Welcome to Week 7 newsletter.

A week of high excitement as again our P6 athletes have qualified to compete at state in the P6 swimming relay.

Leah Boyd, Ben Rowston, Eliza Burcham and Harry Rowston swam the race of their lives- smashing their previous time by 12 seconds! And so they will enjoy a trip to Sydney to compete against other P6 schools. Well done team Binya!

Last week I attended the Riverina Primary Principals Association conference in Griffith on Thursday and Friday. Much discussion was around the multitude of changes in our education system, and the domino effect that flows on. This year is the end of NSW public school’s management planning cycles, so it will be a year of reviewing and analysing to determine the direction for our school for the next three year plan. A representative from the High Performance Unit introduced us to the new model to facilitate this planning considering the changes with Local School’s Local Decisions, Great Teaching Inspired Learning, Rural and Remote education policies and the National Curriculum to name a few. The aim is to make our plans a ‘living document’ making valuable impact on our students directly, with frequent reflections and analysis to keep the goal in focus.

Other presentations included an update on National Curriculum, syllabus structures and the need to establish professional learning support as networks across the region/state due to restructuring within the department. Local principals shared their projects that were effecting change in student outcomes within their schools.

Our Regional Guidance Officer then addressed the group to reflect on Principal/staff welfare… mmn… something to think about ;-

Thankyou to our P&C members for their donation of time and man/woman power in cleaning the hall for the ball and the gardening working bee on Wednesday 😊 Our garden area looks nice and clear, hopefully deterring any unwanted ‘visitors’ from hiding in our school grounds ;-)

Next week is yet another week of high activity. We are fortunate for our Year 6’s to be included in the Hanwood Public School Peer Support Camp on Tuesday and Wednesday. This will be an overnight camp, with students bunking down at the Barellan Hall. There will be many cooperative-based activities to guide students in reflecting on mediation, leadership and participation activities. Mrs Clifford will be attending the fun and games with our students.
The P6 Network **Spelling Bee is on Thursday**! Students will benefit from revising samples from the word list (also available on our school website). The key will be to practise spelling the words out aloud- not an easy task! Listen to the chunks.. start with what you know. Happy studying!!

‘Binya Ball is Back’! TONIGHT!!! Hope to see you there!

We have been very fortunate to have amazing support and generosity to help get the Ball up and going. Acknowledgement must be made to Edna Conlan who has kindly donated her time and expertise with flowers and table decorations! Of course our creative staff for their many hours of hard work... the hall looks amazing! Community radio have been very proactive in promoting our event also (thank you Carl Chirgwin). Also to Cheryl and Kath at Leeton Trophy and Gift Centre and Shawn from Harvey Norman (Furniture) for their kind donation of Lucky Door prizes.

We must thank the **most generous donation** for our major fundraiser- that of Matt van Buuren and Sally Guest in providing the entertainment for the night 😊 Greatly appreciated- a huge contribution!

Have a great week, Karen 😊

**SPORT**

**Sports Captains- Ben Rowston and Bill Geddes**

**AFL- Griffith** -Leeton-Narrandra AFL trials where held last Friday. Harry and Ben went to the trials; both made the team!! They will now go to Barooga for the 2nd trial for a spot in the Western-Riverina team on March 21. If they succeed they will after go to the 3rd trial for Riverina. You go boys!!

**Small Schools Cricket** - The Small Schools cricket round 1 of the knock out was held on Tuesday. We played a strong East Griffith team who were pretty handy in the field. Ben Rowston top-scored for our team with 14 runs from our total 38. Wickets were hard to take and unfortunately they passed us pretty comfortably. Bill Geddes took a spectacular wicket hitting middle stump! Harry Rowston was good behind the wicket as keeper, stumping their batter for a run out. Jordan Boyd was solid in the field and showed some impressive batting too! A great game was played in spite of the score. THANK YOU to Phillip Rowston for his commitment to select and coach the team. Mrs Conlan appreciated his expertise!

**Riverina Swimming Carnival**- was on Monday in Albury. Our school was represented by Leah Boyd, Amelia Burcham, Ben Rowston, Eliza Burcham and Harry Rowston. All did exceptionally well- a huge achievement to compete against the best swimmers in the Riverina! Individually our students were well placed in the field of tough competition. The great success was the P6 relay team smashing their previous best time to qualify to go to state!! We are all very excited.

**Trent Barrett Shield**- is on next Wednesday, 19th of March. We will be represented by Harry Rowston in the Rugby League Small School’s team, and Leah Boyd is in the girl’s Austag team. Good luck and we hope we are successful in getting through the first few rounds with wins!
Our school representatives at the Riverina Swimming Carnival - well done!!

**Leadership**

*School Captains - Eliza Burcham and Jordan Boyd*

We will be participating in national **Harmony Day on Friday** (see poster). At our parliament meeting this afternoon we will talk with the students about ideas of activities we can do to promote harmony day, and decide if we will also combine it with national Anti-Bullying day. Students will then receive more information next week after we plan activities. In the meantime come dressed up in bright colours.

*By Jordan Boyd and Eliza Burcham*

**P&C NEWS** - The school would like to thank P&C members who were able to assist with the cleaning of the hall in preparation of the Binya Ball tonight. Your help was greatly appreciated!

**NB CHANGE OF DATE**

Next meeting **March 24th, 7.30pm at the School. (Week 9)**. All agenda items to Mrs Kirsty Rowston (president) to be distributed for discussion at the meeting.

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**Hats, hats hats!!**

Please continue to talk with your children about the importance of wearing hats and sunscreen.

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**“The Great Reading Wall of Binya” is under construction!**

And remember community members, you too can keep reading and send in your details, so we can add you to our **Great Reading Wall of Binya**! The children love to see your additions 😊

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**What is Leah Boyd reading?** Interview by Bill Geddes

What are you reading?

“The witches by Roald Dahl”.

What is it about?

“It’s about a kid- he’s seven years old and lives with his parents in England, but his grandma is Norwegian”.

How did you come to choose this book?

“Well I got it for Christmas then I started reading it”.

What are your thoughts and recommendation on this book?

“It’s a good book for anyone who likes Roald Dahl”.
**BOOK CHAT**

**Topic - family shared reading**  
Have you taken your family to the movies? Had a DVD night? Isn’t it great to talk about the storyline and characters after the ‘show’?  
Remember when you used to sit and read picture books when the kids were little? Do you remember their old favourites? Well, have you thought about **sharing novel** experiences?  
Why do we stop? Just because our children become independent readers doesn’t mean they don’t need us and we have to stop sharing books!  
It’s not for babies; it’s when the fun starts!  
From an educational view, sharing a novel provides an opportunity to talk about the character development, the plot, and fabulous descriptive detail to help you form your own images from this… ‘comprehension’.  
From a ‘mum’ or ‘dad’ view, this is a great time to talk! Predict what will happen. Enjoy the cliff-hangers at the end of each chapter… and maybe read for an extra half hour that wasn’t planned!!  
Yes, it’s time. But time well spent, and ‘make a memory’ moments you will cherish as a family forever :)  
Stay tuned for some favourite series suggestions.

**KIDS CORNER**

K-2 have been learning about the writing technique - alliteration. Here’s what they’ve been learning:

- **Writing sentences about our friends using alliteration ...**
In maths we have been counting by 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. We played a game where we threw a straw. We had to use the unifix blocks to find out how far we threw the straws. We had to count by groups of 10.

I threw my straw the furthest. It measured 130 cubes. That is 13 tens.

By Patrick

I enjoyed throwing the straw. I threw my straw the second longest. It was about 123 cubes long. That is 12 tens and 3 ones.

By Bailey

First, we made Unifix cubes into groups of tens. We had 240 cubes in 24 groups of ten. When I threw my second straw it measured 119. That was 11 tens and 9 ones.

By Claire

On Monday we threw straws to see if we could measure the exact length of how far we threw our straw. I threw mine 118 cubes. 118 cubes is 11 tens and 8 ones. I was one behind Claire. It was heaps of fun.

By Sam

Primary Reports:

It was my turn to get on the block. There was tension in the air. My legs were shaking like mad... “On your marks!”
I got ready for my moment. ‘Beep!’ I dive...

On Monday Harry, Leah, Eliza, Milly and Ben went to Albury for swimming. Leah came 13th in her backstroke and 16th in butterfly. Harry came 9th in breaststroke and Milly came 18th also.

We all did fantastic in our races but... our PP6 relay team (Harry, Leah, Ben and Eliza) came 3rd and will also be travelling to Sydney for State. It is an amazing achievement to make it. State will be on the 9th and 10th of April. We wish them good luck. We hope they swim very well. :

By Milly and Leah

In Cogs (history) we have been learning about what makes a civilisation. We read a book called ‘Weslandia’. It’s about a boy who is different to everyone, and he gets teased. He doesn’t really care and is quite happy to be different.

For his summer project he created his own civilisation, starting from a dirt patch and a strange seed. Pretty soon there were heaps of trees loaded with yummy fruit to provide food and shelter. Soon he has his own world in his back yard... and everyone else wanted to be like him!

A civilisation needs to be able to sustain itself by providing food, shelter and water; basic human needs. We have been looking at different civilisations using ‘G.R.A.P.E’ model - Geography, Religion, Arts/Architecture, Politics and Economy.

By Harry
On Thursdays Owen Brown comes to play cricket with us. Cricket is a really fun sport; I like batting. Owen teaches us how to do things. We play little games like French Cricket and Knick and Run. Ben went really well – he’s a good cricketer. I am getting a bit better, thanks to Owen. I can’t wait ‘til he comes next week!

By Luke.

Spelling Tip of the week…

HOME LEARNING……

Mathletics a great fun way to consolidate math skills at home 😊

We are currently having a maths facts blitz 😊 Students are practising their number facts to 10 (20 and 30 for more capable students) to know them automatically! Lots of practise will help your child become more confident in their knowledge. Rolling 1, 2 or more dice and adding them is a great fun way to practise.

Primary project on Botswana - remember to use our G.R.A.P.E model to guide them on what aspects to focus on, one at a time. Keep researching information and recording their V.I.P’s (very important points) and/or ‘I Remember’ strategy to summarise into paragraphs. All notes should be recorded in their homework books. Opportunity to conference ideas and research will be given in library lessons on Wednesdays.

It sounds like our primary students are enjoying reading our shared novel, Ranger’s Apprentice at home. Interesting to note though, it’s not being well received that the main character is dreading being ‘doomed to a mundane, uneventful, low-life farming’?! Mmmn… causing some great discussions at home!
Key Dates for the Diary:

**Term 1:**
- Peer Support Camp - March 18-19 (Year 6)
- Spelling Bee - March 20 (Yr2-6)
- Young Leaders - March 30-31 (Year 6)
- Tashi (Regional Theatre) April 7 (K-4)
- Debating seminar (Griffith) April 7
- Scripture - April 9

**Term 2:**
- Cross Country (Yenda) - May 2
- Small School Athletics - May 9
- AFL Gala Day - May 16

**K-2 Crazy Critters!!**

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

**I DON’T KNOW THE KEY TO SUCCESS, BUT THE KEY TO FAILURE IS TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYBODY.**

**WANTED:** Milk bottle tops for art and craft activities.

Please note change of day for primary student’s lessons they are now on a **Thursday**.
### WHAT’S ON NEXT WEEK?

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<td>18/3</td>
<td><strong>Leadership Camp @ Barellan Yr 6</strong></td>
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<td>Lunch orders returned</td>
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<td>Trent Barrett Shield Yr 4</td>
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#### Harmonity Day

Who: k-6 students

When: 21st of March.

Where: Binya Public School

Please bring a gold coin donation

What: wear bright casual clothes (orange is one of the main colours of harmony day).

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. Australians are encouraged to wear orange clothing or the distinctive orange ribbon to show their support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia.