Parent Information Sessions and Community BBQ
Well done to all of those people who were able to take up the invitation to meet their child’s teacher at last week’s information sessions. Feedback from those attending was that it was valuable to hear what the routines, opportunities and expectations are for their child in their new class and grade. The mood was buoyant for our BBQ and it was nice to share a meal with all of the people who stayed around after the sessions and mingled. A reminder if you have any questions about your child, please contact your child’s teacher.

Draft Homework Policy
The school is aware that homework can often be one of the things which can be a real issue for people at school. It is also a difficult thing as people’s personal opinions on homework can be very different, and the research is still very unclear as to the true benefits of homework for students. Staff have then created a draft school policy on homework which is currently open for public comment. If you would like to comment on this then ask for a copy of this draft from the school office and return your thoughts to the office by the next newsletter, Tuesday March 3. The thrust of the policy is that homework should be relevant to student’s class work, high quality tasks which are meaningful to the student and communication between students, staff and parents should be ensured to make homework work. Please also understand that according to NSW DEC regulations, homework should be offered but cannot be made compulsory.

Please be careful!
We wish to remind everyone to please take incredible care when parking and transporting their children into or away from school each day. The Jets Car Park is a great resource for our families to utilise for parking when the weather is fine, but due to the poor draining of their car park is not an option for us to use after heavy rain. The school is actively investigating options for the future but there are no simple resolutions to this issue. As such, if you are parking on the side of the road away from the school, please have physical contact with your child until you are in the school grounds to ensure no tragic accident ever takes place, or utilise our “Kiss and Drop” drop off and pick up area. Thank you!
**UP & COMING SCHOOL EVENTS**

**TERM 1 WEEK 4**
- **Wednesday 18th February**
  - District Swimming Carnival
- **Friday 20th February**
  - K-2 Responsible Pet Day
  - Harmony Day
  - FNC Zone Swimming

**TERM 1 WEEK 5**
- **Monday 23rd February**
  - CBA Banking Sign on for students
  - Japanese Drums visit
- **Thursday 26th February**
  - TRHS visit to BPS “Info Session”
- **Friday 27th February**
  - Canteen Sushi Day

**TERM 1 WEEK 6**
- **Monday 2nd March**
  - Daily News Kindy Photos
- **Wednesday 4th March**
  - Firefly Sound Waves
- **Friday 6th March**
  - Yr 6 TRHS Sports Taster Day

**TERM 1 WEEK 7**
- **Wednesday 11th March**
  - P&C AGM
- **Thursday 12th March**
  - District Winter Sports Trials
- **Friday 13th March**
  - FNC AFL Trials

**TERM 1 WEEK 8**
- **Thursday 19th March**
  - School Photo’s
  - TRHS Parent Info Night for 2016 Year 7
- **Friday 20th March**
  - Year 6 Leadership Day—Brisbane

**TERM 1 WEEK 9**
- **Monday 23rd March**
  - Parent/Teacher Interviews commence
- **Friday 27th March**
  - NC AFL Trials
  - Earth Hour Schools Day
  - GATS @ TRHS Maths

**TERM 1 WEEK 10**
- **Monday 30th March**
  - Cross Country
- **Tuesday 31st March**
  - Zone Winter Trials
- **Thursday 2nd April**
  - Easter Hat Parade & Picnic Lunch
- **Friday 3rd April**
  - Public Holiday—Good Friday

**TERM 2 WEEK 1**
- **Monday 20th April**
  - School Development Day
- **Tuesday 21st April**
  - Students resume for Term 2
- **Friday 24th April**
  - ANZAC Day Service

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**Please understand...**

School staff are noticing that more and more students are bringing in personal belongings and toys to school to play with. Can we please stress that these are only to be brought in with the understanding that the school cannot take any responsibility for these goods.

As you can imagine, sorting out conflicts between students over personal belongings, and solving problems when things like a lego piece become lost, broken or not shared can be very difficult and can actually hijack the learning environment.

Thank you!

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**The web site cracks 1000**

We can report that with the recent merit selection process we averaged well over 1000 hits per week on our school website. It is located at [http://www.bilambil-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.bilambil-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)/

Have a look sometime!

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**Snakes**

Your child might have recounted a few tales recently from school about snakes. I can confirm that we have had several small snakes of different species spotted around the school recently.

I am very impressed with how our students have responded. Students have been quick to inform staff and understand to be wary of our snake warning sign and to stay well away from the creatures. Please reinforce the importance of being safe around snakes with your child.
A Message from the 2015 Student Representative Council

Give Kids a Chance

We believe that education is the best way to change the world. The Pencil Tree is doing that in a very simple way. Providing pencils, paper & books to school kids in rural India & Nepal.

It's easy to help!
Donate your old mobile phones
• working or broken
• we can convert them into pencils & books
An estimated 14 million unused mobiles are gathering dust in our cupboards in Australia alone!

Help the environment & help these kids!
Contact us now!
Any help greatly received
Even as small as a gold coin!

The Pencil Tree
the penciltree@hotmail.com
www.penciltree.wordpress.com
www.facebook.com/thepenciltree
call or text Steven: 0413 888 790
If you would like to help in any way we'd love to hear from you!

What is the SRC?
The SRC is a group of students in a school elected by their fellow students.

SRC members represent all students in the school and organise ways for students to participate and contribute to their school community.

We are really looking forward to organising events that will raise money for our school and helping much needed charities.

The first charity we would like to help is the Pencil Tree Charity. We will have a box at the front office if you are able to help.
LIBRARY NEWS
TERM 1
A new year has begun and the library is ready for all those enthusiastic borrowers, with plenty of new and popular titles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Library borrowing</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/2P</td>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>KB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>3/4W</td>
<td>KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td></td>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>K/1L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All children except year 5/6 are asked to use a library bag.

The Library is also open Monday – Thursday at lunchtime for all students, and for those who wish to borrow again.

BUS SAFETY and TRAVEL
Surfside Buses have begun weekly notifications to schools of minor code of conduct matters to ensure open communication between the Bus Company, parents, schools and students.

They have identified minor code of conduct behaviour as:

⇒ No fare/bus pass
⇒ Eating/ littering
⇒ Won’t stay seated
⇒ Won’t do as directed

We hope that all parents and carers appreciate the need for all children to have a safe and pleasant trip to and from school.

All Kindergarten children will experience a bus orientation lesson with Surfside bus Company later this term.

Wendy Brazel & Christine Hassall
Bus Safety Committee

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SRC Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains</th>
<th>Kaycee-Jane W</th>
<th>Luke J</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice School Captains</td>
<td>Amy R</td>
<td>Joseph B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Taji V</td>
<td>Drew M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4H</td>
<td>Keeli K</td>
<td>Aiden C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4W</td>
<td>Tiani B</td>
<td>Will D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Ella P</td>
<td>Jett C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>Braeleigh J</td>
<td>Joshua C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Jade B</td>
<td>Andrew B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House Captains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COUGALS</td>
<td>Eliza B, Jayden A</td>
<td>Lilly C, Zeph B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOLLUMBIN</td>
<td>Stella R, Indi V</td>
<td>Madison T, Tylor H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINJUNGbal</td>
<td>Xalia S, Jack S</td>
<td>Kiarni K, Shay L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 Week 3</th>
<th>Term 1 Week 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
<td>Ava M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Isla A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1L</td>
<td>Justin M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Summer B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Lily P, Franklin S, Mia-Elise T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2P</td>
<td>Caitlin A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Tahitia F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4H</td>
<td>Huntsar C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4W</td>
<td>Pedro R</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>Joshua C</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Ashley H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Logan W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaycee-Jane W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BPS Swimming Carnival

Last Monday, 9th February 2015 all students aged 8 and older participated in our annual school swimming carnival at Club Banora. Student involvement was excellent with over 150 plus students in attendance. The aim of the carnival was to provide all students with the opportunity to participate in both formal races and also novelty events both in and out of the pool. A big thank you must go to all of the parent helpers and volunteers from the local Masters Swimming Organisation who helped out with timekeeping and marshalling activities on the day.

As a result of the formal program, 26 of our students have qualified for the District Swimming Carnival to be held at the Oasis Pool, Club Banora tomorrow. I will be accompanying Bilambil students on the day and we wish our swimmers all the best. Any parent volunteers of the children who are attending would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me at school if you are able to assist.

Swimming Champions

Senior Champions: Indi V & Talia L
11 Year Old Champions: Owen G & Stella R
Junior Champions: Jascha R & Sarah Mc

A great first carnival for the year!
Jarrod Menin
Sports Co-ordinator
School Photo's
Thursday 19th March, 2015

Individual school photo envelopes were sent home with your child today (Tuesday 17th February), if you wish for a student's family group photo, the oldest member of the family may collect a yellow family photo envelope from the admin office.

Any envelope not received prior to, or on Thursday 19 March 2015 will NOT be processed. Any parents wishing to have school photos after this date would need to contact the School Photographer directly themselves on 02 9674 9824.

Please note photo money all goes direct to “The School Photographer”. Unfortunately you are not able to pay for this via our school website. However the order has an on-line payment option or place cash or cheques in the envelope.

Peter Halloran AP
Organising Teacher

Write 4 Fun Competition

All students in all grades from K – 6 are welcome to enter the 2015 Writing competition by writing poems or short stories. Entry is free and there are fantastic prizes including tablets, play station and an Xbox as well as cash prizes up to $1000. There is no particular theme – so let your imagination run wild!

Entries are due by 23rd March, 2015 (Week 9). For more information regarding entry requirements please see Mrs Butler.

Sharon Butler AP
Organising Teacher

Go4Fun

Free Healthy Lifestyle Program for kids 6.5 to 13 years

- Helps kids reach a healthy weight
- Fun games & exercise for kids
- Build self-esteem & motivation

CALL: 1800 780 900

Play AFL

Tweed Coolangatta Juniors

Sign-On Day
21st February 2015
11am to 12.30pm
Tweed Heads Bowls Club

Dental treatment for children under 18 years of age is free at NSW Public Dental Health Clinics.

NORTHERN NSW CLINICS Phone: 1300 651 625
Tweed Heads, Portsville, Murwillumbah, Mullumbimby, Ballina, Goonellabah, Casino, Nimbin, Maclean, Grafton, Yamba
KEYBOARD LESSONS WITH BARBARA DOWNES

Keyboard lessons will begin on Monday 23rd February, 2015. Please note lessons are $15.00 each. If you are interested please fill out the form below and return to the Admin Office before 23rd February, 2015. Students are required to bring a display book to hold their music.

I supply keyboards for the lesson. Please put payment in an envelope stating the child’s name, keyboard lessons, amount enclosed and the date.

If you require any further information, please ring 07 5590 9762.

Musically
Barbara Downes

Mary Smith
Keyboard Lessons
$15.00
25/02/2015

Name ___________________________________    Age _______________    Class ________________
Experience if any _________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
Parents Name ___________________________________  Contact No: ___________________________
We sincerely thank our advertisers for their support of our school. The NSW Department of Education and Communities and Bilambil Public School do not endorse these companies or their services and products.

* Call 07 55907238 or 0414284022 to arrange a visit or make an enquiry.