Primary Zone Swimming Carnival

On Thursday 27th February, 17 fantastic swimmers travelled to Coonamble to participate in the Annual Zone Swimming Carnival. All those involved swam as fast as they could and represented the school with pride. Students, parents, Miss Baldock and Richie cheered on every swimmer as loudly as they could!

Congratulations to Blake Olsen who was declared Junior Boy Zone Champion!

The school would like to congratulate the 4 students (Madison, Molly, Liam and Blake) who are heading to Armidale on today to represent the Zone at the Annual Regional Swimming Carnival.
QuickSmart Explained

Baradine Central School has been implementing the fantastic QuickSmart program for two years now.

QuickSmart Numeracy is a program supporting middle-school students with difficulties in numeracy. Over 900 schools nationally are using QuickSmart.

Independent analysis of national test results for thousands of QuickSmart students’ show that they consistently achieve two-to-three-years academic growth over a 30-week period. Results indicate a higher gain for QuickSmart students in relation to their peers not on the program.

The prime purpose of the QuickSmart program is to reverse the trend of ongoing poor academic performance for students who have been struggling at school.

The QuickSmart professional learning program is designed for classroom teachers, special needs support teachers, and paraprofessionals to learn how to work with, and significantly improve, the learning outcomes in basic mathematics skills of under-achieving students in the middle years of schooling. The program features professional learning and support for work in a small class instructional setting with two students, using a specially constructed teaching program supported by extensive material and computer-based resources.

The QuickSmart Numeracy interventions were developed through the National Centre of Science, Information and Communication Technology and Mathematics Education for Rural and Regional Australia (SiMERR) at the University of New England, Armidale and have been under continuous improvement since 2001.

The intervention is called QuickSmart to encourage students to become quick in their response speed and smart in their understanding and strategy use. In QuickSmart, the aim is to improve students’ information retrieval times to levels that free working-memory capacity from an excessive focus on mundane or routine tasks. In this way, students are able to engage meaningfully with more demanding cognitive activities. In these interventions, automaticity is fostered; time, accuracy and understanding are incorporated as key dimensions of learning; and an emphasis is placed on ensuring maximum student on-task time. QuickSmart lessons develop learners’ abilities to monitor their academic learning and set realistic goals for themselves.

Data collected to date from thousands of QuickSmart students indicate the narrowing of the achievement gap between QuickSmart and comparison students’ results. QuickSmart students are able to proceed with their studies more successfully by learning to trust their heads’ in the same ways that effective learners do. They gain a new confidence in the area of mathematics that is transferred to their performance in class, improves students’ attitudes to school, and their attendance rates and levels of academic confidence both inside and outside the classroom.

If your child is participating in QuickSmart in 2014, you can anticipate a huge improvement in numeracy performance and confidence following the 30 weeks of intensive support.

Principal’s News

Mrs Chris Clarke - Principal

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Principal’s Awards

Week 5

Samantha Owers, Kelly King and Jayden Shelton - for excellent attitude to learning
Madison Kembrey and Ike Fester - for a great start to Kindergarten

Week 6

Savannah Carey, Madison Masman, Josephine Mitchell and Haylee Dunn

New sports uniforms are due to be delivered to school on this week for pick-up.
This week in Year 3/4

I am currently teaching Year 3/4 every Thursday from 12:15pm when Miss Baker is on release. This term our topic is ‘Then, Now and Tomorrow’. This unit of work focuses on the history, present day and future directions of the local area. Year 3/4 has a fantastic afternoon last Thursday when Mr Sutherland and Ms Norton came to visit the class and talk about their jobs and the heritage of the local area. They brought with them some artefacts and gave a wonderful presentation about local Aboriginal history. All the students asked very interesting questions. They will now use this information to start projects on Baradine. At the end of the session Sandy and Keira said thank you to Merv and Jillian and presented them with a box of ‘favourites’.

Thank you Merv and Jillian for sharing your knowledge with the students. We all had a very enjoyable afternoon and learnt a lot about the history of Baradine.

Kinder/1 News

We are all famous; I hope everyone saw the lovely colourful photo that was in the Coonabarabran Times last week of our Kindergarten students starting school. We are all working so hard in our classroom and have been working on how to be a responsible, safe learner at school. Year 1 students are showing the Kindergarten students how to follow the school PBL expectations and are also helping them with their class routines. Thank you to all my wonderful helpers. Big thank you’s also to our lovely Class Captains for the past two weeks Ike Fester and Madison Kembrey; you have been very helpful when carrying out your special jobs and roles.

Thank you to parents and carers who have labelled their child’s belongings it is helpful when returning items to students, now that the weather has turned a little chilly in the mornings. Please remind your child which days are their Special News days. Congratulations to most Kindergarten students for being diligent with their homework tasks. Please return them every Friday for marking. They may not be returned when they are handed in on Monday straight away. A great way of learning about your child’s time at school is to ask them about their day and what special things they did. Communication is a great avenue for little minds to learn about how literacy works when talking and engaging with others.

We are learning about Bullying in PD/Health and have been talking about what it means to be a good classmate and a good friend. We brainstormed some class room rules that we all would like everyone to follow. We have also been talking about what things are not acceptable and that we should all feel happy and safe when we are at school. We are having a lovely time of learning in our classroom and will share some more news next week.

Just a little reminder about sending in a paint shirt for your child please. They love this activity but it can be a little messy.

If you do require an interview about your child please make an appointment through the front office.

Year 2 News

This week we have been busy working on fractions and 3D shapes in Maths. We have used concrete examples for both and related concepts to our environment.

In preparation for the Baradine Show we have been creating some artwork for the competition section and finishing off our book covers. If you have any craft items from last year with Mrs Eastburn (Senior) please bring them back to school so we can enter them into the Baradine Show competition eg. paper mache Santa Claus, angels made from folded magazines, foam ball snowmen, etc.

We have been concentrating on our handwriting and presentation of classwork. We were able to show Miss Baker some lovely work completed in class. Uniform has been excellent this week and last week. Congratulations to everyone. Please remember Library is on Tuesdays and homework is to be returned every Friday.
This fortnight, the class and I have been busy with a wide variety of different learning experiences. In Group Reading our NAPLAN skills are being revised and practised in preparation for Year 5’s NAPLAN testing this year and preparing Year 6 for theirs in Year 7. In Numeracy the students have been demonstrating their multiplication skills. They have been focusing on the vertical multiplication algorithm with many of them now being able to successfully multiply 986 by 7! In R2L we are continuing our focus on narrative writing, in particular looking at the complication stage of a story. Students have been using metaphors and fantastic descriptive language to write an animal attack scene! Very scary stuff! The students have been demonstrating their amazing investigating skills in science. This fortnight the students have been learning about changes of state, focusing on how substances turn from liquid to solid and back again.

Reminder: Leather shoes and joggers are required for Ag and PE every Friday. Swimmers and swimming money is needed for Sport every Tuesday. Homework is due in on Fridays and please return your school reader to Miss Baldock whenever it requires changing.

In Year 7 and 8, students have two class music lessons per week – the first lesson is dedicated to “book work” and the second lesson is practical. The Year 7 class have been working hard at learning the basics of music theory and will continue to work on this for the most part of this term until they start working on their rap songs. In their practical lessons, the Year 7’s have done some work on unpitched percussion (mainly djembes and cajons) and some pitched percussion (glockenspiels and xylophones). We are very lucky to have two beautiful cajons made by the very talented Mr McCutcheon. The Year 8 students are close to completing their refresher course on Music Theory and will then move on to creating sound effects for movie clips. In their practical lessons, the Year 8’s have started learning band instruments. Each student has selected a band instrument to learn, and they are now learning to play their instruments as a group in a wind band. The students had a choice between flute, saxophone, trumpet, clarinet and drum kit.

I would really like to start a similar band program with the Year 7’s later this year but we need to have some instruments repaired first. However, if you do find the odd flute or clarinet lying around at home and if you are willing to let us use the instrument in class at school, please let me know – I would be very happy to use it and take good care of it! If any students are interested in having music lessons, please contact me so that I can put you in touch with a suitable teacher.

Congratulations

Year 3/4 News

Year 3/4 have been extremely busy over the last fortnight. In writing we have continued to work on exposition texts and all students wrote about why they would be the best Class Captain. They were very persuasive with their writing and made it a hard decision! In maths we have been learning and practising adding using different strategies such as the split strategy. It has been tricky but we are improving.

We have been preparing and making lots of things in Visual Arts and the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program to enter in the Baradine Show. You will have to go and have a look at all of our work, cooking and gardening.

Year 5/6 News

This fortnight, the class and I have been busy with a wide variety of different learning experiences. In Group Reading our NAPLAN skills are being revised and practised in preparation for Year 5’s NAPLAN testing this year and preparing Year 6 for theirs in Year 7. In Numeracy the students have been demonstrating their multiplication skills. They have been focusing on the vertical multiplication algorithm with many of them now being able to successfully multiply 986 by 7! In R2L we are continuing our focus on narrative writing, in particular looking at the complication stage of a story. Students have been using metaphors and fantastic descriptive language to write an animal attack scene! Very scary stuff! The students have been demonstrating their amazing investigating skills in science. This fortnight the students have been learning about changes of state, focusing on how substances turn from liquid to solid and back again.

Reminder: Leather shoes and joggers are required for Ag and PE every Friday. Swimmers and swimming money is needed for Sport every Tuesday. Homework is due in on Fridays and please return your school reader to Miss Baldock whenever it requires changing.

Attendance Monkey for Week 5
Primary - Kinder/1 97%
Secondary - Year 7 98%

Attendance Monkey for Week 6
Primary - Year 2 94%
Secondary - Year 9 100%

Music News

In Year 7 and 8, students have two class music lessons per week – the first lesson is dedicated to “book work” and the second lesson is practical. The Year 7 class have been working hard at learning the basics of music theory and will continue to work on this for the most part of this term until they start working on their rap songs. In their practical lessons, the Year 7’s have done some work on unpitched percussion (mainly djembes and cajons) and some pitched percussion (glockenspiels and xylophones). We are very lucky to have two beautiful cajons made by the very talented Mr McCutcheon. The Year 8 students are close to completing their refresher course on Music Theory and will then move on to creating sound effects for movie clips. In their practical lessons, the Year 8’s have started learning band instruments. Each student has selected a band instrument to learn, and they are now learning to play their instruments as a group in a wind band. The students had a choice between flute, saxophone, trumpet, clarinet and drum kit.

I would really like to start a similar band program with the Year 7’s later this year but we need to have some instruments repaired first. However, if you do find the...
Applications for Year 7 entry to the virtual selective class provision are now available for gifted and talented students at this school. Students successful for entry to this virtual class will be enrolled at a local class for the majority of their subjects but will be taught English, mathematics and science in a virtual environment together with other gifted and talented students in rural and remote areas through the creative use of communications technologies. This means that they can access a challenging academic program without leaving home and friends to do so. Further details are available on the following web sites:


If you wish to apply for this provision on behalf of your child you will need to complete an online application at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement) urgently. Although the web site indicates that these are late applications they will not be considered late by the selection committees if you apply before 28 February 2014.

All candidates for the virtual selective class provision must take the Selective High School Placement Test on 13 March 2014 and you will be advised directly by the High Performing Students Unit about the test centre you will have to take your child to.

If you have already applied for a selective high school on behalf of your child and now wish to change one of your choices to the virtual selective class provision, please do not complete another application but write directly to the Unit to make that change.

If you do not have access to the Internet please contact Mr Lloyd for assistance.
Secondary Homework

A key area for focus this year in Year 7–10 is regular homework. This year all students will receive regular homework in their core subjects – English, Maths, Science and History/Geography – in addition to their usual project/assessment task type work.

Homework for each subject will be fortnightly. Students should seek their teacher for support as well as use Homework Centre to complete their work. Students who choose not to complete their work will do so during Homework Catch-up on Friday’s at lunch time.

PBL

This week we are concentrating on the PBL rule:
“Respect: follow all staff instructions”
We are proud of the students consistently following this PBL rule.

Baradine Central School students had great success with the Sheep Showing at the Dunedoo Show last weekend

Congratulations

Contact Details

In case of emergencies, the school office needs up-to-date contact details for all parents, guardians and emergency contacts for each student. All parents need to ensure that their address and contact details are up to date with the school. If there have been any recent changes please contact the school office ASAP.

A good night’s sleep, healthy food and regular school attendance – an easy gift for your child. Set them up for life!

Cool Kids Crunch&Sip®!
Don’t forget the bottle of water and fruit or vegetables for Crunch&Sip® everyday!

Sheep Show Team Dates
Sat March 8 Dunedoo
Sat March 15 Coona
Sat March 22 Baradine
Sat March 29 Mendooran
Sat April 5 Binnaway

New embroidered green school caps are available for purchase from the Front Office for $13.50 for all students
Helping your daughter say no to peer pressure

Your daughter's school friends are her closest confidants and her meanest critics. Experts on teen girl angst share their wisdom on taking the heat out of peer pressure.

Find out more:

Managing risk-taking in teen boys

Today's 'Nintendo' generation of teen boys get to save the world every day on the computer. In the real world, they can be forbidden from going down the road alone. It's a conundrum parents need to be aware of because without the chance to take part in real adventures, things can become a bit dull – teen boys' desire to explore life can get out of hand if they're not given some space to do it safely.

Find out more:
Physical activity can be:

⇒ sport and organized games
⇒ playing with the dog
⇒ backyard cricket
⇒ climbing trees
⇒ housework
⇒ dancing to music
⇒ wriggling and moving is normal for children and can be regarded as activity so avoid asking them to stop!

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PHONE: 6843 1805
FAX: 6843 1751
E-MAIL: baradine-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.baradine-c.schools.nsw.edu.au

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**FAR WEST ACADEMY OF SPORT**

**TEennis PROGRAM TRIALS**

**When:** Friday 14th March 2014
**Where:** Coonabarabran Tennis Courts
**Time:** 4pm - 5pm

**OR**

**When:** Saturday 15th March 2014
**Where:** Warren Tennis Courts, Victoria Park, Udora Road, Warren
**Time:** 11:00am - 3:00pm

**WHo is Eligible?**

Tennis players who reside in the Far West region of NSW (ie area bounded by Lake Cargelligo - Lightning Ridge, Trangie - Broken Hill)

Athletes must turn 10 to 16 years in 2014 (ie born between 1998 - 2004)

**Cost**

Free

**What to Bring**

Tennis Equipment, Training gear, Hat, Water Bottle, Towel, Sunscreen and Strapping Tape (if required)

**How to Enrol**

For further information or to enrol please contact the Far West Academy of Sport

P: (02) 6847 3638
F: (02) 6847 3651
fwas@communities.nsw.gov.au