

**Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday and hope all your wishes come true!**



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## Principal's

Dear Parents,

I wish all families a happy holiday as 2012 draws to a close. It is a special time for families to come together and enjoy those shared holiday moments with family and friends. However, when, depending on circumstances, emotions can be brittle. An article at the end of this issue can offer support for the stresses of this time of year.

As I write this message, the day has begun with the hats of reindeer, bobbing Santa hats visible in the air. We created a truly festive atmosphere and were very excited to celebrate a very busy year. I am told the movie day was very successful and behaviour exemplary. The report I am pleased to hear from the students.

I have spent the last few days reading and the comments that you have made on your children's progress are very pleasing results throughout the year with some particularly good reading levels in all grades. Any concerns please make a note for next year to discuss your child's progress.

As many parents are aware, we will establish classes at the end of the year as students begin the new year. They will be going to their current classes however with some enrolments there may be a need to rearrange early in 2013 to rearrange some classes into another class.

### Staff for 2013

I also wish to advise that I will be on long service leave until the end of February. During my absence, Mrs Billingham will be Relieving Principal. Mrs Sullivan as the Relieving Principal. The current staff list is the same with a few changes.

**Bringelly Child Care**

You would have seen a sign on the Northern Road supporting the Bringelly Child Care. The centre has long been associated with the school and I thank them for their support in providing a before and after school service for the families who need it.

Bringelly Child Care Centre is taking enrolments for 2013, there are plenty of vacancies, for more enquiries to call Maria on 4774 9585.

The centre will be closed from the 21<sup>st</sup> of December and reopen on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2013.

Wishing you all the very best for the festive season and for 2013,

*Sharyl Scott*

Principal

***Please find below my Presentation Day Speech***

*Good evening ,*

*I welcome families, students and staff of the Bringelly community to our yearly presentation night. Tonight is the 134<sup>th</sup> time Bringelly School has gathered together to celebrate an end of a school year.*

*I welcome our guests and thank them for their ongoing support of our school.*

*Pat Mahony—Acting School Education Director for Hoxton Group of Schools*

*Gary Joannides—Principal of John Edmondson High School,*

*Tanya Davies Member of Parliament for Mulgoa is unable to attend and is represented tonight by Rick Cortez.*

*Bringelly School has always in my experience had very committed families and it is one factor which makes this a special place to be. The settled and warm feeling in the school is often commented on by visitors and I believe the shared vision of staff, students and families **DOES** make the difference.*

*It is one of the most positive aspects of our small school: that feeling of belonging. On Friday with a reportedly 40 degree day looming two members of the P&C brought down large containers of cold cordial and cups during morning sport. It wasn't asked for but was thoughtful and caring. This was certainly greeted with sighs by the students at sport and a small example of the supportive and practical help quietly provided by parents.*

*I wish to thank the P&C committee and members for the time they volunteer to support our students and school programs. Of course, this includes the members of our wonderful Bringelly Social Club.!*

*Many of you have given hours to the school events and functions and I have said thank you at the time. However, I want to acknowledge the P&C executive committee tonight who will have a report later in the program, President Dawn Coleman, Vice Presidents Martel Mock and Natalie Heath, Treasurer Sharon Vibert and Secretary Sherie Borg for the time they give with an increasing group of parents, in particular Mrs Hall for the work in the uniform shop, running the book fairs and stock taking the canteen, Mr Cave who provides the school a free recycling service and some of the generous dads who have provided their skill and time to improve the schools facilities: Mr Di Mascio, Mr Borg and Mr Hokin.*

*The Halloween disco was a P&C organised event and I hope you were watching the screen tonight showing some of the scary photos.*

*I'm glad we have begun tonight with Damian and his fabulous Lion Dance. It links nicely with what I have to say next.*

*This year we have had a particular focus on community and diversity celebrated with the Multicultural Family Day and Art Show. As one of 14 schools in New South Wales selected to partner with the University of Western Sydney. The Centre of Cultural Studies and the Multicultural Program Unit education consultants look at how teachers include aspects of multiculturalism in their classroom programs. We trialled what we believed to be an effective way to teach children respect and acceptance for others, recognising differences and understanding community harmony.*

*I have been very impressed by the results from realised the objectives of the multicultural program their programs aiming to increase students awareness are an Australian and what that means to all of funding for this specialist position and the family November was a fabulous day and the atmosphere exceptional.*

*When we began this particular journey it was important to have friends, share common interests and have our support. Mrs Michalak, Mrs Borg, Mrs Cazalet and Mrs Di... made this project particularly community orientated... of the complexity of our community and beyond. ... contributed to family day, danced, prepared and supported children about your own family tree.*

*Last Friday the multicultural committee presented to Education and Communities consultants. After ... whose job it is to support families from language backgrounds.*

*"Congratulations to you, staff, and the parents. I was impressed with your project well done. I love the families, grandparents, and continue the inclusion of community, identity, friendship, purpose, belonging. I love the students work samples, especially the... I have been asked to identify multicultural education presentation, one that gave me a 'wow' moment."*

*Receiving this message validated what the teaching in the classroom contributed to understandings of the world. Grant by the NSW government to allow students to... Some of you may be aware that the trees planted... women who were involved in the wars. We will now... sponsor with BPS has agreed to support the ANZAC...*

*Academically Bringelly students have worked hard... students to gauge the success we have with teaching... points in the area of reading, which is significant... 32 points above the state growth average in reading... assessment and tracking students in our classes. Mathematics numeracy.*

*Bringelly is proud to have been identified as a 'literate' school in the early years in school. Our teachers have... teachers have worked with a literacy consultant for... consistent growth in children's skills.*

*In 2013 the main area we will focus on will be mathematics to re-assess the school's maths program, while continuing to... understanding of how important mathematics is to...*

*Our literacy focus will be writing and this will continue to... good writer.*

**Middle Schools Cowpasture West Connection**

Planning for a stronger link the high school and contributing primary schools started a few months ago, with all primary principals meeting to develop a plan for a middle school program. The aim is to engage all students in school life as they enter high school. Research points out that a difficult transition to high school, with the huge change of organisational structure, the start of adolescence years and the break in friendship groups can have a negative effect on schooling outcomes. To increase achievement levels and confidence the John Edmondson High School Year 7 staff have joined with Bringelly, Rossmore, Leppington, Austral and Greenway Park teachers to begin a Middle School Program. 40-50 teachers are involved and it is one of the most important combined plans the group of Cowpasture schools have had in recent years. It will benefit all students from Year 5 up to Year 8. All Principals in the group strongly support this initiative as they support the transfer of professional learning, linking the primary and secondary schools together.

**Chaplaincy Program**

This year Bringelly has begun a 3 year contract at \$20,000 a year to have a chaplaincy program with a grant provided by the Federal Government. This additional welfare support for our students is very welcome. Shaun Cummings is a trained youth worker and works with groups of students or individuals on welfare and personal development issues. We share the program with Rossmore and Leppington and Shaun has been involved in coaching social skills for the Year 5/6 boys, attending our new Middle School professional development sessions as well as working with small group of children in Year 3-4.

**Environmental Science**

Our school program continues to grow and I want to commend Mr McCroary for the additional time he has spent writing grants for school, achieving another \$2000 for the Climate Energy Saver program, now in its second year and for many plants and supplies for the garden he has managed to receive from Liverpool Council, local nurseries and donations from parents. I acknowledge Boral Bricks for their recommendation to Australian Conservation Volunteers who travelled up from Wollongong in November to spend one day at Bringelly to work on difficult gardening jobs. They have already contacted us for next year as the volunteers thoroughly enjoyed being in a school where the students are polite, energetic, actively engaged and knowledgeable about the garden, birds and animals. We are hoping the garden beds will be built next visit on the 18th February.

**Facilities**

This year the school management plan looked at how to improve facilities that will make a difference to students and staff and we have made a large financial commitment to do this.

For children to have access to equipment which is expected, as part of the age of technology, the DEC have provided a new optic fibre cable that connects to all classrooms increasing connectivity and productivity.

We have purchased additional computers including six laptops and a class set of small notebooks to increase our capacity to use technology in our classrooms. Added to our evolving science program by purchasing more testing equipment including an electro-microscope for our insect and water studies.

At Bringelly we are always proud and lucky to have the beautiful space we have. To improve working and playing spaces we have new air conditioning systems in the canteen and in the Year 3 classroom, carpeted the Year 3 classroom and added a new sliding door for improved access to the Year 2 and Year 3 class.

We have paved the curved brick pathway by the canteen to reduce the foot hazards with a donation of bricks by Boral Bricks. We have extended the driveway to decrease the risks of accidents from slippery surfaces and allow delivery trucks safer turning area with more parking capacity as our school grows. New gardens were established on Tree Day at the front and sides of the school as part of the school program increasing the bird attracting species planted around the school. Thirty six solar panels are now connected to the general grid which will financially benefit the school.

Some additional funding was provided by the department of education to add a solid wall, nice doors and entrance way to our Food Services area and Bunnings at the Crossroads donated the lattice which Mr Hokin used to complete the new look and keep the hand balls from rolling under the building.

**STUDENT**

<b>KH</b>	Zayne Ryder & Ash Johnson
<b>K/1W</b>	Katie Harper & Joshua Williams
<b>1/2B</b>	Tanara Craig & Coby Burnett
<b>3B</b>	Gregneil Opena & Jasmine O'Connell
<b>3/4/5M</b>	Ebony Ridsdale & Justin O'Connell
<b>5/6S</b>	Adrian Pascuzzi & Grace O'Connell
<b>WELL DONE - YOU ALL</b>	

*Dates for your Diary*

Wednesday 30/1/2013	First day of Term 1 for
Thursday 31/1/2013	First day for Kinderga
4/2/2013	Bounce "Gymnastics"
11/2/2013	Swimming Carnival

Best Wishes  
for a happy  
Christmas





### 'Tis the Season of Meltdowns

As the end of the school year rapidly approaches, calendars and to-do lists get jam-packed and tempers can be frayed. Sometimes at this time of year we see our children behaving in ways that aren't usual for them such as being teary and emotional to being defiant and angry. Sometimes when things become too hard for children to handle they might have a 'meltdown'. A meltdown is an intense and often frightening response to over-stimulation of the nervous system involving activation of the child's 'fight or flight' response. This often means that the experiences the child is having are too much for them to handle at the time. Tiredness, lack of routines, stress in the family (rushing around with too many things on the to-do list) and other changes can create a "perfect storm" for the child. Afterwards, the child may experience intense feelings of shame, humiliation, remorse and fear that relationships have been harmed beyond repair.

The notion of prevention being better than the cure is primary when dealing with meltdowns. So how, as a parent, can you prevent meltdowns?

#### Tune in to early warning signs in your children. What do these signs look like?

Resistance to, or disengaging from, an activity or routine

Verbal or non-verbal expressions of distress or frustration e.g. tears, whining, swearing, difficulty answering questions, pacing, stuttering, grimacing etc.

By tuning in early, you may be able to prevent a meltdown or minimise its impact. Expressing empathy, helping a child to verbalise their frustration and providing them with options can have a positive impact. An example of this could be "I can see that you are getting mad about not getting a turn on the flying fox. Would you like me to help you ask for your turn?"

It may also be helpful to manage your child's environment to minimise the likelihood of a meltdown occurring. For example, try to maintain normal household routines, spend quality time together as a family and factor in some quiet time for your children to unwind after a bust day.

#### If prevention fails, there are ways to manage a meltdown to minimise its impact:-

Once your child is having a meltdown, the time for reasoning has passed. He or she is overwhelmed emotionally and will not be able to think rationally.

It is imperative that you, as the parent, stay calm. If you feel you are losing control, enlist another adult to help you or take time out yourself if you are at home.

Ensure your child is safe whilst having a meltdown. Move a young child away from roads, sharp objects etc.

If you are out and about and the meltdown doesn't subside quickly, it's often better to go straight home. Don't interfere with your child's meltdown in terms of making suggestions or ordering your child to stop. Wait until the storm begins to subside before offering comfort.

Once your child is calmer, offer simple suggestions such as a cuddle, a quiet story together or a DVD.

Only engage in problem solving the issues that led to the meltdown once your child is completely calm. It may even be the next day before you can help your child find a solution to their angst.

Parent Line NSW is a State Government funded free professional telephone counselling service that is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Call our Parenting Counsellors to talk through any issue related to raising your child 1300 1300 52.

### STAFF

No school can function without the dedicated group of teachers and ancillary staff who are flexible programming we need to have in a school. Mrs Billingham, Mrs Hillhouse, Mrs Woolgar, Miss Jackson and Mrs Murphy. All have dedicated education we provide your children. Our reports results of the students' progress with delight teachers. I would like to thank Mrs Billingham the teachers for the additional work they have done the costumes for the children particularly in

Our non-teaching staff of Mrs Gillett our cleaners Ayres, Mrs Cazalet and Mrs Borg, with Mrs Cazalet. As our school has grown to over 150 this year we provide in time and by your presence tonight wish to take this moment to thank Romel's staff and helping the students prepare them.

Wishing families here tonight the very best support you give to your children as they are Mrs Sharyl Scott.

## Ch

Bringelly Public School  
Youth worker report [18/12/12](#)

I started working at Bringelly Public School at the time I have been to work with students that are lacking or need

I have been working with students that do not have students that are being bullied or just need someone students that I felt just need that time and be able

I have been running a program with the grade 5/6 boys about certain things they are starting to be facing building resilience, setting goals, and teaching about

In my time here, I have found the students have been enjoyed and benefited from having one on one time throughs and individual growth in certain students behaviour.

Over all I feel its been a very productive time and

Shaun Cummings...

# News from KH

*Well that time of year has raced along again and KH are seeing the year out with a bang! We have been very busy with Presentation Night preparations, excited about our Christmas party and proud to present our item at assembly.*

*Now we are counting down till Santa comes.*

*Mrs Hillhouse is very proud of all of us and our achievements. We have learnt so much this year. We are now ready for Year One.*

*We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.*

*I hope you all enjoy the holiday period and spending time with your loved ones. I look forward to hearing all about Santa's deliveries and your holiday adventures.*

*Mrs Hillhouse and KH*



Introducing Bringelly Pu  
who were welcomed to the



Mufti Day for Epilepsy, we re  
fo

