We welcome and congratulate Mr Brad Russell who was successfully appointed as our new School Director. Mr Russell brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our Griffith network of schools. We look forward to working with him in the near future.

This term we will be participating in the Accelerated Reading program. There will be a large range of books of varying levels available for students to select, nurturing both their reading ability and love of reading. We would like to acknowledge the support of Barellan Central School for including us as a class group in their subscription. We’d also thank to Mrs Danae Conlan for volunteering her time to help Mrs Foy in sorting our library resources to support the program. Our students have been tested on their starting levels and are hoping to begin next week!

The sport program is soon to be underway with our Small School’s Swimming carnival in week 4. We wish all our students good luck.

Kidz Konnect started on Monday with a lovely big roll up of parents, grandparents and children. We welcomed some new faces along with those returning for the new year. The children enjoyed lots of craft fun—crunching up paper, patty pans and lots and lots of glitter! They created flowers, dinosaurs and chickens to name a few.

Have a great weekend.

Karen 😊

**SPORT**

**Small Schools Swimming Carnival** - will be on Tuesday, February 17\(^{th}\) at the Griffith Aquatic Centre. All students turning eight can participate. It would be a good idea for eight year olds to test themselves at home to see if they can swim in 25m or 50m events.

Good luck to our Binya Students!! (Griffith Zone Swimming carnival is Thursday 26\(^{th}\) February and Riverina Swimming Carnival 9\(^{th}\) March)

‘Upcoming sports’ cricket and tennis trial. An expression of interest note has been sent home to our year 5 students, with an overview of all representative sports on offer. Permission notes will then be sent home following our school selection process, with details of dates and venues and expected commitment if your child is successful in making our Small School/district/Riverina teams.

**What’s on next week? Week 3**

| Monday 9\(^{th}\) February | Kidz Konnect  
P & C Meeting |
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<td>Tuesday 10(^{th}) February</td>
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<td>Wednesday 11(^{th}) February</td>
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<td>Thursday 12(^{th}) February</td>
<td>Sport</td>
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<td>Friday 13(^{th}) February</td>
<td>School Banking</td>
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Thought for the week

Sometimes all you need is twenty seconds
of insane courage. Just literally
twenty seconds of just embarrassing bravery
And I promise you, something great
will come of it.

P&C NEWS

Meeting: Monday 9th February @ 7pm.

Donations - toy animals and Lego

Our children have been enjoying playing with the animals and Lego at school. If you have any at home that your children may have outgrown, we would love to build up our sets of toys at school. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

Hats, hats hats!!!

Binya are recognised as a ‘Sun Smart’ School. We continue to ensure our students are aware of the dangers of sun on our skin.

Students are reminded to wear their hats. We will be collecting hats in a central tub each session and keeping them at school overnight. Students will be able to take their hats home on a Friday for washing, and are asked to bring them back each Monday.

It would be a good idea to have a discussion with your children about the importance of wearing hats.

KID’S CORNER

Science and Technology

Primary students have begun this term by investigating weather. In groups they have made different devices that they can use to record and measure changes in weather, such as a barometer to measure air pressure, an anemometer to measure wind speed and a wind vane to measure wind direction. Other measurements they will be recording are temperature and rain(?) They have also investigated seasons in Australia by comparing an aboriginal calendar to our own recognised seasons and designing their own seasonal calendar.
Barometers measure air pressure which is made up of tiny air particles. We can predict the temperature by looking at the air pressure is high it’s going to be hot and sunny, but if the air pressure if it’s low it will be chilly and it can possibly rain. Without barometers, predicting the weather would be insane! We could be wearing jumpers when it’s steaming hot! We need barometers or we would become very confused with the weather. By Sam

This week in science Bailey, Sam and I made a barometer. The barometer measures the air pressure. This is how we made it:

1. Get one jar.
2. Snip the narrow opening off a balloon and put it over the lid.
3. Tie a rubber band around for extra support.
4. Tape a straw to the balloon.
5. Tape it to a cardboard shoe box.
6. Next, make a piece of cardboard with a 1 to 5 chart on it.
7. Check daily at 1pm.

The best part was making it! By Milly B

In science Luke, Leo and I made an anemometer – it measures the wind. We put a ‘one’ on one of the cups to count how many times it goes around. Luke and I had to do a couple of designs before we finally got it. Now we have to make a table to check and record each day. We all had heaps of fun making it. By Harry

Leah, Greer and I made a wind vane. We needed two pieces of wood, one paper plate, one pin and two pieces of cardboard – maybe even some sticky tape. We stuck one piece of wood on the plate, and then we got the other piece of wood and stuck it on top and made an arrow shape and glued it on. My favourite part was testing it! By Claire

K-2 students are investigating water. Water is needed to grow plants and animals for food and humans need water to survive. As humans, we not only drink water, we also use it for cooking, hygiene, recreation and agriculture. Australia is a dry continent with an expanding population, and how we use water has become increasingly important. Currently there are 17% of the world’s population that do not have access to fresh water (WHO, 2011). Water is a precious resource. K-2 have used their senses to observe how water looks, smells, tastes, feels and sounds.
Water
by Emily Hanster

Water looks silvery and clear,
Water smells warm and stinky,
Water sounds like drip, drop on the roof,
Water feels wet and gooey,
Water tastes nice and tasty.

Water
by Adele Bostock

Water looks like silvery streaks,
Water smells like chlorine when I'm swimming,
Water sounds like splish, splash, and splash,
Water feels soft and smooth,
Water tastes like chlorine and is not nice.

Water
by Charlie Dark

Water looks blue and silvery,
Water smells like garlic,
Water sounds like 'whoosh',
Water feels cool and fun,
Water tastes like cold hard ice.

Water
by Max Carter

Water looks brown, dark and spooky,
Water smells nice and stinky,
Water sounds like bats flying,
Water feels sloppy,
Water tastes salty and yucky but sometimes nice.

Kidz Konnect - educational experiences

... community 'catch up'

The Binya Community invites all interested surrounding families with young children (0-5 yrs) to join our Kidz Konnect Group!


The Group will meet each Monday during school terms in 2015.

When - 10-11.30 Monday

Where - Binya Public School

Cost - $50 per Semester (Term 1 & 2 - Semester 1 Terms 3 & 4 - Semester 2)

Visitors Welcome - Gold Coin Donation

Educational activities catering for child interaction while mums and dads have a social catch up

Bring along a plate to share - tea/coffee available.