

NUMBER 40

9th DECEMBER 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



REMINDERS FOR WEEK ELEVEN: TERM FOUR 2021

Friday December 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tie Dye for Diabetes
Monday December 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Leaders Speeches and Voting for 2022 - 2.30pm
Tuesday December 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Night
Wednesday December 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decadent Day Grade 3-6 • Excursion Prep-2
Thursday December 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Friday December 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly 12pm – Farewell to Grade 6's • School Community Lunch

PREP PHOTOS OF OUR CURRENT GRADE 6 STUDENTS

Below are photos of Michael Wood, Sam Sharrock and Tommy Compton in Prep in 2015.



PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

We had 25 replies to the survey. The results overall were quite stunning and a resounding positive endorsement of what we are doing at Bolwarra Primary School. After two very difficult years, battling lockdowns and remote learning, these results give me staff a wonderful boost leading into the Christmas break. They make us even more determined to continue to provide a flourishing school environment for your children as we feel appreciated. Thank you.

I feel comfortable about approaching this school with any concerns I might have.	100% positive
This school always aims to improve the quality of the education it provides.	100% positive
Teachers are enthusiastic and positive about teaching.	100% positive
The school provides opportunities for my child to develop a sense of responsibility.	100% positive
Teachers at this school model positive behaviour.	100% positive
My child feels accepted by other students at school.	100% positive
Overall, how satisfied are you with the school's approach to remote learning?	96% positive

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT – Influence in reading

Over the past couple of years, we have been working extra hard in reading. This work has been vindicated with the school receiving a grading of 'Influence' on our latest School Performance Report. Influence means that we are on a positive improvement trajectory with the school acting as an influencer and system leader.

DAY ONE 2022 – Monday January 31st

First day for all students in 2022 will be Monday January 31st

Staff officially resume on Friday January 28th.

TIE DYE FOR DIABETES – Tomorrow

To raise funds for Type 1 Diabetes all students will get to wear their Tie Dye shirts at school. Students will come in casual clothes and everyone will change into their shirts at school. Gold coin donation will go towards Type 1 Diabetes research. Any child who brings a gold coin donation will be eligible to win one of the prizes pictured.



DECADENT DAY FOR GRADE 3 to 6 – Wednesday 15th December

- Children are allowed to bring bikes, skateboards, roller blades and scooters as long as they bring the appropriate safety gear. There will be set times and places for these activities. Board games are also a good idea. Children are allowed to bring lollies and soft drink, wear casual clothes and generally choose their own activities for the day.
- Students **are not** to wear sandals or thongs due to safety reasons.
- Energy drinks, Bubble Gum & chewy are banned

At the end of the day we will have a water fight; water pistols are allowed but **not firefighting Knapsacks!! No water balloons as they hurt**. Only bore water will be used! It is a good idea to bring spare clothes, a plastic bag and a towel. Children are still required to wear a hat when in the sun. Decadent day is for **current Grade 3 to 6 Bolwarra students only**.

FAMILY NIGHT – Tuesday December 14th

ALL ADULTS NEED TO SHOW EVIDENCE OF VACCINATION AT THE OFFICE ON ENTERING SCHOOL GROUNDS

From 5pm bring a picnic rug and tea and enjoy a quick celebration of our school year. Formal proceedings will start at 5:30pm and will include the following.

School Leaders' Speeches, 2022 Students leaders announced, Drawing of the Christmas Raffle, Grade 6 Farewell and Carol singing.

- **Special event starting from 4pm**
- **Big Childcare will be providing Jumping Castles, games, prizes etc. on our oval.**
- **All families are invited to join in the fun.**
- **Students must be accompanied by a parent.**
- **Santa**



FINAL ASSEMBLY/GRADE 6 FAREWELL/ LUNCH – Friday December 18th

12pm – Final Assembly to celebrate student achievement. There will be a final farewell of our Grade 6's.

12:30pm – Lunch. Adults are encouraged to bring lunch to share with their own children at the front of the school. **Parents who are not attending, please ensure your child/children brings their own lunch.**

- Parents are able to take children home after the assembly.
- The **Bolwarra bus will not be running.**
- All other buses will be running **1 hour earlier than normal.**

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 4 DATES

December	Friday	10 th	-	Tie Dye for Diabetes
	Tuesday	14 th	-	Student Leaders for 2022 Speeches and voting 2:30pm
				Family Night 5pm
	Wednesday	15 th	-	Decadent Day Grade 3-6
				Prep/1/2 Excursion
	Friday	17 th	-	Lunch with families and a final Assembly from 12pm LAST DAY for 2021

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE –Please return tickets, together with money, by tomorrow, Friday, 10th December. The draw will take place at our Family Night on Tuesday, 14th December.

Chaplains' Corner – An unusual Christmas story

It's a remarkable Christmas story. For all sorts of reasons really. The First World War left ten million dead and twenty million injured. Horrific stuff. But something unexpected occurred on the Western Front. On Christmas Eve 1914, German troops put small Christmas trees above their trenches. The soldiers of both sides, German and English, were in some places barely more than a hundred metres or so from each other.

Then, as the reports go, it happened. A soldier began to sing "Silent Night, holy night." Others joined in. And the carol was taken up by both sides. This led to a shouted agreement across the lines that no shots would be fired. So the soldiers of both armies mingled in what had been no man's land. They exchanged presents – cigarettes, cigars, drinks, other food supplies. An English soldier, a barber, gave his enemies haircuts. Football games were played on Christmas Day. The word went up and down the lines via telegraph. It is thought these Christmas celebrations extended for at least forty kilometres, perhaps many more. There is a profound point to this little piece of history....

- **Christmas carries its own special power** – In the midst of a terrible war, the desire for peace and goodwill was alive and well. And it still is. This desire cannot be easily quenched even when life is unkind and difficult.
- **Deep inside all of us is a longing for peace** – Life is untidy. We are never without pressures and problems. Stress hunts for us. Yet deep inside we want to do better. We don't want to be always out of sorts or hard to get along with. Inner peace is our need.
- **The traditional Christmas story gives us a good clue** – The shepherds minding their sheep were the low-life of their day. The losers. At the bottom of the pile. But they alone heard the angels' song which in part was "Peace on earth."
- **What about peace now?** The pathway to peace within ourselves and with others hinges on goodwill. The offering of kindness, forgiveness, understanding, encouragement and care are gifts beyond price. The givers and receivers of these gifts are both blessed.
- **Christmas day carries its own surprises** – Our soldier/barber of Christmas 1914 had not the faintest idea that before the day was done he would be cutting the hair of the enemy. Such a possibility was surely unthinkable. Yes, we need to expect surprises too.
- **Christmas brings the hope of reconciliation** – Why rule out a good Christmas Day simply because someone from the awkward squad might be there? Turn the other cheek. Rewrite the script. Surprise the difficult one with friendship and warmth. Why not?
- **Even in the dark times we share common hopes and dreams** – Why else would armies at war exchange gifts, play football, sing carols and cut hair? It may be a new thought but we have much in common with people who are very different from us.
- **What about this Christmas then?** It is to be enjoyed. The Christmas story is filled with the hope and joy of a baby born, not in a palace but a stable, of ordinary parents whose new arrival became the model of love, care, compassion and renewal for all times since.

It is my hope and prayer that, as this year comes to an end with a New Year just around the corner, these will be very special times for you and your loved ones. God bless you!

