Dear All

Kindergarten Photos - Yesterday all Kindergarten classes had their best smiles on as their class photos were taken for the ‘The First Class’ supplement in the Border Mail. These photos are scheduled to be printed on April 11. Keep an eye out for it!

Best Start Parent /Carer Feedback Reports - Today all parents/carers of Kindergarten students should have received their Best Start Parent Feedback Reports. These reports state the literacy and numeracy skills your child demonstrated when they commenced Kindergarten. Please take the time to read some of the great suggestions on how you can assist your child to further develop their skills in literacy and numeracy. This information will also be used by teachers to develop effective literacy and numeracy programs, catering for the individual needs of your child.

Parent/Carer Teacher Interviews - Next Wednesday you will receive a note regarding Parent Teacher Interviews. These interviews will be held in Week 8, starting 18 March. I hope you take this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher to discuss their progress and how you can support their learning at home.

Medical Conditions - We welcome information from parents/carers about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops. Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing. Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts. We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter’s health needs or as otherwise required by law. Today parents/carers of students with health conditions will receive a health care plan to complete and return to school by next Friday 8 March. Your prompt reply would be very much appreciated.

Anaphylaxis - From the beginning of this year all staff, including casual staff and administration staff must complete anaphylaxis e-training. Our staff completed this training at the end of last year.

The Department of Education and Communities has supplied all schools with a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an EpiPen) for their first aid kit. This does not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with an adrenaline autoinjector and ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed and dated by their doctor when their child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis. Instead the general use adrenaline autoinjector is intended to be used if:

- An undiagnosed student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- There is a misfire of the adrenaline autoinjector that has been prescribed for a student
- A student requires further adrenaline autoinjector to be administered after his or her own adrenaline autoinjector has been administered.

Please contact the school if you would like further information in relation to this matter.

Student Behaviour On Buses - It is every student’s responsibility to behave in a manner that ensures the safety and comfort of passengers and drivers. A printed Code Of Conduct from the Ministry of Transport is available from the front office. In the case of students travelling under the School Transport Scheme, this Code of Conduct is also printed on the application form. You are reminded that when signing the application form, the parent/carer explicitly declares that they support the Code and that it has been explained to their child. If a student misbehaves on a bus, the bus operator will contact the parents and the school. Depending on the gravity of the offence, students may be refused travel on the bus for a period of time determined by the bus operator. If you have concerns about a student’s behavior please contact the bus operator.

Staff News - Mrs Gail Eckley and myself will continue in our relieving roles until the end of 2013. We look forward to continuing to work with you as collaborative partners in your child’s education.

P.T.O. >>>>
Scripture - Both Catholic scripture and non-denominational scripture lessons will commence in the coming weeks. A note regarding this was sent home last Wednesday. If you do not wish your child to participate in these lessons, please send in the note requesting an exemption. We require all notes in by Friday 1 March as the organisation of these lessons is very complex.

Professional Learning - Our staff is committed to their own professional learning which is reflected in the delivery of quality teaching programs. Sometimes this involves the teacher attending a course off site during the school day. We also provide professional learning for all staff every Tuesday afternoons from 3:15-4:30 pm. We understand that at times you like to contact teachers regarding classroom enquiries but to ensure your teacher is able to participate in the Professional Learning opportunities, we ask you to make appointments with them on another day. All staff, except those on duty, also attend a Communications Meeting on Thursday mornings 8:30-9:00am.

Principals’ Conference - Last Wednesday and Thursday I attended the Regional Principals’ Conference in Albury. This conference each year provides principals with the departmental and regional directions for the year. This year, as we know, the changes related to the ‘Local School Local Decisions’ program will be implemented. Both the Director General Dr Michele Bruniges and the Deputy Director General Mr Greg Prior spoke to the audience about the new changes and structures. Information gained from these conferences forms the basis of areas of professional learning for staff and executive.

Carolyn Howard, Principal (Rel.)

SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS - Thank you to all the students who participated in the A.P.S swimming carnival last Tuesday. It was a great day with fantastic numbers of students participating. The house chants and cheers added to the excitement of the day and created a wonderful atmosphere. Listed below are the names of the top performers who will now go on to represent our school at the zone swimming carnival. We know that they will represent our school with pride and we wish them all the very best: - Kaitlin Ainsworth, Callum Bruce, Bailey Clemson, Harriet Evans, Natalie Gibbons, Phoebe Grigg, Nick Hobbs, Deacon Hogan, Noah Jones, Luca Lamond, Willson Mack, Ruby Martin, Olivia McCaig, Isabel Mitchell, Harriet Murphy, Will Murphy, Millie Nagle, Will Pargeter, Brodie Porta, Matthew Riches, Sally Lefoe, Tayla Sanson, Maddy Steer, Ava Tuksar, Meg Waite, Will Haberfield, Emily Wills and Meaghan Yensch.

The carnival was completed in perfect conditions. Thanks to the fantastic support from community members and staff, our carnival ran very smoothly. Thank you to the staff for their non-stop commitment during the day. Thank you also to the many parents /carers who helped with marshalling, time keeping, place rankings and food. There are many jobs that are completed ‘behind the scenes’ which also contribute to a successful carnival. Thank you to the Administrative Staff who worked tirelessly before the carnival, counting the money and organising the notes for each class group. We all appreciated the shade at the pool and we thank our General Assistant, Mr Pantling for his support. The results of the carnival were as follows:

House/Champion Points: MURRAY 410, HOVELL 381, MITCHELL 322, HUME 296

Girls Junior Champion– Emily Wills
Girls 11 Yrs Champion– Natalie Gibbons
Girls 12/13Yrs Champion– Kaitlin Ainsworth
Boys Junior Champion– Will Pargeter
Boys 11Yrs Champion– Bailey Clemson
Boys 12/13Yrs Champion– Matthew Riches

Runner Up- Ava Tuksar
Runner Up- Meg Waite
Runner Up– Isabel Mitchell
Runner Up- Will Murphy
Runner Up– Callum Bruce
Runner Up- Noah Jones

We wish all the students attending the District Carnival today all the best! Rosemary Coughlan/Mark Neil, Swimming Coordinators.

TENNIS TRIALS - Congratulations to Charlie Byrne, Harry Haszard, Cyrus Andrews, Owen Sowden, Rupert Freeman, Bailey Clemson, Charlie Hargreaves and Ava Tuksar for being selected to represent Albury PS at the Albury PSSA Tennis Selection Trials being held this Friday 1 March. Alan Huang was also selected but is unable to attend. Good luck to these students! Jacqueline Henderson, Tennis Coordinator.

Year 4 Wagga Wagga Sports & Recreation Camp –BORAMBOLA - Our Year 4 camp will be held from Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 April (Week 11 Term 1). An Expression of Interest note was sent home on Thursday 21 February with all the relevant information in regards to paying a deposit or the full amount if you wish for your child to participate in the camp. The $50 deposit and return slip is due on Friday 1 March. Full payment ($250) is due by Friday 22 March. Please contact the school if you did not get an Expression of Interest note or if you have any questions. If you would like assistance with the payment for the camp please see Ms Howard or Mrs Eckley to arrange a payment plan.

Mrs Just and Mrs Glenane, Year 4 Camp Organisers.

YEAR 5 AND 6 ANTARCTICA PRESENTATION - Last Friday Year 5 and 6 students were extremely fortunate to have Mr Ron Haberfield deliver an outstanding presentation on Antarctica. Mr Haberfield travelled by icebreaker to Macquarie Island in 2002 where he saw many amazing sights during a three week period - these included Shackleton’s Hut, penguin rookeries, icebergs, birdlife, seals and so much more. Students and staff benefitted enormously from Mr Haberfield’s wonderful knowledge of this area. He is very widely travelled and showed us some unique photographs. We really appreciated him giving up his afternoon to enlighten us and share his experiences on Antarctica.

Many thanks to Alesha Mackinnon for making this possible.

Miss Lynn Macleod (Year 5 teacher).
Thurs 28 9:00-1:30pm Helen McPherson
Fri 1 9:00-1:30pm Christine Mendes, 12:00-1:30pm HELPER NEEDED
Mon 4 11:00-1:30pm Susan Marcuzzi
Tues 5 11:00-1:30pm Liz Ennis
Wed 6 11:00-1:30pm Natasha Barber
Thurs 7 11:00-1:30pm Simin Andrews
Fri 8 9:00-1:30pm Sally Graham, 11:00-1:30pm Melanie Benham

Thanks to everyone who has now bought brown paper bags. Thank you to all our fantastic helpers—don’t forget to check the newsletter for roster details.

Please call Ali or Rachael on 60212370 for further information.

LIBRARY NEWS- HELPERS WANTED!! The library relies on the assistance of parental/carer volunteers to successfully operate. If you think that you may be able to come in and help or if you can cover books at home please see me in the library. Thank you Alison Griffith, Teacher Librarian

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY-This Friday 1 March Albury Public School students and teachers will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day. Each class will be given a designated area to tidy, so hopefully our school will look wonderful by the end of the day. We have already noticed a decline in rubbish at our school due to your great efforts in packing rubbish free lunches, so we sincerely Thank you for this! Please send along a small plastic bag with your child to assist in rubbish collection. Lynda Joyce, Environment Committee convenor.

ALBURY PUBLIC SCHOOL IS A SUN SMART SCHOOL- We are proud to announce that Albury Public School is a member of the Sun Smart program. Statistics show that two out of three Australian school students will be diagnosed with skin cancer later in life. An alarming fact, but we can work together to try and reduce this rate. Remember, in addition to “Slip, Slop, Slap”, the Cancer Council also recommends seeking out shade and sliding on sunnies for maximum protection against the sun. The staff at A.P.S has a commitment to ensuring your child is well protected from the sun. We endeavour to model good sun-safe practice by wearing hats ourselves and directing students without wide-brimmed hats to designated shady areas at playtimes. It is recommended that all students apply sunscreen prior to attending school in the mornings and then bring additional sunscreen for reapplication later in the day. Please take a few moments each week to read our Sun Smart tip in the newsletter. Lynda Joyce, Environment Committee convenor.

YEAR 5 FIRST AID LESSON! On 5 February, Shane Green came to A.P.S to talk to us about first aid. At 1:40pm the classes of 5LM and 5LN came to the annexe to hear about first aid. Shane taught us about the DR ABC. Danger, response, airways, breathing and circulation. He taught us about burns, how to help someone in trouble and what to do. The students asked many questions and Shane answered them very well. We all looked inside an ambulance and enjoyed it very much. We all say “THANK YOU SHANE” By Ellie Avage 5LN

COMMUNITY NEWS

LIONS CLUB OF ALBURY INC CHARITY GARDEN PARTY- ALBURY BOTANIC GARDENS- 2 March, 2013, 11:30am – 3:00pm. To be opened by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir A.C. CVO, Governor of NSW. Meet and celebrate your local Charities and Volunteer Organisations. Live music, food and beverages, clowns and balloons, mini zoo, basketball hoop. A special performance by The Flying Fruit Fly Circus! All welcome! 1-2-3-MAGIC– Parenting Program, Thuringowa Community Centre, on three consecutive Fridays. 8, 15 & 22 March 2013. Bookings essential. Phone 60510222 for further information.

FREE POSTURE ASSESSMENT & SCHOOL BAG CHECK- We are offering the community free posture assessments and also free school bag checks – advising the parents and students on weight of their back packs, how to wear their bag and also how to pack their bag to prevent spinal problems. Phone Kate on 6009 0999 if you have any questions. Dr Janine Adams, Chiropractor House of Chiropractic - House of Hope Healing and Healthy Families

ALBURY JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE- THUNDER, Registrations for 2013 Season, Boys to 16 years – Girls to 12 years, Sarvaas Park North Albury. March, Saturday, 2, 9, 16, 23 - 10am to 12 noon Birth Certificates for new registrations, For more information –Ivan 0421807090 or visit www.alburythunderjrl.org.au

SCHOOLKIDSBONUS– Are you eligible? You can download material at australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus. Hardcopies of the brochure and factsheet are also available (free of charge) and can be ordered by contacting schoolkidsbonus@fahcsia.gov.au
Blueearth

4LJH participated in the first session of Blueearth.

It was lots of fun!

Last Friday 15.2.13, my class and I participated in Blueearth with Miss Humphrey. The first thing we did was the mountain pose. Then we played wasps. It was a game where you had a ball, beanbags and tennis balls. With the balls you had to throw them and touch someone under the shoulders. With the beanbags you had to throw them at someone’s foot and with the tennis balls you had to touch each other on the feet. The next activity was relays. The colours of the cones were green, white, red, blue and yellow. I was in the red team. My favourite part of Blueearth was playing wasps.

By Mackenzie Jones

Last Friday we participated BluEarth with Miss Humphrey. We had two sessions in between lunch and recess and one after lunch. In the first session we started off with a mountain pose where you had to stand still and concentrate. Afterwards we played a game called Wasp and Humans. In the game you had to run away from the people who had the balls. They were called wasps. If you were hit by a ball you had to do a squat for 5 seconds and then you are became a wasp until you got someone else. You then become a human again. Miss Humphrey made it harder by adding some tennis balls and some mini beanbags. In the second session you had to run around the cones. Sometimes Miss Humphrey even changed them around and we couldn’t bump into each other. The best part about Blueearth was doing the obstacle course.

By Myron Ayton and James Steer

Last Friday our class participated in Blueearth with Miss Humphrey. We learned a pose called the mountain pose. After that we played a game called wasps. It was a game where you had a ball, beanbag or a tennis ball. With the balls you had to touch someone under the shoulders. With the beanbag you had to throw them at somebody’s feet. The next sport activity was some relays. My team was the green team. There were also other colours like blue, yellow, red and white cones. We had to jump over the cones, run around the cones and skip one or two. My favourite activity was playing wasps.

By Olivia McCaig