We are very fortunate in our small school that our students are able to experience great fun and sport during recess and lunch times.

Our sports shed is full of exciting equipment for all sorts of games and skills development. The children take advantage of the equipment that we have to offer, and as you can see by these photographs, they certainly make the most of playtime and the equipment.

The children attended the performance of ‘The Barber of Seville’ at Exeter Public School last Friday.

It is mutually beneficial for both schools that we can come together for these performances, as neither school could afford the cost on our own. (More photos on Page ***)

On 25th February, teachers attended the CPR training at Berrima Public School after school in order to meet the Department of Education’s mandatory requirements.

It is important that this is updated each year in order for all students, visitors and staff to know that we are fully trained in the event of this type of emergency. We were also trained in the use of a defibrillator (though it is a shame we do not have one on site).

You may be aware that there is a nasty virus going around with flu like symptoms. Unfortunately both Ms Payne and I have been laid low with this virus and are still recovering from the after effects.

Most of the time, we contract these viruses from the students. It is important that you, as we do, teach your child about personal hygiene. That is, washing hands after blowing their noses, using a tissue to blow their nose as this is easily disposed of and coughing into the inside of their elbow instead of their hand.

It is also very important that when your child has cold or flu like symptoms that they are kept at home until they are recovered. Unfortunately this is often not the case and teachers and students become infected by children being at school when they are obviously unwell. It is also important to note that should students have a vomiting and/or diarrhea ‘bug’ that they not return to school until 24 hours after the last bout of vomiting or diarrhea.
It is now law that people who are working with children need to complete a Working With Children Check.
Whether paid or volunteer this now needs to be completed.

What does this mean for our school?
Any new teacher graduates will have already undergone this process with the Department of Education and Communities before Approval to Teach accreditation has taken place.
Any new volunteers in the school will need to complete and sign a declaration stating that they have not been prohibited from working with children and provide a 100 point identity check (much the same as opening a bank account).
Those volunteers who have already been working in our school, will only need to complete and sign the declaration. A 100 point check is not necessary.
Please ask the classroom teacher for the declaration when you are next on class.

One for those of us who are chronologically challenged.
“The young person knows the rules, but the old person knows the exceptions.”
The vision of our school is to prepare our students academically, socially, emotionally and physically in order for them to fully participate in their secondary education, and by doing so that they will become fully functioning, informed and contributing adult members of their community.

PBS News!!!

Here is the list of our students who have already achieved 10 stickers! Remember 50 stickers by the end of Term 2 means an excursion to the cinema!!!!

Joshua          Allan          Montana
Sam            Tahlia          Nicholas
Clare          Angus           Ruby
Georgina       Noah            Charlotte
Chloe          Jamie           Hamish

Remember, you are an effective learner if you are:

Honest, Responsible, Respectful, Safe and are the Best You Can Be!

Sports Information

Ms Payne has requested that her class bring their joggers/sneakers for daily Cross Country practice.

Years 3-6 are also enjoying their gymastics PE lessons with Ms Payne.

K-6 are participating in ball game practice in teams for the Cross-Country Ball Games Gala Day at Berrima Public School.

Don’t forget the P&C Meeting Monday 31st March at 6pm in the Library classroom!!!!
**REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS**

Congratulations to Clare who participated in the relay race! Well done, Clare!

**STAFFING CHANGES**

Unfortunately, due to declining student enrolments Ms Payne will most likely be transferred to another school in Term 2.

We all have enjoyed having Ms Payne as a teacher and colleague at our school and are greatly dismayed that she will have to move on.

Although we will lose a small amount of funding I have been informed that we will receive some additional staffing entitlements. This will result in Mrs Trevenen being able to stay on for four days per week.

Mrs Trevenen will remain teaching K-2 for four days per week. I will be teaching Years 3-6 for four days per week. On the fifth day both classes will be combined for my Principals Release day. They will also be combined for 2 hours per week for both Mrs Trevenen’s and my Release from Fact to Face teaching.

Considering the circumstances, I believe that this will be the best possible outcomes for both the students and teachers at our school.

At this stage, without additional families moving into the area and the lack of siblings coming through from existing families, I will also be facing transfer in 2015.

Jacquie Crockford
Africa!

Our combined Human Society and its Environment and Science and Technology unit on Africa has been progressing beautifully. The students in both classes are greatly enjoying the art/craft projects and the David Attenborough DVD ‘Africa’ enormously.

We study this unit on Wednesdays (now called Wonderful Wednesdays) and the daily timetable is as follows:

If you have time, please feel free to pop into the classrooms when collecting or leaving your child to have a look around at their work which is displayed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>K-3</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Y3-6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Year 3 join us</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Exploring life cycles, water cycles, pollination and Photosynthesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Modelled reading on an African book</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>African Drumming lesson</td>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>African Drumming lesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>Exploring maps and terrain of Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Watching and studying “Africa” DVD</td>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>“Africa” DVD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Christian Religious Education</td>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Christian Religious Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>Art/Craft African learning experiences</td>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>Learning experiences—the complex life and ecosystems in the various environments that are found in the African continent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WORKING BEE

I am endeavouring to get a ‘working bee’ happening at school in order to catch up on some ground maintenance, clean out the container on the back oval and grind the stumps where we have removed trees.

If you will be available to help on Sunday 6th April and/or know how to use a stump grinder, please phone Regina or email me, to let us know.

We will supply a sausage sizzle and salad for lunch.

Jacquie Crockford
### March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 P&amp;C Meeting Student Banking</td>
<td>18 Y3-6 Library</td>
<td>19 African Drums</td>
<td>20 K-2 Library</td>
<td>21 Sport</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Student Banking Kindy photos in local paper</td>
<td>25 Y3-6 Library</td>
<td>26 African Drums</td>
<td>27 K-2 Library</td>
<td>28 Sport</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Student Banking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### April 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 Cross-Country race at Berrima PS</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 K-6 Taronga Zoo Excursion</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 Last day of Term 1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25 ANZAC Day March</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Teachers Return Term 2</td>
<td>29 Students Return Term 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unfortunately, I have not received any copies of the ‘School Satisfaction Survey’ which was attached to the last newsletter. This survey is carried out periodically and informs a section in the Annual School Report.

I need to be able to report on this in the Annual School Report which is due to be completed by 31st March.

The planning for our Zoo excursion is coming along nicely and costs will be in the vicinity of $37 per student and siblings over 3 years old, $57 for adults, $20 for under 3s and $20 for bus travellers only (those who wish a trip to the city for the day).

I know that this is expensive, but we only have an excursion like this every 2-3 years.

An expression of interest is attached to this newsletter.

Remember, start paying now. It will be so much easier to manage the cost this way.

Some early notifications:

The Annual Cross-Country Race and Ball Games will be held at Berrima Public School on 4th April 2014. Cross-Country and Ball Game practise will be integrated into the sports and PE programs.

The Athletics carnival will be at Eridge Park on 13th June and we will be running the Infants’ activities.

The Cricket Gala Day is on 15th August at Hampden Park.

We will be hosting our Biannual Highland’s Small Schools’ Aboriginal Cultural Day on 12th September. Our P&C will be catering for this and will need all the help they can get, as we usually have 400+ people attending.

Also, we invite the families of our Aboriginal children to participate and perhaps share their stories with us.

If you know of someone who is an Aboriginal person who can contribute their cultural knowledge or skills to this fabulous day, please let me know as soon as possible. I will be inviting our local Aboriginal Elders to participate in the planning and implementation of this day very shortly.

I will also be contacting Moss Vale High School and Bowral High School to see if their Aboriginal students will assist us once again.

This will be the highlight of our year and we are looking forward to working with the Aboriginal community to again make this event successful.

The costing is not yet finalised for the Small Schools’ Year 5&6 camp. All of the children are expected to attend. If you are worried about the cost or that your children will not cope, please contact so that I can discuss this with you and we can put in place early strategies to overcome these concerns as soon as possible.

I am pleased to announce that I have been accepted for the NSW Primary Principals’ Association Principal Credential Course.

The initial formal learning is provided through a residential seminar that enables access to international best practice educational research and thinking. The seminar includes facilitated collegial learning and focused individual learning, scaffolded through a personalised professional learning plan and the development of a school action research and learning plan.

The credential program is designed to challenge participants in leading improvement, innovation and change within their school setting.

I will be attending the first of the residential sessions on Monday 31st March and Tuesday 1st April.

I am enthusiastically looking forward to the on-flow of benefits to our school from my participation in this program.

Jacquie Crockford

Invitation: I would like to invite members of our school community to assist us in developing our 2014-2016 Sutton Forest Public School Plan. I would like to begin planning in Term 2, as this can be a long and challenging process. Please let me know if you are interested.
The community of Sutton Forest Public School acknowledges that our school stands upon the land of the Gundungurra people.