28 October 2014

Bluewater Country Fair
Only a couple of sleeps left until our Country Fair. The students are certainly looking forward to the night and have helped promote it throughout the district. Chloe S, Harrison S, Shayda S, Kaillyn B, Lane S, Mikayla K, Jemma S, Tyson E, Jordie G and Charlie P are the lucky winners of the Country Fair Photo Competition. Chappy Drew said it was very hard to judge and was impressed by the effort. Congratulations and thank you. The P&C have sponsored each winner with a free Amusement Rides armband for the night.

Thank you to Tracey Walker and her Country Fair committee for all the time and hard work they have put into bringing this night together for us to enjoy.

World Teachers Day
Friday is World Teachers Day. At Bluewater we celebrate for all of our staff. We see everyone who is involved in our children’s lives as teachers. Please think about a teacher who made a difference in your life. I would like to recognise Mrs. Winter, my year 1 teacher who taught me sight words by playing Bingo. If we won Bingo we received malteizers. 😊

Day for Daniel
Day for Daniel is also on Friday, please wear a red shirt to recognise this special day. Out of something so tragic it is great to celebrate the many countless lives that the Morcombe family have saved through their education campaigns. It is a great time to talk as a family about the Recognise, React and Report motto that we teach in the Daniel Morcombe curriculum. We will not be collecting money.
Deputy Principal Position
I am currently finalising the permanent Deputy Principal position at the school. We have finished interviewing and it was great to see that we had a great interest in the position. The release date will be before November 28.

Whole School Photo
On Monday, November 3rd, there will not be a parade, we will be having our Whole School Photo. This will be done at 9:00am please make sure that children are here on time to ensure we have as many students in the photo as possible.

Premiers Reading Challenge
I had the pleasure of handing out Premier Reading Challenge Certificates today to 90 students at Bluewater. These 90 students completed the challenge to read a certain amount of books in a period of time. The coincidence of reading improvement and the students who received the certificates were not lost on teachers of each class. Reading is a skill and as such needs to be practiced and practiced for improvement. Well done to the 90 students who completed the task.

Heritage Listing
The school administration block and tuckshop have been listed to become heritage listed in the next round of buildings to make the register. If you are unaware the tuckshop was actually the Principal’s residence and as listed in the report is in great condition and one of the only houses to be intact. The administration block is also one of the only style of its kind left in the state. The heritage listing will ensure that the buildings will continue to be looked after as it will become a national treasure.

Parent Tip – Time for the Straight Talk on Time Outs
With such an overload of information out there on the Internet, there’s been a lot of controversy over the years about how trustworthy websites really are, especially when it comes to dispensing parenting advice. Because the Internet is often the go-to source for helping parents solve behavioural issues, a research group set out to see just how reliable it is for implementing the very effective discipline we all know as a time out. The findings, recently published in the Journal of Developmental and Behavioural Pediatrics, found the web is not dependable at all. According to the authors, the odds of finding “complete and accurate information” were “near zero.” Thirty percent of searches falsely suggested time outs might be harmful. Inaccuracies, omissions and inconsistencies were found in all 102 websites explored. This may lead parents to feel time outs ineffective and lead them to less useful, potentially harmful techniques such as yelling or spanking. That’s a shame, because time outs are a proven parenting tool - when implemented correctly. They are one of the few disciplinary strategies recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics to reduce problem behaviours including non-compliance, oppositional actions, verbal and physical aggression, destruction of property and temper tantrums. So here are the go-to guidelines for implementing time outs, according to the latest research:

Time-outs work best when they are part of a parenting style that focuses on affection and rewards.
A high ratio of positive to negative feedback by parents provides a contrast that makes time outs most effective. This may be the most important message of all from the research.

Time out should be served in a boring environment.
The effectiveness of the time out is impacted by the amount of activity and interest available to a child. The more stuff there is - TV, computer, mobile phone, toys, even a colouring book and crayons - the less effective the time out.

Use one warning only.
Making one brief unemotional warning such as, If you do not do as I say, you will be going to time out, has been found to reduce the number of time outs a child will ever go through. By contrast, parents who repeat the warning decrease the effectiveness of the punishment. Immediacy is equally important - Go now! The delay between the inappropriate behaviour and the initiation of the time out should be as short as possible to reinforce your message.
**Stick to a reasonable length for time outs.**

Time outs of "moderate length" are more effective than shorter ones and may be as effective as longer ones. A general recommendation for time outs is one minute per year of age. However, some research suggests that 4-5 minute time outs are enough regardless of a child's age.

**But don’t just rely on a timer.**

Waiting to release a child from time out until they are quiet and calm (even if the timer went off) is more effective in reducing disruptive behaviour than allowing a child to leave when they are still kicking and screaming.

**Be consistent.**

Pick a few behaviours to target and give the child time out every time they engage in one of those behaviours. Giving a time out only sometimes for the same misbehaviour confuses children and makes learning the rules really hard.

**Always follow through.**

Children should not be allowed to escape time out by agreeing to obey after you have told them to go to time out. This reinforces the inappropriate behaviour. Once you've stated a time out will happen, it happens.

**Make it known who is in charge.**

And that’s you. Evidence suggests that a time out is significantly less effective when a child determines when the punishment ends - *when you are ready to leave* - compared to when an adult determines when the time out is over - *when I say it's OK*. If your child leaves time out before you say it is OK, you need to return them quickly to time out (without talking to them) or provide a back-up consequence, such as no TV until they finish the time out.

**Get the behaviour right in the end.**

Kids end up in time out for doing something wrong or not doing what they’re told. Don’t let them off the hook. When the time out is complete, return to the scene of the crime - now go back and pick up your toys. If you don’t make closure, the same incident is more likely to be repeated.

*(more information can be found at [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mark-bertin-md/time-for-the-straight-tall-on-time-outs_b_5503670.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mark-bertin-md/time-for-the-straight-tall-on-time-outs_b_5503670.html))*

I will leave this update with an interesting quote I read recently.

"Parenting is the easiest thing in the world to have an opinion about, but the hardest thing in the world to do."

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**P & C News**

**New Playground**

Exciting news! Earlier this year, the P & C were successful in gaining a grant through the Gambling fund for a new playground area. In conjunction with staff, students and parents we have a playground concept that will excite and engage students. Through student surveys a number of ideas were taken into consideration. The most popular idea across all year levels was a flying fox. The process went to tender and a design has been finalised. The new playground will be similar to the flying fox at The Strand and a hill with slides. Building of the playground will start shortly.

**Next Meeting**

Note: change of date – the next general meeting, to be held in the school library, will be on Tuesday 18th November at 6:30pm.

If you are interested in being involved in the P & C in any way, please let me know, either by email to pandcsecretary@bluewatess.eq.edu.au or by leaving your details at the school office.

Rachel Borresen  BWSS P&C Secretary.
Country Fair - Friday 31st October 5pm to 9pm
It’s a very exciting time with our Country Fair this coming Friday.

Volunteers
We are in desperate need of volunteers for the night if you can help out for a half hour on the night either on a class stall, setting up or packing up, please let your child’s teacher know so we can all help make this a successful night for our kids. Has your child told you about the “Pizza Party” for the class with the most volunteers. Please help your child’s class to become the winners of this great prize.

Dodgers
Please keep return all dodger tickets to the office or on the night.

Pre-Paid Ride Wristbands
Wristbands: If you pre pay for your child’s wristband before Wednesday the 29th October not only will you pay $23, you will also go into the draw for a chance to win a Party Hire Package provided by Amusements Plus valued at $300. This pre payment offer will not be available after Wednesday the 29th October. On the day prices will be $28 per child or $4 - $5 per ride depending on the ride.

Cake Stall
Paper plates were sent home on Monday this week. We are asking you to fill this plate with a yummy cake or sweet treat as a donation to 5B’s Cake/Sweet Stall. Please drop off donations to the Library on the day of the Country Fair. Please place all donations on a disposable plate or board as we cannot guarantee the return of any containers.

No Tuckshop – This Friday
We would like to remind everyone that the Tuckshop will be closed on Friday 31st the day of the Country Fair.

Donations are still needed for:-
Tombola stall. We are asking for wrapped lollies or grocery items. It does not have to be a food item but has to be non perishable. Suggestion posters are on the front notice board. Please drop off any donations to the tuckshop.
Country Corner: 3B’s timber branding stall is seeking donations of timber/ decking off cuts. If you are unable to drop off to the school pick ups can be arranged.
Halloween Haunt: Class 4B will be doing a Halloween Haunt on the night and are still asking for donations of Halloween prop’s and decorations. Please drop off to the tuckshop.
Plant Stall: Now is the time to drop off those plants you may have been keeping at home ready for our very popular plant stall. Pick ups can be arranged please let Sherree know in the tuckshop.
Thank you Tracey Walker

Daragee School Camp – Not Taken Home - 2 sleeping bags - see the office.

PLAYGROUP AT BLUEWATER STATE SCHOOL
Playgroup is coming to Bluewater State School. Meets once a month on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, from 9 -11 am.
Lots of activities for your child, just bring a plate of food to share.

Patches of Bluewater Craft Group
Meet every Thursday
Bluewater Community Centre
9am - 1pm
New people are welcome
For more information please ring Shannon Stanford 47886465

Patches of Bluewater are proud sponsors of 3x$100 encouragement vouchers to be presented at the 2014 Bluewater State School Christmas Concert.
A note from *Chappy Drew:*

**Country Fair:** I’m really looking forward to this year’s Bluewater S.S. Country Fair...especially the dunking bucket!! It was great fun last year seeing the students’ delight, as their well-aimed throw resulted in the drenching of a willing victim, I mean volunteer®. This year also promises high profile ‘volunteers’. I would like to thank the Fair committee for again allocating funds raised from the dunk-bucket to Chaplaincy here at Bluewater State School.

**AfterSchool Youth (ASY):** A note has been sent home to parents of year 3 students, inviting their child to attend ASY for the remainder of this year. This is a sort of transition for those thinking of attending ASY next year. Normally ASY is for students in years 4 to 7 (4 to 6 next year®). Please contact me if you need more information.

Have a great week, and see you at the Fair!!

*Chappy Drew*

**Bluewater School Rugby**
The rugby players are training for the end of year Inter-house Rugby competition. This will be held on **Friday the 28th November.** Times are yet to be advised. It was a great success last year and we are hoping for the same this year.

*Grant Whiteford*
*Rugby Coach.*

**Congratulations to Matthew Kelso for attaining a Principal Role in the cast of Oliver!**

**Returning to School in 2015**
If you are not returning to Bluewater State School in 2015, can you please notify the office? This will allow us to make future plans and get the classes right as soon as possible before the start of next year. You can either drop in, ring 47512333 or email admin@bluewatess.eq.edu.au to let us know.

**Upcoming Events**

**Week 4**
- World Teachers’ Day - Friday 31 October
- Bluewater Country Fair - Friday 31 October

**Week 6**
- Remembrance Day Ceremony - 10:30am, Tuesday 11 November

**Week 7**
- P&C Meeting - Tuesday 18 November, 6:30pm in Library
- Arts Council “Wake Up and Read” - Thursday, 20 November

**Week 9**
- Swimming Lessons for Year 1-3 beginning Monday 1 December – 10 December

**Week 10**
- ’Christmas at Bluewater’ Class presentations & Awards Night - Wednesday 10 December,
- Report Cards out - Wednesday, 10 December
- Class parties
- Year 6 and Year 7 - Graduation Day Thursday 11 December
- Last day of school 2014 - Friday 12 December

**School Resumes** - Tuesday 27 January 2015

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**Explore and Learn**
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