Principal’s News

Swimming
Swimming sessions will be held on Friday October 21st, 28th and November 4th and 11th. The swimming carnival will be held on Friday, November 18th.
Swimming session times are:
Years 5 & 6 – 9.00 – 9.30
Years 3 & 4 – 9.45 – 10.15
Prep, Years 1 & 2 – 10.30 – 11.00
These session times are not negotiable due to the Japanese classes timetabled for Fridays and our pool booking being kept to a reasonable amount of time.

Thank you to parents who transported students – it was great that they got back to school so promptly as we have a very busy day at school on Fridays. Prep – 2 students are asked to be back at school by 11.30 please.

The 10th ANNUAL POWERS INVESTMENT JUNIOR SWIM MEET
will be held in Biloela on Wednesday 23 November 2016. Gates will open at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm sharp start.
NOMINATIONS WILL CLOSE ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER
NO LATE NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED
Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

School Opinion Survey
Thank you to the 6 parents who bothered to complete the School Opinion Survey. It is interesting that some of the 6 parents who did respond gave some responses which I find fairly disturbing.
2 of these parents believe that students at our school are not treated fairly – I invite you to come and discuss your concerns with me, please let me know when your child was treated unfairly and who treated him/her unfairly.
Management of student behaviour is an issue which we take very seriously at Banana State School and if you have a complaint, then it is best to voice your concerns but you need to be prepared to hear the truth in our reply – you may not have heard the whole story if you are basing your judgements on your child’s perception of behaviour management.

However, I’d also like to point out that our students answered the same questions as our parents.
100% of our students indicated that they believe teachers treat students fairly in our school and that student behaviour is well managed in our school.
We always make the effort to contact parents if we have concerns for a student’s welfare.

Cricket Gala Day
For those of you who really enjoyed our T20 Cricket Day in Term 1, you’ll be pleased to know that we are locked in for the 10 March 2017 for another Cricket Gala Day at Banana.

Student Council
Icy cups will be on sale this Friday at lunch time - $1.00 each.
A Sausage Sizzle will be held on Thursday, November 3rd.

Year 6 Graduation
The Year 6 Graduation will be held on Saturday December 3rd at the school. It will be an evening function with a camp oven cooked dinner and a country atmosphere to suit our 4 Year 6 boys.
Please note that the school is arranging a dinner for the students.
All other activities arranged for the boys during the day or in the evening, after the dinner, are private activities arranged by parents and are not school functions.

Thanks
Thank you to the P&C for organising a wonderful Book Fair for our students. I am so appreciative of the support which the P&C has given the school as a result of the Book Fair – of course, our students are the ones who benefit the most from their generosity.
Thanks to Karen for organising the raffles at the hotel last Friday night.
Thanks to Leanne, Sheree and Rachel for cooking the delicious lasagnes.

Prep Transition
The Prep Transition programme will run every Tuesday morning in November.
The Prep Transition programme will take place in the P – 3 room in the Morning Session.

Banana State School Newsletter
Term 4 2016 Week 3
Explicit Focus Areas for 2016:
Writing, Attendance
More students in the Upper 2 Bands
We will organise a range of activities for the children which will introduce them to the school routine and the classroom environment. The 2017 Preps will also be part of the normal morning routine, which means they will be here for Fruit Break at 10.00. All of our fruit is donated by the principal.

We have publicised our programme at the school, at the Moura Kindy, on Facebook and on our website.

**Reading Eggs 2017**

We will not be renewing our subscription to Reading Eggs in 2017 as we will need all available funds for our UNIFY subscriptions in 2017. Parents who want the privilege of Reading Eggs in 2017 will find it easy enough to organise a personal payment.

**P - 3 News**

**Spelling**

Congratulations to Sherri Bauer, Jhrayne Comollatti and McKennon Haley for achieving 100% in their spelling tests last week! Keep working hard on those spelling words.

**Library**

Please make sure that library books come back to school on a Friday. Students are given time each Friday to exchange their books and also to participate in group reading. It ties up valuable staff time and learning time if we have to keep going to the library each day to organise new books for the students who simply forgot to bring their books on a Friday.

**English**

This week during English the Prep to Year 2 students have been looking at Personal Persuasive statements. They have been trying to convince me which is better, horses or cattle (this topic was decided by the students). For their homework, they are looking at which ice cream flavour is better, vanilla or chocolate. Some suggested they wouldn’t know until they had a taste test of both flavours!

**Maths**

Prep students are working very hard on using their positional language to describe position and movement. They thought it was great fun when they were allowed to crawl under their desks.

Years 1 and 2 spent last week looking at Australian currency and ordering coins and notes from the smallest value to the greatest and counting collections. The Yr 2 girls had a lot of fun finding all the possible ways to make 50c and $1. The Year 2 students will also be spending some time each week looking at the types of questions that they may find next year in maths and NAPLAN. This practice will help to prepare them for the task.

Year 3 students have been focusing on place value of numbers up to 10000. They have been looking at these numbers in expanded form. They have been using larger numbers to complete addition sums and they will be moving into completing subtraction sums with the larger numbers this week.

**Science**

This week the Prep to Year 2 students will conduct an investigation into how a toy moves. They will be looking at pushing, pulling, sliding and rolling toys. They will also be talking about which of their 5 senses they use to observe the investigation.

Year 3 will be looking at heat energy, how it is created and how we can see it. They will also be conducting an investigation into heat energy and how to tell if it is present.

**Swimming**

Swimming is on again this Friday. Our first week went off with great success. Swimming can be quite tiresome for young students so please make sure that they have a great night’s sleep on Thursday and also have plenty of food and water for school on Friday.

**Final Words**

I know that we are coming towards the end of the year and the students can almost smell the freedom at the end of the tunnel. However, we need to encourage and remind our learners that class time is still important, right up until the last day. It is for learning. Lunch times and before or after school are the times to be social. When in class, students need to stay on task and focused so they can get the most out of each day.

*Elaine Pelling*

*Shannan Rye*
Mrs Butler’s News

Science
Students in Year Five will need to bring along a shoe box to complete their assessment. They will need to have this by Week 4. If you don’t have a shoe box at home please let us know so that we can arrange one for you.

Student Council
The Student Council will be selling icy cups this Friday at Big Lunch. The cost is $1.00. There will also being a Dress as your favourite book character/Crazy Hair Day, Sausage Sizzle and a Christmas Bake Sale throughout the term.

English
Students continue to work hard on their persuasive writing with Year 4 students finding this quite a challenge due to all of the things that they have to remember. At this stage I am not too worried as we will be working on this aspect of their writing for the next 7 weeks. I will let parents know if I have any concerns during Parent/Teacher interviews at the end of the term.

Homework
Students who do not do homework at home will have plenty of time to complete their homework at school during play time. This week students in Year 5 will be asking a member of their family to assist them with a questionnaire that they are conducting in regards to our Geography unit. It is a very straightforward one regarding a weather event that the person has experienced.

Swimming
Thank you to everyone who transported their own and other children to the swimming pool on Friday. By all accounts the students had a great time and the water was lovely. I would like to remind parents that if your child is not swimming for a particular reason then a note needs to be sent to school with the student, or a phone call made to the office by 8:30am. Miss Charmaine does not work on a Friday so the office is unstaffed once school commences. Remember, students not swimming will stay at school with either myself or Mrs Pelling.

Economics and Business
Last week students in Year 5 and 6 learnt about Trade Offs. A Trade Off is when you have to make a decision when there are two options. The Opportunity Cost is the option that you do not choose. We were able to use real world context in relation to Banana State School’s budget and the needs and wants of the school. By doing this the students now have a real appreciation of why a Trade Off is necessary and just how many wants have been met in the past at Banana State School.

Digital Technologies
In this unit students in Year 5 and 6 engage in a number of activities, including:

* investigating the functions and interactions of digital components and data transmission in simple networks, as they solve problems relating to digital systems
* examining a maze game to explore algorithm design and develop skills in using a visual programming language
* working collaboratively to create a new maze game.

While they are all excited to begin creating their new game I must say that I do not have any prior knowledge in how to do this so I will be as much a learner as they are.

Reading
Dr. Seuss once said, “You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.” We all know the value of reading every day and I would like to congratulate all the students that read regularly as part of their homework. Remember, it’s never too late to develop a love for reading.

Last Word
If you have a strong commitment to your goals and dreams, if you wake up every day with a passion to do your job, everything is possible.” Chantal Petitclere

Mrs Kay Butler
**P& C and Community News**

The P&C Meeting is being held tonight commencing at 6pm in the Library. Everyone is welcome.

I like to thank everyone for their support of the Book Fair. We raised $858 which was used to purchase books for the school in which all students will benefit.

We will be doing our Christmas Raffle again this year and are asking for donations. All donations are greatly appreciated and if you could get them to the school by Friday or early next week we can start selling tickets. Without your help we wouldn't have the fantastic raffles that we do.

A reminder that DollarMite Banking is done every Friday. Please see Alli or put it in the basket in the office.

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**Date Claimer**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>19/10</td>
<td>Banana SS P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
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<td>Second information evening at Moura SHS for Year 6 families</td>
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<td>21/11</td>
<td>Student Council Icy Cup Day</td>
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<td>Student Council Sausage Sizzle</td>
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<td>4, 11/11</td>
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<td>Nominations close 20/11 – please see the school if you wish to nominate</td>
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<td>1/12</td>
<td>Yr 6 Transition Day at Moura SHS</td>
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<td>3/12</td>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation</td>
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<td>End of Year Presentations</td>
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<td>Dollarmite Banking</td>
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**We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which Banana State School is built, the Gangulu people.**