This week was **Book Week**. We were fortunate to be invited to the **Griffith Library** to attend a presentation by Tony Flowers, who is a crazy, eccentric/imaginative illustrator. Needless to say our infants’ children thoroughly enjoyed his appealing, crazy ideas?! Claire was even invited to be his model; after all they did become ‘friends’ the evening before at Book City! So of course he’d call in his friends to help! We’re not so sure it’s the most glamorous portrait, being a human-crocodile-bird?? But his message was to let your imaginations go wild, and create interesting stories.

![Image of children with Tony Flowers illustration]

Thank you Cassandra Evans for assisting with transport.

The **Barellan Show** is next weekend! We will be displaying a selection of our work in the pavilion as per our annual tradition. We will set up on Friday (29th August). Our students will be at sport in Barellan, so we are calling on any helpers who may be able to assist. It is quite a big job, but not so much when we have a few helpers 😊

We are sending home an outline of the various sections that the children may like to do at home and enter as part of the show schedule.

We have been working on **Literacy groups** as part of our new structured approach to teaching reading and writing. We are in the process of purchasing additional readers, and thank the P&C for their continued support in this area. Students will read regularly to the teacher, with very clear and specific direction to enhance their reading skills. This model is applied across all grades-lower grades using levelled readers, short chapter books, through to the older readers comprehending and analysing novels. It involves reading responses (comprehension), practising ‘familiar reads’ independently, and a selection of inquiry-based learning across technology, creative arts, research tasks, and cogs theme discussions through the ‘discovery box’ with Mrs Clifford two days per week. It has become a very engaging classroom with students becoming self-motivated to bring additional information and ideas to the classroom, rather than being ‘told information’, which is far more exciting. We will share some work samples in the Kids Corner.

**Spelling work with year 4- Meet Pearlie, novel study.**

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**Term 3– Week 6** | **Friday 22nd August, 2014**
Sport

Last week our students participated in sport with Barellan Central School, as part of our integration with neighbouring schools. We all mixed in with our respective class groups, joining in activities with other kids of our age. ALL the children came home extremely excited about their time. Everyone seemed to know someone already, and new friends were made. They were buzzing about how great it was. We thank the P&C for subsidising the bus transport for this initiative, and Barellan Central School for welcoming us to their school.

*Unfortunately this week was postponed due to staffing commitments; however we will catch it up at the end of term.*

Rankin Springs Gala Day is on Friday Sept 12th (week 9). So far we have one family that can take children, however we will need another family to assist? Please contact the school if you are able to assist. We may also look at bus travel if needed.

Home Learning

Home Learning expectations for this term are

- **Regular reading** - daily (infants 10 mins, Primary 20-30 minutes). Infants need to keep their home readers in their bag each day to enable free, regular changing of readers. Shared reading with parents is encouraged for all ages 😊 Don’t forget to fill in your Reader’s Card!

- **Mathletics** – this term we will be using the engaging Mathletics online program. (Please contact the school if you have difficulty with internet access.) NB **All mentals books are to**
be returned to school for classroom use please.

- **Spelling** - personalised spelling lists have been provided where students are learning a bank of words over the term. They pre-test, and then post-test at the end of term to measurement personal improvements. Please bring booklets in each Monday.

- **Primary Project** - students will be given a research project relating to a topic of interest they have with regard to Australia’s involvement in war. It will be due at the end of

**School Leadership**

On Friday, 19th September, we invite you to come along and join our school charity fundraiser for Lexie Witton (Griffith East). Lexie is seven years old, recently diagnosed with leukaemia. Our students would like to support her family by having coffee and cupcakes on sale for recess, and a lasagne lunch available for students at lunch time. Please feel free to come and join us at morning tea, from 10.30am.

Year 6 will be competing in the Griffith Community of Schools debating competition next Wednesday against Murrami PS. Our topic is ‘**Multiculturalism is Australia’s greatest asset**’- we are the affirmative. Students have been working through the process of planning as a team, identifying potential arguments, researching for some supporting evidence and then writing their own component- it’s never an easy task. Mrs Calabria has been a great support in helping students develop a cohesive plan. A very challenging part of the competition will be the impromptu debate, with students preparing in a limited hour session! Fortunately they will be allotted a secondary student as a support person as well. Good luck everyone!

**Thought for the week**

"Stressed spelled backwards is desserts. Coincidence? I think not!"
~Unknown

**Kinder Transition program**

Our 2015 Kindergarten transition program will run on **Thursdays** next term (starting October 9th). This is a great opportunity for our pre-school families interested in attending our school to come along and familiarise themselves with the school grounds, students and staff. They will participate in the school program and be supported in their transition to school routines. Attached to the newsletter is a flyer advertising our transition program, and welcoming any newcomers to our area. Please feel free to pass it on to any interested people, or contact the school if you are aware of new families.

Enrolments for 2015 are being taken now 🎉

**Key Dates for the Diary:**

**Term 3:**

- Rankin’s Springs Gala Day – Friday 12th September
- Bike a thon – Sunday 14th September **Change of date**

**P&C News**

Next meeting: Monday 1st September, 2014 **TBC**

All agenda items and RSVP’s to Kirsty Rowston (president).
Don’t forget Kidz Konnect provides the perfect venue for a weekly catch up with friends from in and around the Binya/Barellan district; a ready built ‘mother’s group’. Mrs Clifford provides fantastic educational learning experiences for interested toddlers and pre-schoolers each week! Mums and dads can sit and enjoy a nice cuppa and cake while the kids are entertained.

Each Friday 10-11.30am... rain, hail or shine!

Next Week come along and join our school charity morning tea fundraiser for Lexie Witton (Griffith East).

What’s on next week?

**Week 7**

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<thead>
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<th>Monday 25th August</th>
<th>Music – Infants</th>
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<td>Canteen</td>
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<td>Thursday 28th August</td>
<td>Music – Primary</td>
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<td>Friday 29th August</td>
<td>Barellan sport Fundraiser</td>
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**Kid’s Corner**

We have been learning about the war times. Through reading books we can learn historical facts. Students read ‘What was the war like, Grandma?’ with their buddies, identified V.I.P’s (very important points) before putting together a summary paragraph of information. Good readers – ‘summarise’ (one of the super six reading strategies).

**School times in the war**

In World War 2 there were lots of kids in a class – about 70! When the air raid siren went off they assembled in the trenches. No running was allowed. The kids took a bag of dried food, bandages and a short piece of hose – put into their mouth to protect their teeth from the shock waves.

They crouched in the trenches with their hands shielding their heads. The kids mostly tried to be good because of the war. But sometimes the teacher had to throw a piece of chalk at the kids when they were naughty. *Leah Boyd & Millie Rowston*

During WW2 families communicated with their relatives fighting in the war by letter. Soldiers weren’t allowed to say where they were, or even what they had for dinner, otherwise if spies intercepted the letter they will know the locations of army base camps. To stop this the army introduced censors. The censor’s job was to cut out revealing information about the soldier’s position. Soldiers deceived censors and spies by hiding information under the stamp and in parts of the letter! Communicating would’ve been frustrating during World War 2. *By Bill and Sam*
**Australia under attack**

 Boom! Boom! What’s that sound? February 19th, 1942 – the day Darwin got bombed by neighbouring Japan. People were panicked! They were frightened right across Australia. Oh my goodness – if they hit Darwin it’s only a matter of time before they get us! And they did! On May 31st they sent in a midget submarine that shelled Sydney and torpedoed in Sydney Harbour. Needless to say Australians were full of hatred towards the Japanese. *By Harry and Claire*

**Women at war**

 Poor Lola, a woman, on the farm, by herself doing all farm work. So tired and sad. She’s probably missing me? Looking after the baby and the twins would be hard enough. I don’t know how she’s managing doing all cropping, fencing and looking after all the animals. I sure miss Lola and the kids. I wish I could be home to help her. *By Luke and Patrick*

**The war has ended**

 “Attention all students! Stop working and listen! The war has ended!” Yippee! yelled the class. “So stop doing that test and go home and celebrate,” our principal declared.

 It was Wednesday, the 15th August, 1945. The streets were full of people. I can’t believe that we have won the war. But it was also very sad to think of those sick and injured soldiers that were so badly affected by the war. My dad bought us back some souvenirs. He made me a little brass vase made from a shell case for me. I hope there are no more wars. *By Ben & Leo*

**What did kids do during the war time?**

 While the grown-ups were worrying about the war, the kids were still having fun. They were still doing their bit to help the soldiers at war though. Some of the kids learnt to knit things like socks and scarves to send to the soldiers. They learned to bandage each other in case the school got bombed. Sometimes these activities were a bit messed up, but they were learning.

 The Junior Red Cross was for young children to raise money and get donations to send to the soldiers. Sometimes the kids put on a performance to try and get donations. *By Emily, Greer and Mrs Conlan*
Family Struggles

Did you know that in the bombing of Darwin people built air raid shelters that protected them from air raids? And other people built trenches. During the war you had to get coupons to things like food, clothing and fuel. People used to buy rabbits in addition to their coupons, from local rabbit trappers that went from door to door. It’s amazing how people kept themselves alive with just rabbits and occasionally food from the shops. By Jordan and Bailey

Community Announcements

Griffith Little Athletics

Family, Fun and Fitness

Free Trial Days
Thursday 11th and Thursday 18th September 2014
5.00 pm

Season Commences Thursday 9th October
West End Oval Griffith
Thursday’s at 5.30 pm

Ages from 3 years to 17 years

Register on line at www.laansw.com.au

Little Athletics is suitable for all abilities and levels

For more information email littleathleticsgth@live.com.au
or call Veronica Cudmore on 0408 768 059