Dear Parents

I am sure I speak for the entire community as I express our deepest sympathy to the Davis family for the loss last week of father and husband, Steve.

Our swimming Carnival was a wonderful success last week with lots of great performances. Thank you to Mr Williams and his helpers for their great work, also well done to the competitors who participated with great spirit and sportsmanship. Lawson was the winning house on the day with age Champions being;

Junior Girl:     Molly and Machayla
Junior Boy:     Max
11yrs Girl:      Callie
Senior Girl:     Aleisi
Senior Boy:    Joshua

Our team for the District Carnival this Friday is:
William , Chelsie , Brooke , David , Max , Angus , Machayla , Molly , Michaela , Hayley , Callie , Sophie , Joshua , Aliesi , Taleiha , Austin , Isaac , Bronte-Lee and Leo . We wish everyone the best for the day.

Please find attached information sheets regarding Special Religious Education and Special Ethics Education. Please note that Kinder parents will receive a separate note outlining the options for Special Religious Education.

Please have a peaceful week.
Stan Kowalski

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**Term 1, Week 4 2015**

**Principal's Report**

**Calendar of Events**

**Week 4**
- Wed 18th Feb: Playgroup, Hall, 9:30-11.30
- Thurs 19th Feb: Life Ed.
- Fri 20th Feb: District Swimming

**Week 5**
- Mon 23rd Feb: Playgroup, Hall, 9:30-11.30
- Tues 24th Feb: PSSA Cricket Trials
- Wed 25th Feb: Assembly, Hall, 9.15-10.00

**Week 6**
- Mon 2nd March: Premier’s Reading Challenge
- Tues 3rd March: Playgroup, Hall, 9.30-11.30
- Wed 4th March: Assembly, Hall, 9.15-10.00
- Thurs 5th March: Western Region Swimming

**Week 7**
- Mon 9th March: PSSA League Trials
- Tues 10th March: Playgroup, Hall, 9.30-11.30
- Wed 11th March: PSSA Football (soccer)
- Thurs 12th March: Selective High Schools Placement Test

**Week 8**
- Mon 16th March: Playgroup, Hall, 9.30-11.30
- Tues 17th March: Canteen Meal Deal
- Wed 18th March: National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

**Week 9**
- Mon 23rd March: Road Safety Day
- Tues 24th March: Playgroup, Hall, 9.30-11.30
- Wed 25th March: State Swimming Carnival
- Thurs 26th March: State Swimming Carnival
- Fri 27th March: Assembly, Hall, 9.15-10.00

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**Due soon**

- Permission Note
Canteen News

Roster

Monday 23/2   T.Roels
Tuesday 24/2   J Baillie
Wednesday 25/2 J Baillie, L.Wood
Thursday 26/2  J Baillie, L.Kitto
Friday 27/2    T Roels, C.Nicholls, L.Howarth

The first canteen meeting for 2015 will be held at the Canteen at 2.00 on Tuesday 24.2.15. This meeting only goes for 1 hour and children are most welcome. At the meeting we discuss ways to improve the canteen and are always interested in any ideas parents may have regarding the canteen. Please feel free to attend our meeting on this day. I hope to see some new faces.

ATTENTION: THE FIRST MEAL DEAL FOR THE CANTEEN WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th MARCH and will be our very popular ST PATRICKS DAY MEAL DEAL. Please put this date on the calendar and notes will go out next week with all the details.

As mentioned last week our popular spag bol is now available and I forget to mention that we also have a gluten free spag bol available. Just make sure you write on the order that your child requires the gluten free option. It is the same price as the non gluten free product.

Relay for Life – PJ day

Cancer is an insidious disease which affects many families, including those in our school community. This year we have a staff team entered in the local Relay for Life which is held on March 14th and 15th. To help with our fundraising for this very worthwhile charity we will be holding a pyjama day at school on Friday 27th February. All students are asked to wear suitable PJs to school on this day and donate a gold coin. If you wish to sponsor the school team you can donate by googling “Relay for Life” and searching for Bathurst West PS. Thankyou for your support.

P&C News

Welcome to both new and returning families. I hope everyone is settling into the new year. For those new to school, I thought I’d give a quick run-down of the P&C and how it works at Bathurst West Public School. The P&C (Parents & Citizens Association) is here to support the school and work to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff together. It is a place for open, respectful discussion between the school and parents/carers and other members of the community, about what is best for our children. It is a place for you to contribute to and understand how the school works. Discussion is a two way dialogue, and can include things like the school budget, policies such as homework and discipline, upcoming staff changes, and other school events. The P&C also help provide facilities and equipment for the school by raising money.

The Bathurst West P&C group is a mixture of mums, dads and grandparents. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is on the 25th February in the iCentre, starting at 6:45pm. It costs $1 to join, and this must be paid before you are eligible to vote. New (and familiar) faces are always welcome, and I’d love to see you there.

The last 18 months have seen us trialling day time meetings, so stay tuned if an evening meeting doesn’t suit you. In addition, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), where we elect the office bearers for the year, is scheduled for our next meeting in March.

The P&C at Bathurst West is responsible for both the Canteen and Clothing Pool. The next Canteen and Clothing Pool meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of each term. The next meetings are on the 24th February – Clothing Pool at 1:30pm and Canteen at 2pm. Both meet at the meeting room in the front office. Feel free to come. It’s always wonderful to see new faces.

So why get involved? Research shows that kids perform better at school when they see their parents/carers involved and committed to their school. Joining the P&C, or helping at the Canteen, are just a couple of the many ways you can do this.

Danielle

School Awards

Congratulations to- Mitchell, Owen, Frances Charli-Anne, Sammy, Brooke

Principal’s Awards

Congratulations to- Brooke

Congratulations to- Mitchell, Owen, Frances Charli-Anne, Sammy, Brooke
**Student Notes Sent Home Last Week**

- Whooping Cough
- PSSA Rugby League Trials

**Maths questions**
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey's Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It's aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.


**Avoiding injuries**
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain?

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Administration Office Hours - 8.45am - 3.45pm
School commences at 9.15am
School finishes at 3.15pm
Students are supervised from 8.45am

9.15-11.15  Class session 1
11.15-11.45  Play
11.45-1.45  Class session 2 which includes lunch
           Inside at 11.45
1.45-2.15  Afternoon tea and play
2.15-3.15  Class session 3

The two 2hour sessions will be split by “fruit breaks”

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**Central West OOSH Services (CWOOSH)**

provides before and after School care for 5-12 year olds. We offer a variety of activities including art & craft, sports activities, billy carts, homework corner. Breakfast and afternoon tea is also included. CWOOSH is located in the school hall. Please call Tanya on 0411 521 460 or email a admin@cwoosh.com for further information.

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**Clothing Pool**
The clothing pool is open every morning from 9.00 to 9.30

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**Nutrition Snippet**

**The simplest way**

...to stay healthy in summer.

Here’s some fun ways to get your kids eating more fruit + veg this summer...

- freeze fruit or mint leaves into ice cubes to chill + flavour water
- add vegie sticks whenever you have a dip
- throw some veg on the BBQ – eg. capsicum, tomato + zucchini
- keep a tray of fruit pieces like orange wedges or melon slices in the fridge for quick snacks
- freeze bananas, peeled and wrapped in gladwrap, your kids will love the icecream taste
- make easy smoothies with frozen fruit + reduced-fat milk

Remember: try to eat fruit + veg at every meal!

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**SunSmart Snippet**

**The simplest way**

...to keep your kids safe in the sun.

Did you know that when it comes to sun protection, not all hats are equal?
We all know hats help protect against skin cancer and eye damage.

But did you know that baseball caps don’t provide much protection?
Baseball caps leave cheeks, ears, chin and back of the neck exposed to ultraviolet radiation, and to the real risk of skin cancer in later life.

Choose a sun-safe hat
Sun-safe hats include broad-brimmed, bucket, or legionnaire hats. These hats are inexpensive, and give your kids the best chance of staying protected in our harsh summer sun.

Finally, don’t forget to apply sunscreen in the morning before school! Enjoy summer, and remember to be SunSmart!

To find out more about being SunSmart visit our website [sunsmart.nsw.com.au](http://sunsmart.nsw.com.au) or call 02 8023 1055
Special Religious Education and General Religious Education

Special Religious Education is education in the beliefs and practices of an approved religious persuasion by authorised representatives of that persuasion.

Background
Section 32 of the Education Act 1990 requires that 'in every government school, time is to be allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion.' It also allows for general religious education.

The revised Religious Education policy (01/06/2013) and implementation procedures can be found at:

Definitions
Special Religious Education (SRE) is education in the beliefs and practices of an approved religious persuasion by authorised representatives of the persuasion.

General Religious Education (GRE) is education about the world's major religions, what people believe and how that belief affects their lives. This is taught through the school curriculum.

 Responsibilities
Principals
Principals must allow time for SRE where representatives of approved providers are available. On average, not less than 30 minutes and not more than one hour per week should be allocated. The lesson period should be consistent with the age and attention span of the students.

Parents/caregivers have the right to know how SRE will be organised each year and which religious organisations will deliver it.

Parents/caregivers have the right to choose not to have their children attend SRE. Parents/caregivers are to be advised of options if they do not wish their children to attend SRE, including special education in ethics where it is available.

Principals will support SRE by ensuring that no academic instruction or formal school activities occur during the time set aside for special religious education. Students not attending SRE should be in a separate space from these classes and be provided with meaningful activities such as reading, private study or completing homework.

Providers
SRE is delivered by religious persuasions that have the approval of the Minister for Education for that purpose. A list of approved providers is available at:

Only persons authorised by approved religious persuasions teach SRE.

A provider must ensure that all personnel/volunteers have had a Working with Children Check or signed a Working with Children Check Declaration for volunteers depending on the phase-in status of the volunteer:

Providers must publish age-appropriate curriculum on their website.

Contact Information
Primary Curriculum Advisor
T 9244 5484
Early Learning and Primary Education
Level 3, 1 Oxford Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010
**Headlice**

Several cases of headlice have been reported in the school. Please check your child’s hair and treat accordingly.


**Tips for tackling kids head lice**

Use hair conditioner and a fine head lice comb. Apply conditioner to the hair and comb through with a wide-toothed comb to remove the tangles. Let the conditioner dry, then use a fine metal lice comb to remove the lice and pull the nits off the hair. The conditioner helps slow down the louse and makes it easier to comb out. Then rinse out the conditioner. THIS DOES WORK.

Make sure you re-treat your child’s head in seven days to catch any nymphs that may have hatched.

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**Jargon buster**

Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school.


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**Whooping Cough**

There has been a recent increase of whooping cough (pertussis) among primary-school-aged children and a modest increase in high schools. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough caught at school can spread to younger brothers and sisters at home and can be especially dangerous for babies. Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and is worse at night. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Children with symptoms should see a GP.

If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken five days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades. If your school-aged child has younger siblings, it’s a good idea to check that they are up to date with their vaccines.


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**OOT NETBALL CLUB REGISTRATION DAY**

**2015 NETBALL COMPETITION**

Join us for the 2015 season of netball in Bathurst. We have teams for all ages.

Registration days for Out of Touch Netball Club will be:

**THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY - 4pm to 6pm** Bathurst City Centre near Smiggle

**SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY - 10am to 12pm** Bathurst Netball Clubhouse at the Netball Courts

If you have any questions please email [kris.tie1508@yahoo.com.au](mailto:kris.tie1508@yahoo.com.au) or visit our website, [www.outoftouchnetball.asn.au](http://www.outoftouchnetball.asn.au). Or just come along and complete the forms at one of our Registration days.

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**Come and Try BMX**

The Bathurst and District BMX Club will be holding a **Come and Try Day** on Saturday 21\textsuperscript{st} February from 1.00pm. Anybody interested in riding BMX bikes should attend. Accredited BMX Coaches and Club Officials will be giving expert tuition and assistance to all participants.

**Date:** Saturday 22\textsuperscript{nd} February 2014

**Time:** 1.00 pm

**Location:** River Road Race Track, Kelso

Participants should bring their own bike, helmet (full face if possible) and wear full length pants, long sleeve shirt and gloves.

This is a free event. For more information contact Clare 0427 540 934

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**Helping your child with homework**

How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns.

Special Education in Ethics

Special Education in Ethics is a program in ethical decision making, action and reflection within a secular framework, based on a branch of philosophy.

Background
The Education Act 1990 Section 33A allows parents/caregivers who do not wish their children to attend special religious education the option of special education in ethics classes, known as Special Education in Ethics (SEE).

The Special Education in Ethics policy (01/06/2013) and implementation procedures can be found at: http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/religion/

Definition
Special Education in Ethics (SEE) is a program in ethical decision making, action and reflection within a secular framework, based on a branch of philosophy.

Responsibilities
Principals
Principals are to provide SEE where parents/caregivers have withdrawn their children from special religious education and request SEE for their children, where authorised representatives of an approved provider are available.

SEE is held during the time set aside for special religious education. On average, not less than 30 minutes and not more than one hour per week should be allocated. The lesson period should be consistent with the age and attention span of the students.

Parents/caregivers have the right to know how SEE will be organised each year and which approved providers will deliver it. Principals will support SEE by ensuring that no academic instruction or formal school activities occur during the time set aside for special religious education and SEE.

Parents/caregivers have the right to choose to withdraw their children from attending SEE. Students not attending SEE or special religious education should be in a separate space from these classes and be provided with meaningful activities such as reading, private study or completing homework.

Providers
SEE is delivered by providers that have the approval of the Minister for Education for that purpose. A list of approved providers is available at http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/religion/

Only persons authorised by approved providers teach SEE.

A provider must ensure that all personnel/volunteers have had a Working with Children Check or signed a Working with Children Check Declaration for volunteers depending on the phase-in status of the volunteer: http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/Working-with-children/working-with-children-check

Providers must publish age-appropriate curriculum on their website.

Contact Information
Primary Curriculum Advisor
T 9244 5484
Early Learning and Primary Education
Level 3, 1 Oxford Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010
TRANSITION FROM YEAR 6, 2014 TO YEAR 7, 2015

The iExplore timetable for Bathurst High Campus is attached below, place these dates on your calendar. Students selected to attend these days will be issued with further information and a permission note closer to each activity.

Debbie Barratt R/Assistant Principal Stage 3
Bathurst Child & Family Network

BATHURST'S BIG BANTER
What's wrong right for kids today?

Happy, safe, healthy, playful, responsible, connected kids.

GREAT! How do we do it?....
Mums, dads, carers, families, children, young people, professionals, community groups.....Everyone!

Come and join us for an evening of conversation and insights.

When: Thurs 5th March from 6.30pm-8.30pm

Where: Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (BMEC)

Hosted by the Bathurst Child and Family Network

It's FREE plus lucky door prizes on the night.

Panel Discussion, Audience Participation (Q&A)
Guest speaker: Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner

For more information contact Annette on 6331 8944
or email to annette@centacarebathurst.com.au