



Newsletter

Issue 10, Term 4, #1

21st October 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Coles SPORTS for Schools Vouchers: ENDS ON 31st October 1010.**
- **ANAPHYLAXIS COURSE: Tuesday 26th October, 3pm** at Biala Special School. 1 hour FREE course.
- **OFFICIAL OPENING of Biala Special School's Hydrotherapy pool, Therapy Room, Library and other works: Thursday 28th October 2010, 10.00am to 11.30am.**
- **TERM END: Thursday, 16/12/10.**
- **2LM CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL EVENTS:** (See 'Fundraising column for all details.)
 - Riverside Health Studio, **Sat 6th November**
 - Trivia Night, **Saturday 6th November**
 - Thomas George Walk, **Sunday 7th November**
 - McDonald's Shake a Can, **Sun 7th November**
 - Lismore Greyhound Races, **Tuesday 9th November**

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back

I trust everyone had a relaxing and fun holiday. This is a 10 week Term with school ending on Thursday 16th December, just before Christmas!

Parent Calendar

I have included a Term 4 Parent Calendar for your fridge as there is a lot on this term, beginning with our major fundraiser - the *2LM Children's Christmas Appeal*.

2LM Children's Christmas Appeal

Please note the events coming up in the Fundraisers Report. We NEED your support. If you are unable to offer time, perhaps you can donate money or a gift. We have already received some wonderful donations from the local Ballina business community - THANK YOU!

The 2LM Children's Christmas Appeal raises funds for children with special needs in the north coast area and has been running since 1939. Every year in November, the six recipients of the Appeal fundraise individually as much as we can. This money raised is then pooled and proportionally distributed equally to all six beneficiaries. We are: Biala Special School, Wilson Park Special School, Jumbunna Early Intervention in Casino, Byron Early Intervention, Summerland Early Intervention and CASPA/Interchange in Lismore.

'A Good Man' Fundraiser

For everyone who came last Friday, 15th October to the movie 'A Good Man', thank you for your support. I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did. I was very impressed by the movie and the film makers, and I highly recommend this movie now out on DVD to anyone. It is a documentary about overcoming adversity and disability through humour and positivity. I thank Safina Uberoi and Himman (the film makers) who visited our school last Friday for their fundraising idea and support.

Professional Development

This term's Professional Development day involved a workshop on Asthma School Training through North Coast Area Health. Anna Tonkin presented this informative discussion and is coming back to hold a free Anaphylaxis course after school on Tuesday 26th October. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. Just let me know by Monday 25th October if you would like to come.

Other Professional Development courses include Randon attending a Hydrotherapy course in Coffs Harbour. I am attending a Grants workshop at Lismore on Wednesday 27th October and then attending the National Independent Special Schools Association Annual (NISSA) conference on Friday 12th November.

Weekly Timetable

Monday: Human Society and Its Environments, Music.
Tuesday: Riding for the Disabled (RDA), Computers.
Wednesday: Shopping (Life Skills class), Cooking lunch (\$2.00 per week or \$20.00 per term), Yoga.
Thursday: Personal Development, Library, Art.
Friday: Sport, Science, free play.

Do you want to receive this newsletter via email?

Yes! Then please send us an email to bialassp01.bigpond.com so we can add you to our mailing list.

Sport

Hydrotherapy and Circuit Training will continue every Friday morning until the Ballina Pool is warm enough.

Lismore Show

This Friday 22nd October is the Lismore Show. For those students attending please ensure you bring \$4.00 entry fee, a hat, water bottle and good walking shoes. We will have some students remain back at school on this day with staff.

School photos

Our annual school photos were on Wednesday 20th October. Phil, the photographer works hard at trying to capture your child with a smile and their best side. I hope you enjoy these photos.

School Opening Ceremony

Please come to our BER/BGA official opening ceremony to open our new buildings. It is on Thursday 28th October from 10.00am -11.30am. Morning tea will be provided. The Ceremony will include the official opening, a tour of the new premises and morning tea.

Monies

When delivering money to the school please place all money in an envelope and label it with your child's name, noting what the money is for. The school will then send a receipt home.

Parent Teacher interviews

Parent teacher interviews will be this term in week 8 after school. Please make every effort to attend your parent/teacher interview as the ongoing educational development of your child relies on a collaborative effort between yourself and our school. We will be handing out individual student annual reports at the school Xmas concert on Wednesday 15th December.

Prac student

Danielle is a Prac student doing her Masters in Special Education and will attend our school every Tuesday for 5 weeks beginning on 26th October.

Volunteers

Thank you to Di and Shaun who have been volunteering every Tuesday with RDA. We appreciate your time, enthusiasm and the support you constantly show the school.

Bhavni Stewart



Happy Birthday Dylan

Fundraising

Friends of Biala Fundraising Committee meet the 1st TUESDAY of the month at 10.30am in the Biala special School Library. ALL WELCOME!

The **2LM Children's Christmas Appeal** is approaching with the main weekend being the second weekend in November (**6th and 7th**). Biala is one of the six beneficiaries and we consider ourselves lucky to be a part of this annual successful event, as funds provided assist us with the much needed resources and equipment for the school.

- 1. 90 Minute Gym Challenge: Riverside Health Studio are conducting a **90 Minute Gym Challenge** on **Saturday 6th November, 7.00am to 8.30am** followed by a scrumptious breakfast, included in the price. The cost will be **\$15.00** with all proceeds going toward the 2LM Children's Christmas Appeal. This event caters for all fitness types and levels, so let's do a work out together and start the weekend off to an fun and energetic start.**
- 2. Trivia Night: Saturday 6th November at 6.00pm at Biala Special School.** Cost is **\$10.00** per head with up to 8 people per table. Heaps of prizes!!!
- 3. Thomas George Walk: Sunday 7th November.** Sign on: 7.30am with the walk commencing at 8.00am at the 2LM building in Goonellabah, followed by a BBQ.
- 4. McDonalds 'Shake-A-Can': Sunday, 7th November** between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Staff are in the process of being allocated hours and parents will be contacted to see what time they may be able to help with. (Half hour and hour slots are being allocated). Biala will not be doing the donation cans at Ballina Fair or Ballina Central this year.

5. **Lismore Greyhound:** Race evening is on **Tuesday 9th November.** Entry into the greyhounds is **\$5 per person (adult/child) and the bus is \$10.** Tickets can be paid for and collected at Biala Support Services Inc. Get in early if you are joining us on the bus; we would hate you to miss out on a seat. The bus leaves at 5.30pm out the front of Biala and the last race of the evening is 9.15pm with the bus leaving Lismore at 9.50pm. Local Businesses sponsor each race. (10 Races). This has always been a fantastic, fun, family evening where children are welcome.

6. **Zumba Fitness Class:** **Tuesday 16th November, 6pm – 7pm** at the Slipway Hotel, River Street. Cost: **\$10.00;** 16 years and under: \$2.00

Kind regards,

Carol Milne
School Fundraising Officer

NEWS FROM OUR CLASSROOMS

The Sensory Room

Welcome back to Term 4 Amy, Georgia, Jamie, Kaia, Rhiannon, Roy and Tyler. It is lovely to see everyone back looking so refreshed and healthy. Georgia will be away from November 9th until the beginning of next year. We wish her the very best of luck and will miss her greatly.

Randon is attending a Level 1 Hydrotherapy course in Coffs Harbour this term which will be especially beneficial to all the children in the Sensory room. We are looking forward to all Sensory Room students returning to hydrotherapy sessions this term. We are also looking forward to attending the Ballina local pool on Friday mornings once the weather warms.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Kaia who recently turned 9 and Rhiannon who is about to turn 12!

Assembly awards for the first two Thursday's of Term 4 went to Jamie and Kaia. Well done!

Pearl, Lisa & Carol

The Communication Room

Welcome back to the last Term. We are continuing with our 'Faces' theme in Art, plus we will be covering Halloween and Christmas as well. We have a new topic in Science this term - 'Water'. I think we have actually seen enough of this in the form of rain recently but it is an interesting topic nonetheless.

This term will be very busy with lots of fun fundraising activities, the opening of the new buildings, parent/teacher interviews and practising for our end of year concert.

Congratulations to Martika and Jackson for receiving awards at Thursday's assembly.

Jo McCracken & Annalise

Welcome back Communication Class, and indeed all students! It is wonderful to see

everyone back relaxed and happy after their holiday break. I am really looking forward to our HSE unit this term on animal and human shelter. We will be erecting a tent and looking at an ant farm (ant pods- available from K-mart) amongst many other activities. I have introduced e-books to the Communication Class this term which they seem to enjoy. We have just completed The Wonkey Donkey in line with the letter 'w'. The Wonkey Donkey is an excellent award winning children's picture book from NZ, available from all good book retailers should you want your own copy (it is also at the public library). Many students seem to have returned to school very grown up this term and have been seen and heard helping other students both in and out of class which is wonderful to see.

We will be getting our voices tuned for Christmas carols as well this term!

Isaac

The Life Skills Room

'Becoming a Worker' at On-Q has begun again for Term 4 every Wednesday with **Shaun** and **Dylan** attending with Janiece.

Olivia has begun her weekly transitions to On-Focus at Mel house on Thursdays 12-1pm with Randon.

Jarrah also began the Term with an injury to his arm and we wish him a speedy, healing recovery. It is nice to see him still smiling - what a brave guy.

Congratulations to **Dylan** who has acquired himself a part time casual job at Woolworths in Ballina Fair with the help of On-Q Human Resources.

Carly is back doing her Hydrotherapy and physiotherapy sessions which includes bike riding weekly and her standing frame daily.

Happy birthday to **Dylan** (this Thursday) and **Mikaela**, who had her birthday in the holidays.

Great to have all my students back in class including **Alek** who had many holiday tales to tell.

Bhavni, Janiece & Randon



Life Skills Cooking Class with Carol and Isaac

For those students in the 'Life Skills' Cooking Class, a reminder for parents to send in \$20 for the term or \$2 per week to cover the ingredients required. Cooking is now on Wednesdays and lunch does not have to be

brought in from home as we eat what we cook. Tuna and Vegetable Bake was prepared and cooked last Wednesday. A special thank you and well done to Martika and Mikaela for showing initiative in mixing ingredients, stacking the dishwasher and washing dishes.



Alek giving Carly assistance in class, with Olivia in the background.

Reminder: SICK CHILDREN

*Parents and carers are reminded that if your child/ward is sick please keep them at home. When they are absent from school you are required to **advise the school office of their absence and to state briefly their sickness by phoning** in the first instance and then writing a note in your child's communication book or a separate note. If they are absent for more than one day you are required to send in a note. This is required by the Department of Education and Training.*

From the Office of

Wendylee

Sincere Thanks - Please accept my thanks on behalf of my family on the kind thoughts and words on the recent death of my brother Ross. I am very appreciative of your support and comfort.

Movie Night - 'A Good Man' - This fundraising event was held last Friday night at the Richmond Room. What a great night and a very humbling and moving film. I would highly recommend this as a film to see. Thanks to all who attended and supported the night.

2011 School Fees - Due to the ongoing financial restraints of the school budget and the request by our funding bodies we will be implementing school fees at the beginning of the 2011 School Year. They will be minimal and those able to prove financial hardship will be given consideration. Parents will receive a letter before the end of the current school year explaining the cost and expectation of the school. When you receive your letter and wish to discuss this please feel free to contact my office and ***make an appointment*** to see me.

Official Opening of the BER & BGA - Is being held next Thursday 28th October commencing at 10.00 am. All parents are encouraged to attend and assist us in celebrating the wonderful additions to our school. Invitations have been sent out and RSVP would be appreciated for catering purposes. Invitations have also been sent out to organisations, business and community groups and members who support our school.

Parent/Teacher Interviews - I encourage all parents to participate in these important interviews. Your input and support of your child's educational program allows us to continue to provide a collaborative and effective learning environment for your child. The parent/teacher interviews are imperative to your child's continued development.

School End of Year Date - Students will finish for the 2010 school year on Thursday 16th December. Staff will finish for the year on Friday 17th December after sorting/cleaning/packing up for the school.

Christmas Raffle - Ticket books will be sent home to families next week. Please endeavour to support this raffle by selling your tickets amongst your family and friends. Great Prizes!!!! All sold and unsold tickets will need to be returned to the school prior to the draw which will be at the

Christmas Presentation Day Concert on Wednesday
15th December.

That's it for this time - again welcome back for
Term 4 - **CAN YOU BELIEVE ONLY 10 WEEKS
TO CHRISTMAS!!**

Please feel free to contact my office on 6686
4763 should you wish to make an appointment to
see me to discuss any concerns.

Regards

😊 *Wendylee* 😊