Dear Parents

Swimming Carnival 2013.

Last Friday, students from years 3-6 participated in our annual swimming carnival. The day started out beautifully with great weather and an enthusiastic school of swimmers. Participation was great and many students braved the deep end of the pool even if they weren’t overly confident. We watched some great racing and Mr Mac was very pleased that he didn’t have to get in the water to help out at all this year; a sign that as a school we are becoming better swimmers!

The change of weather and a huge hailstorm that would normally have stopped our carnival couldn’t dampen our spirits as, thanks to the new aquatic centre, we were able to simply move inside and complete our events in the 25m pool.

Congratulations to all of the students who came along to either support their mates or participate in events. Your behaviour was fantastic, your sportsmanship was brilliant and you all represented our school superbly. Well done! Thanks to all of the parents that came along to support our students. Your presence was very welcome and we hope to see more of you at other events throughout the year.

Promoting Safety

With the increasing Work Health and Safety concerns, Bowen Public School will be implementing a closed gate policy from Monday 4 February. Back gate will be locked at approximately 9:10 and will not be reopened until the teacher on duty does so at the end of school. Students can them be safely monitored as they are picked up at the end of the day.

The front gates will be closed at approximately 9:30 with access to the school only through the front gate entrance near the admin building. Again this is a safety measure allowing for the monitoring of visitors and students.

Scooters / Skateboards / Bikes / Helmets

Students should be in at least Year 3 before riding a bike to school!

Students are expected to wear helmets when riding to / from school on any of the above. To ensure everyone is kept safe students are not permitted to ride scooters, skateboards, or bikes on school grounds. Students may lock their bike up at the bike racks (we only have limited bike locks and students are encouraged to have their own) and skateboards and scooters may be locked in the class storeroom during the day.

If these expectations aren’t followed then students may not be allowed to ride the scooter, skateboard, or bike home and parents may be called to pick them up.

Pre2 news

Pre2 is an exciting initiative between 10 government primary schools in the Orange, Molong, Millthorpe and Blayney areas to build stronger connections and better learning. Already this year, Stage 3 children from Blayney and Molong are preparing to meet for a debate about McDonald’s environmental responsibilities, and plans are also being made by our Gifted and Talented Working Party for better teacher education and exciting video conferenced lessons for gifted children. What an exciting start to the year. Visit us on Facebook (Pre2 learning community) for more information.

Mrs Karen Brill Pre2 Coordinator

P&C news

Our first meeting for 2013 will be held tonight Monday 11 February at 6pm in the staff room.

We hope to see plenty of new faces as we discuss what is happening at the school this year.

Children are welcome to attend, but please bring quiet activities for them to play with whilst the meeting is on.

Canteen News

We desperately need volunteers for the canteen. If you can help at either first or second break (or both) 1 day a week, it will be appreciated. Please leave your name, contact details and the day(s) you are available with the girls in the office.

GOTCHA!! Congratulations to these students: Gabby Totten 1J, Le-Tasha Taylor 2/3K, Madison Wicks 2/3K, Jackson Black 2-5G and Cody Evans 2/3K
**MORGAN BROTHERS TRUST**

The whole Orange and surrounding communities have been touched & deeply saddened by the sudden and tragic passing of Trent Morgan in an accident on Saturday 24th November, 2012. His brother, Steve, was also seriously injured in this accident. Steve and his family have a long road ahead for his recovery.

Orange and district league clubs, including Orange Hawks, Orange CYMS, Bloomfield, Molong, Manildra and Cargo, have come together to organise fundraising to support both Trent & Steve’s families.

The support from locals, thus far, has been outstanding. The culmination of our fundraising activities will be on Saturday 2nd March 2013. We will be holding a football clinic at Emu’s Endeavour Oval from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Cost is $5 per child. There will be other activities for the children, pass the ball, jumping castle and face painting.

A celebrity game of touch football will also be played with BBQ during the day. 'Morgan Brothers Ball' will be held on Saturday 2nd March 2013 at 6.30 pm at the Orange Function Centre. We will be holding an auction on the night and have some great items on the list. Tickets are $65.00 per person, which includes a two course dinner and live entertainment. There will also be lots of lucky door prizes and this is where we need your help.

If you have any items, large or small that you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Janine Pearce on 0429 020 672 if you are able to help and we will organise someone to pick up items.

Morgan Brothers Trust Committee