Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Last week a large number of students attended the Toormina District Swimming Carnival in Coffs Harbour. Upon their arrival back at school it was very pleasing to hear of the wonderful sportsmanship displayed by Bonville students. Over the past 4 years the feedback I have always received regarding Bonville students at carnivals or events where other schools are attending is ALWAYS POSITIVE and the feedback is USUALLY from teachers or parents who are not aligned with Bonville Public School. Well done everyone!

At Bonville we endeavour to provide exceptional communication with our parents and community. This is done through the school’s newsletter, everyday notes, informal discussions between teachers and parents, the LED sign and the school’s website. The website is currently being updated and can be viewed at http://www.bonville-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/. The school’s website is also available in mobile format and is very handy to access the school’s calendar and newsletters which is uploaded weekly.

STEM, Coding and GONSKI funding
Currently in Australia there is a shortage of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) skilled employees whilst the job rate for STEM skilled employees is increasing. This is not just a problem facing Australia but is prevalent throughout the world. In recent years the Australian Government committed funding to restore the focus, and increase student uptake of, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects in primary and secondary schools across the country. ‘Restoring the focus on STEM subjects is about ensuring Australia’s young adults are equipped with the necessary skills for the economy of the future’.

At Bonville Public School all students will be participating in a fun 10 week ‘Coding’ program which will help engage and encourage Bonville school students to study STEM subjects. “Starting this interest at the school level will help increase the number of students taking up STEM subjects in higher education and in their careers and help keep Australia competitive internationally in these important fields”. GONSKI funding has enabled this program to operate at no cost to parents. Additionally, teachers will gain increased skills and knowledge to embed ‘coding’ across the curriculum. Last year a Bonville parent approached me and indicated he wished ‘coding’ was available in schools a while ago. This is because his son is now studying at university and the course in which he is studying requires significant knowledge of coding.

Visiting Performance – ‘Fish Outta Water’
Notes were sent home 2 weeks ago. The performance will be held next Monday 7th March. The cost is $4.50. Notes are available from the office.

Student Learning Continuums - Parent Workshop
Learning Continuums are used by teachers to plot and track student progress. Learning Continuums guide Teaching and Learning activities to ensure every child’s individual learning needs are met. This is a great opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of how teachers develop skills and knowledge in children to improve learning outcomes. Come along and learn more. Wednesday 2nd March 6-7pm. Notes went home last week.

Voluntary Contributions – REMINDER
Thank you to the many families who have contributed $25 per child to the school. These funds do go towards resources to enhance the learning opportunities for every child.

P&C AGM NOTICE
Bonville P&C will be holding the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 9th March from 7pm in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Bouquet of Flowers
Last week Trish Morgan assisted with the transport and supervision of students attending the MNC Swimming Carnival. The school thanks and values all parents for their support of Bonville students.

Toormina District Soccer Trials
Congratulations Blake and Liam for being selected to represent the Toormina District at the MNCPSSA Soccer Trials!
Congratulations Levi Bell for his great result at the MNCPSSA Swimming Carnival. Levi will be travelling to Kempsey on Wednesday 9th March to compete in the North Coast PSSA Swimming. Levi achieved 2nd place in Breaststroke and 3rd place in the 200m Medley.

Good luck Levi!

Enrichment Fun Friday Activities

Allergies and Phobias
All schools have students, adults and visitors who may have allergies and/or phobias. Approximately 5% (1 in 20) of school age children in Australia have an allergy which could lead to life threatening reactions known as anaphylaxis (ASCIA). Bonville Public School is not immune. Please consider the following:

- Please refrain from bringing dogs to school. Dog phobias
- Please discourage whole egg which could easily fall out of lunch boxes and onto other children. Egg allergies
- Please support the school’s stance on NO SHARING FOOD. Egg, nut, gluten, dairy, sugar allergies/intolerances

Your support is appreciated - Let’s keep our kids safe!

Head lice
They’re BACK! Please check your child’s hair and treat

The facts
Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools.

- about 23% of primary students have head lice at any one time
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person’s head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

Treatment
- daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits) accordingly.

Boys Cricket vs Sawtell PS
Bonville play Sawtell this Thursday 3rd March. Good luck boys!

Students arriving to school
When children arrive at school they are encouraged to remain seated until 8:30am when a teacher is on duty. From this time all children who arrive at school should proceed to the playground where they are supervised by a member of staff. Please support staff by encouraging your child to be in the right place at the right time.

Small school, big family, great results!
Bonville kids display excellent sportsmanship!

Have a great week!

Michael Hepi
Principal

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