STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Achievement Awards for Term 2, Week 1:

Achievement Award K-2: Rumi for always being a helpful class member and a very hard worker.

Achievement Award 3-6: Abbey for a very enthusiastic start to Term 2.

Lexia Award to Will level 9.

K-2 Fish Bit Winners for Term 2, Week 1 are Mitchel and Eden.

3-6 Team of the Week is ... the Purple team.

Magic 100 awards to Eden and Kaii for completing the Green Level, Heather and Toby for completing the Orange Level, Mitchel for completing the Indigo Level, Eshua for completing the Pink Level and Rumi for completing the Aqua Level.

Well done everyone!

ANZAC Day Talk

On Thursday Mr and Mrs Franklin came to visit our school to give us a talk all about ANZAC Day. Mr Franklin showed us many things such as a heliograph which is used to send messages with the sun and mirrors making reflections, a periscope rifle, grenades (that were not loaded) and much more. He told us that the first gunshot from World War One was shot in Melbourne and the first military action was going up to New Guinea. Mr Franklin also showed us a helmet from the battle field and a drinking bottle that they used. A few of the students were able to lift a stretcher with a student on it. Mr Franklin told us of some of the strategies used and how they survived in the war. I thought it was a good educational visit. Hannah Smith
ANZAC Day March
Thank you to everyone who came along and represented the school at the 100 Year Commemoration of ANZAC Day in Bellingen on Saturday morning. It was a moving ceremony with a wonderful tribute given by Debbie Locke remembering her brother, Matthew Locke, and all who have been affected by war. Mrs KD and I were so proud of our students who were so well behaved and respectful despite the heat. Well done everyone.

Bellinger District PSSA Cross Country Carnival
Students from Year 2 to 6 will be participating in the Bellinger District PSSA Cross Country Carnival on Friday 8th May at Bowraville Recreation Grounds in Bowraville. Please see attached permission note that will need to be returned to school by Friday 1st May.

K-2 News
First week back and everyone has settled right back into normal school routines. Last week in maths we were learning about counting back and counting in groups. With the help of Charlie we played some challenging Developing Efficient Numeracy Strategies (DENS) games. In becoming effective users of mathematics, students develop and use a range of methods of solving problems. These strategies tend to become more sophisticated as better ways of determining the answer are developed.
School Transition and Readiness Training (START)
This term pre-school students will be joining the K-2 class for the START program. This very worthwhile transition to school program is an excellent way to engage children in play based learning activities to use and develop thinking skills such as problem solving, reasoning and lateral thinking. The children will engage in gross motor skills which are an important prerequisite for the fine motor skills needed in the classroom setting. They will also engage in fundamental movement skills which are the building blocks of movement and allow for successful participation in games, sports and other activities.
Students will join the K-2 class from recess on Friday 8th May. Please note change of date from 1st May. Thank you.

Australian Early Development Census
Playing our part to build a national picture of child health
What is the AEDC?
In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school to build a national picture of health and wellbeing. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families.
Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children don’t need to be present so no class time is missed, and parents/carers don’t need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers’ individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.
In other communities across the country, census results have helped communities to plan new playgrounds and parental services; schools are seeing improved student performance through new literacy programmes; and governments are using the results as evidence to develop better policies for children.

3-6 News
This week the students have been getting used to a slightly new routine. Our reading programme will involve reading box activities targeted at the individual readers’ level, independent novel reading with guided novel study sessions and visual literacy with an indigenous focus. Again writing will be a feature of the term’s focus, especially persuasive texts and creative writing.
Our students are participating in a programme called “Home Grown Heroes”. This involves learning about reconciliation using art as the medium of exploration. Mr K will support this unit of work in HSIE by looking at some of Australia’s history. I hope by the end of the project we will have several group art works to enter into the Home Grown Heroes Reconciliation Challenge.
The students have begun a unit called “The Material World” in science and will be exploring the properties of various materials to help them understand why we use certain materials for specific jobs. Already I can see the challenges ahead as 3-6 possesses many enquiring minds. Together we will learn.
Looking forward to the term ahead, Ms Anforth.
Teachers have also noticed practical benefits in the classroom. Some said in previous years that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole. Others reported that the census results are useful in planning for transitions to school and for developing class programmes. Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don’t need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website.

Stewart House Day
Each year 1800 public school children in need go to Stewart House from many parts of NSW and the ACT. During their stay, children are provided with optometric, dental and medical treatment as well as emotional support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost their self-esteem and promote a healthier lifestyle. Stewart House needs your support to ensure that they can continue to provide important services to children. If you would like to help this worthy cause and be in the draw to win a $4000 holiday to a destination of your choice, please place a gold coin donation in the envelope provided and return by 8th May.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2015
The ICAS are annual assessments with a competitions element developed for school students in Years 2 to 12. If you would like your child to participate in any of these tests please notify the school. The subjects, dates and prices are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Price (incl. GST)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tues, 19 May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wed, 3 June</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Mon, 15 June – Fri, 19 June</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tues, 16 June</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tues, 28 July</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tues, 11 August</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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For more information visit their website: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

@ ORAMA PUBLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week 3, Term 2
Fri, 8th May
- START program for Kinder students 2016
- District Cross Country, Bowraville Recreation Ground
- Stewart House envelopes due

Week 8, Term 2
Tues, 9th June
School Photographer visit

Bellingen Show
This year the Bellingen Show will be held on 9th and 10th May. Attractions will include Murphy’s puppets, face painting, old MacDonald’s farm, Kids passport, pavilion entries, colouring in competition and much more. Everything you need to know including entry forms can be found online at: www.bellingenshow.com.au.

Till next week,

Liz Arnold
Absences
A short note of explanation is required when your child is absent from school. This is for legal purposes. Phone calls may be made to explain absences but a follow up note is also required. Please see the bottom of the newsletter for a proforma which can be used. These are in the newsletter weekly.

Record of Absence
Student’s Name..................................................................
Date of Absence/s...............................................................
Reason for Absence.............................................................
..........................................................................................
Signed..................................................................................
Date....................................................................................

“Orama Made”
Don’t know what to do for dinner? Try some of our school made PESTO.
The students have been making another batch of fresh pesto from our school grown basil and we would love for you to try some. It is wonderful with pasta, on toast, a wrap, a pastry scroll, as a pizza sauce or even in mashed potato!
Jars are available for $5 each. (Pesto ingredients: basil, olive oil, almonds, lemon juice, garlic, parmesan cheese.)
Also available are bunches of fresh basil for $3, lemon grass stems 2 for $1 and fresh lemongrass leaves in bags (ready for a herbal infusion) $2.