The Bulletin is sent via email to parent/carer email addresses on file, as well as published on our website. Paper copies are available on request.

**Diary dates:**

**Week 9**
- **Mrs Tate on LSL**
- **Thu 10/9** Y6 fundraiser: ‘Footy Fever Day’ $2 come dressed in your favourite team colours and get a footy team ice cream at afternoon tea time
- **Fri 11/9** Final assembly for the term 3pm
- **Deadline for payment, permission & medical notes for BPS SS Soccer team members**

**Week 10**
- **Mrs Tate on LSL**
- **Mon 14/9** State softball in Sydney for Josh and Leo
- **Tue 15/9** Spelling Bee @ Wyrallah Rd PS for Angela, Joss, Isabel & Luke S
- **FINAL DAY for sending in Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers**
- **Wed 16/9** 5am departure for BPS SS Soccer Team to Sydney
- **Thu 17/9** SS Soccer matches in Sydney
- **Richmond River HS “High Achievers” info is due back to Blakebrook PS for Mr Duroux to complete the Recommendation Page**
- **Fri 18/9** Last day of term

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**Regular P&C days:**
- **Tuesdays:** 3-3.30pm Uniform shop
- **Thursdays:** Lunch orders by 9.30am
- **Fridays:** Canteen lunches served (pre-ordered only)

Awards will be presented at tomorrow’s assembly, Friday 11/9/15 @ 3pm - final assembly for T3

**PRINCIPAL’S AWARD:** **Angus** for always being a great helper and playing fairly in the playground

**CAPA:** **Tamzyn**

**CITIZENSHIP:** **Dean**

**ENVIRONMENT:** **Felix**

**SPORT:** **Bradley**

**GOOD FRIEND:** **Brayden** chosen by: **Willow**

**NUDE FOOD:** **Tristan**

Congratulations to the following students who are awarded a Blue Award after receiving 10 Yellow awards in their class.

**BLUE AWARDS:** none awarded this week

**ACADEMIC**

- **K-1** **Melanie** for consistent effort and great results across all KLAs
- **2-3** **Drew** for his independent narrative writing
- **Y4** **Dante** for trying to improve his skills in all KLAs
- **5-6** **Isabel** for great work in writing

**GO FOR IT**

- **K-1** **Amber B** for improved focus in class and producing quality work
- **2-3** **Tristan** for persevering with the thesaurus to find a suitable new word
- **Y4** **Ayla** for learning all her challenging spelling words in Term 3
- **5-6** **Leo** for improved effort in Numeracy

**THINKING SKILLS**

- **K-1** **Sidney** for great discussion in Science
- **2-3** **Jasmine W** for demonstrating to her peers how a character would act in a particular setting
- **Y4** **Jessica** for supporting a friend to complete work
- **5-6** **Zac** for creative thinking in Maths

**LIBRARY**

The Premier’s Spelling Bee competitors: **Angela, Joss, Isabel & Luke S**

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**Chickenpox Alert:** Recently our Terania District schools have had cases of chicken pox and today we’ve had a confirmed case at Blakebrook PS. If you notice spots take your child to a doctor to diagnose. NSW Health advises Chickenpox is a common viral infection that can reappear later in life as shingles. Vaccination is recommended for all infants and non-immune adults. Please see last page of this Bulletin for a Chickenpox Factsheet

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**The final day for sending in the Woolworth’s Earn and Learn stickers is next Tuesday, 15 September 2015**
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT  with Allan Duroux

Bunnings BBQ
The School’s P&C hosted a fundraiser – The Bunnings BBQ last Saturday 5th September at Bunnings, Lismore. I thank all the volunteers and the P&C committee for their organisation and assistance on the actual day. The school appreciates you giving up your time to assist at these events. Money raised is used to buys books for the school, beautification projects around the school, canteen upgrades, assistance with excursion costs, year 6 shirts and many other invaluable programs.

Tell Them From Me Survey - The Partners in Learning parent feedback survey
Our school will be participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the Tell Them From Me suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents’ and carers’ perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school’s support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online at home or on public computers. The survey will typically takes 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 17 August and 16 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, however, your responses are very much appreciated.

A Flyer with login details and password has been sent home today.

Peer Support
All students will commence the Peer Support program this week with our trained year 5 and 6 students being the group leaders. It is a very worthy program and I thank Mrs Tate and Mrs Skorjenko for co-ordinating this program.

Regional Spelling Bee Competition
Next Tuesday, 15 September, Angela, Isabel, Joss and Luke S will participate in the Regional event of the Premier’s Spelling Bee Competition at Wyrallah Road Public School. If successful they will qualify for the State Competition Finals to be held later in the year. Good luck Kids! Thank you to our generous parents for transporting the students to this event.

NSWPSSA Softball Championships
Next week two of our students, Josh and Leo, will represent North Coast PSSA at the NSWPSSA State Softball Championships to be held in Manly, Sydney. Here they will play against the best players from all over NSW including the Catholic and Independent Schooling Systems. They will be vying for State Champions status and selection in the NSW softball team to play in the School Sport Australia Championships later in the year. Good Luck boys!

State Soccer Finals
Our school soccer team travels to Sydney next week to contest the semi-finals of the NSWPSSA Small Schools Soccer Knockout competition. Blakebrook PS is developing a reputation of being extremely competitive in this competition having won it in 2013 and placing 4th in the State in 2014. It is an amazing achievement for a small school and we wish them all the best this year.

Drumming Performance
Our school hosted a visiting performance, Taiko Japanese Drumming Experience, on Wednesday this week. Kiyomi, a Taiko instructor from EZ Japanese, conducted drumming workshops with each class. Taiko (pronounced tyke-oh) is a special style of Japanese drum. Our students were amazed with the performances and appreciated the chance to interact with the drums!

Year 6 Fundraiser - Footy Fever
Today the Year 6 students hosted a ‘Footy Fever’ day to raise funds for their end of year gift to the school. There was plenty of colour and cheering as students came dressed in their favourite sporting attire representing a team or sport that they enjoy or follow. It was a fantastic day. Well done to Year 6 and Mrs Perren for organising this event.

End of Term
Term 3 concludes on Friday 18 September. Term 4 commences for Staff and Students on Tuesday 6 October. There is no School Development Day (Pupil Free Day) to commence next term. Please note that Monday 5th October is a Public Holiday. Parents are reminded of their legal responsibilities in ensuring their child or children are at school for every gazetted school day.

LIBRARY NEWS  with Mrs McInnes

Jiggi Public Speaking Comp
Congratulations to the students who entered the Big Scrub Community of Schools Competition last Thursday. Indi, Isabel, Tom and Bella all gave strong performances in their chosen topics. They can be very proud of their efforts as we are of them! Well done.
Taiko Drumming Workshops
As part of our Asian Studies program the whole school participated in Japanese Taiko Drumming workshops on Wednesday. We were all introduced to the depth of focus and concentration required by the Taiko drummers in practicing their craft and the pleasure to be gained from working as a team to create a performance.

Library
A reminder as we near the end of Term 3 that all books are required to be returned to school by next week. K-1 will not have library books for the holidays. Years 2-6 may choose new books for use over the holidays. It is very important to have a responsible attitude toward books borrowed and follow the rules for borrowing.

GENERAL NEWS

BOYS TOUCH FOOTBALL with Mrs Perren

Touch Football Gala Day

On Tuesday, 9 senior boys travelled to Hepburn Park to play Touch Football. The 5/6 class have been training with Lochie Perren last term, and wanted to put their new skills to the test. Playing with a ball that wasn’t round was certainly different. The team played 5 games throughout the day in very hot conditions. Even though their best result was a drawn game, they improved their skills every game and we were successful in crossing for several tries. Everyone enjoyed the day and Mrs Perren was very proud of their efforts and sportsmanship. A big thank you to Lochie Perren, for helping on the day with transport and refereeing all our games. Well done boys.

Photo courtesy of Alison Poulton

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Casino Show Society & The Australian Brahman Breeders Association
Present: The 24th Annual Casino Bos Indicus Youth Round-up 12th & 13th September 2015
Open to All Breeds. This event is run in conjunction with the Santa Gertrudis, Droughtmaster and Brangus Breed Societies at Casino Showgrounds Ages 8-25years
If you have any questions or would like an entry form posted or emailed to you, please contact:
Jo Bulmer ~ Ph 02 6633 3231 Stacey Clark ~ Ph 02 6632 3698 or email all4pets42@gmail.com

Holiday Science Fun
Water Lab Wednesday - September 23rd and 30th
School Holiday water science experiments, investigations and games. Find old favourites and new water challenges. Search for hidden water deep underground; sip water with a mega straw; make water play tricks on your eyes and brain and solve a giant jigsaw mystery! Suitable for 5 to 12 year olds.
Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre - 2101 Dunoon Road, Dorroughby 10am to 3pm, last entry 2pm. No bookings needed
Details: www.watersciencelab.com.au
FUNDRAISING

Fathers Day Stall was a huge hit again this year. Hopefully everyone was able to purchase a gift for their father or special male in their life. Thank you to Sharon Weir for wrapping the presents and maintaining the stall for us again this year, it is very much appreciated.

Bunnings BBQ Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who turned up and helped out at the Bunnings BBQ last Saturday. Another HUGE effort by a small amount of volunteers with over $1,300 made on the day and approx 650 sausages cooked.

Shopping Bus Trip has been temporarily booked for Saturday 14th November, 2015. We are commencing collecting names and money beginning of term 4. At this stage costs will be $30 per person.

CANTEEN

As this is the last week of canteen I would like to formally thank Alana Sheridan for filling the role of Canteen Co-ordinator. Alana took on this role for the P&C and has been a great help ensuring the canteen has volunteers and food to serve for your children each week. Thank you Alana for all your support and efforts in the canteen during 2015 you have been truly amazing and we sincerely appreciated having you in the role.

POSITIONS VACANT – Canteen Co-ordinator

It is with regret that at the beginning of term 4 we are looking for a new Canteen Co-ordinator! If anyone is interested in this role please contact Betty 0415 394354 before the commencement of Term 4. If we have not been able to find a Canteen Co-ordinator for Term 4 we will have to close the canteen.

Thank you in anticipation of your help.

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**CANTEEN ROSTER & MENU **

**TERM 3  2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Fri 11th Sept</th>
<th>Hot Dogs (with or without cheese)</th>
<th>$2.50</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work (9.30am - 1pm)</td>
<td>Karen Symonds</td>
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**P&C QUERIES** - please contact Betty to assist on 0415 394354 not Wendy in the office thank you!

**Next P&C meeting Tuesday week 4 – Term 4**

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**Summer Sports**

*Rous Softball Club are looking to have a junior softball team for the upcoming season!*

*If you are interested in playing softball for a very family orientated club please*

*Contact Cheryl on 0434 126695*
BALLINA JUNIOR TOUCH 2015-16 Season Sign-on  
Online registration – NOW until 25th September 2015. 
Information available on the Ballina Touch Association Face Book page and Juniors website or contact ballinatouch1@gmail.com

Free school holiday fun for all ages

**UPCYCLE YOUR HOLIDAYS**

*Free school holiday fun day at the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre*

**Tuesday 22 September 2015 | 10am – 3pm**

Activities include:
- Tours of the Recycling Facility
- Guided walks through the Rainforest Gardens
- Love Food Hate Waste cooking demonstrations (Call 1300 87 83 87 to register)
- Recycled craft and badge making and much more

*Children must be accompanied by a supervising adult*

Upcycle Your Holidays is on at the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre at 313 Wyrallah Road, East Lismore, from 10am to 3pm and children must be supervised by an adult. Please bring hats, covered shoes and plenty of drinking water.

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**Water Marbling Workshop**

School Holiday Activities

- 2 hour Morning or afternoon workshops available
- All materials supplied
- Max 6 people per session
- Cost $35 pp
- Payable on day - Cash or Visa/Mastercard as surcharge
- Booking: Call Kim on 0418 121 345
  
  Email - cloudwatchingarts@gmail.com
- Location: 12 Bristol Circuit, Goonellabah

**Workshop Times**

- Saturday 19 Sept 9.30-11.30
- Monday 21 Sept 1.00-3.00
- Friday 25 Sept 1.00-3.00
- Saturday 26 Sept 9.30-11.30
- Monday 28 Sept 1.00-3.00
- Friday 2 Oct 1.00-3.00
- Saturday 3 Oct 9.30-11.30

Suitable for all ages. Children under 6 require adult supervision.

You will get messy so please wear old clothes and bring an apron if desired.

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**Jump into Joeys!**

For Fun & Friendship

**4 Free Visits**

Calling all 6 — 8 year olds!

Come and visit us for a night of fun, friendship, activity and adventure!

Where—Lismore Scout Hall Magellan Street Lismore

When—5-6 pm every Tuesday night

Contact Paul O’Donnell for more information on 66227728 or 0478998100
Communicable Diseases Factsheet

Chickenpox

What is chickenpox?
- Chickenpox is a viral illness caused by the herpes zoster virus (also known as the Varicella-Zoster virus).
- In children, it usually causes a relatively mild illness but in adults and immunosuppressed people, it can be severe.
- Infection in pregnancy can cause foetal malformations, skin scarring, and other problems in the baby.
- Before routine vaccination began in November 2005, chickenpox was a very common illness. The incidence of chickenpox appears to have decreased as more people receive the vaccine.

What are the symptoms?
- Chickenpox (varicelle) begins with a sudden onset of slight fever, runny nose, feeling generally unwell and a skin rash.
- The rash usually begins as small lumps that turn into blisters and then scabs.
- The rash appears over three to four days. At any one time, the lesions of the rash vary in stages of development.
- Symptoms usually occur two weeks after exposure to the virus.
- Most people recover without complications, but sometimes the infection can lead to serious complications, such as pneumonia and inflammation of the brain. Rarely, the infection can be fatal.
- Persons who are previously vaccinated can still get chickenpox. If chickenpox occurs in a vaccinated person, it is usually mild and less contagious than in an unvaccinated person.

How is it spread?
- Early in the illness, the virus is spread by coughing.
- Later in the illness, the virus is spread by direct contact with the fluid in the blisters.
- The infection is highly contagious to people who have never had chickenpox or who have not been vaccinated.
- People are infectious from one or two days before the rash appears (that is, during the runny nose phase) and up to five days after (when the blisters have formed crusts or scabs).
- Chickenpox infection triggers an immune response and people rarely get chickenpox twice.

Who is at risk?
- Anyone who has not had chickenpox or been vaccinated in the past can get chickenpox.
- People with a past history of chickenpox are likely to be immune to the virus. Even adults with no history of chickenpox have a chance of being immune (because of past infection that was mild). Doctors sometimes perform a blood test to see if these people need a vaccination.

How is it prevented?
- A free varicella containing vaccine (MMRV) is now recommended for all children at 18 months of age.
- Students in their first year of high school who have not previously received varicella vaccine and who have not had chickenpox are offered a varicella vaccine.
- The Varicella vaccine is recommended for all non-immune adolescents (11-14 years) and adults. This involves two doses, at least 1 month apart. It is especially recommended for people at high risk, for example, health care workers, people living with or working with small children, women planning a pregnancy, and household contacts of persons who are immunosuppressed.
- People with chickenpox should avoid others (and not attend childcare or school) until at least five days after onset of the rash and all the blisters have dried.
- People with chickenpox should cover the nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, dispose of soiled tissues, wash their hands well and not share eating utensils, food or drinking cups.
- Pregnant women should avoid anyone with chickenpox or shingles and should see their doctor if they have been around someone with these illnesses.
- Children with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or who are receiving chemotherapy should avoid anyone with chickenpox or shingles as the infection can be especially severe.

How is it diagnosed?
- Most cases can be diagnosed based on the symptoms and by appearance of the rash. Sometimes the diagnosis is confirmed by testing samples taken from the rash or from blood.

How is chickenpox treated?
- Chickenpox infection usually resolves without treatment.

What is the public health response?
- Chickenpox is not currently notifiable in NSW but the incidence is monitored through the number of patients attending emergency departments and the number of patients who are hospitalised with chickenpox or shingles.
- Varicella vaccine protects against chickenpox, even if given up to five days after exposure.
- Short-term immunisation with varicella-zoster immunoglobulin (VZIG) - which is made from antibodies in donated blood - can prevent illness in people at high risk of complications. This needs to be given within 96 hours of exposure to the virus to be effective. People at high risk of complications following exposure include pregnant women who have not had chickenpox and who have not been immunised, newborn babies, and some immunosuppressed patients.

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website www.health.nsw.gov.au