From the Principal
As this is the last Newsletter for the term I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, staff, students and community members for their continued hard work and support of our students’ learning. I have had the opportunity to meet with many of our parents and have very much appreciated the way we have been able to work together to promote the learning culture within our school.

Congratulations to all who participated in the Easter Hat Parade. It was a fun filled morning. A special thank you to Mrs Garnon, for her organisation and also to our School Captains and Prefects who wonderfully supported all the classes, Preschool to Year 2 as they paraded. Well done to our Years 3 to 6 students who used their creative flair to produce Easter artworks. The winners of this competition will be displayed in the front office during the last week of this term.

We are looking forward to finishing the term off with a Cross Country/Fun Run tomorrow, weather permitting. Also on Friday we look forward to welcoming Edrei Cullen, a visiting author, and a representative from Western Sydney University, Emily Thomson to our Books in Homes - Book Giving Assembly. Through this scheme each student at our school receives 3 books 3 times per year. We are very grateful for the sponsorship that allows this to occur.

Please note that Term 2 begins on Wednesday 1st May, 2013 This is because all staff at the beginning of Term 2 will engage in 2 days of professional learning because of the introduction of the National Curriculum.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE - YOUR CHILD’S INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CARE PLAN/UPDATE

So that we can effectively manage your child’s needs/conditions, it is necessary that we have a current and accurate medical plan. These plans may be for asthma, allergies etc. If you are unsure of what to provide, please see Mrs Starling at the office.

Thankyou
Bidwill Public School is striving for equity, engagement and excellence - Grow in understanding.

**Thumbs Up Award**

**Kathleen (6H)**

Outstanding effort
1st & 2nd place in Mini Trots competition.

**Hope You had a Happy Easter!**

The students in K-6 G celebrated Easter by not only baking & icing an Easter Bunny cake (centre), but also creating a hat as per their favourite character.

From left to right Easter~Chick, Mad Hatter, Bride, Aussie Indian, Soccer Man, Thomas the Tank & Bunny.

**Life Education**

In Term 2, Weeks 1 and 2 the children K-6 will be attending the Healthy Harold Centre in Colyton.

Students will be learning about healthy living including healthy food and body, friendships and relationships, safety of medicines and the dangers of smoking.

Please return $3.50 in an envelope with the permission slip to the school office by the end of the term 1.

Students are to wear full school uniform and bring their packed lunch in their school bags.

If students wish to purchase souvenirs from the centre, they can bring extra money in an envelope marked with their full name and class, on the day of their excursion. There are Healthy Harold souvenirs on display in the school office.

Catherine Yard

**House Name Changes**

Last year I sent out a survey on changes to our school sport house names and these were the suggestions put forward by the community: Cathy Freeman, Mark Geyer, John Newcombe, Dawn Fraser, Jessica Fox, Donald Bradman, Ian Thorpe, Moana Gerrard, Lleyton Hewitt, Harry Kewell, Tim Cahill, Brett Lee, Sally Pearson, Kurtley Beale, and Brad Fittler.

If you would like to vote for your top four please write them down and hand to the office.

Thanks

Mrs Cox

**STRANGER DANGER WARNING**

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Our school has been advised by the School Education Director to provide you with information about stranger danger.

We are asking all parents to be vigilant and remind children of the NO, GO, TELL child protection strategy taught at school. This strategy means if ever a child is unsafe, that they should say “NO” – immediately “GO” away and “TELL” a trusted adult about their concern.

I would urge you to talk to your children about being vigilant with their personal safety at all times. If possible an adult should walk with children. Reminders for children should be:

- Do not speak with or accept any lifts from any strangers.
- Do not accept any gifts from strangers.
- Travel in groups rather than individually to and from school.
- Report any suspicious activity to parents and teachers.

The safety and security of your children is paramount and the school has procedures in place that align with the Child Protection curriculum.

If you have any concerns please contact me at any time.

Mrs King

Principal

**Fun Run/Cross Country**

Tomorrow, 4th April, will be our Fun Run/Cross Country event on the school oval. It will commence with K-2 at 9.30am and 3-6 will join us at 10.15. Please remind students to wear sports clothes and shoes and bring water and a hat. Parents are welcome to come and watch. If it rains tomorrow the Cross Country/Fun Run will be postponed to Monday 8th April, however the Year 6 BBQ Fundraiser will still go ahead.

Thanks

Mrs Cox

**Year 5 and 6 Fundraiser**

Slice drive order forms are due in by Friday 5th April 2013

**Supa Slice Drive**
What is the P&C?
Joining our school’s P&C is a great way to support your children and our school. Our P&C involves people just like you – parents and community minded people who want to help our school. P&C Associations are an officially recognised forum where anyone interested in the welfare of students attending government schools can meet to discuss educational issues. The P&C works very closely with our school towards building a stronger school community - where all children benefit! Actions speak louder than words when it comes to valuing your child’s learning.

Joining the P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education. Your child’s educational abilities are enhanced with your involvement. By joining the P&C you are showing your children how committed you are to helping our students and school community.

Some benefits to the students and school include:
• Parent’s voice in school matters
• Financial support for ‘extras’
• Enhanced learning environment
• Supporting school outcomes
• A nutritious and healthy school
• Quality school uniforms
• Creating close school community ties

Getting involved in our P&C doesn’t mean you’re taking up a fulltime job. We know you are busy and we value any amount of time you can spare. Joining the P&C is as easy as coming along to the next P&C meeting held 1st Tuesday every month in the community room at 9.30am.

We look forward to your involvement.
Parents and Citizens Association (P&C)

P&C News
Presidents position available - Anyone interested please see Jackie McCourt.
Fun Run - Money and forms due back by Friday 3rd May 2013. The more sponsors you get the more prizes from which you can pick.
Thank you to everyone who bought tickets in the Easter Raffle, congratulations to the 10 winners!
Winter uniforms will be ordered soon, anyone requiring winter uniforms please place an order with 50% deposit to Tammy.
Mothers Day donations needed, anyone with unwanted items please give to the office ladies.
Next P&C meeting, Tuesday 7th May 2013 at 9:30am.
Everyone Welcome.

Bidwill Public School is Striving for Equity, Engagement and Excellence - Grow in Understanding
This Friday we will be having our Books in Homes Book Giving Assembly. We have special guests author Edrei Cullen and UWS Ambassador Emily Thompson coming to help hand out the books. We will also be handing out Caught Being Good awards and prizes, competition certificates and, we will announce the winners of the Thank You Books in Homes poster Competition.

Parents please come along to join in this wonderful celebration

Jokes Corner
Q. What do you call a man who knows all about eggs?
A. An Eggspert!

Q. Why was the teacher cross eyed?
A. Because she couldn’t control her pupils!

Q. Why was the sand wet?
A. Because the seaweed!

Q. Why did the orange stop in the middle of the road?
A. It ran out of juice!

Zone Football
Congratulations to Ula in 5F who made the Mt Druitt Zone Football (soccer) team!

Bidwill Public School is Striving for Equity, Engagement and Excellence - Grow in Understanding
Library Pizza Party!

Well done to those students who borrowed lots of books and were superstars in the school library! The following students are invited to join Ms Ana and Miss Scott in the library for a PIZZA PARTY next Monday, 8th April at 12:30.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Nalisa, Amelia, Zoe, Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Corey, Amira, Judith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Selena, Hannah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Nicola, Hayley H, Shaun, Victor, Ciel, Paola, Julian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Connor, Jennifer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tegan, Preston B, Taylor, Andrew, Aaliyah, Emma J, Margaret, Tiana, Tylah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Blake, Wayne, Violet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zoo Snooze Program

Children in Year 6 have been given the exciting opportunity to participate in a Zoos Snooze Program at Taronga Western Plains Zoo Dubbo. We are also able to invite a few Year 5 students. The camp involves different activities around the Zoo in small groups and also a night animal tour. The majority of the camp is free, requiring students to bring food for lunch, morning and afternoon tea on the first day, and also cover their travel to Blacktown station.

As there are only 40 places, students who will be eligible for invitations will be students who:
- consistently follow the school rules, (be safe, be respectful, be a learner)
- have earned themselves off any existing behaviour cards from 22nd March on,
- have not had new behaviour cards or behaviour slips from 22nd March on.

Eligible Year 5 students' names will then be entered into a draw and drawn out at the end of Term 1.

Leanne Johnston
Stage 3 AP
DO YOU NEED VACATION CARE FOR YOUR CHILD?

Kids Activity Centre is located on the shopping centre complex behind K-Mart opposite the railway line on North Parade, Mt Druitt.

Yes! it is that vine covered cottage on the corner, surrounded by wide verandas, gardens, shade trees, tree houses, cubbies, sand pit, slides, enclosed trampoline, Yes that one with plenty of outdoor space to ride bikes, climb trees, balance on stilts, build cubbies, read in hammocks, run, skip, play soccer etc

Our program supports the Child’s right to play and offers a varied arts and craft program initiated by the children that includes, cooking, dress ups, disco’s, singing, dancing, games, excursions and more. Children are encouraged to participate in planning, programs, excursions & incursions.

KAC is a junk free zone, we promote healthy eating habits, teach children the importance of drinking water and eating well, also offer parents information on snacks, ideas to pack for lunches and recess.

Vacation Care period this school holidays is from Monday 15th of April to Friday 26th April 2013. Closed Anzac Day.

The centre is open from 5.30 am to 6.25 pm Monday to Friday.

CCB% & CCR accepted and fees as little as $2.00 per day

Please Contact Mary during Office hours Mon & Wed 9.15am-2.15pm.
Bidwill Bee Competition

2nd April 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to thank you for your suggestions regarding our relaunch of school wide expectations. As a result of all feedback received, our new mascot will be the Bidwill Bee. The Bidwill Bee will represent our school wide expectations which are Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.

As part of our relaunch we would like to invite our students and families to participate in a ‘Bidwill Bee Competition’. Entrants may draw a bee for each expectation or draw one Bidwill Bee.

The top ten entries will be chosen by the PBL team, then students will vote for their favourite entry. The winning bee will be used as a basis for the new posters and signage around the school. Please find attached the proforma for the competition. All entries are to be submitted by Friday 12th April 2013 to the front office. The winner will be announced in Term 2.

Yours Sincerely,

Heather King
Relieving Principal
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