Old Bonalbo Public School

NEWSLETTER

Number: 22

Friday 31st July, 2015

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Urbenville Athletics
What a great day we enjoyed at Urbenville last Friday. Our students participated in a wide range of athletic events and deserve congratulations for their effort and attitude. Last Friday was a day for participation and that’s exactly what the students from both schools did. It was great to see our students supporting one another - and what about our parents ballgames team. What a great effort! Thank you to our parents for supplying transport and a wonderful cheer squad. I would like to thank everyone at Urbenville School for organising such a great day. I’ve been involved in this event since it began and I would like to thank everyone from both schools for supporting this day.

Upper Clarence District Athletics
The Upper Clarence District Athletics Carnival will be held at Tabulam tomorrow. Could everyone please make sure they are at Tabulam School no later than 10am.

Thank You Joshua
Joshua Weston spent last week on work experience at our school. I would like to thank Joshua for the effort he put into every activity he was involved in. Joshua worked with students from both classrooms and told me that he really enjoyed working at our school. Well done Joshua.

University English Competition
Well done to Braeleigh Newton and Danielle Guagliardo who took part in the University of NSW English Competition last Tuesday. These are challenging competitions and Braeleigh and Danielle deserve congratulations for having a go.

Benchmarking
Our students have recently been benchmarked in their reading skills. Benchmarking is one measure of a students progress in reading. Please contact your child’s teacher to find out how your child went in the benchmarking. A big thank you to Lauren Hankinson from Urbenville for conducting the benchmarking for us.

Coffs Harbour Excursion
A permission note for the Coffs Harbour excursion has been sent home today. If you have any questions about this excursion please contact me at school.

Touch Football
Our school will not be participating in the NSW PSSA Touch Football Knockout Competition this year. We have been taking part for the past 6 years.

Big Room Awards
Student of the Week: Savannah Thamm for a great effort in Athletics
Danielle Guagliardo – for excellent writing skills
Braeleigh Newton – for excellent work in Maths

Star Spellers
Star spellers for the Big Room this week are Beau, Travis, Lachlan G, Lachlan M, Danielle, Katie & Latrelle. Well done!!

Little Room News
SRC Pet Day
In recent weeks the SRC has put together an impressive range of interesting and exciting suggestions of activities for Term 3 and 4 this year.
As well as our current annual activities such as athletics carnivals, Life Education Van visit, combined school activities, our excursion to Coffs Harbour has also been scheduled for this term. Students on the SRC have elected to have a pet day which will be held on Friday 4th September (Week 8) of this term. Categories and prizes will be announced closer to the date but will most likely be:
*Most interesting
*Funnest
*Cutest (snakes and tarantulas will probably not fall in this category)
*Smartest
*Best Pet Owner
*The one that looks most like its owner (look alike award)

Running Records (Bench Marking)
This term a number of students K-6 have been bench marked to determine some aspects of their reading progress since beginning of Term 1. Running records capture what children know and understand about the reading process. Running Records are taken to:
*Guide teaching
*Note strategies used
*Match readers to appropriate texts
*Determine growth over time
*Group and regroup children for instruction

From running records you have evidence of what the child is able to do, ready to learn, and learning over a period of time. A running record is not just the recording of right and wrong words. It required observing all behaviours to help determine the ‘thinking process’ children are using as they read the text. All students have shown positive skills and improvements in the reading levels and reading process and we are looking forward to seeing these skills and knowledge continue to grow.

**Spelling Test**

No spelling test was completed this week K-2 due to a shortened week. Next week we will continue with our weekly spelling activities as normal.

**Home Reading Program**

Please continue with our home reading program each night of the week. Remember to ask for a retell or summary of the text after it has been read. When assessing a child’s retell, listen for:
* general understanding of the story
* accurate reporting of events (non-fiction)
* sequencing of events
* words and phrases used from the text
* corrections to personal knowledge and experience
* use of effective vocabulary
* elements of character and setting
* supporting details (non-fiction)

**Fitzroy Readers**

All students K-2 have been allocated with a set of 10 Fitzroy Readers to use during their home reading program. Learners make faster progress with the Fitzroy Readers because of the logical progression of new sounds. There are no surprises in the Fitzroy method. Each new sound (such as a, er, all or tions) is introduced with a particular story. The immediate reward of each Reader is that children can decipher more of the words they see in the world around them. A few new special (non-phonic) words – such as what and eye – are also introduced with each story. The new sounds and special words are rehearsed before starting the story – then the child finds they can read the story for themselves. This gives the learner confidence, enthusiasm and a sense of ownership of the written language.

**Sight Words**

Please continue to revise a small list of sight words each week. Sight word recognition is essential to reading progress.

**Coffs Harbour Excursion**

The countdown has begun for the Coffs Harbour Excursion. Big thanks to Mr Gray for organising the entire trip away and what an exciting event this will be for all students and parents involved! We are so lucky to have such a great Term 3 adventure!

**Big Room Science & Technology**

This term Year 3-6 students will be participating in a range of practical activities and classroom lessons consisting of some revision topics from previous years as well as some new and exciting areas to cover.
- Week 1 Mini beasts/Insects
- Week 2 Soils and Rocks
- Week 3 Dinosaurs/Materials in the classroom
- Week 4 Sorting Materials/Fossils
- Week 5 Rocks and Soils
- Week 6 Recycling
- Week 7-9 Light and Shadows
- Week 10 Solar Energy

We look forward to accessing a range of Interactive Science programs to assist with student learning and scientific concepts.

**Awards**

Erika – 175 Nights Reading
Sharlynn – Great Reading Progress

**Important Dates**

TOMORROW – District Athletics at Tabulam
Tuesday 11th August – University Maths Comp
Thursday 13th August – Life Education Van
Friday 14th August – Zone Athletics Carnival in Lismore
Wednesday 19th August – Friday 21st August – Excursion to Coffs Harbour
Friday 4th September – SRC Pet Day

Important Dates

Friday 26th June – Last day for this term
Monday 13th July – School Development Day
Tuesday 14th July – Students return for term three
Tuesday 14th July – K-2 Dental Hygiene Visit
Friday 24th July – Urbenville Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 28th July – University English Comp
Friday 31st July – District Athletics at Tabulam
Tuesday 11th August – University Math