Dear Parents and Community Members,

Last week I attended the Annual NSW Primary Principals’ Conference as the delegate for Far West. We heard a range of world class keynote addresses on the topic of “People, Passion, Purpose – Weaving the web of leadership”. Among the speakers were Rosie Battle who is spearheading the campaign against domestic violence; John Foreman who is the musical director of the Schools Spectacular and Simon Breakspear, an internationally known educationalist who chaired a panel about the Gonski funds. The funding arrangements under the Gonski model account for approximately $400 000 into Alma Public School that in 2015 has paid for an additional classroom teacher in Stage 3, 90 iPads, executive release time to manage welfare and curriculum, mentoring time for all teachers, excursion subsidies, kitchen and garden specialists, MultiLit tutors and a specialist dance teacher. Gonski funding will increase over the next 2 years and then remain stable, so Alma Public School will be able to continue providing students with up to date technologies, well trained teachers and a broad range of activities.

On Thursday and Friday this week, we are having a long overdue replacement of our phone system. For those two days, we will only have one phone line into the main office. Mrs Files will not be able to transfer calls to any other line. We apologise for the inconvenience, but hopefully by Monday we will have a brand new system in place that works better that the 25 year old one we currently have.

This week, the Year 6 students are being tested by the high school teachers from Willyama High School. This will assist the teachers to place our students into classes for next year. If your child has missed any of this testing, there will be catch-ups conducted.

Please remember that there is another visit to Willyama High School on Monday 2nd November and children will need to wear Alma uniform on this day.

Our best wishes go to Miss Townsend who had an emergency appendectomy last week. She is feeling a little better, especially since her mum is here looking after her.

Don’t forget the Halloween disco in Kester Hall on Thursday evening from 5.00pm – 7.00pm. This will be P-6 in one session. Please remember that no child will be allowed to walk home alone after the disco. Parents are asked to be at the hall by 6.50 pm to collect their children.

On Friday, Stage 2 will run our school assembly. We will be having a PINK day to raise money for research into breast cancer. A gold coin donation will go towards this worthy cause. Everyone is encouraged to wear something pink. It is also World Teacher’s Day. The staff will be having a morning tea in 1st break but I would encourage everyone to acknowledge the challenging but rewarding job that teachers do. I am very proud of my staff who do outstanding work in an increasingly complex and accountable environment. Their sense of humour, commitment to improvement and genuine love of kids is inspirational.

Have a great week.

Regards

Glynis Lugnan
Kindergarten Orientation/Parent Information
For students entering school in 2016

Visit 4 for students commencing Kindergarten in 2016 will be held tomorrow Wednesday 28st October from 10.00am in Sturt Park

Final Visit 5: Wednesday 4th November 9.30am - 10.30am

Pink Day

Friday 30th October

Students may come to school dressed in pink on Friday 30th October as a Breast Cancer Fundraiser.

Gold coin donation

Wear pink in support of this great cause!

No inappropriate slogans or shoes.

Life Education

Healthy Harold

Notes were sent home last week about Life Education’s Healthy Harold.

Healthy Harold will be at Alma Public School from Tuesday 10th November to Friday 13th November 2015

Life Education runs some fantastic Personal Development and Health Programs for children from Preschool to Year 6. Our school sees the value of this program, therefore this year the school will be covering the cost of the program.

Note: Please see the note sent home for further information about the Merchandise which will be available to purchase on the day.

Kitchen News
This week the 3-6 classes will be having a break from kitchen. Angela is bringing the K-2 classes to the kitchen for a lesson.
Any parents/caregivers wishing to join their child/children in the kitchen are most welcome.

Kitchen times are:
2M  9.30am Tuesday 27th October
1M  11.45am Tuesday 27th October
KM  11.45am Wednesday 28th October
KW  11.45am Thursday 29th October
2S  9.30am Thursday 29th October
1G  11.45am Friday 30th October
Major Gold Coast Holiday Raffle

The P & C would like to thank the families that have supported this fundraiser. The raffle will be drawn 8th December during the Alma Presentation Day at the Whitehouse Convention Centre at 12.00pm.

Someone in the Broken Hill Community will win this raffle. Booklets of 10 or 20 tickets are still available. Please help support the P & C. All money raised will go to the Multi-Purpose Sports Court.

Please return tickets and money to the school anytime between now and December 1st.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Disco - this Thursday 29th October
Fete – Thursday 19th November

Library News

Book Fair
Will be held in week 6
Tuesday 10th to Thursday 12th November.
There will be a great range of books available for sale up in the library.
Check the newsletter next week for more information.

Halloween Disco

P-6 Disco
Thursday 29th October
5.00pm to 7.00pm
Junior Cricket
Any student in Kindergarten to year 4 interested in playing Joey cricket (Kindy, Years 1 & 2) or Super 8’s (Years 3 & 4) can register at Norm Fox oval this Saturday 31st October.

Games begin at 8:00am. Joey cricketers receive training drills from senior grade players, whist Super 8’s play a modified game.

Cost of registration is $50 ($25 to be paid in term 4 and the remaining $25 paid in term 1 next year)

Registration forms can be picked up from Mr. Mortimer at the Alma School.

Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School - Tamworth
Selective Schools applications now open online.

Farrer is the only all-boys government Agricultural high school in Australia & would like to inform parents of current Year 5 students, that registration for Year 7 2017 is now open online.

To register your son to sit the Selective Schools test visit the Farrer website and follow the Selective Schools link. Applications close 16th November.

For further enquiries contact Farrer on 6764 8600.

Alma Public School

UNIFORM SHOP
G Block – Ground Floor

Opening Hours
Monday 3:00pm – 3:15pm
Thursday 3:00pm – 3:15pm

New and Pre-loved uniforms available
Alma Public School 2016

Kindergarten
2016 Enrolments

Alma Public School is taking enrolments for the 2016 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

Bugdlie Preschool is now taking enrolments for 2016.

We are offering two sessions with priority given to Aboriginal children.

Session 1 – Monday and Tuesday 8.45am – 2.45pm. This session is for:
- Indigenous children aged three years by 31st July 2016* and
- Children turning four by 31st July 2016 who are accessing other Preschool/Day Care services.

*Please note children must be three years of age and toilet trained before commencing at Bugdlie Preschool. Enrolments can be taken prior to children turning three however they must be three years of age to attend the service.

Session 2 – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8.45am – 2.45pm. This session is for children turning four (4) by 31st July 2016 who are not accessing other Preschool/Day Care services.

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

Please return applications as soon as possible to assist with processing.
Confirmation of enrolment will be provided to families by Friday 11th December 2015.

If you know any friends or neighbours who have children ready to start, can you pass this information on to them. If you will be leaving Alma at the end of the year, please inform the school by calling to the front office or phoning 8088 2181.