



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome to Term 2, I hope everyone has found their feet and settled into their work routines this term.

We have many new faces in our Centres and I would like to welcome our three new SASS staff, Sally Davis and Jane Terry at Bourke Centre and Georgie Currey at Walgett. We hope you enjoy your time at DE.

We also have new enrolments, Erin and her son Logan, Jodie and her son Noah, Luran and her children Maddie and Riley – Welcome.

NAPLAN testing happens this term. Please discuss this with your child's teacher to negotiate if and how your Year 3 or 5 student will participate in this event.

Our next big adventure is our Whole School Mini School taking place in Week 5 at Bourke. Mini Schools are a great way for your child to get to know their fellow students, develop independence and deepen relationships with their teachers.

They also provide varied learning opportunities and styles of learning for your child and cover aspects of the curriculum from the school scope and sequence, not covered in their weekly program. We encourage you attend all Mini Schools if possible, to enhance your child's learning and development.

While travelling our outback roads, I have developed into an avid 'Conversations' listener on ABC Radio. I download these so I have a 'bank' to access when not in mobile coverage. In mid-term I listened to an interview with David Gillespie that I feel is worthwhile sharing with anyone who is a parent, it's called "How the iPhone rewrote the teenage brain". I hope you do try and listen to this and encourage your friends and family to do the same -

<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/program/s/conversations/david-gillespie-2019/10986686>

This term I would also like to reinforce the importance of regular work returns. Sending any work back on a weekly basis allows for all

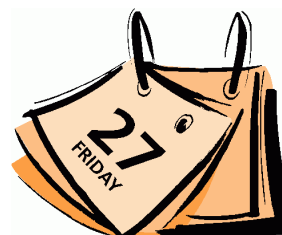
the hard work your student has done to be recognised, celebrated and feedback on. It's a vital role in the teaching and learning cycle if comments on work are to be relevant, meaningful and worthwhile. Work that is completed four weeks ago by a student will all but be forgotten, it's in the past and done, out of sight out of mind!! Even if it is just mental, handwriting or sections of a unit, sending any work weekly has far more relevance than revisiting, remembering or having to redo a concept for consolidation that was completed weeks in the past. Please try and return weekly whenever possible.

Mrs Lorberg has worked very hard organising Mini-School and all staff are excited and looking forward to catching up with all the students – see you in Bourke Week 5!!

Kind Regards
Wendy Hay
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

28-31st May – Whole School Mini School in Bourke
29th May – Cross Country in Brewarrina
10th June – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
14th June – NW Cross Country at Mullaley
20th June – Outback Challenge in Bourke
21st June – Integration day Walgett



NEW STAFF MEMBERS



We welcome Miss Arrabella Fleming to the teaching staff at the Walgett Centre. Ara will be relieving Mrs Harris who will be taking maternity leave part way through Term 2. Miss Fleming has been working for the last two years in Moree and we look forward to the experience and enthusiasm she brings to the team.



Georgie Currey joined the Administration staff at Walgett in Term 1. We welcome Georgie to the Centre in both her roles as Admin Assistant and as a Teachers Aid.



Mrs Jane Terry



Mrs Sally Davis

Two new administration staff have joined the BWSODE's Bourke Centre. Mrs Jane Terry is in the office Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Sally Davis will be working on Tuesday's and Thursdays. We welcome them to the School and hope they enjoy their time.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Are You A Parent of a Child Aged 2 to 12?

The Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland are conducting research into parents' opinions about parenting and parenting programs. If you have a child/children aged between 2 and 12 years, they would love to hear your views on parenting and the services that are available to you as a parent. You will be asked to *complete an online survey* about your child/children, the way you parent, and your perceptions regarding programs for parents.

While completing the questionnaires, parents will also receive some written and/or video information about parenting programs. These questionnaires will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. One month after completing the questionnaires, participants may be asked to take part in a 5-minute follow-up survey, either online or by phone.

This study has been cleared in accordance with the ethical review process of The University of Queensland (Approval Number 2018001181) and within the guidelines of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. Whilst parents are free to discuss their participation in this study with project staff (contactable on 07 3443 2567), they can also speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, by contacting the Ethics Coordinator on 3365 3924.

To find out more or to participate please visit <https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parenting>

New Supervisors

If you would like your own Department of Education email address, please let the school know ASAP. Your own email will allow access to all department sites as well as sites that are blocked by the Department's security firewall to students.

Governess – Information about Assistance

This interesting and informative web site [http:// www.governessaustralia.com/](http://www.governessaustralia.com/) provides great information about employing someone to help you deliver the Distance Education program to your children. You can also search 'Governess Australia' on Face Book for extra information and groups to join. 'In Home Child Care' is another organisation that may have some information and assistance available. They also have a Cobar office. <http://nswfdc.org.au/>

WISE

The organisation formally known as VISE – Volunteers for Isolated Students Education has ceased to exist. However, it has been added to the organisation Aussie Helpers. If you are looking for Educational Support in your home, it is now known as AHVISE – Aussie Helpers Volunteers for Isolated Student Education.

"**AHVISE** is an educational volunteer organisation comprising of a dedicated team of volunteers from all around Australia, who enjoy giving to others. We support rural and remote outback families who are looking for help in their remote school rooms. These include families, mothers and fathers, who teach their own children at home due to their **geographic isolation**."

For more information or to register please go to www.ahvise.org.au

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

BWSODE has registered for the *Woolworths Earn and Learn Program*. By collecting the stickers at any Woolworths store, schools around Australia are able to earn points that go towards new school equipment. You can deposit the stickers in the box at each Centre when you are in or alternatively, there is a box for rural and remote schools at most stores.

UNSW Global Assessment Exams

For over 35 years, ICAS has conducted global assessments for schools to learn more about their students' needs and recognise academic achievement.

There are assessment in each critical area – Spelling / Maths / IT / English / Spelling & Science for all years including Introduction Papers in Science, spelling, English and Maths for Yr 1 students.

If you would like your child/children to participate in the UNSW Assessments, please let your teachers know.

BWSODE Website



The School website is another platform we use to showcase our school and where you can locate important information such as photos, newsletters, useful educational links and some

valuable resources supervisors can utilise in their school rooms.

<http://www.bwsode.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Spelling Bee

If your child is interested and would like to participate in the Premier's Spelling Bee for 2019 please contact your Centre. It would be good to have more students join in.



PARENTING IDEAS

HELPING YOUR CHILD MAKE AND KEEP FRIENDS

Children who develop healthy friendships generally have a definite set of social skills that help make them easy to like, easy to relate to and easy to play with. One such skill is the ability to adjust their behaviours to suit the social requirements of a particular situation. Many boys struggle in this area and can be loud, overbearing and bossy when their peers want them to be quiet, cooperative and to follow others.

Primary school age is an ideal time for children to form friendships with both girls and boys. This is particularly valid if your child has siblings of their own gender, or doesn't have siblings. You can coach your child to fit in with the requirements of many of their social groups using this three-pronged approach,

1. **Remind:** Be preemptive with your teaching. Before your child visits their friends, provide some relevant pointers about their behaviour, for example - Remember to say hello quietly and ask them if they'd like to play with you.
2. **Rehearse:** It's useful to practise with children how they should act in social situations. For example - Okay, Jeremy tell me what you will say when you want to enter a game. Let's practice waiting for a break in the game, approaching someone you know and saying, "Excuse me. Can I play with you guys?"
3. **Revisit:** Give your child feedback after the event but keep it positive and upbeat. "That was great the way you let the other kids lead the way. Your friends love it when you let them be boss." Boys, in particular, benefit from being told what works well in terms of their friendship behaviour.

Encourage healthy friendships. The wellbeing of many primary school girls is heavily impacted by her relationships with her peers. When relationships are going well, she'll tend to be happy, however when friendships become tricky then she can feel unhappy, even distraught. Help your daughter identify what a healthy friendship looks and feels like. She should feel safe, valued and able to speak up. Unhealthy relationships, such as cliques, are restrictive, one-sided, full of gossip and criticism. To assist them to reflect on the nature of healthy relationships, help your child to formulate responses to these questions:

What does a good friend look like?

How does a good friend behave?

What do good friends do?"

Encourage friendships with both genders too. It's through these early relationships that we gain the confidence to mix with different genders in the later years. Forming friends across genders helps to break down the mystique that sometimes forms, when a child has little contact with the 'other' gender.

Research shows that boys' friendships groups are more inclusive and less changeable than friendships enjoyed by girls, particularly those in the eight to twelve age group.

If you have a girl, be ready to support your daughter through the hurt of friendship breakdowns and remind them that new

friendships are just around the corner. Many girls take a disagreement with a friend personally as they don't have the emotional development to deal with conflict constructively. Help her reflect on her own place in a friendship breakdown, and encourage her to be open to restoring a relationship once emotions are in check.

If you are concerned that your child lacks friends at school encourage them to take up a variety of extra-curricular activities. It's easier to strike up a friendship with someone when you have something in common. But above all else, encourage your child to be friendly by talking to others, showing an interest in what other children do, offering help when needed, and being willing to enter a game or social situation. If you think that your child doesn't have as many friends as a sibling or other children their own age, don't be too alarmed. On average, children usually have only two or three significant friendships at any one time. *It's the quality rather than the quantity of friendships that counts.*



Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 10 books for parents including *Thriving* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World* and *Last Borns Want to*

Change It. His latest release is *Spoonfed Generation: How to Raise Independent Children*.

LIBRARY REPORT



**Catch the reading
bug!**



Welcome to Term 2 for the 2019 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge.

Challenge opened on Monday March 4th but it is not too late to enter as it doesn't close for students until Friday August 30th.

Please let Mrs Robinson know at loretta.robinson@det.nsw.edu.au and she will enter you and provide more information. Also good to keep in mind that new books have been added to the PRC reading lists, which may be in the School Library.

More information can also be found on the PRC website

www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Robinson

Teacher Librarian



CENTRE NEWS

Walgett

Gabe and Rafa

Congratulations to Gabe and Rafa for outstanding gymnastics results in Dubbo recently. They both did an amazing job after much hard work, dedication and practise.

Gabe competed in the Level 1 Age Division (6 or 7 yrs) winning Gold for floor and vault and received a Silver Medal in the overall point score.

Rafa as the only Level 3 (8 or 9yrs) competed in the open and won Gold in the vault and Silver on the rings with a 9.2/10 routine. He was the Bronze winner overall.



Rafa also recently entered the writing 2019 - 2020 National Child Writers Competition and was awarded the winner of Round 2 and we congratulate **Rafa** on this fine achievement. He will now be judged against all the winning entries at the conclusion of this competition. His winning entry has been attached.

Jandre

Congratulations also to **Jandre** and his little sister Lilly, who also entered a writing competition - *News Corp's Daily Telegraph & IGA Sponsored Adopt a Farmer Campaign Writing Competition*, about how the drought has affected you.

Below are their winning entries;

Jandre - *'The drought made us very sad. Everywhere you look it is just brown. Some trees died because they had no water. Some of the sheep died. We felt very sad about that. Cattle, kangaroos, sheep and goats got thinner and thinner. The birds had no food to eat because all the worms on our farm died! The river is dry and there is no flow. The water stinks! It is very dry and I hope there is rain coming!'*

Lilly - *'The trees are gonna die and the leaves fall off. It is very dry and it needs to rain a bit. I feel very sad when I look out the window and I just see sand!'*



Jandre and Lilly at home on the property

INTEGRATION DAYS

WALGETT

The first Integration Day for the term was held on Friday May 17th. Four students attended and worked with Miss Marvell and Miss Fleming on a variety of activities throughout the day.

They created their OWN Nursery Rhyme about how our farmers need rain, completed a rain art activity, cooked damper, utilised the beautiful library as well as some outside activities and work with the Spheros.

Thank you to Tori, Sienna, Darcy and Jandre for coming all that way in. Integration Days play a huge part in your child's education and it was great to see them make such an effort.



Sienna, Darcy, Jandre and Tori performing their nursery rhyme



Jandre and Darcy working on 'making it rain'



Damper's looking good!



MERIT AWARDS

Walgett Students



Darcy	The completion of his 'Wombat Hats' unit
Jandre	Great start to the "Yum Yum" unit
Monty	Working consistently throughout all learning programs this term
Katie	An unreal start to the year
Wally	An excellent Term 1
Rafa	Excellent work on your Food & Fibre Unit

Bourke Students

Nick	An excellent start to Term 2
Maisie	Outstanding reading of 'Training a Guide Dog'



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to **Aiden** who will celebrate his 12th birthday on June 28th. Have a great day Aiden.

SPORT

Cross Country

Friday May 10th saw Matari and Denzel from the Walgett Centre attend the Cross Country event in Goodooga.

Thank you both for your sportsmanship and participation and congratulations to Denzel who finished third in his age group.

This qualifies him to compete at the North West Cross Country on June 14th in Mullaley.



Denzel receiving his 3rd place ribbon

North West Rugby Trials

Mac travelled to Armidale on Monday 20th to attend the North West Rugby Union. He gave it his personal best, learnt some new skills and had a great day of rugby.

Being in Yr 5, Mac will have another opportunity to trial next year, and can take with him, some valuable experience gained from this day.

