Dear Parents and Community Members,

**Playgroup**
I am very excited to announce that Alma Public School will be starting a playgroup for children under 5. The playgroup will run in Cochrane Hall from 9am -10.45am on alternate Tuesday mornings, beginning on October 22nd. Megan Hurst will be organising and supervising the activities. This is a wonderful opportunity for young children to develop their skills through play and for parents of young children to share their experiences. More details will be sent out as we fine tune the details of this partnership between Alma Public School and Centacare.

**Aggressive/Abusive Behaviour**
In recent months, several of the staff have been subjected to verbal abuse and aggressive behaviour from parents. At all times when my staff engage with parents, it is done in a professional manner, with students needs always at the forefront. In return, I expect parents to address staff in a respectful and appropriate manner. However, over the last few weeks, several staff have been spoken to by parents in a very disrespectful and rude/aggressive manner, both face to face and over the phone.

We are always willing to discuss concerns that may arise, however those discussions need to be courteous. If parents choose to be disruptive or aggressive in their manner there is a provision in place to issue a warning of, or an actual Inclosed Lands Act letter. The Inclosed Lands Act refers to parents being restricted from entering the school grounds. This is something I would prefer not to have to enforce and I do not use lightly, as it is wonderful to have our community involved and interested in our school.

I understand as a parent that there may be times that you find things frustrating or unclear, and we need to resolve these concerns, but we also need to ensure it is done in a way that is appropriate for all concerned.

Please help us to keep Alma Public School the outstanding school it is, by treating all staff in a respectful manner.

**NSW Minister of Education**
Yesterday, the Broken Hill principals met with the NSW Minister of Education prior to his Cabinet Meeting. Mr Piccoli answered questions about school funding, staffing, Gonski, Local Schools Local Decisions and a range of other areas of concern. As a Regional politician, he is well aware of the difficulties that remote and rural communities face accessing services in schools and he is very interested in the issues we raised.

Glynis Lugnan
PRINCIPAL
Parents have been asking about appropriate iPad apps for their children. Here are a few that we think are great:

- Amazing shape Puzzle
- I Like Books
- ABC Song
- Sight Words
- ABC Phonics
- Sound and Spell
- Targeting Maths Yr 3 & Yr 5
- ABC Tracer
- ABC Alphabet

Excursion Meetings
There will be parent meetings regarding the Stage 2 and Stage 3 excursions as follows:

**STAGE 2 (Years 3 & 4)**
Thursday 12th September
3.15pm
3D Classroom

**STAGE 3 (Years 5 & 6)**
Wednesday 11th September
3.15pm
5M Classroom

Information regarding the excursions will be handed out and discussed at the meetings.

Responsible Pet Education Program
On 23rd October (Term 4, Week 3), the Responsible Pet Education Program will be visiting Kindergarten to Year 2 at school.

My pet dog will be coming to teach you how to be safe around dogs and how to say hello to dogs with their owners! There will be lots of listening, role plays, singing and some dancing!

My dog may even meet you during the visit.

Excursion Payments

**Stage 3 (Yr 5&6)**
$100 due this Friday 6th September

**Stage 2 (Yr 3&4)**
$50 final payment due Friday 20th September

Friday Fundraisers...

Year 6 Fundraiser
Milkshake Day
Cookies & Cream
Chocolate
Strawberry
$1.50 Each
Cochrane Hall
during 1st break!

Footy Colours Day
Come to school dressed up in your favourite footy colours this Friday 6th September.
GOLD COIN DONATION
Note: No football boots allowed

Show Your True Colours!
AFL | NRL | RUGBY UNION | SOCCER
SUPPORT FOOTY COLOURS DAY
FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2013
The one day in September to help young people fighting cancer
Winter is over…..Spring has arrived…..and summer is on the way!

We are enforcing the rule NO BUCKET HAT NO PLAY IN THE SUN—caps will not be accepted. Children who are not wearing a hat will be confined to shade areas. Our climate can be extremely hot and all children need to be wearing hats for their own safety. Hats are $8.00 and can be purchased from the Uniform Shop or the Front Office.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Broken Hill v's Murray Darling

On Friday the 30th of August, Alma sent a team of thirteen students (Destiny Wheatley, Ethan Daniele, Jackson Bray, Leroy Johnson, Bryce Langdon, Shakiera Eades, Ella Hosking, Adam Slattery, Bianca Johnstone, Sammarah-Lea Williams, Chloe Reeves, Caitlin Burrell and Dakota McKenzie-Gilby) to the Barrier Athletics Carnival between the combined schools of Broken Hill and the Murray Darling District at Picton Oval.

The weather was kind, the students behaviour and sportsmanship exemplary, some very impressive performances were displayed by all the students and a number of students achieved excellent results. These included:
- Adam Slattery - 1st in 10 years boys’ 100m, 1st in junior boys’ 200m and Junior Boys’ Champion.
- Bianca Johnstone - 1st in 10 years girls’ 100m
- Bryce Langdon - 1st in 8 years boys’ 100m
- Chloe Reeves - 1st in 11 years girls’ 200m
- Destiny Wheatley - 1st in junior girls’ high jump
- Jackson Bray 1st in junior boys’ discus
- Ethan Daniele - 2nd junior boys’ shot put

Our senior girls’ relay team ran a close 2nd in their event and Sammarah-Lea Williams ran 3rd in the 11 years relay. Unfortunately Elyscia Mackiewicz had to withdraw at the last minute from her three events due to illness.

Congratulations to all students who participated!

Broken Hill Schools in a close finish, proved too strong for Murray Darling, winning the carnival.

CHILD PROTECTION

This week, Mr Bonsing will commence child protection lessons with classes K-6. These lessons will be on topics such as:
- NO GO Tell
- Relationships
- Puberty
- Body Parts

To assist parents to continue these discussions at home we have been given access to a wonderful website for a booklet called ‘Talk Soon. Talk Often’. It can be found at http://www.fpnsw.org.au/46504924.html

Additionally, we have two copies of this publication in our office that parents may borrow.

Can parents please discuss with their children their food needs and adjust them appropriately as phone calls will not be made requesting parents to bring up extra food.
Alma Public School
Kindergarten
2014 Enrolments

Alma Public School is taking enrolments for the 2014 Kindergarten year.

Transition school activities will begin in early Term 4.

Please pick up an enrolment form from the front office or contact the school on 80882181 for further information.

Bugdlie Preschool
2014 Enrolments

Bugdlie Preschool is now taking enrolments for 2014. We are offering two sessions for children turning four (4) by 31st July 2014 with priority given to Aboriginal children.

Session 1: Monday, Tuesday 8.45am-2.45pm and Wednesday 8.45am-11.45am

Session 2: Wednesday 12.15pm-2.45pm and Thursday, Friday 8.45am-2.45pm

Enrolment forms can be obtained from Alma Public School or you can contact the school on 8088 2181 for further information.

Please return enrolment forms by Friday 30th August to assist with processing.

FREE DENTAL CHECK UP

All children aged 0 - 18 years are entitled to free dental treatment at NSW Health - Far West Local Health District.

The School Dental Clinic is in the grounds of Morgan Street School in Union Street, Broken Hill.

Appointments can only be made by phoning the Contact Centre on 1300 552 626

Family Law Problems?

FREE family law advice in Broken Hill

Our solicitors can help you with:
- What to do when you separate
- Sorting out where children live and time they spend with other family members
- Making the most of family law mediation services
- Cases involving your children and FACS
- Child support matters
- Linking you to other services

There is no means or merit test.
Once a Month – Last week of Month
Fortnightly – Phone Advice
Far West Community Legal Centre
5 Chloride Street, Broken Hill NSW 2880

For an appointment call
1800 551 589

National Child Protection Week
Balloon Release & Children’s Art Activities

Town Square Thursday 5th Sept, 11.00am - 1pm

Come along - Show your support for protecting our kids!

Event Held By The Child & Family Interagency
ph Child & Family Health 80826111 or Mission Australia 80876838 or CLC 80882029 for info