



Barkers Vale Public School



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Monday, 27th October, 2014
Term 4 Week 4

★ Newsletter

Message From the Principal

Last week I was fortunate to attend the Australian Primary Principals Conference in Sydney, along with 899 other principals. The quality and variety of speakers was outstanding, with many valuable, thought provoking and inspiring messages conveyed.

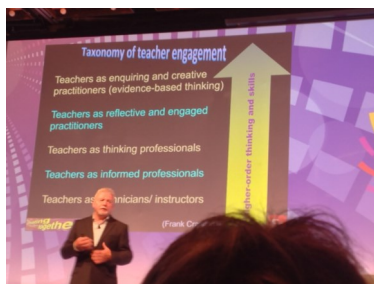
Our first keynote speaker was **John Maclean**, an athlete who was struck by a truck whilst training for the Nepean triathlon, rendering him a paraplegic. He spoke of his journey to rebuild his life stating that *'if you truly want something you have to work hard towards a goal. Things don't always turn out how you want, but when one door closes, another opens.'*

John set himself clear goals and went on to compete at the Beijing Olympics in rowing, achieving a silver medal.

He has since undergone 'tremor therapy' in his quest to walk again. He said *'you need to continue to open your eyes to new possibilities'*. There was not a dry eye in the auditorium when he stood and took about 10 careful steps across the stage. An amazing 'goose-bump' moment! His goal is to compete in the Nepean Triathlon, the event he was training for 22 years ago when his life changed in an instant.

Geoffrey Robertson QC spoke of the teaching of values and the need to do that better, to challenge and inspire children to think for themselves. He spoke of instinct being an expression of character—the guts or the gumption to do the right thing.

Ian Dukes spoke of 'Disruptive Technologies' - change and the future of education. We need to become 'solutionaries'. *'We cant just teach facts as they will continue to change, life skills*



are more important. We must 're-wire' education and build the bridge to cross from the present to the future. Our education system isn't broken but much of it is just obsolete'.

Jack Crawford said we need a new 'kit-bag' 'for schools, where we need to do things differently and explore the possibilities-but be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater'.

There were many more speakers who had strong messages regarding education in the 21st Century, and some amazing student performances. More about them in next weeks newsletter.



Kathleen Johnston,
Principal



IMPORTANT DATES

Term 4 , 2014

Week 4

Tuesday 28th Oct: **Kinder Orientation**
Wednesday, 29th Oct: P&C Meeting

Week 5

Tuesday 4th Nov: **Kinder Orientation**
& Nimbin CS Yr 7 Orientation

Week 6

Tuesday 11th Nov: **Kinder orientation**

Week 7

Tuesday 18th Nov: Nimbin CS Yr 7 Orientation
Thursday 20th Nov: School Concert

Week 8

Intensive Swimming ALL WEEK

Week 9

Tuesday 2nd Dec: Nimbin CS Yr 7 Orientation
Wednesday 3rd Dec: Nimbin CS Yr 7 Orientation

Weekly Awards!

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit awards this week:-

Avida, Elliot, Kealee,
Nyama, Jasper &
Alako



Well done!



30th Anniversary Phoenix Rising

Rock On @
Hanging Rock Hall

November 1st
from 4 pm

\$10 per person Children FREE

Music by Khanage, Elemental,
The Treblemakers Choir
As well as Food, Dance and Fun

Hey Kids Put Another Rock - in - the - Hall
Bring a rock (the bigger the better) or use one
of ours to Rock On ... We will assist you to
leave Your mark in Your hall!

School Swimming Scheme

It's that time of the year again - our School Swimming Scheme will be held this term. The whole school will be invited to attend a week of swimming lessons at Kyogle Swimming Pool. The sessions will be held from **Monday, 24th November until Friday, 28th November**. We will have two sessions: 10.25 until 11.10 and 12.15 until 1.00.

Some sessions will be conducted by the Education Department Swimming Teachers and other sessions will be conducted by the Barkers Vale School staff. We always appreciate help in this week, particularly with the K / 1 group.

Permission notes, prices and an official request for helpers and days available will be sent out closer to the swimming dates. This is just an early notice to let you know the dates and times so that if you would like to help, you can mark them on your calendar. Thank you for your support.

Regards, Julie McTaggart

All Mixed Up

K 1 2 have been looking at mixtures in Science this term. The children have done a mini project and last week we spent some time mixing icing sugar, cocoa and puffed rice. The children are developing the skill of observation and we also completed annotated drawings related to this task. Here are a few photos of our future scientists!

Photos have been removed for online newsletter

Barkers Vale Public School

Enrolling Now for 2015

Come and join us on the

Tuesday 28th Oct 9:00 to 11:35

Tuesday 4th Nov 9:00 to 11:35

Tuesday 11th Nov 9:00 to 1:35

We are set in a picturesque rural location with uniquely designed classrooms.

Our school offers a family friendly environment perfect for nurturing your child's unique talents and skills. We provide a quality education to a wide community with bus services available from Nimbin, Cawongla, Billen Cliffs, Mt Burrell, Barkers Vale, Lillian Rock and Blue Knob.

Find out more about our school and what we have to offer including:

- Hands-on learning opportunities
- Interactive SMART Boards.
- The Jolly Phonics Reading and Writing program
- Targeted Early Numeracy Program (TEN)
- Student maintained vegetable gardens.
- Sporting facilities including soccer fields, great play equipment, basketball & netball court.
- A large computer room, iPads and school hall.
- Inter-school activities as part of the COLOURSS (Community of Learners of the Upper Richmond Small Schools) group.
- Marimbas and our music room.

Come and talk to our staff and students to find out more!

Principal Kathleen Johnston

Class Teacher Julie McTaggart

Contact one of our friendly staff for more information on 6689 7202

or visit our website www.barkersval-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

