The *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

**Parent Meetings** will be available on **Wednesday February 25 from 12pm**. We hope to meet with all our students’ mums and dads in order to work together in developing learning plans for our children. Mrs Foy and I are currently assessing student learning needs and will welcome parent input. Please call the school office to make an appointment time that will suit you both or complete the booking form attached.

Each year public schools are allocated several days per year to utilise the **District Guidance Officer** /Psychologist (school counsellor). We are very fortunate to have Mrs Robyn Heath appointed to our school. She will be available to assist students and staff with assessments and support to assist in the appropriate development of our students learning plans if/as needed. Please contact the school if you have any concerns for your child and would like counselling support sought. Mrs Heath will be at our school on **Wednesday February 25** this term.

Have a great weekend.

Karen 😊

**SPORT**

**Small Schools Swimming Carnival** - will be on Tuesday, February 17th at the Griffith Aquatic Centre. All students turning eight can participate. Please return permission notes, particularly nominating if they can swim in 25m or 50m events.

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

‘Upcoming sports’

We wish **Harry Rowston** the best of luck as he trials in the **Griffith Zone Cricket** next week, Wednesday 18th February. This is the first step in the selection process to
make the Riverina Cricket team that will compete at the state carnival towards the end of the year. Good luck Harry!

**Class sport** with Mr Owen Brown will begin next Thursday. ‘Browny’ will be helping us with **cricketing** skills - just in time for finals time of the season. We always appreciate the expert volunteers from our community who contribute to our school activities.

**What’s on next week? Week 4**

| Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February | Kidz Konnect  
| P & C Meeting |
| Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February | Small Schools Swimming Carnival |
| Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February | Zone Cricket Trials |
| Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February | Sport |
| Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February | School Banking |

**Claiming the Date – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

School and Family Activity Evening from 6pm at Binya Public School. More details to come.

**Thought for the week**

"Believe you can and you’re halfway there."

Theodore Roosevelt

**P&C NEWS**

Meeting: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> 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. Please check that your children have their hat at school.**

**KID’S CORNER**

**Writing**

Good writers ‘plan’. We have been doing planning in class. We have to think of 5-10 ideas, then we choose the idea we like the best. We have to have characters. We give them rhyming names or use alliteration to make good names. I had Leo the Lion, Claire the Chipmunk and Sam the Snake. My story will be in the jungle. *By Greer.*

Max and I learnt the song ‘Ants in the apple, A says a’. My favourite thing to do at school is to play with the army with Max. *By Charlie*

An asteroid flew down to the beach it hit my foot and my feet were burning hot! *By Max*

At recess we played Cops and Robbers. Claire, Greer, Millie R, Patrick and I were the robbers team. Milly B, Luke, Leo, Bailey, Sam, Max and Charlie were the cops. The cops won because they caught everybody except Leah and I. We played the whole time – it was fun. *By Emily*
On the 17th February, 2015 I’m going to swim in the 25m freestyle at the griffith Pool for the Small School’s Swimming Carnival. I have been practising in my pool at my house in Binya. It’s going to be fun – especially with my friends. By Patrick

We use our whiteboards for writing sizzling starts, dictacted sentences and maths problems...anything! We check answers with our partner and talk about capital letters, spelling, full stops, commas and ideas. It is easy you just get a tissue and rub it out – it will be nice and clean for next time. It’s a quick way of learning and easy writing. By Leah

No! I am sunburnt. What is mum going to say? I forgot to put sun cream on and I have marks on my feet. The sun is boiling hot. I don’t like getting sunburnt. The shower makes my sunburn STING! By Millie R

Nice breeze, fresh food and rain. Dave the farmer is happy. The farm animals Livvy the Lamb, Donny the Duck, Ruby the Rabbit, Charlotte and Brooke the Chook and Leo the Larma are best friends. Brooke and Charlotte were clucky around the pen because Scar the Fox stalked nearby. By Claire

“Attack!” said the captain.
“The pirates are going to destroy everything” said the old man.
“Hopefully they don’t destroy Binya” said the captain. By Bailey

Eye of newt, leg of dog, claw of bird and shell of snail. Kids will bow down before me ha ha ha ha! Martha, the witch feeds off little souls of kids...Poor, young and innocent children. By Milly B

Here I am in a witches hut being dangled above her bubbling cauldron. Only seconds before becoming part of her potion, and at the last second I grab the edge of the pot and jump out the window. Crash! My arm smashes on the ground – there’s no doubt about it, I’ve broken my arm...but it’s better than being an ingredient in a potion! By Sam

Today we played Cops and Robbers. Millie, Leah, Patrick, Greer, Emily and Claire were on the robber’s team. Milly, Max, Charlie, Leo, Sam, Bailey and I were cops.
The cops count to 100 and the robbers hide. When we catch a robber the other robbers can free them by taping them. It was so much fun! By Luke

The black and white race track has sheds full of cars.
Leo the Lamborghini is the fastest car of them all. By Leo

Reading Eggs

Congratulations to Millie Rowston who has won a special award this week in Reading Eggs.

Reading Eggs is an online program students can work on at home and/or at school to help reinforce literacy skills.
KIDZ KONNECT meets every Monday at 10am during the school terms. Come along and join in educational activities that cater for child interaction while mums, dads and grandparents can have a social catch up.

Community Announcements

Get ready for the New Season
Basketball Autumn Competitions
Starting 26th February, 2015
Junior and Senior Nomination Night
Thursday 12th & 19th February  5pm-6.30pm

Monday Night Aussie Hoops
- New member $80.00
- Renewal $50.00

Junior competition-

Thursday Night Competition
11 years & under $90.00
13 years & under $115.00
15 years & under $115.00
($48 Door Fee included in registration fee)

If Child is playing in a second game an extra $48 is added to the Registration Fee.

REGO DAYS 2015
Griffith Swans Football & Netball Club & Auskick Centre
Exics Sportsies Club
Monday 16th February 4.30pm – 6.00pm free sausage sizzle
Saturday 21st February 10.00am – 1.30pm
Auskick – 5-7 years Rookies, 8-10yrs Pro Comp- Rego Fees $80
For more details www.auskick.com.au
Junior AFL – Under 11s/13s/15s-Rego Fees $80
Junior Netball - Under 11s/13s/15s- Rego Fees $90
For further details contact Phil Rowston 0429 771 458