We will require parent transport for this event.

Parents who are able to help transport students other than their own children will be required to show their Working with Children Check to the school Office before transporting students. We also must see the registration papers for your vehicle and your drivers licence.

Sporting Schools

This term we are delighted to be able to offer two sports under the Federally funded Sporting Schools. We are currently participating in an AFL program on a Friday morning. This will continue until Friday 4th March. Then students will swap over to Athletics program from Monday 7th March 2016 until the end of the term. Students
should wear appropriate clothing to participate in sports activities on these days.

**Extra Curricular Activities**

Our school facilitates some extra curricular activities for students in our area.

Students can learn an instrument on a Wednesday. The music teacher is Mr John Locke. Parents privately arrange music lessons with him that occur throughout the day on a Wednesday.

Students who regularly have music lessons and have reached a certain level of skill development for their age and instrument have the opportunity to join the school band. The band is lead by Mr Locke and Ms Parsonage is the supervising teacher. There is a band fee which is payable to the P&C. This fee helps to cover the costs of the band.

Tennis lessons are also available through the Hot Shots program on a Thursday after school. The Tennis coach is also selecting students who demonstrate a certain level of skill for their age to join the school’s tennis squad. Squad lessons are on from 2pm Thursday afternoon.

**Tell Them From Me; student feedback survey**

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is attached to this newsletter. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by **Friday 26 February**. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.
Dear Parents and Carers

In Term 1 2016, your school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next question. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child’s school by Friday 26th February 2016

More information about the survey and the research is available in English on the CESE website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Anthony Pearson
Principal
Booral Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan
Executive Director
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS AND EVALUATION
E: cese@bdi.nsw.edu.au   W: www.cese.nsw.gov.au
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 26th February 2016.

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Name of student/s .................................................................

Roll class/es ..........................................................................

Name of parent/carer ............................................................

Signature of parent/carer ......................................................

Date .................................................................
We Are Listening

This is an open forum for families to discuss their fears and concerns regarding the NDIS.

This Forum will be lead by you.

What may be discussed includes:

What is NDIS and how does this look like for me and my family?

How can we prepare ourselves?

What Tools and Resources are available?

9th of March 12pm-2pm & 5:30pm-7:30pm
Information session times (session 1)

14th of March 12pm-2pm & 5:30pm-7:30pm
Workshop session times (session 2)

@
BOORAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

For enquiries or to RSVP for sessions please contact Booral Public School on 49949266
School Banking 2016 is set for the outback.

Since 1971, the School Banking program has been introducing interested and exciting new ways for students to build money skills. This year's program invites your child to join the Dollarmites on a wild outback adventure through the lens of Savings.

Your child has received parent packs that include all you need to get started. If you haven’t received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

LOOKING FOR GIRLS TO ENTER

Stroud Showgirl Contest

Stroud Showgirl 18 yrs—24 yrs as of 1/5/16

Stroud Junior show Girl 13 yrs—17 yrs as of 1/5/16

Are you interested in your local community, then we would encourage you to participate and become aware of women’s contribution in local and rural NSW.

The winner will represent Stroud Show Inc at the RAS 2017 zone finals and could then progress to the state finals in Sydney 2017.

Expressions of interest are now being taken. Competition and judging will take place in March is sufficient interest is shown.

For more information, please phone Maxine (49945160) or Leanne (0417658852) to apply by 28/2/16.

School Banking 2016

Don’t forget that the P&C has Moov Head Lice Treatment solution for $14.00 & Triple Action Lice Combs for $5.00 for sale at school. Please see Mrs Jacobson in the office.

STROUD LIBRARY

STORYTIME 2016

EVERY 2ND FRIDAY

STARTING BACK 1ST TERM

5TH FEBRUARY

10.30AM

STORIES, CRAFT & SONGS

ANZ Tennis Hot Shots is specially designed for kids. Smaller courts, racquets and softer tennis balls equals:

**FUN**
- Players are actively engaged, excited and motivated to participate.

**PLAY**
- Players learn and have fun about meaningful tennis situations.

**SOCIAL**
- Players build social skills such as working cooperatively with a partner, building friendships, encouraging teamwork and showing sportsmanship during game play.

**SKILLS**
- Players have plenty of opportunities to improve their tennis skills.

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School Tennis Squad.

If you would like to represent Booral Public School in interschool and competition tennis, squad training is on Thursday afternoon from 2-3pm with Mr Herden. Cost is $10.00 per session. The squad program will involve coaching and game play.

Enquiries 4992 1753.
Markets

The P & C will be once again holding Markets at school this year. Our first Market will be on Saturday 30th April. Please make a note of the date on your calendar & come along for a look.

Canteen

We really need some more volunteers to man the Canteen. Please consider helping out once a term. All money raised through the Canteen goes back to the school to fund many projects including Excursion subsidies & classroom learning aids. The children also enjoy the opportunity of being able to purchase their lunch & snacks once a week.

P & C Dates to Remember

1st March P & C Meeting 5.30pm
24th March Easter Raffle drawn—more info to follow
30th April Markets
Booral Public School Canteen Menu - Term 1 2016

Please write orders on a paper lunch bag (1 for recess, 1 for lunch) with the child's name, class, and food/drink order. Thank you.

Recess
Seasonal Fruit Cup $1.00
Jelly (Strawberry or Lime) 50c.
Choc Chip Muffin (Low Fat) $1.50
Lamington $1.50
Nuggets (Limit 6) 50c. each
Cheese and Bacon Bun $2.00

Drinks (Recess and Lunch)
Water $1.00
Popper (apple, orange, blackcurrant) $1.50
LOL (Razzbri, Tropical, B'currant) $1.50
Milk (Chocolate & Strawberry) $1.50

Snacks
Honey Soy Chips $0.90
Sunfruit Lollies $0.50
Jelly Sticks (Limit 5) $0.10
Happy Panda Biscuits $0.60
Sultanas $0.30
 Pretzels $0.80

Lunch
Sandwiches and Wraps (Lunch Only)
Vegetable $1.50
Cheese $1.50
Ham and Cheese $2.50
Cheese and Tomato $2.50
Ham, cheese and tomato $3.00
Tuna $2.50
Egg or Egg & lettuce $2.00
Salad $2.50
Ham or Chicken Salad $3.00

Tubs
Salad Tub $2.50
add ham or chicken breast $0.50
Seasonal Fruit Tub $1.00
Chicken Caesar Salad $4.00

Ice Blocks (Lunch Only)
Moose $1.00
Zooper Dooper $0.50
Frozen Yoghurt (Strawberry) $2.00

Hot Food (Lunch Only)
Lean Meat Pie $2.50
Lean Sausage Roll $2.00
Sauce (Tomato or BBQ) $0.30
Pizza (Ham & Cheese or Hawaiian) $2.50
-made fresh on Lebanese bread
Cheese and Bacon Bun $2.00
Spinach & Ricotta Roll $2.50

All sandwiches or wraps can be toasted for free.