Principal’s News . . .

2010 Presentation Day

Walawaani njindiwan – good morning and welcome to our invited guests, families, staff and students and a special welcome to Andrew Constance, our Local Member for Bega.

As a Principal, Presentation Day is always one of the proudest and most rewarding days that I have the pleasure of experiencing. This year, however, along with the rewards there have also been some new challenges, particularly in terms of our building program with the year rolling out as a demanding one but one that has been extremely exciting and ultimately rewarding.

When school resumed at the beginning of this year we had our senior classes relocated to demountables, our library completely dismantled, our hall out of action and our playground boundaries were to change on a regular basis during the next 12 months. Some times we had no water, while at other times we had no power and occasionally no toilets. By July however, we started to see some progress and during the following months we saw the erection of our new COLA, the opening of our refurbished library, painting of the main office block and finally the completion of our new classrooms covered walkways, and turfing of some of our grounds.

Two weeks ago our senior classes moved into their new classrooms and hopefully in the next few days our last two demountables will be removed from our school site.

Despite the school being a building site for such a long period of time, no one at Broulee Public School ever forgot that our core business was education and our students always came first. A huge thank you goes to everyone for their unbelievable patience, helpfulness, calmness, support and most of all their flexibility during this time. We now have the school our students deserve.

I know I speak on behalf of everyone, when I say “that we are immensely proud of our school” and it has been well worth the wait.

Partly as a result of our new building program but also due to long term planning and professional development by our staff our school is now in a wonderful position in terms of our technology resources. We are way ahead of the majority of other schools across NSW, be they state or private, both in our use of our digital technology and the range of resources that we have in our school.

We have Interactive White Boards with broadband access in every classroom and to compliment the work being done on the Interactive White Boards each teaching room also has a bank of computers with a further 30 iMacs recently purchased for the library. We have 2 interconnected classrooms for video conferencing and each teacher has their own laptop.

Next year we will purchase a further 11 digital cameras and a number of the new iPads to further support programs in the senior section of the school. In 2011 we also hope to start including our families to a much greater extent in both the planning and the training around digital technology within our school.
All of us have greatly benefited from these digital resources. From a management perspective we can now systematically and transparently link our assessment, reporting, behaviour and attendance systems together.

In the classroom we have used digital technology as tools to deliver our curriculum and involve students in their own learning. Learning is far more relevant to the students and tailored to suit their individual needs. Recently Ethan Crosby from Yr 6 was looking at extension activities involving the concepts related to geometry co-ordinates and linear relationships while fellow students were looking at Powerpoint presentations for their report writing.

On our new school web site, classes are developing their own wikis and parents can now see for the first time new photos, stories and class activities on a regular basis.

Literacy and numeracy will always be two of our primary focus areas, but we also need to include the broader holistic education of our children and to that end our students are involved in many sporting, creative and artistic endeavours.

I would like to acknowledge Kirra Shelling for her winning entry in the Eurobodalla Council Environmental Calendar, Sam Parkinson for his outstanding performances across all the subjects in the University of NSW competitions and Grace Preston, Alice Burger-Boucher and Bree Kirkley who were winners in the Mayer’s Writing Competition.

In Public Speaking, Georgia Voce and Alyssa Cooke took out 1st and 2nd place in the Apex Public Speaking Competition while in the Multicultural Perspective Public Speaking, Sam Parkinson came 1st in both district and regional competitions before going on to compete at the state final where he was congratulated on his excellent Impromptu Speech.

I would also like to acknowledge Aisha Smith, Peta Cottington and Alyssa Cooke who represented our region at state level in Touch Football and Swimming and the large number of students who gained district selection in athletics, cross country, touch football, cricket, basketball, netball and swimming.

From a school and family level we also need to be aware of the broader learning that takes place with all students on an ongoing daily basis – we have formal testing down to a fine art – we all know how good Johnny is at spelling or Sally is at counting but how do we measure values such as “happiness”? It’s certainly much harder to score with a mark out of ten but it is just as important to look at as the more formal academic areas.

Our new Welfare Policy has focused on “Positive Behaviour” and rewarding children who do the right thing. For the first time in a number of years we have had no suspensions this semester and our detention rate has gone down from 315 notifications in semester 2, 2009 down to just 12 in semester 2, 2010. Our students are engaged in their learning and are taking pride in their achievements both in and outside of the classroom.

Today when we celebrate all that is wonderful, we see the talents of so many students, not just the awardees, but ALL of our fantastic students who strive every day and achieve great things by doing the best they can. They constantly make us feel proud, excited, joyous and hopeful.

As a principal it has been a privilege to lead our professional and dedicated staff, both teaching and non-teaching. Each individual person has brought with them their own expertise, interests and values and I sincerely “thank” you all. Together you have combined to provide a wonderfully rich and dedicated face for education within our school.

My special thanks to our school executive, Mrs Tackas, Mr Hounsell and Mr Cameron. Your assistance, support and leadership have been invaluable and to Mrs Dent for her knowledge and commitment to our financial planning and management within our school. All of you make Broulee Public a special place.

Our School would not be complete without our parent body and today I gratefully acknowledge the fantastic work of our P&C including Janelle Norton our canteen manager and her wonderful volunteer workers.

Thank you also to our dedicated community helpers and volunteer tutors - all have been wonderfully supportive and helpful. You are the people who make our life easier and make it possible for the school to function and for our students to get the level of support that they need.

A special thank you also to Bronwyn Milgate who has both taught and conducted our recorder group and Mrs Frost and our Junior Choir who are performing for us today - an exceptional effort from all.

In conclusion I would like to wish Yr 6 all the best for their high school years and their long-term future. I know you will pursue your goals with energy and integrity. Enjoy your learning, and continue to do so

**FISH:**  
Fair  
Inclusive  
Safe  
Honest
for the rest of your life. We will look forward to hearing from you about you in the years ahead. And lastly thanks to Mr Cameron, for organising today’s Presentation Day.
On behalf of all the staff of Broulee Public School, I would like to wish all families and our community a joyous Christmas and New Year, and a safe and relaxing holiday. And we look forward to seeing you return in 2011.

School Captains

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to our exceptional captains for 2010 (apart from everything else they have finally grown into their blazers!)
Thank you Josie, Nicole, Adam and Sam. What a truly remarkable group of students you have been. You have acted with integrity and responsibility and demonstrated wonderful leadership during your 12 months in office.
We have watched you grow into mature young people and we hope that whatever path you choose later in life you will look back with fondness and remember your time here with us.
Our new school captains for 2011 are – Tom Holder, Kyle O’Malley, Ellen Hosking and Georgia Voce. Congratulations and well done!

Thank You

This will be the last Newsletter for the year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents, families, staff and students for a wonderful year. I would also like to wish all our Year 6 students “good bye and good luck” for both your high school years and your future lives.
I hope all have a wonderful Christmas filled with fun, laughter and good family times.

Thought for the week . . .

After all the rain we have had during the previous week I thought the following was most appropriate

“Don’t wait for the storm to pass
Learn to dance in the rain”

Sue Lowe
Principal
Fish Bits

The playground Fish Bits winners from Week 8 are:
Stage 2 – Christopher Innocenti
Stage 1 – Darcy Penkethman

A $1 canteen voucher prize was presented at last Wednesday’s assembly.

Kinder Orientation

Today we had our final transition session for our 2011 Kindergarten students. At the end of this session each child was given a Library bag with information and departmental brochures in it. If parents have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.

P & C News

P&C Meeting

As the P&C meeting of November 18 did not have a quorum, the meeting was not held and all business is now carried over to the next P&C meeting 17 February 2011.

P&C News

Our stall at Art On The Path was a wonderful success, raising $600 for the school. The disco last week was also fantastic, with around $1200 being made for the school. Apart from the financial aspect, both events were happy and fun occasions. Thank you to all who contributed, in particular:
Clare Dunn, Sue Lindsay, Sharon Barnes and Anita McCartney for many organisational and creative tasks.
Lisa Miles made some beautiful, highly valued items for the stall, as did Shaneane Cooke, Bridget Bodie-Healy, Trish Seath, Doreen Levensmith and Lizette Richards.
Kim Heame has been wonderful organising our finances.
Thanks to all who have helped the P&C this year. The quiet achievers keep things running along smoothly.
Janelle Norton has managed the canteen with skill, vision and patience and her contribution to the school community is invaluable. She has been supported by an amazing canteen committee: Doreen Levensmith, Sharon Barnes and Wendy Wilson.
Gail Hooper has kept the uniform shop ticking over, giving her time and energy to help the school.
Wendy Law has provided her extensive knowledge and skill to support our Treasurers.
Zeynep Ustandag took on this role with great enthusiasm and we thank her for this.
Sid and Mavis Hayes are always caring and insightful “Citizens” on the P&C and, of course, thanks to Mrs Lowe for her support, vision and skill.

are creating a rich, high quality environment for our children and this is something to value. Thank you.
Anita Doughty
P&C President

Canteen subcommittee

The P&C Canteen Subcommittee would like to thank Janelle Norton, our Canteen Manager, for her hard work and dedication she has given to Bengello Bites Canteen. Under Janelle’s thoughtful and kind management, this year has seen the canteen go from strength to strength; the food is nutritious, delicious and affordable, the canteen reflects and supports the educational health curriculum of the school, the canteen is a warm and welcoming, the finance is transparent and balanced, the health and hygiene inspections are rated as excellent and the administration is streamlined. Everyone involved in the canteen, volunteers and committee, have been made to feel welcomed and valued by Janelle and we look forward to another great year in 2011.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will be OPEN 1st week back to school in 2011 as follows.

Monday 31st January 8.30am to 10.30am and 1pm to 2pm.
Tuesday 1st February 8.30am to 10.30am and 1pm to 2pm.
Wednesday 2nd February 8.30am to 10.30am and 1pm to 2pm.
Thursday 3rd February 8.30am to 10.30am.
Friday - Closed.

Outside these hours an appointment can be made by phoning Gail on 44715547 or 0438932965. Uniform order forms are also available at the office and can be completed and left with payment for collection the following day. Normal trading hours will commence 8th February. Tuesday’s 8.30am to 9.15am and Thursdays 8.30am to 9.15am. Hats are also available from the canteen on canteen days.

Have a safe and happy Christmas from the uniform shop.

Community News

The Vacation Care will be OPEN for 3 weeks of the school holidays - Dates: Mon 10 Jan to Fri 28 Jan.
BOOKINGS will be taken at After School Care and on the Pupil Free Days 16th & 17th Dec from 3-6pm at the ASC centre. Casual rates will apply to bookings taken after 17th December.