Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome back to Term 2.

Yesterday, the staff was involved in training that focussed on early numeracy, primary maths strategies, behaviour management and policy reviews. It was a busy but productive day.

Alma Cross Country will be held this Thursday 23rd April for Kindergarten to Year 6 on the Alma Oval starting at approximately 9.15 am. A BBQ will be available to purchase lunch (thanks to the P&C) as soon as the cross-country is finished.

On Friday, we will hold our ANZAC service at 10.30am under the COLA. You are all invited to join us.

On Saturday, Alma students and staff will take part in the town ANZAC March to commemorate 100 years since the landing at Gallipoli. We usually have approximately 40 students who attend the annual March, but because this one is such a special anniversary, I hope that many more are able to give us a couple of hours. Details of the Saturday March are included in this newsletter.

The 2014 Annual School Report has been put on our school website. This is a mandatory report that all DEC schools complete to review the previous year against the targets that were set and highlight the successes of our staff and students.

We have also put the 2015 – 2017 School Plan on our school website. This is a document that highlights the major things that Alma Public School will be working towards over the next three years. I encourage you to have a look at the School Plan – it has three focus areas (Quality Teaching, Learning and Student & Community Engagement). If you are unable to access our website, please let us know and we will arrange for a paper copy to be sent home to you.

I would like to thank the parents and students from Preschool to Year 6 who answered surveys, responded to questionnaires and gave us suggestions – all your ideas have been considered and most have been included in the detailed planning that we undertook to develop our final School Plan. It has been a complex process but the school has a clear direction. Over the next 3 years, Alma PS will be concentrating on building teacher capacity to deliver high quality education, students will develop skills to take an active role in the planning of their own learning and parents will have greater opportunities to be involved in decision making for the school and develop greater knowledge of what we are actually teaching your children. The staff still have some detailed plans to develop that will support each of our major initiatives and the budgets for each strategy need to be finalised but we believe that we have a plan that addresses important areas of need and will have enormous benefit for our students in the long run.

The Bugdlie Preschool team has been waiting for a couple of years for the Assessment and Rating visit. This is the process being used by the federal government to assess all early childhood centres including day care, private and DEC preschools, after school care facilities etc. We received word at the end of last week that it will take place between May 11 and June 5. A more definite date will be sent to us 5 days before the actual inspection. Bugdlie will be assessed against the 72 National Standards and have to demonstrate compliance with every aspect of that legislation. The main areas of assessment include physical environment, health and safety, teaching programs and practice, community engagement and relationships with students. It is a wide-ranging assessment and involves the preschool team being observed in action, an inspection of documentation and interviews with all the staff. My principal’s interview is apparently going to be approximately 3 hours long! Preschool parents will also be asked about their experiences with Bugdlie. I have to commend the whole preschool team for the wonderful job they do at Bugdlie – Gemma, Aunty Barb, Chelsie, Katie and Christy.

Have a great week. This time next week, I will be on my way to New Zealand for my daughter’s wedding. Apparently it will be even colder than Broken Hill…and I’m wearing a sleeveless dress!

Regards

Glynis lugnan

Principal
Alma Cross Country
This Thursday 23rd April 2015
9.30am - Alma Oval
All students from K-6 will be attending the carnival

Students from 3-6 will be competing in the Cross Country event and K-2 students will participate in a fun run and join with their sporting house groups to cheer their team on.

Wear:  *House colours, joggers, sunscreen and your hat
Bring:  *A blanket, towel or rug to sit on
         *A bottle of Water

The School Canteen will be open as usual.

A P&C will have a barbeque, snacks and drinks available for parents and students.

Alma School Canteen
The school canteen will operate as usual

Don’t forget….. WEAR YOUR HOUSE COLOURS!
Marshall – Red
Landy – Green
Cuthbert – Blue
Strickland – Yellow

Parents are welcome from 9.30am

Help is needed with course marshalling on the day of the carnival. If you are able to assist, please contact the school on 8088 2181 or call in to the front office. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Mothers’ Day Stall
Thursday 7th & Friday 8th May
Gifts range from $1 - $6
Please pack a plastic bag for your child to avoid damage to purchased gifts.

Mothers’ Day Morning Tea
Friday 8th May
10.00 am in the Kitchen
Cost: $5.00 per person
Notes will be sent out this week.

SCHOOL BANKING
Wednesday is still school banking day under the cola from 8:30am
Draw to win a prize!
Every week that children use the school banking this term they will receive an entry into the end of term draw to win a prize.
Each family will receive a donation envelope for Stewart House today to raise funds for the 2015 Stewart House Donation Drive. Funds raised support 1,800 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW and the ACT. If you wish to donate, please place $2 in the envelope provided, complete entry details on the back and return to school by Friday 8th May 2015.

WIN A $4,000 HOLIDAY
All donations returned by Friday 8th May 2015 will be eligible for the draw to win a $4,000 holiday to a destination of your choice.

ANZAC DAY MARCH
All prefects, SRC and any other interested students are invited to attend the Anzac Day March this Saturday 25th April.
Children attending will need to be in full winter school uniform with a white polo shirt.
Please assemble at the corner of Delamore and Argent Street (near Hungry Jacks) by 10.15am
This is a great opportunity for our school community to show respect on this special occasion.

MOXIE DRAMA GROUP
Moxie Drama Group has started for second term at Theatre 44, 189 Wills Street.
This is an opportunity for kids in Years 3 to 7 (Aged 8 to 12) to learn theatre skills such as speech, acting, working in a group, stage presence, confidence, etc.
Time: 10.30 to 12.00pm Sundays. Cost: $25 per term.
Phone Marilyn Harris on 8087 9585 or Mobile 0413 905 048 for details and bookings.

WREATH MAKING - FLOWERS AND GREENERY WANTED
If you have any flowers or greenery that you would like to donate/pick from your garden, could you please send them to school with your child on Friday morning.
This year is the 100th ANZAC Day Anniversary and each class will be making a commemorative wreath which will be laid by the SRC during the ceremony.
Alma Public School Easter Hat Parade was held on Wednesday 1st April last term. Well done to all children who made terrific hats and walked proudly for Alma. A great day was had by all. Congratulations to all hat and raffle winners.
Easter Hat Parade Photo’s
If you would like your child to participate in any of these competitions:

- Complete the form below and place it inside an envelope with the correct money.
- Mark the envelope with: University Competition, Student’s Name and Class and return to your child’s class teacher.

**Dates and Costs are:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Years Eligible</th>
<th>Entries Close</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd April 2015</td>
<td>Tuesday 19th May</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd April 2015</td>
<td>Wednesday 3rd June</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd April 2015</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th June</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd April 2015</td>
<td>Tuesday 28th July</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd April 2015</td>
<td>Tuesday 11th August</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
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**Alma Public School**

NSW University Competition

I would like my child ___________________________ of class ________________ to participate in the University of New South Wales Competition(s) in **(Please tick):**

- Mathematics
- Spelling
- English
- Digital Technologies
- Science

Enclosed is payment of $____________________

Signed ___________________________ Date _______________