Welcome to our first newsletter for the term. I trust that everyone had a relaxing break.

Thank you
There are a few thank yous from the end of last term. Firstly, Sarah Ball for her wonderful effort reupholstering the Birthday Chair. Also, thanks to Ken and Debbie Moon for their organisation of the Easter catering and raffles and to all the parents who attended our end of term activities.

ANZAC day
I would like to make special mention of everyone who attended one of the ANZAC Day Services held in our area. We had 13 students attend the Wee Waa Service. 11 of these students placed crosses bearing the names of the World War 1 veterans from the local area. George W and Blake did us proud with their drumming skills. I also understand that there was a big showing of students at the Burren Junction Service and in particular, our riders were a great hit. Well done and thank you. I understand that Bridie played the drums at the Pilliga event, thank you for taking on that role. Thanks also to students who attended other services.
**NAPLAN**
NAPLAN will be taking place in week 4 on the 12th, 13th and 14th of May. If you have a child in Year 3 or 5, please ensure they are at school on these dates. Notes were sent home with students in these grades last week about NAPLAN. If you did not receive one, please contact me for a replacement.

**Opportunity Class placement**
Students in Year 4 received notes about Opportunity Class placements in 2016. If you are interested in getting more information about this, please contact the school.

**School Council Nominations**
Attached to this newsletter is a School Council nomination form. The School Council AGM will be held in June, date to be advised. There are parent representative positions available. The School Council consists of staff, parents and community members. The purpose of the School Council is to provide a balanced sounding board and valuable support to the Principal on matters involving policies, allocating funding and prioritising school needs, wants and goals. Part of these duties includes assisting and advising on the School Management Plan and Annual School Report. School Council members are representatives of the school and are expected to positively promote the school in the wider community and to encourage community participation within the school.

If you would like to nominate someone for School Council please;
1. Complete the attached nomination form
2. Have someone second the nomination
3. Have the nominee sign to indicate they are willing
4. Return the completed nomination form to Burren Junction Public School before Friday 29th May 2015.

All eligible nominees will be provided with a copy of the School Council Constitution to help them confirm their decision to accept. If more than the required number of candidates are nominated the Principal will conduct an election through secret ballot.

**Bronze Awards**
The first Bronze Award morning tea will take place next Tuesday 5th May. The presentation of awards for these students will take place on Friday 8th May. Please check your child’s bag to see if they have an invitation. If you have any queries about this please do not hesitate to contact me.

**P&C meeting tonight**
Tonight is our P&C meeting. Please feel free to come along and contribute to our discussions. All community members are welcome.

**New School website**
Our new school website is continually undergoing improvement. One of the latest additions is the 2015-2017 School Plan. The address for our new website is [www.burrenjunc-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.burrenjunc-p.schools.nsw.edu.au). Please change the address in your browser as there is no redirection from the old site.

**Stewart House Donation Drive**
Attached to the newsletter is the Stewart House Donation Drive envelope. Please consider donating to this worthy cause and be in the running to win a holiday!

I still have Stewart House torches for sale. If you wish to purchase one, please send in $3.

**Paper Plane Olympics**
At the end of last Term I reported on the Year 4/5/6 Paper Plane Olympics. Year 2/3 also competed in an Olympics at the end of term. They had a wonderful time making and flying their planes. Some great distances were achieved. The longest distances travelled were the planes made by Joseph at 7.45m, Declan with 7.69m and the winner, William with an amazing 10.8m. The planes which stayed aloft the longest were Sam at .225 seconds, Lilliana at .253 seconds and the winner, Joseph at .310 seconds. 4 students managed to complete a loop the loop with their planes, Alex, Audrey, Declan and Lilliana. Milly completed a spectacular double loop. Thank you to all the students for their enthusiasm and participation in this event.

**Merit Certificate Recipients**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Cohan</td>
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<td>Zara</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
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<td>Bailey</td>
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<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>Albertus</td>
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**International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**
Please let Jenny know by tomorrow if you would like your child to participate in all or some of these exams. Exams are available to children in Years 2-6.
Important Dates for BJPS

**Term 2**

**May**
- 1st – Book club due
- 6th – GRIP Leadership Moree (info on calendar on website)
- 7th – Cross Country 11:45
- 8th – Assembly
- 9th – 10th – Walgett Show
- 12th – 14th – NAPLAN
- 15th – 17th – Wee Waa Show
- 18th – 20th – Eisteddfod
- 22nd – Zone Cross Country Bellata
- 29th – Manilla Horse Sports

**June**
- 1st – Questacon Science Circus
- 3rd – Athletics training
- 8th – Queen’s Birthday
- 12th – Narrabri West Horse Sports
- 17th – School Photos
- 26th – last day of school for T2

**July**
- 13th – Staff Development Day
- 14th – Students return
- 24th – Athletics Carnival

**August**
- 7th – Zone Athletics
- 28th – Regional Athletics
- 31st – 4th – Sydney excursion 4/5/6

**September**
- 18th – last day of school for T3

**October**
- 5th – Labour Day
- 14th – 15th – State Athletics

**December**
- 16th – Last day of school for 2015

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**New Business**

- 1. NAB Internet Banking
- 2. Donation of a new BBQ to the P&C by Craig Lusby, Junction City Hotel
- 3. Equality of Sporting Houses
- 4. Removal of School Prayer from weekly assembly and replaced with Citizenship Pledge
- 5. Parent Wishlist
- 6. Cross Country track
- 7. Catering for the Variety Bash
- 8. ANZAC Day
- 9. Athletics

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**Running Practice**

If you are interested in your kids doing some running practice before school, please come along to the town oval on a Tuesday morning at 8am. The focus at the moment is on fitness.

If you have any questions please contact Marney O’Brien 0428 285 321
marneyobrien@bigpond.com

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**P&C meeting tonight 7pm**

Please find below the agenda for new business at tonight’s meeting.

Due to it being a very busy time of year we are setting up a DVD in the K1 room for any parents who are needing to bring their kids.

I will also forward the minutes from the last 2 meetings. Please have a read before the meeting tonight.

Hope to see you there.

Marney

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**November 2012 Heading to Gorian?**

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**Wargandinna view Nov 2012**
Community Rallies in Burren Junction to hold it’s own Anzac Day commemoration

Close to 100 people participated in the Anzac Day commemorative service held at BJ, which to the disbelief of many locals, almost didn't happen. It would have sadly been the first time in many, many years that such an important event didn't occur. However, thanks to a few persistent and committed locals, the Anzac spirit continued in our small but passionate community.

In the week preceding April 25th a number of individuals in around the Burren Junction community as well as campers from the Burren bore baths, started to ask the question, “why isn’t there going to be a service in Burren Junction in 2015, especially considering this is such a significant year being the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing in WW1?” As a consequence, the Salvation Army was approached and Captain Alice Keast was only too happy to oblige. Capt Keast organised the commemoration service including leaflets, while the local RSL Club produced advertising flyers to get the message out that a service would be held. Jude Retford, from the Burren Junction RSL Club commented, “the whole thing was organised in about 4 days!” Delighted that there would be a local service after all, many families, individuals and travellers arrived at 10.30am to participate.

As well as a number of Burren Junction Public School children marching on foot, a highlight of the march were 6 Burren Junction school children on horseback. These riders rode in the tradition of the Australian Light Horse who played a significant role in battles during WW1 as well as the Boer War. The march commenced outside the RSL Club and concluded at the School of Arts Hall with the service taking place inside the hall. This is another milestone for the Burren Junction community with the hall being condemned for most of 2014.

Working with a local Hall Committee, Walgett Shire Council, completed the required maintenance work in late 2014 which has allowed the historic School of Arts Hall to once again be utilised by all members of the community. Captain Alice Keast lead the service and noted that she was impressed by the spirit of the Burren Junction community to hold it’s own service. At the conclusion of the service, the horse riders lead the march back to the RSL Club. Morning tea was then enjoyed by many as people gathered together to celebrate, reflect and remember.

A number of Burren Junction Public School children also represented their school at the Anzac Day service held in Wee Waa.

Kim Powell