Newsletter: Issue 19
Thursday 24th November 2011

The end of the year is fast approaching – only three school weeks left. Staff and Governing Council have reviewed our progress towards the targets we set for ourselves this time last year and are very pleased with the progress students have made in their learning, the way in which families have involved themselves in the life of the school and the way in which students have been more active in making decisions. Congratulations to our Year 7 students who were exemplary in their behaviour while on camp in Canberra last week. While they have their transition visit to Clare High School next week, students at Blyth will spend some time with their 2012 class teacher/s.

Cheers, Dzintra

“Nude Food” Day
A big thank you to all of the families who supported our Nude Food Day. Thank you also to the Middle Primary class who collected the data about the packaging that comes to school. We found that the amount of packaging at lunch time remained the same - alfoil and plastic wrap but at recess time there was a huge decrease in packaging. It goes to show, that with a little thought, we can all eat more healthily, reuse or recycle containers and reduce the amount of litter being dumped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Litter at Blyth PS</th>
<th>Nude Food Day</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9th Nov 2011</td>
<td>Wed 10th Nov 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chip Packet</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Wrap</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biscuit Wrapper</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popcorn Packet</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squeezie Yogurt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack Wrap</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll-Up Paper</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese Snack Dip</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Bag</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Wrap</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Straw” Plastic Wrap</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese Pod</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfoil</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foil Lid</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit Box</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk Bottle &amp; Lid</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yogurt Tub</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Patty Pans</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Active After School Activities
The last two teeball sessions are on Monday 28th November and Wednesday 7th December.

Canberra Trip
Last week the Year 7s travelled to Canberra and visited many places of interest including Parliament House, Old Parliament House, the War Memorial, Questacon, the National Gallery of Australia, The Royal Australian Mint and the National Museum of Australia. We acknowledge the funding of $60 per student that is provided by the Federal Government to help subsidise our children visiting our national capital for this wonderful educational week of activities.

Attachments with this newsletter
- Blyth Street Parade note – help with BBQ
- Scholastic Book Club orders
- Blyth Christmas Colouring Competition
**The Stanley Cricket U14**
The Stanley Cricket U14 Association side played Rocky River U14 Association side at Laura on Sunday. Rocky River won, however, Will Pratt was the winner of the trophy for Stanley's best player. Congratulations Will!

**School Photos**
There are still some school photos at the front office that parents haven't as yet collected.

**Sensational Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The UP Class</td>
<td>☺ For having a very positive attitude in all aspects of school life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison Ciardiello</td>
<td>☺ For an excellent medieval research poster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas McElroy</td>
<td>☺ For working well at his table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley Stirling</td>
<td>☺ For being a good listener and a good worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Williams</td>
<td>☺ For having the confidence to try new things</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luke King</td>
<td>☺ For excellent application to his work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brayden Eime</td>
<td>☺ For excellent application to work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jarrod Clarke</td>
<td>☺ For excellent application to his work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The JP Class</td>
<td>☺ For coping well with unexpected change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Concert**
All families and friends of students attending the school are invited to our School Concert at the Blyth Hall on Tuesday 13\(^{th}\) December. Children will need to be at the Hall by 6.45 pm for a 7.00 pm start. Please bring two plates of food to share for supper. To meet the costs of hall hire, a $2.50 entry fee applies to adults attending. There will be a raffle drawn on the night, and if we sing loudly enough Santa may visit us with a treat for the children.

**Parent Club**
Parent Club held its Election of Officers on Tuesday 22\(^{nd}\) Nov at the Blyth Hotel.
President: Charmain Angel
Vice President: Kathyne Clarke
Secretary: Tamara Pyrke
Treasurer: Kylie Williams
Finance Committee: Kylie Williams, Sam Jacka
Curriculum Committee: Katherine White, Charmain Angel

OSHC Committee: Tamara Pyrke
Governing Council Rep: Charmain Angel
We are still looking for representatives for the Grounds Committee and a Governing Council Proxy Rep. If you are interested in either of these positions could you please let Tamara or Charmain know.

For the end of year concert this year we are asking if families could please donate 1 dozen homemade biscuits, to go towards the teacher's presents, to be dropped off at the school before 9 am on Tues 13\(^{th}\) Dec or at the Hall after 9 am. Anyone who is able to help parent club in the morning with setting up for the concert at 9 am would be greatly appreciated. We would also appreciate if families could supply 2 plates of supper for the concert.

This year we will not be asking families for donations towards the concert raffle but will be having one on the night with tickets being $1 ea.

Tamara Pyrke, Secretary Mob Ph: 0438445118

**Christian Pastoral Support Worker News**
Hello everyone,
As I write this, I am thinking about preparations for the end of this year and the start of next year, harvest time and Christmas…... lots to plan and do over the next few weeks.

The Kids Helpline and Child and Youth Health websites contain lots of useful information about preparing for Christmas, emphasising that it's wise to plan ahead to lessen stress and avoid pitfalls. You can find tips about managing family tension, Christmas grief, and finances etc.

The following quote from CYH site about gift giving got my attention:

**Remember that the best present you can give children is your time. Children, especially young children, do not need or want a lot of expensive presents, but they do want time with you. A gift of time to children and others in our lives is worth a lot. It is a wonderful way to strengthen relationships with one another at any time of the year.**

**Christian Options Seminar**
Tomorrow morning from 9 -10 am, the Christian Options team led by Sarina King will present a seminar to students. This will focus on the story of Christmas from a Christian perspective.

A big Thankyou to the team for the two seminars they have presented this year. Your presentations are to be commended, and your efforts are much appreciated.

Take care, families, Mignon
German News

Many of our Christmas traditions have come to us from Germany. The Advent calendar is one of them. We are using this to introduce the ordinal numbers (first, second, third) and some of the older children have made an “Advent Kalendar”.

For St Martinstag, we made lanterns and the younger students re-enacted the story of St Martin helping a beggar and then having a procession with their lanterns.

Judy Goss, German teacher

Rec-Year 2 News

With our shortened school day, we are concentrating on time as in o’clock and minutes past (counting by 5’s) and half past. We will go further with Year 1s and 2s.

For Literacy we aren’t doing new spelling words, just revisiting sight words, handwriting, alphabetical order and nouns, pronouns, full stops and capital letters in grammar.

As the weather hasn’t been ideally hot, the children are changing into their clothes at the pool after swimming. The water is OK, but we don’t want them shivering.

Gabrielle Silvester & Cheryl Pyrke

Year 3-4 News

Hi parents,

The children have enjoyed swimming lessons this week, and, despite the cool weather, I have been told it was still beautiful in the water.

We are well and truly in the finishing off and revision end of the year, and the MP Class is working hard to complete all work. The class has been invited to sing for the Senior Citizen’s at the Blyth Town Hall on Sunday, December 4th.

More details to follow, but please mark this date in your diary. We would love to see your child there.

The class has decided that they would like to have a sleep-out for their end of term celebration. This will be held at school on Thursday, December 15th, again with more details to follow!

Cheers Kate

Year 5-7 News

The Year 7 students left on Sunday evening and after a 15 hour trip overnight arrived at Canberra on Monday morning about 8 o’clock.

We went to the National Capital Planning and Exhibition where we learned all about the history of Canberra and the way the city was designed. Then we had a tour of Government House and after lunch visited the Royal Australian Mint.

On Tuesday we went to Questacon Science Centre and participated in a lot of activities including the 6 metre free fall. We climbed up 6 metres, hung onto a bar and then let go and dropped 3 metres onto a slide which was great fun.

On Wednesday we visited the new and old Parliament Houses and had a cruise along Lake Burley Griffin.

On Thursday we visited the Textra Tower where we had a magnificent view of Canberra and then went to the Institute of Sport where we played lots of virtual video games.

At the Australian War Memorial we felt proud of the Australians who fought for our country and found the light shows very spectacular.

Year 7 students

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Blyth Christmas Street Carnival

Friday 16th December from 6.30 pm in the Blyth Main Street.

Fancy Dress and Bike competitions
Best decorated and Best Tasting Cup
Cakes/Muffin Competition
BBQ, Stalls, Trading Tables – cakes, biscuits, plants and vegetables greatly appreciated.

More details next newsletter.

Blyth Christmas Colouring Competition

Please find attached a colouring competition for children to complete if they wish. It may be returned to school or the Blyth Post Office by Friday 9th December. Prizes donated by the Blyth Cinema and winners will be announced at the Blyth Christmas Street Carnival on Friday 16th December.

Blyth Cinema

Fri 25th Nov 8.00 pm Bridesmaids (M) Comedy
Sat 26th Nov 6.00 pm Cars 2 (PG) Tickets $5
Sat 26th Nov 8.00 pm Super 8 (M)
Wed 30th Nov 1.30 pm Red Dog (PG)
Fri 2nd Dec 8.00 pm Super 8 (M)
Sat 3rd Dec 6.00 pm Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG)
Sat 3rd Dec 8.00 pm Mr Poppers Penguins (PG)
Tues 6th Dec 10.30 am Red Dog (PG)
Thurs 8th Dec 7.30 pm Red Dog (PG)
Fri 9th Dec 2.00 pm Red Dog (PG)