Principals Report

Portland Fair

Many thanks to all of our teachers, students and parents who were able to help out at the Portland Fair. The weather was great and the children all enjoyed representing our school in the parade. Our 10 new bikes and scooters were put to good use and our students dressed in uniforms were on bikes with balloons looked great as we rode the parade circuit. Another highlight of the day were our 7 musicians on the ukuleles. Anna, our music teacher led our students for over two hours to pay a playlist of over 12 songs. All the students looked and sounded great and I’m very proud of how they represented our school.

Year 6 Fundraising

A big congratulation also to our senior student who provided catering services for the Pickles Auction group at the Big Rim Mine clearing sale. Rose, Jayden, Ben and Kaidyn worked hard on the day to sell sausage sandwiches, drinks and chocolates to the hungry crowd. The students worked from 9-3 and raised over $1300 on the day! Karen and Barry Rochester also assisted on the day to cook over 400 sausages and butter over 400slices of bread. Many thanks to the, both for their continued dedication to our school. Barry and Karen have been an invaluable asset to our P&C and school canteen. Without them I will be lost as they always seem to “come through” even with little notice when the school needs them. They will be sadly missed as the depart our P&C Committee at the end of the year.

Welcome to our new canteen assistant

Welcome to Laurelle Harvey who spent her first day working in the canteen. It was great to have a new face in the canteen and Kane, Kye and Kurt were very proud to have their mum cooking chips and serving lunches.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents day on Thursday 29th October was a HUGE success. We had may grandparents visit us and the children sang well on the day to entertain them. Many thanks to Mrs Player who organized some fun activities for us to enjoy including cup towers, pom-pom races and a photo booth.

Our new school Director

Peter Harvey has announced his retirement as our school Director. He will work his final day on January 25th 2016. Toni McDonald has been announced as our new school Director who will commence her duties on January 27th 2016. We wish Mr Harvey well in his retirement.

Important Dates

**Week 6**
- Tues 10/11/15 Cubby House construction
- Wed 11/11/15 Remembrance Service at Portland

**Week 7**
- Wed 18/11/15 Swimming
- Fri 20/11/15 2015 Kindergarten Graduation Assembly

**Week 8**
- Wed 25/11/15 Swimming

**Week 9**
- Wed 2/12/15 Swimming
- Thurs 3/12/15 Swimming

**Week 10**
- Wed 9/12/15 Presentation Night

**Week 11**
- Mon 14/12/15 End of Year Excursion
- Tues 15/12/15 Year 6 Farewell
- Wed 16/12/15 Last day of term—Mufti Day
- Thurs 17/12/15 Staff Development Day
- Fri 18/12/15 Staff Development Day
Swimming Lessons

Swimming lesson dates have been slightly altered due to conflicting pool bookings and other school commitments. A note is going home today with details about the changes to swimming lessons.

Cubby House

Our Cubby House will be built this Tuesday. Many thanks to the Lithgow Men’s Shed who have been patiently waiting in the wings until our plans were approved and the concrete slab was laid. The school P&C committee and staff will be providing the gentlemen with a delicious morning tea and BBQ lunch to thank them for all their hard work, patience and efforts. If you are available to assist with the BBQ tomorrow please contact the school to advise. These days are always enjoyable for the volunteers, students, staff and P&C members.

Bike Helmets

As you would be aware, the school has purchased 12 new bikes for the students to ride at recess and lunch. We have also purchased scooters for our younger students who cannot ride bikes. All students require a helmet to ride either a bike or a scooter. Helmets can be left at school throughout the week if that suits, or students can bring their helmets back and forth to school as necessary.

Have a great week

Michelle Gallop

Kindergarten 2016 Transition

It has been fantastic to see all of the new Kindergarten students joining us once a week for our transition program. Christopher, Lachlan, Kayla, Peyton and AaEesha have been busy getting to know each other and some of the many exciting things about going to “Big School”.

We have 3 more sessions left of our transition program this year

Thursday 5th November – 9am to 1pm
Thursday 12th November – 9am to 1pm
Thursday 19th November – 9am to 1pm

If you know of any other families who have children who are eligible to commence Kindergarten in 2016 and may be interested in attending our transition program, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Grandparents Day

Grandparents, parents, students and staff had a fun filled time as part of our Grandparents Day on Thursday 29th October. It was fantastic to see so many people come and join us for the day. Everybody had a great time dressing up and having a laugh having their photos taken in our photo booth as well as having a go at some of the challenges set up in the classroom.

K-2 Worms

K-2 students are delving into the wonderful world of worms. During science lessons students used magnifying glasses to have a very close look at our wriggly friends. They were able to see all the different body parts of a worm, have a good look at their skin and observe the way they move.

DID YOU KNOW? - that worms breathe through their skin!

Portland Spring Fair - 2015