From the Principal

Dear parents, friends and students,

What a great year we have started off having here at Bwgcolman Community School. We are experiencing a much greater attendance level this year than we did last year so a huge thank you to family and community members for helping our kids get to school.

Our best attended year levels so far this year are Year 6 in the primary school and Year 8 in the secondary. There is strong competition between classes and for the highest attendance and each week we examine our data to see how the attendance is going.

Thanks also to the parents and family who were able to make it to the secondary parent information events. Great to see so many people over the three nights.

Some tremendous activities are taking place around the school and to highlight a few;

- Year 11 & 12 Cert II in Volunteering is taking shape with a range of activities including coordinating an early Clean Up Australia campaign in time for the Premier’s visit.
- Duke of Edinburgh award being undertaken in Year 9/10
- Junior secondary starting and including years 7-9. They are in the smaller campus across the road.
- Pre-Prep numbers are high and the littlies are learning all about colours

- Students now taking leadership roles on assemblies
- AFL Qld taking workshops with our high school boys
- Women’s Sport Queensland visiting each week to help with netball training.
- Continued links with Yumi Deadly Maths – years 4-10, RoleM Maths – Years 1-3
- Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation – Pre-prep to Year 6

This is just to name a few of the many things that happen here on a regular basis.

Term 2 is just around the corner and the staff have many exciting experiences planned for the students.

Have a great Easter

Jeff

Duke of Edinburgh Award

As part of the High School Curriculum the grade 9/10 boys are participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The Award entails three components that boys must complete, these are; fitness, skill development and volunteering. So far the boys have been taking part in boxing, touch football as well as visiting Fantome Island. The group visited the site of the old lock hospital as well and went hunting on the Island. Paul Parker was the most successful hunter of the group, who with the help of his dog caught three goats. Congratulations Paul.

Date Claimer:

- CFF Awards .... 27 March
- Good Friday ... 29 March
- Easter Sunday ... 31 March
- Cross Country on Top Oval ... April 15
- ANZAC Day 25 April

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Step Up Program

The Step Up Program is running again this year with a group of ten children from the Primary School. The program aims to help children who are regular non attenders get back into a routine of coming to school.

The activities that the children participate in are run outside of the school grounds. These include:

- Fishing and bait collection
- Bush walking and pad marking
- Firestick farming
- Social skilling
- Boxing

As the children become regular attenders they are slowly transitioned back into normal classes.

Bwgcolman Boxers

On the 2nd of March a group of students from Bwgcolman Community School competed in a boxing tournament in Home Hill.

Levi Bair, Billy Isaacs, Chris Evers and Harry Friday all fought and won their fights.

Levi won by knockout in the 2nd round against an opponent from Mareeba, Billy also won by a 2nd round knockout against an opponent from Townsville.

Chris won by knocking out an opponent from Moranbah by 3rd round and Harry won on points against an opponent from Blackwater.

All the boys fought well and were great representatives for the community and the school.

Swimming Carnival 2013

The annual Swimming Carnival was held again down at the beach front a couple of weeks ago. The weather conditions and tide helped make it a fantastic day out. Surf Lifesaving Australia again sent over two volunteers to help out on the day so a big thankyou to them!!

This year the competition was really close amongst all four teams with four points separating first and second place. Trevally from St Michael’s just pipped Curacoa from defending their title.

Age Champions were:
9yrs - Mickeal Sibley Jaunita Fraser
10yrs- Brodie Kerr Martha Marks
11yrs- Jackson Williamsz Sarita Geia
12yrs- Trinity Fulford Ruby Williamsz
13yrs- Shaylen Haines Dianne Fulford
14yrs- Raymond Charles Tarika Cummins - Luff

Open - No boys competed Shirley Curley
Best & Fairest - Zshakeem Kerr
Best Dressed - Kellie Dwyer
Photos

In History this term, Year 1/2B have been working with Miss Veronica and learning to make a humpy!

First the kids had to gather some vines and some bark from the paperbark trees near the dump, and bend the vines into shape so that they wouldn’t crack. Then they had to talk about how and why they were going to make it. How big would it be? What will we do first? The kids had to learn about the process that their ancestors would have gone through, and why people lived in humpies instead of houses. This discussion is very important for developing cultural identity among the children.

Grandad Peter came along to help 1/2B and put the frame of the humpy together with wire. He was a big help. So why DID people used to live in humpies?

Kylie said: “Because they have no homes like ours.”

Keona said: “They can’t make concrete in the bush.”

Damien said: “So they got place to sleep.”

Come in and visit our classroom to see the finished product!
The graphs above show:

- Overall attendance rate for the school so far this year is at 79.3%
- Best attended primary year level is Year 6 at 85%
- Best attended secondary year level is Year 8 at 92%

We would love to see more graphs in green rather in red. Keep up the great work in supporting our kids coming to school.

**Every day counts**

As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

Bwgcolman Community School has a Facebook page so join the page and get updates of what is happening down at the school.