For Your Diary

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Wednesday 17th Dec</td>
<td>Student reports go home</td>
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<td>Thursday 18th Dec</td>
<td>Gisborne Pool</td>
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<td>Friday 19th Dec</td>
<td>Last day school year 2.00 dismissal</td>
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From the Principal's Desk

We think the change of venue for the Christmas Concert was a great success and the incidental feedback from parents was that we should continue to use the venue in the future. As for the concert itself, I would like to acknowledge the thought and effort put into the rehearsals and on the night by Meg and Meagan, they worked tirelessly and of course the students who were fabulous. Also the parents who were able to beg borrow and steal all sorts of clothing items and props. Lastly all the parents with friends and family who attended and their generous applause.

The raffle raised $546 which was a magnificent effort. It will easily cover the hire cost of the venue and the mini bus hire. Thank you to all the parents and staff who donated prizes and a special thank you to Nicole Rooke and Ann Honeychurch for bundling up the prizes. Also Melanie McLaughlin for selling all of the raffle tickets at the concert.

As the school year draws to a close, we wish everyone a safe, very merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Student Achievement Awards

From all the staff at Bolinda Primary School.

Year P – 2
Dakota Harris - For her outstanding improvement in her literacy. Amazing effort, keep it up.

Year 3 – 6
Harrison Watts - For his work on his Santa Kidnap Dossier.
Congratulations to the following students
Chiara Rooke 150 nights

Reading Awards

The student progress reports are pretty much completed and will be sent home tomorrow. Parent, student, teacher interviews will be held in late February.

Contact numbers

It is imperative that we have current contact phone numbers. Last week we attached to the newsletter the phone numbers the school has currently. Please let us know if any have changed or are no longer in use. It is extremely important that our records are accurate. In case of emergency if we are unable to contact parents or other care givers, we will call an ambulance.

The previous government scrapped the Educational Maintenance Allowance and was to replace it with a new scheme. The new government has said it will not carry out the previous government’s scheme and replace it with a different option. We will know more about it early next year.

I had a parent approach me regarding the students giving Christmas cards and lollies to friends at school. We have found over the last couple of weeks students eating the lollies at recess and lunch times.

For the rest of the week any students who receive lollies from friends are asked to take them home.

SA KG Cook Books

where parents can supervise the eating of this confectionary.

The SAKG cook books that were ordered by parents are now available. The cost is $10 a book. See Meagan before the end of the week.

Gardening

Thank you to Darren Salmon for doing some gardening last weekend. Darren and I have agreed to do some more gardening on Friday 16th January at 9.30 am. If you are available and can help it would be
We have new stock of size 6, 8 & 10 size polo shirts. See John or Kellie Bonnici if you would like to make a purchase.

The end of year break up with Darraweit Guim and Clarkefield primary schools will once again be at the Gisborne indoor pool on Thursday 18th December. Students should arrive at the pool at 10.30 am and be picked up at 2.45 pm. They will need lunch and a drink.

The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 provides for the provision of free instruction in the standard curriculum program, and empowers school councils to charge for goods and services used in the course of instruction and to raise funds.

Free instruction includes learning and teaching, instructional supports, materials and resources, administration and facilities associated with the provision of the standard curriculum program. The standard curriculum program includes core learning and teaching activities associated with the Australian Victorian Essential Learning Standards (AusVELS).

In summary, school councils can request payments from parents for student materials and services charges, and for voluntary financial contributions.

These payments fall into three categories:

1. **Essential education items** which parents and guardians are required to provide or pay the school to provide for their child (e.g. stationery, text books etc.)

2. **Optional extras** which are offered on a user-pays basis and which parents and guardians may choose whether their child accesses or participates in (e.g. Netbook program, SAKG program, extra curricular programs or activities)

3. **Voluntary financial contributions** which parents and guardians may be invited to donate to the school (e.g. grounds maintenance, beautification).

School Council has set the fee structure for 2015.

1. Educational—Education items Parents are required to pay this fee—$100 per student (no change)

2. Optional extras - only parents of year 3-6 students need to pay $120 for the netbook program 2015. (no change)

There is a $20 levy for the SAKG program for year 3 - 6 students. (increased from $10)

3. Voluntary—Parents are invited to pay a small levy to help with the improvement and upkeep of the school grounds—$30 (No change)

Parents of year 3-6 students participating in the netbook program are required to pay $240 for the lease of their netbook over two years. The school will make a $260 contribution for the lease of each machine. Parents are asked to make a payment of $120 for 2015 and a further $120 in 2016. It may be paid in a lump sum or $60 in term one and a further $60 in term three.

There are still a couple of families who have yet to pay the netbook fees for this year. Could this be paid asap.

The cat roster for the Christmas holidays is in the office. Thanks to everyone who will look after Sooty during our break. There are still days to be filled in.

Parents are reminded that the last day of term is Friday 19th December with dismissal at 2.00 pm.

In 2015 teachers return to work on Wednesday 28th January and students on Thursday 29th January.

New prep students do not come to school on Wednesdays in February. Their first Wednesday at school will be 4th March.

There are a large number of MARC Van books overdue. Notices have been attached to the newsletter.

They must be returned by tomorrow

As Mrs Russell will be visiting the school tomorrow to collect them.