Dear Parents

**Staffing**
We are pleased to announce that Leanne Johnstone is joining our team in 2016 and will be teaching with Clare Mahoney in the grade 3/4 team teaching classroom.

We also have some very exciting news to share – we were successful in our application for the Primary Mathematics and Science Specialists Initiative. This enables us to have 2 teachers working together two and a half days per week. They will work with fellow teachers to enhance capacity and confidence in mathematics and science to increase student learning, engagement and achievement in mathematics, science, technology and engineering. Clare Mahoney and Rod Christensen will be leading this work. This means they will be out of their respective classrooms for half of each week. We are lucky to be able to employ Carolyn McIntyre and Davina Ashworth to share Clare and Rods’ classrooms. Therefore our grade 3/4 and 5/6 teaching teams are:

- Grade 3/4: Clare Mahoney (0.5); Leanne Johnstone (full time); Carolyn McIntyre (0.5)
- Grade 5/6: Rod Christensen (0.5); Kallan Fitzclarence (full time); Davina Ashworth (0.5)

**House Captains**
Last Friday’s assembly was an exciting one for our 2016 House Captains and Vice Captains as they were announced to the school community.

- **Kestrel:**
  - CAPTAIN: RHYS
  - VICE: LARAH

- **Kite:**
  - CAPTAIN: JESS
  - VICE: ANNA

- **Harrier:**
  - CAPTAIN: SOPH
  - VICE: VINNIE

- **Falcon:**
  - CAPTAIN: KATE
  - VICE: TOM

**Graduation**
Tonight we celebrate the graduation of our grade 6 students. It is an emotional time for the students, parents and teachers. Students are voicing their feelings and it is lovely to hear them discuss the mixture of excitement and sadness that they are currently feeling. We are proud of our grade 6 students and it has been a privilege to get to know them and watch them grow as learners and individuals. We wish them all the best as they move forward in their education journey.

**School Concert Arrangements**
Thursday night December 17th is the whole school concert.

All grades will be performing an item about Australian History. Grade 6 children will narrate the story as the children act it out. We start with the Dreamtime and The Rainbow Serpent, then Captain Cook’s discovery of Australia to the First Fleet arriving. Other well known stories of exploration like the Blue Mountains and William Buckley and Burke and Wills. The senior grades do the discovery of Gold and the Eureka Stockade and finish with the story of Ned Kelly.

After the completion of the concert there will be some speeches, presentations and awards for the Graduating Grade 6 children and families leaving the school. Finally we will draw prizes for the Christmas raffle.
Arriving and leaving the Arts Centre:
All children must be at the Arts Centre by 6.45pm in costume. Children must sign in with their teacher at the stage door.

At the end of the concert **one** parent/carer is to come to the stage door to collect children. The children will leave in family groupings. Children will wait on the stage until they are collected. **No children** can walk off the stage into the auditorium and **no parents** are to walk onto the stage to collect children. This can be a slow process, but we will do our best to return children to their carers safely.

Grade 6 Guard of Honour
On Friday at 2pm there will be a final assembly to all of our students in the Great Space, followed at 2.25 by the traditional guard of honour as the Grade 6 students leave Buln Buln for the last time. It will be great to see you there to join in with this tradition.

Farewell
We say a fond farewell to the following families after their years at Buln Buln:

- Clark
- Fowler
- Hammond
- Henderson
- Jones
- Kisielnicki
- McLean
- Parker
- Pollard
- Ramm
- Turner
- Wright
- Butters
- Eastwood
- Rhemy Willis Family
- Van Venrooy
- Waller

We thank them for their hard work and support that they have put into supporting the school and wish them success in everything they do.

Reports
Student End of Year Reports have been uploaded onto Sentral. Please log on and celebrate your child’s learning with them.

Thank you
I would like to thank everyone for their support over the past week. Whilst I am still up and down emotionally it was lovely to come back to work to be surrounded by everyone’s kind words and thoughts.

Celebration
This week we have opportunities to celebrate the positives of our school and community. The year has not been an easy one and it is important we focus on the good things that occurred. Please come along and enjoy these celebrations with us throughout the week, especially Friday as we end the year with a celebratory pizza lunch.

I hope you have a fantastic Christmas and holiday, and I look forward to continuing our journey together in 2016.

Nicole Ball
Acting Principal
School Council

Another Year comes to a close and I am sure many of you are glad this year is over. I am sure many of you would agree we have finished our year on a very positive note and can feel very secure knowing we are heading into 2016 on the same footing. I would really like to commend the School Community on hanging in there through some difficult and uncertain months and ensuring our School continues forward in a strong and positive way. On behalf of School Council, we would like to wish you all happy and safe holidays.  Mel B

Congratulations to the following students for a great effort:

300 Nights of Reading: Ceanna Amelia and Abbey.

200 Nights of Reading: Elliot, Riley, Darcy, Travis, Krystal.

Social Skill Awards: Jack, Daniel, Jeht, Lyndon, Bethany, Darcy, Prell, Stella and Abbey.

Seasons Greetings to all from Sri Lanka!

Wow what a year it has been. I still have to pinch myself that I am living here in Sri Lanka. I certainly miss our magnificent rolling green hills and the beautiful people of Buln but I am very fortunate to experience what I am experiencing. I don't get a chance to miss the cows as they just wander around wherever they feel like it. They wander through the main parts of Colombo, stopping to eat whatever they choose. We often have cows come and graze in our front yard. The cows here do not care about cars, they don't get worried at all. Perhaps my favourite thing about the animals here, especially the cows and the dogs, is they use the pedestrian crossings to cross busy roads - I promise you that it is true. Some cow's don’t, but I have seen five or six cows with calves following, cross single file across the road on a pedestrian crossing. Amazing!

I have met some incredible people on my journey and I can't wait to share the good and the bad when we meet again. A friend told me the other day that she notices that when people ask me about 'home', a large grin always spreads across my face as I describe the truly magnificent aspects of Warragul, mainly the people. I think I may have mentioned in an earlier note that at times I have recognised that I had become complacent when I was at home and I did not fully appreciate what we have at Buln. At times I probably took for granted our gorgeous community and the wonderful positive energy that flowed from you all. Trust me, I appreciate it now!

Things are starting to slow down as the holidays approach here, although for James and Daisy this is their mid year break. It is interesting being in a country that does not fully embrace Christmas. There are quite a few places that have Christmas trees and lights but nothing like home.

Anyway, I just wanted to take the opportunity to wish our magnificent Grade 6’s luck for their future endeavours. It has been a privilege and honour being part of your learning journey. I know that you will succeed at Secondary School and be amazing at whichever field you choose. Remember to always trust yourself and never doubt your ability - reach for the stars!

To all of our other Buln Buln students, especially the beautiful Grade 1 & 2’s soon to be Grade 2 & 3’s, have a super amazing Christmas Season! Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all one day soon.

Sending big hugs to you all,

Melissa Harford

Last week we were lucky to have the Warragul Regional college band visit—they were great!
MARC VAN/ SCHOOL LIBRARY

Have you returned your MARC Van books yet? And your school library books? Please check to see that you have no library books at home.

PARENT CLUB

END OF TERM LUNCH.

As everyone is aware, we have had a tough year, so Parent Club thought we would do something a little different for end of term lunch.

We feel we still have a lot to celebrate and to be grateful for within our school community, so as a special thanks to all the amazing BuN parents who have supported the school all year, we would like to extend an invitation to students, teachers, parents and siblings to join us on the last day of term at 12.30 for PIZZA!

There is no need for special order forms, just a donation on the day depending on how many children of your own will be eating.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jan Doberer on 0447 360 810.

Hope to see you all there to celebrate the end of 2015!

President - Parent Club.

Peer Mediation

Last Thursday our current grade 4 students completed their Peer Mediation Training in preparation for their roles for 2016. The training went really well and students are looking forward to working as Peer Mediators next year. It is a fantastic leadership experience for our students and we all appreciate the wonderful job that all of our amazing Peer Mediators do.

Year 6 Commemorative tops. These tops are ready to be collected once full payment has been made.

Outside School Hours Care

As the year is drawing to a close, would all accounts please be paid by ASAP.

Thank you.