Dear Parents & Caregivers,

27/11/14

I would like to tell you how many days of classroom time left this year but I think it would shock you too much. If you would like to know, just ask Cody, he just about has it down to the hour and minutes.

SWIM SCHOOL
Final details have been set for the 2014 swim school. At this stage we have 4 very experienced swim coaches to help us out this year. Pool entry this year is $1.80 per day per child. Children are asked to bring in their money daily unless they are a season ticket holder.

Although this week is a great stamina test for the children, it has proven in the past to be very beneficial so attendance is compulsory.

ORIENTATION
The new Kinders for next year once again spent the day in the K-2 class. There were many smiles all round and they have fitted in very well. In fact I think some of them have been here all year, they blend in that well. Only one more orientation day next Wednesday and keeping them away for the last two Wednesdays of school will be a nightmare for all parents.
CODY’S ICE CREAMS
Cody has been selling icecream in a cone or cup for the last 2 Friday lunchtimes. Tomorrow will be last chance to buy an ice cream. Cody has raised around $70 to go towards his present for the school. Please remember your $1.

QSSAF
Next Tuesday sees us traveling to Quirindi High for the QSSAF practice. All children will be traveling by bus and the bus will be leaving at 9.00am sharp so please be at school on time. The bus will return at 2.30pm for the normal afternoon school bus run. If all children could return their permission notes and monies ($3 for the bus) it would be greatly appreciated.

QSSAF NIGHT PERFORMANCE
Mr Jackson called in to listen to the children practice the songs for the QSSAF performance. He was very impressed and a few children were successful in gaining solo performances or a whole group performance. On Thursday 4th Dec the children will be performing at Quirindi High School as a part of this QSSAF performance. The night starts at 6.30pm however Spring Ridge is manning the BBQ from around 6pm, so if you are able to help out please give the catering committee a call, they will need your help. Willow Tree will again be selling glow sticks etc at the start of the show. Mr Jackson was not entirely sure what each item costs but was thinking around $2-$3 each. Entry into the show will be $5 per family or a gold coin if paying individually. A very cheap night considering the talent that will be on show. Lastly Mr Jackson would like all children to have a Christmas shirt for the night or if you don’t have one at least Christmas colours with shorts for both girls and boys. Please be careful with Christmas shirts for they often have hidden messages that are not appropriate for children.

Around 3 weeks left. QSSAF, swim school, church service, presentation night, Werris Creek sports challenge, reports, roll over finance. Is it too early to panic yet?

Cheers
Mrs P
RECOLLECTIONS OF BATHURST EXCURSION

By Hattie Ranken

On Wednesday 19th November, 3-6 woke up with joy and excitement because we were going to the Mineral and Fossil museum. I was particularly excited about the museum because I wanted to know more about minerals and how they are formed under or above the earth.

When we got there we saw an old, historic building. I thought it was going to be a massive, flash, modern building. When we went inside we went passed the desk and through the souvenir shop. It was hard not to rummage through all the toys and minerals on the way to the interesting mineral and fossil part of the museum. I couldn’t wait to look through the museum with excitement. We all had to stop at this white door and sit down and wait for our tour guide to come. When she came we were all excited, well some of us were. She talked to us about how rocks are formed and how they form crystals on them. I really loved that bit.

Then we went into the other part of the museum. There were so many minerals and they were all so magnificent. I wish I could keep them all. Some of them were pink, blue, white and many more. When we got to the fossil part there was an enormous T-Rex skeleton. I was fascinated and interested. There were Amonite shell fossils and many, many more. The fossil I loved the most was preserved in Amber. It was so, so, so beautiful. It was a lizard, and it was amazing and the special thing is that there is only 3 in the world!

After the museum went back to our cabins at The Goldfields.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

December
Tuesday 2nd
QSSAF rehearsal - Quirindi

Wednesday 3rd
Kinder Orientation Day
Quirindi High Year 7 Orientation Day

Thursday 4th
QSSAF performance - Quirindi

Mon 8th - Fri 12th
Swim School

Saturday 13th
Xmas Tree - Spring Ridge Hall

Monday 15th
Spring Ridge Chocolate Wheel

Tuesday 16th
Church Service 12pm

Wednesday 17th
Presentation Night
Werris Creek End of Year Sports Day

End Term 4 students

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Robin Henry - 24th November
Mia Langfield - 27th November

NO CANTEEN
T4 Wk10
AT SWIMMING
K-2 AND JAMES ON AN EXCURSION.

On Monday K-2, James, Esley, Mrs P and Mrs McCathie went on our excursion to Tamworth.

First we went to Caroona Feedlot. I said that there are two types of cattle; they are Bos Taurus (Hereford) and Bos indicus (Santer). I learnt that there are 24,000 steers at the feedlot.

Next we stopped at a farm to see some miniature ponies. They had two foals. I can remember one of Cinnamon. I feel the size of Cinnamon.

Then we went to the library in Tamworth to read “Pete the Sheep”. I do not know how Shawn can understand Pete.

After we went to McDonald’s I ate chicken nuggets and chips. We had a short play.

Later we went to the theatre to watch “Pete the sheep and it was extremely funny. I had a superb time watching the musical.

I had a tremendous time on the excursion because at the end of the musical they all ran onto the stage and bowed. They were funny.

By Cate Arnold
BATHURST EXCURSION

By Mimi Lavender

On Tuesday 18th November, the 3-6 class all went to Bathurst on an excursion. It was an exciting morning and lots of kids were particularly excited for Hartley Village.

We hopped on the massive coach and started driving until we stopped at Hartley Village. The town was quite small and quiet. There we had a tour and it was very interesting. The class got to go in the original court house in Hartley Village and we got to go in the cells. What I thought was very interesting was in the cells there were carvings on the wall that the convicts drew using their shackles. There were pictures and words that weren’t spelt correctly. IT WAS DRAWN IN THE 1830’S! We talked about the cells for a long time.

After we finished talking about the convicts lives we moved on and went into the church. Something I learnt at the church was that the bigger the bell on church the wealthier the town is. We also got to play the organ.

It was astonishing to think that so many convicts had walked right through the church. I can’t believe it. After that the tour guide, Chris told us about the strict behavior at school expected in the early 1830’s.

There were more than ten rules. Can you believe it? The good thing about the excursion was we learnt lots of different, interesting things that we never know before.

K, 1, 2 Excursion

On Monday K, 1, 2, James, Lesley, Mrs. McCathie and Mrs. P. went our excursion to Tamworth.

First we went to Caroona Feedlot. We learnt that they have a machine that gets the rocks out of the cattle poo.

Next we went to see the miniature ponies at Werris Creek. One of them was called Cinnamon and the other foal was called Ben.

Then we went to the library in Tamworth to read Pete the Sheep.

After that we went to McDonalds and I had a hamburger happy meal with lemonade.

Last of all we went to the musical Pete the Sheep and they sounded like real sheep.

By Jack Burgess
Recollections of Bathurst Excursion
By Ella Clews

Last week 3-6 went on an excursion to Bathurst. My favourite thing that we did was visiting the Hartley Courthouse.

On the way there we stopped at Hartley Courthouse to have lunch. Once we had eaten lunch our tour guide Chris led us in, it was amazing, I learnt so much.

She stuck to the old rules or laws of ladies first, and take off your hats when you enter buildings. From the year 1837 these simple manners of today were law and if you disobeyed you would get 50 lashes from the cat of nine tails.

After that Chris took us into the cells. It would have been horrible, crowded in a 3 x 6 room with 37 other men. It would of been worse for the women, they only got a 3 x 3 room to temporarily live in. It was quite astonishing to think that 177 years ago convicts that had thieved, murdered or just been plain rude to their masters had walked through this very courthouse to decide their fate.

It was an amazing highlight of the Bathurst excursion that I will never forget. I gained knowledge and experience on the Bathurst excursion but most of it has come from Hartley Courthouse, so thank you Chris, Mr Parsons and Mrs Anderson for providing us with such an opportunity.

By Mia Langfield