

Mumbulla School

FOR RUDOLF STEINER EDUCATION LTD.

37 Bega Street – PO Box 790 – Bega NSW 2550

Tel – 02 6492 3476 Fax – 02 6492 5415

info@mumbullaschool.com.au

www.mumbullaschool.com.au

6th February, 2012.

Week 2 ~ Term 1

WELCOME BACK

Welcome Back to school everyone and a big hello and welcome to all our new families. Please be sure to read this Bulletin as there is lots of IMPORTANT information for everyone as the new school year begins. Just a reminder that our school day starts at 9.05am and finishes at 3.10pm. Please ensure your children are on time for the classes to begin their day.

Attention All Parents

At the start of each year there is paperwork that all parents/guardians need to complete and return to the Front Office by Week 3.

- **Student/Family Details**

New families will receive an enrolment package containing a bundle of forms that need to be competed and returned to the Front Office ASAP.

Returning families need to contact the Front Office if there has been any change to your:

- Child's medical status or health
- Household address or contact details (incl. mobile and email)
- Emergency contact details
- Family situation

It is vital that we have up-to-date information for all students.

- **Afternoon Pick-up/Bus Permission Note - for all families to complete**

Attached to this Bulletin you will find a 2012 Afternoon Pick-up Bus Form to be completed by all families. **Please fill out the relevant sections on this form even if your child does not travel on the bus and be sure to read the information note that is along with the permission note.**

- **2012 Term Dates**

You will also find this year's term dates attached to this week's Bulletin for you to keep in a handy spot to refer to through out the year.

COMMUNICATION CORNER

Welcome back to everyone and especially to all the new families. There has been a real atmosphere of excitement with most classes moving into new rooms and of course the wonderful library. Georgie did an amazing job getting it all set up, and thank you to all those who managed to give a hand, in whatever way. (Last week I spotted two parents scrabbling around under the fruit trees, picking up fallen fruit – they had just noticed a job needing doing and quietly did it. Thank you!)

I would like to give a very big welcome to Reagan White who is replacing me in the role of Literacy Co-ordinator and Learning Support. Having done that job since last century I know how much is involved and I am so grateful that we have someone with the energy, understanding and skills needed to take on this task now that the school has grown so much. The process of handing over to Reagan has given me great confidence that the children will enjoy their contact with her and that teachers will be really well supported.

For those of you who are new to the school I would like to tell you that we have a Grievance Manager (me). This is because we want to be proactive about making sure any issues, concerns or problems are sorted as quickly as possible, not only for the benefit of the children and families involved but also for the sake of the whole community. So if you have something that you would like to talk about, big or small, and you're not sure where to bring it, feel free to contact me. I am at school on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and at various other times. Either catch me in the little room off the old library next to the car park, or leave a message at the office. Confidentiality will be respected. Your child's class teacher will be your first port of call in many cases, but when in doubt, see me.

Have a great week and a great year,
Averil Fink
Grievance Manager

WHO IS THE NEW AVERIL

It's me...Reagan White. I find myself here at Mumbulla after much adventuring through the world. On and off for the past 10 years I have been travelling, living and working overseas.

I am a qualified teacher (Masters Degree specialising in Early Childhood) with many years experience teaching primary children. I have developed a particular interest in, passion for and expertise in literacy education over the course of my career. My most recent qualification in Multisensory Language Education (Australian Dyslexia Association) is ongoing. I have had the privilege of teaching adults and children all over the world from India, Italy, London and of course Australia. I am already enjoying my time at Mumbulla and look forward to meeting everyone over the course of the Term/Year.

If you want to know more about me or you are just curious to check me out...you can find me in the little room between Karin's Class and the Library. Feel free to pop in!

MUMBULLA STAFF FOR 2012

To help everyone get to know who's who in the school here is a list of the staff. There have been some changes!!

Kindergarten: CHRISANTHI McManus with ALLI Faulkner (Kinder Assistant)

ANNABELLE Ciufu with MONICA Gohlich (Kinder Assistant)

Class One: PATRICIA Mills

Class Two: LEE Slater & JENMNY BROWN with LOUISE Gillespie (Classroom Assistant)

Class Three RACHEL Alves with SUZANNE Milligan (Classroom Assistant)

Class Four: MONIQUE Watt & MICHAEL Gromer

Class Five: ISAAC Van Haeff

Class Six: KARIN Champagne & PENNY Hambling

Literacy Co-ordinator: REAGAN White

Craft: TJENKA Murray and CORINA Deneve

Library: GEORGIE Bourke

Music: JANE Andrew

French: BRIGITTE Leroy

Strings Program: JARKA Secker and KATE Stevens

Numeracy: CLAIRE Burgess

Extra Lesson: SKYE Etherington

Playgroup: EVE Hofstetter and DANYA Thompson

And in the office:

Business Manager: DONNA Cotter

Educational Administrator: MAHAMATI

Reception: ROSIE Yee and DEB Yeo

Finance Clerk: MELINDA Downs

College Executive: AVERIL Fink, KARIN Champagne and MAHAMATI

Whole School Phone Book

The Whole School Phone Book is currently being updated. This is our school community phone book aimed at making it easier for families to contact each other. It is an in-school listing only for parents. All parents will be listed. If you DON'T want your number in the book or have an alternative number please contact the office (by email is good) ASAP. If you want to include your mobile number or you have moved or changed phone numbers you will need to contact the office and update your details. The new Phone Book will come out once we have all the details.

Thank you.

Deb & Rosie.

School Fees

Invoices for Term 1 fees have been mailed out to everyone. Please pay promptly or if you would like to make an alternative payment arrangement please fill out and return the form attached to the invoice. If you need any clarification please talk to our friendly Business Manager, Donna Cotter.

Thank you.

Bus Passes

New families and families that have moved house can collect a bus pass form at the Front Office. If your child continues to catch the same bus as last year and is not in Class 3 there is no need to fill in a new form. The bus company will issue your child with a new bus pass for 2012

Class 3 children who continue to catch a bus will need to complete a new form (as a government requirement).

PVC (Private Vehicle Conveyence) Subsidy Forms

PVC forms are available in the office. This is a subsidy available for families who have to drive their children to a point of pickup by a school bus, if the distance is more than 1.6km. This must be applied for privately although forms are available in the office. Payments will be made bi-annually. If you have a current plan in place you do not need to reapply.

NOTE FROM THE OH&S GROUP

A note from the OH&S group

We have much to celebrate, our school now has 180 children; this means each morning 180 children arrive at our school and each afternoon 180 children go home. As you can imagine this requires an enormous amount of traffic, pedestrian, car and bus. There are a few very simple things parents can do to help keep our children safe.

- We ask that parents please avoid driving into the cul-de-sac during morning drop off and afternoon pick up times. Of course we do understand that on occasions parents may have a sleeping child they cannot leave in a car. If you have to enter the cu-de-sac please take extreme care.
- Please use the crossing at all times when entering and leaving the school. If we want our children to use the supervised crossing then we need to go out of our way and use it too. Remember that the example all adults set provides one of the greatest teachers so use the crossing when your children are with you and when they are not.
- Do not walk through the car park. Small children can be very hard to see behind a reversing car.

A very big thank you

Chrisanthi on behalf of the OH&S group

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Serena Kean and Peter Ascot on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, sister to Fergus in Class 5 and Turlough.

EARLY BIRD Reading Program

We will be starting Early Birds in Week 4 this Term. I will contact all those people who have already expressed their interest in Volunteering to arrange times. We have two session times, one from 8.00-8.30 and one from 8.30-9.00. This allows for some flexibility if there is a late starter or for going over time. The bell rings at 9.10 so I think this will help to ensure that the children can be punctual to class.

Please contact me if you wish to be a volunteer who reads with a child each week – there are always spaces!

I am discussing with teachers which children they would like to participate in Early Birds this term. I will contact those families involved so we can schedule convenient times.

So, the good news is that everyone can have a sleep in for a few more weeks.

Reagan

Kindergarten

Welcome back to all our returning Kindergarten children and their families. We also would like to welcome all the new Kindergarten children and their families who will be starting school over the next two weeks. We certainly look forward to getting to know you.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our picnic at Mogareeka on the 28th January. The songs and rhymes of our first Morning Circle will be on a beach theme. For those who are new to Kindergarten we sing and recite the same set of songs and rhymes in Morning Circle for 3 to 4 weeks. Here is one of our current songs...

*Let's go down to the sea today
Let's go down to the sea to play
Building castles in the sand
Catching crabs in your hand
Racing in the tumbling waves
Finding a shell in the cool of the day*

Families of all the new students starting Kindergarten will be given a white folder with family contact details and medical information forms etc. It would be appreciated if these forms are completed and returned to the office as soon as possible, thanks.

Thank you to all who helped us over the holidays with the various jobs such as cleaning, washing and gardening, that all contribute to the wellbeing of Kindergarten. Muffin and Dandy our guinea pigs extend their thanks to Reed, Finn, Ethan's family and Gracie's family for feeding and cuddling them over the summer holidays. Our grass in Kindergarten is looking so lush and green thanks to the nurturing by Jason Armstrong.

Well we'll have a happy term ahead .

Warm regards

Chrisanthi and Annabelle

Class One

Hello everyone and welcome to Class 1 for 2012!

We have had a lovely start to the year. The 3 day week was a perfect introduction for the children and the cooler weather was also a blessing. The children have been busily listening, drawing, singing, moving and – most importantly - playing.

They have done an amazing job settling into the new routines of Class 1. They are very good at putting their hand up to speak and when I sing ‘Class 1 listening’, they all respond in their beautiful singing voices: ‘Yes Patricia listening’.

There are many people within the school who help and teach Class 1. Last Thursday Brigitte came to visit. We had lots of fun singing songs in French and we even learnt some colours and numbers! On Friday Geoffrey visited and the children had a great time singing and playing games. There were also a few visits to Rosie and Deb in the front office by children in need of ice packs and band-aids (lots of excited play out in the big playground!).

This week we begin Craft lessons with Tjenka and Library lessons with Georgie. The children will be put into two groups for these sessions – the ‘Moon’ group and the ‘Sun’ group. The children should be able to tell you which group they are in.

Did you all get to meet your child’s new doll? These were lovingly made by the graduating Class 6 children last year. The children have been having a lovely time playing with their dolls. They join us for our story time and rest time and like to sit in their basket in the middle of our circle while we do our morning circle songs and games. In the afternoons, the dolls go to sleep in the children’s desks. We put the chairs up on the desks before going home so the dolls stay put!

Thank you Rosa and family for the beautiful flowers last week. Fresh flowers are always a welcome addition to our classroom. If you have an abundance of flowers at home you are most welcome to send some in with your Class 1 child. We have plenty of vases.

We will be beginning our school birthday celebrations in the next couple of weeks. Children’s school birthdays do not necessarily happen on the same day as their actual birthday. Many children have birthdays in the holidays or on weekends and even when their birthday falls on a school day it is not always possible to hold a celebration on that particular day. The school birthday is a special day for the child. Parents are invited to come to school in the morning with their child and sit with them during the celebration. We light a candle and talk a little about the child’s journey so far. Each of the other children gives the birthday child a nature gift to take home with them. This is something simple and special the child has found in nature. It can be a shell, or rock, or flower, or perhaps a curly leaf or piece of driftwood. We then sing a birthday song and the child blows out their candles. And then – this is the really good bit – we eat cake!

To accommodate the dietary needs of all the children in Class 1, all birthday cakes need to be completely gluten free. I also ask that we steer clear of all artificial colouring and flavouring. Does anyone have a really good recipe for a gluten free birthday cake? I will send home a couple I have found with the Bulletin next week.

Continued Page 7.....

.....*Class One continued*

I would like to welcome 2 new families and their Class 1 children to Mumbulla School this year. Welcome to Harry Wall, his parents Helen and Greg and sister Louise
Welcome also to Jack Ryan, his parents Katie and Steve and siblings Laney, Locklin and Cormac. I would also like to welcome back Harrison Woodley and family – parents Melissa and Andrew and brother Darcy. Harrison spent a year in the Kindergarten in 2010 and has returned to Mumbulla this year.

Some important housekeeping to finish with:

- Our swimming program will begin on Wednesday February 15. Please see the information below for more details regarding this. We will be joining in with Class 2 each Wednesday for swimming fun, leaving to walk from school at 12.00 and returning at 1.30pm. We will be asking for volunteers from Class 1 & 2 families.
- We will have a swimming helpers information afternoon on Monday 13th at 3.30pm
- Monday February 20 is our class meeting. I will give you more detailed information about this in next weeks Bulletin.
- Monday February 27 is our first Class 1 Rest Day. (Children rest at home not at school) I will talk about this closer to the date - just wanted to give you lots of notice.
- I am available for interviews / longer chats on Friday afternoons. There is a booking sheet in the office for this term which you can put your name down on if you would like to speak with me. Of course I am always in the classroom in the mornings so you are welcome to pop in for a quick chat then as well – but please make it before 9am.

And now I am off to spend another lovely week with 24 beautiful and kind children. I think I must be one of the luckiest people in the world...

Patricia xx

Weekly Swimming with Class One & Two

Every week (weather permitting) in Term 1 all classes are involved in swimming activities as part of our Physical Education curriculum. Our day is Wednesday, we will leave school to walk to the pool at 12.00pm and will return at 1.30pm. We ask parent volunteers to take a very small group 4/5 children of similar ability and play water games, practice simple swimming skills and generally have fun. Don't worry we provide activity cards and guidance. Groups go for about 15 minutes then we ask you to help with the supervision as the children have free play. We use the medium sized pool and the shallow end of the big pool and only proficient swimmers are allowed in the deep end.

If you are interested please feel free to speak to me or just fill in the permission form and come along to our swimming helpers information afternoon Monday 13th at 3.30pm (children welcome to stay and play). You should receive a permission note and information sheet with this week's Bulletin and we ask that you return it this week so we can group the children and begin swimming on Wednesday 22nd Feb. If you would like to just walk with us we appreciate this too.

Thanks

Lee and Patricia

Class Two

Welcome, welcome to another year and to Class Two. I can't believe what 6 weeks can do. All the children look a great deal older and taller! I'm sure they will be wonderful role models for the new Class One children. It was lovely having those three days to just ease back into school life and I just loved seeing all their smiling and enthusiastic faces and hearing their holiday news.

This year we welcome two new families to our class community. Welcome to Malachi and his dad Rob Hindle, his Mum Patricia Mills and her partner Jed Done. Malachi has come from Merimbula School. Welcome also to Emile and the Turville family with Mum and Dad, Cath and John. Emile and his sister Dominique (Class 5) have travelled all the way from Orana. We wish them a fulfilling and happy 'Mumbulla' experience. We also welcome Jenny Brown to the teaching team on a Monday and other days when needed. Welcome to you all.

We have begun the school year with Indigenous *Stories of the Dreaming* Main Lesson. Through the eyes of two 8-year-old aboriginal children Janbah and Winipi, the class will learn about traditional Koori culture and listen to a variety of animal dreaming stories. In this Main Lesson I am asking children to at times work with a partner and compose their own sentences using guidewords to help with spelling. Matching sounds we hear with their corresponding letters is the focus. Also encouraging children to 'have-a-go' is an important part of learning and gives a window into their thinking and skills levels.

I will be talking more about this and other literacy issues at our first class meeting Thursday 23rd February at 3.30pm. At this meeting I will give a brief picture of the Class Two child and an overview of the curriculum. Childcare will be available if you are unable to organise your own - please let Louise know or place your families names on the list on the Class 2 door this week if you need this service. The following is information for parents about Child care for Class meetings

- This is a service P&F are facilitating to allow parents to attend Class meetings who could not otherwise do so. If other arrangements can be made, we encourage you to do so.
- All children need to be booked in at least 3 days before the meeting. This will allow P&F to find available Carers appropriate to the number and varying ages of the children.
- All children must be taken to the Kindergarten garden and be signed in and signed out by the parent. Money is to be paid at the time. The cost is \$2 per child or \$5 per family for 3 or more children.
- All children need to have been fed or come with afternoon tea (fruit or healthy food), their own water bottle, hat and warm clothes as the evenings are cooling.
- We ask parents to inform their children of the expectation for respectful and helpful behaviour at all times towards the carer, the other children and the kindergarten environment.

As you will appreciate this is a difficult job for the Carers, given the variation of ages and needs of the children. We ask that you do all you can to make this job as easy as possible for our Carers.

Continued page 9.....

.....*Class Two continued*

Another important date for you diary is term one swimming. We will be joining with Class One each Wednesday for swimming fun, leaving school to walk to the pool at 12.00 and returning at 1.30pm. Hopefully starting in Week 3 (15th) we once again ask for volunteers. Patricia and I will be holding a brief meeting on Monday 20th at 3.30 pm to outline the volunteer's roles and expectations. Please fill in the permission note and return it during the week so we can organise groups. I do have a list of levels the children reached after the intensive swimming program which will come in handy when grouping. Please also see Weekly Swimming note on page 8 under the Class One notes.

Thank you to everyone who was able to bake, serve, chat to the new Class 1 families last Wednesday, I know they really appreciated the gesture. There is also a special note of thank you from Chrisanthi and Annabelle, see below.

I have asked the children to bring in their own small cushions for story time. Please ensure they are as plain as possible. I do have a few spares if you don't have any spares yourself. I'm also asking for any sand pit cooking utensils- old pots, trays, colanders etc. to replenish our supplies

Have a wonderful week and begin seeking nature gifts as we have many January birthdays to celebrate soon.

Lee, Louise and Jenny.

THANK YOU NOTE FOR CLASS 2 PARENTS

Dear Class 2 Parents,

A big thank you for preparing morning tea on Wednesday for the parents of the children beginning Class One with Patricia. It was lovely to share some time together following the Kindergarten graduation.

Love Chrisanthi and Annabelle

Class Three

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another new and exciting year at Mumbulla School. It was so wonderful to see your collective offspring last week, all bursting with news and energy, looking bigger and so full of life. We shared a week of new things: a new classroom, new Main Lesson books of course, new maths books, (the real McCoy with squares in them), new desks (thank you to all those wonderful parents who came and cleaned these for us) and the promise of more novelty to come.

On Friday we started to bring some order into the gardens near our classroom and this week we will start planting out here. Before long we will have our very own bit of earth to look after in the vegetable garden. If you would like to join us on Fridays at 12.10pm for gardening that would be a huge help. It doesn't have to be a regular commitment – just come and join us if you can.

You have probably heard that we are doing a Main Lesson about Chooks. This is by way of an introduction to the care of the School chickens, our responsibility now we are in Class 3, but it is also a great vehicle for all sorts of learning. Today for example we worked in groups to tally

information about chicken ownership and then presented it as a bar graph. Tomorrow we are going to write up a procedure about how to make “sculpy” fridge magnets (chicken shaped of course). On Wednesday we are going to discuss what comes first – the chicken or the egg and draw the life cycle.

In a burst of enthusiasm at the end of last term I chose this Thursday to be our class meeting day. It would be terrific if one person from each family could come. I will be providing you with information about the timetable, the Main Lessons for the year, our specialist’s work, and much more. I will also be talking about what we call “The Nine Year old change” If you have already had a child who has gone through Mumbulla Class 3 you will be familiar with this and it would be so helpful if you could share your experiences with us. If not you may be wondering why your child has suddenly decided to sleep in your bed again, has got both clingy and off hand, has started to worry about things or seems suddenly melancholic or has even asked if they were adopted. We will talk about this change and about how the curriculum, particularly the *Hebrew Creation* myths address the needs of the child at this time in their development. If you will be needing childcare for this meeting please write your families names on the childcare list the Class 3 door. The following is information for parents about Child care for Class meetings:

- This is a service P&F are facilitating to allow parents to attend Class meetings who could not otherwise do so. If other arrangements can be made, we encourage you to do so.
- All children need to be booked in at least 3 days before the meeting. This will allow P&F to find available Carers appropriate to the number and varying ages of the children.
- All children must be taken to the Kindergarten garden and be signed in and signed out by the parent. Money is to be paid at the time. The cost is \$2 per child or \$5 per family for 3 or more children.
- All children need to have been fed or come with afternoon tea (fruit or healthy food), their own water bottle, hat and warm clothes as the evenings are cooling.
- We ask parents to inform their children of the expectation for respectful and helpful behaviour at all times towards the carer, the other children and the kindergarten environment.

As you will appreciate this is a difficult job for the Carers, given the variation of ages and needs of the children. We ask that you do all you can to make this job as easy as possible for our Carers.

The other significant bit of information concerns swimming. There should be a note attached to this week’s Bulletin which will need to be completed and returned ASAP. As always we rely on the generosity of the parents who help out with our recreational swimming sessions. If you are able to assist please, please put your name down on the list hanging on Class 3’s door.

Alex’s Birthday is on Sunday Feb 12th so we will be celebrating her school birthday soon, please remember to send a nature gift with your child.

Well that’s it from me for now, but I look forward to seeing you on Thursday.

Rachel.

P.S. I am still on the lookout for the leaves of corn cobs, also large jam/preserving jars for painting, and feathers for drawing.

Class Four

Dear Class Four Families,

Firstly thank you very much for receiving me into your homes for a visit over the holidays. It was a privilege and a joy to spend time with the children in their home environment and to begin to get to know you all (parents, pets and siblings too). I also found the class picnic a good way for the children and families of our class to relax together and reconnect before beginning the new school year. I hope you felt similarly.

So, at last (or so it feels) welcome to Class Four! This term the important things to pack regarding the timetable are:

1. Instrument and sheet music on Tuesdays for Class Four Orchestra rehearsals
2. Instrument & sheet music on Thursdays for Strings Tuition
(violin, viola & cello all with Jarka)
3. Swimmers, rashie/towel on Fridays for Swimming at Bega Pool commencing wk 3.

This week I will send a copy of the timetable in its current form; it can take a bit of tweaking when the year begins but should basically run as indicated. Enclosed today is the permission slip for swimming (please complete and return) and a letter from me explaining Michael Gromer's role with the class on Fridays.

You will have noticed that the homework set for the fortnight (in a blue folder) is due this Friday (or next Monday). There is a small comment/signature space at the end of it. Please feel free to provide any feedback regarding the homework (amount, level of difficulty, clarity of instructions etc) and just ask if anything is unclear.

The date for our Class Meeting has not yet been set, but will be in Week 3 or 4. Please send me a quick note if you have a need for a particular day of the week or after school time slot and I'll endeavour to make the meeting when most can attend (also considering times of other class meetings where siblings are involved).

The children and I are settling in well together, enjoying *Free Hand Geometry* as our first Main Lesson and more importantly, enjoying each other.

Thank you for your support so far and please don't be concerned about coming to me with any problem or question, no matter how small (or large).

Love, Monique.

Class Five

Dear Families,

We had a lovely first week back together in our new room. The children all seemed well rested and were excited to be back with their friends, catching up on holiday adventures and enjoying the feeling of being in Class Five! It is hard to believe that we are now in the senior years!

There are a couple of changes in the class for this year. Firstly we say a huge farewell to Ayeshier and her family Claire and Andrea, as they embark on new adventures in Noosa, Queensland.

Ayesher will be sadly missed in the class and we look forward to hearing from her once she settles into her new school.

So as we say farewell we also welcome Dominique Turville and her family to the Mumbulla School community, after they spent a number of years away. If you see them around please make them feel welcome.

In week Three we will begin Swimming at Bega Pool on Mondays. If you are able to help out with swimming your help will be greatly appreciated. A permission note regarding swimming will be sent out within the next week. The main focus for the weekly swimming is to increase your child's confidence in the water in a fun and safe way. We are booked in at the pool from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. We will be leaving the school at around 1.15pm. Your help with swimming each year is greatly appreciated.

There are a few timetable changes this year:

- * Craft and Library with Tjenka and Georgie will now be on Tuesdays
- * Senior Choir with Geoffrey: Wednesday
- * Strings Ensemble will be on Fridays
- * Strings Lessons with Jarka will be on Thursday and Friday
- * Woodwind, Brass and Orchestral Percussion lessons will be on Friday

Next time you are around at school you should take a peep at the cob cubby which now finally is complete with a gorgeous bark roof. Although the project was a little ambitious, hopefully it will be a wonderful addition to the school's playground. I especially would like to thank Ulan, Barlo, Tina and Bruno for helping the children with the project. Thanks also to Nathan and Nadine for donating soil for the cubby and Lyall for carting the soil to school.

Have a fantastic week,

Isaac.

Class Six

Dear Families,

We had a fantastic start to the new school year in our beautiful new classroom. There are many people to thank in getting our room to where it is today. Thanks to Louise and Oliver for cleaning desks and getting our paints ready, thanks to Corina and Takumi for making and hanging the curtains, thanks to Michael. G. for all the bits and pieces but most of all the black board, thanks to Lee.C. and Ian Bartholomew for cutting and delivering the stumps, thanks to Arati for the stumps, thanks to Jason Armstrong and his crew for laying the turf and thanks to Donna for keeping an eye on it all. It truly is a beautiful room to be in with the children and we're very, very lucky.

So much news to tell you, I hope I can remember everything! Next Tuesday, 14 Feb, is the launch of the National Year of Reading and there will be events happening all over the place including Mumbulla School. Class Six will be launching this important "year of" by being available to read their favourite picture book to children and adults in our school library. We will also have Class Six children drawing from their favorite picture book in chalk outside the library. We are asking all those who come to listen to reading or look at drawings to donate a gold coin, all donations will be put towards the Class Six City Camp later this term. So your

child has to have a look at home and begin the difficult, almost impossible task, of choosing their favorite picture book. They also have to begin to practice reading the book fluently and with expression to totally engage their listeners as they hold it up so that all can see the illustrations.

Get out your diaries for a couple of important dates now. Our class meeting will be on Tues 14th 3.30pm. Our class City camp will be on Monday 12 March and returning on Friday the 16th of March. The camp will include visits to, Canberra, Jenolan Caves, the Blue Mountains, Sydney and Wollongong. More information will follow in coming weeks. I also have planned a mother/daughter, Father/son overnight camp at the end of the term, Wednesday 4th April to be held at Middle Beach and Gillards. Please let me know ASAP if you have any problem with these camp dates.

I'd like to welcome and introduce our new Literacy Support Teacher, Reagan White. Reagan's office is right next door to us so you may see her around a bit. She is spending the first couple of weeks observing in classes before she begins to work with individual children or small group. Welcome Reagan.

Welcome back also to our specialists, Tjenka in craft, Jane in music, Geoffrey with choir, Claire in maths support, Georgie in the library, Brigitte in French and our instrument teachers Georgie, Helen and David. All music lessons will begin this week. Strings students need to have instruments at school on Thursdays and Fridays and others need instruments on Fridays. Please help your child remember their instrument so that they can get the most out of the programme.

Our first Main Lesson is called, *The Writer's Palette*, and it explores the different techniques that we as writers can use to enliven our writing. Look at these great metaphors:

the sun was a red frisbee in the sky - Mishka

the lake was a desert - Coen

the sun was a lightbulb in the sky - Bohdan

That will do for now, see you next week.

Love Karin

Playgroup

Oh, the summer night

Has a smile of light

And she sits on a sapphire throne.

~Barry Cornwall

AND... a warm welcome to a summer baby girl for Serena and Peter. A lovely sister for Turlough and a wonderful addition to our blush of boys born last year into our Playgroup families.

We are looking forward to sharing your wonderful children with you and to welcome many new families over the coming weeks. Playgroup is starting Monday the 6th. We will be running sessions Mon, Tue, Wed and Thu mornings. All sessions are currently fully booked.

Big smiles,

Eve and Danya

Library

Having spent some time searching for a quote that summed up my feelings of our beautiful new library, I found myself ambivalently torn between these two, the first from the Christian author and antiquarian, James Crossley, -“It is impossible to enter a large library... without feeling an inward sensation of reverence, and without catching some sparks of noble emulation, from the mass of mind which is scattered around you.”

The second is from a Monty Python skit

“You see, I don’t believe that libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, and that’s been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians”

However, we should keep in mind for with this wonderful new space we have, thanks to the hard work of many, been blessed with the five laws for libraries and librarians, laid down by the Indian mathematician and library scientist Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan (1892-1972).

Books are for use —

Books are for all; or Every reader his book.

Every book its reader.

Save the time of the reader.

A library is a growing organism.

I should like to especially thank those who, at the last minute’ rallied to pack and move the books and to fill the shelves. Peggy, Sierra, Debbie, Verity, John, Michael, the Harrop and Jones families, and anyone else I may have overlooked, without who’s help the children would not have been able to delight in this amazing space. Do come and browse through our wonderful collection and join the library, there is an ever-growing adult section and it may be helpful to you to see what books are on offer for the children, suggestions and recommendations are always welcome. The ‘early bird ‘ program will not be starting for a couple of weeks so, before school and until 11.15 am Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday I will be hoping, with your help, to fulfill some of Shiyali’s statutes.

Looking forward to seeing you in the library, keep reading, Georgie.

Music

I am excited to be welcoming classes into the new music room and look forward to teaching music in both the classroom and the Susan Haris Hall.

Class 4 Ensemble and Class 5/6 Band will also be held in this space, minimizing the disruption of rearranging desks and enabling children to enjoy the acoustics of playing regularly in the hall.

Class 4, 5 and 6 students will need to bring their instruments to school for some of their lessons with me, as well as their group lesson and ensemble day during Term 1. They will need your support to develop a routine to remember to bring their instruments. Try making the timetable visible near the door or kitchen.

We welcome back Jarka, who will be teaching string lessons on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and David, Helen and Georgi who will continue with percussion, brass and woodwind lessons on Fridays.

We also welcome Geoffrey on Wednesday mornings for choir with Classes 4,5,6 and on Friday mornings for singing with Class 1 and junior choir with Class 2 & 3.

School Information

P & F News

The P&F warmly welcome all parents and friends to our meeting this

Wednesday 8th February 9.30am—11am

The Duck Inn (the small building in the middle of the playground)

This is an exciting time to get involved in the P&F as we shall be discussing our aims for the coming year. Included on the agenda are the forthcoming Cobargo Folk Festival Cafe, the New Parents Morning Tea, and the structure and function of the P&F.

Please feel free to come along and get involved with this very friendly, supportive and enthusiastic group of parents.

If you are unable to attend the meetings but would like to have a copy of the minutes then please send your email address to me at rockleigh@netspeed.com.au and i will include you on the email list.

And if you will be needing childcare, please tell Rosie or Deb at the front office.

Hope to see you there.

Jani Klotz for the P&F

The Cobargo Festival is on the weekend of February 25 & 26.

Volunteers are needed to run the P&F Mumbulla School Café (it can be from 2 hours to whole days) from Friday the 24th through to Sunday the 26th. **If you are able to volunteer please put your name on the volunteer shift roster on the wall outside the office.**

There are lots of ways you can help as there is a long list of jobs that need to be done in order for the Café to be a success. They are:

- Shopping
- Packing up (both to and from the Festival)
- Serving
- Cake and muffin baking, hommus and baba ganoush making.
- Donations of eggs, fruit and vegetables

If you can make/donate food for the festival please let your Class Guardian know what you will be providing and in what amounts.

Please contact Deb Smith (Cafe Co-ordinator) if you can help on 6494 5741 or email her on bodyandbeyond@bigpond.com

Community Information

Dear Families,

Unfortunately there was no room in the Bulletin today for Community Information and our weekly Classified section. We realise that there will be some disappointed readers and promise the both sections will return next week.

Deb & Rosie

Diary Dates

2012 Term 1

February

Thursday 9th	Class 3 Meeting 3.30pm
Monday 13th	Class 3 Swimming 12.00 - 1.30pm Class 5 Swimming 1.30 - 2.30pm Class 1&2 Volunteers Meeting for Swimming 3.30pm
Tuesday 14th	Class 6 Meeting 3.30pm
Wednesday 15th	Class 1 & 2 swimming 12.00 - 1.30pm
Monday 20th	Class 1 Meeting 3.30pm
Wednesday 15th	Class 1 & 2 Swimming commences 12-1pm
Thursday 23rd	Class 2 Meeting 3.30pm
Monday 27th	Class 1 Rest Day

March

Monday 12th to Friday 16th	Class 6 City Camp
-------------------------------	-------------------

April

Wednesday 4th	Class 6 <i>Women/Girls & Men/Boys</i> Camp
---------------	--