Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

As John Lennon sang - ‘Another Year Over...’ What an incredible year we have shared as we have travelled together through a journey of learning in our school community. At this time I would like to share excerpts from my speech from the end of year Presentation Assembly.

“I am very proud to be a Principal in the NSW Public Education System and especially the Principal of Bombala Public School. I began my teaching career nearly thirty years ago and today I am still on a journey of lifelong learning. As we move through a myriad of reforms in the NSW education system I am inspired to keep abreast of, and embrace change. Change is good; however it is very important to remember that change can only be effective when matched with experience, enthusiasm and a willingness to take on board new ideas. As teachers and lifelong learners it is our responsibility to provide the up to date maps and quality guideposts for your children, our students, as they continue on their journey of learning.

2016 will see us entering another phase of positive change for staff and students. I am sure we will face challenges along the way however as we work collaboratively as a team within the school and continue to build partnerships with you and the wider community we will provide a quality education for all students at Bombala Public School.

This year it is my pleasure to share with you the experiences and successes of our wonderful school. Our students have produced many amazing achievements, gaining accolades in academic subjects, sports, the arts and extracurricular activities. Our students gained credit to distinction awards in the ICAS English, Mathematics, Science, Writing and Digital Technologies Competitions.

Our students represented us in athletics, swimming and cross country, at district, regional and even state levels achieving many personal bests. Students also participated in the Premiers’ Sporting Challenge aimed at promoting student fitness and a healthy lifestyle resulting in all students receiving gold awards for their efforts. This year our students participated in the new Sporting Schools Program in terms 2, 3, and 4 - enjoying AFL, cricket, football, circus skills and T-ball. Once again both staff and students have enjoyed the collaborative spirit of working with our partner schools. As part of this process we have participated in joint activity days and celebrated Harmony Day, NAIDOC week with the Koomurri Education and entertainment group; and Grandparents Day to name just a few events. Through equity funding all students have been able to participate in a range of activities including a visit from the Conservatorium of Music, Heidi’s Rodeo Circus, Snake Tails, The Surfing Scientist and a visit from an Aboriginal dancer/musician and puppeteer.

A highlight of the year has been the involvement of our students in a variety of excursions and day trips – Cooba Camp for Year 5 students, Melbourne for Year 6, a visit to the Anne Frank Exhibition for Years 5/6, Canberra excursion for Year 5, and an overnight camp to Canberra for Years 3 and 4. The Year 1/2s joined with Delegate and visited the coast while the Kindy /Year 1s enjoyed their visit to Potoroo Palace in...
Merimbula. There are many wonderful trips /excursions in the pipeline for next year.
During the year we have continued to promote a happy safe and inclusive environment where all have been encouraged to accept responsibility whilst respecting the rights of others. No school is ever totally free from incidents of bullying, however we have worked persistently and consistently to further develop the 3 Rs – Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. Through open and honest communication we have been able to deal with issues as they have arisen.

As part of developing leadership skills many of our school leaders attended the National Young Leaders Conference in Sydney. They, along with other senior students have been active in leading the peer support program, in coordinating assemblies, being positive role models for their peers and younger students, and generally being sound ambassadors for our school.
To our students, this afternoon we celebrate your successes. Each and every one of you has a wealth of knowledge and skills and the choice for the future is yours. Always remember to make good choices, be wise in selecting friends and always have a go at any challenge that may come your way.

Sadly, today we farewell our Year 6 students. You have now come to the end of your primary schooling and are ready to move on to secondary school. We trust that the values of good citizenship, courtesy and consideration for others, fostered by your primary school teachers, will continue to influence you in your new school. In particular, we hope that you will always think as an individual, determined to do what is best and right for you, and the community in which you live. We wish you success, good fortune and happiness throughout the years that lie ahead.

Thank you to the hardworking working P&C Executive and their band of merry helpers who have continued to work diligently to raise funds to support each and every child – especially through the subsiding of excursions, and purchasing of equipment and resources. Not only have the P&C raised incredible amounts of money for the school, they have welcomed new families and students to be a part of our wonderful school community and supported school events (Athletics Carnival, end of year festivities, information evenings, catering for school based activities and much, much more – thank you P&C for your commitment and ongoing support.

Thank you also to the volunteers who have given so freely of their time to assist in the Breakfast Club Program, Scripture Program, reading fluency programs and various classroom activities/excursions. Your help is always greatly appreciated! Thank you to the Bombala Bakery for your continued support of our breakfast club program and to the other generous people who provide ongoing financial assistance. I would also like to thank the RSL Club and Cosmo Café for their assistance and ongoing support throughout the year. As always there are many people and organisations to thank – if I have forgotten anyone – my deepest apologies!

Thank you to the parents, friends and community members of Bombala Public School. The partnership between school and the community has provided experiences to promote academic and sporting excellence as well as developing strong values, leadership skills and fine young citizens. In this partnership we have strived to develop not only the 3 R’s of Reading, wRiting and ‘Rithmetic but also Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

To my staff - every single day you accomplish a great deal to bring about positive outcomes for every student. The following letter, which I received this week, sums up your strength as professionals and the wonderful job you do... ‘We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude for all that you have done for our child. Your acceptance, tolerance, perseverance and dedication throughout his time at school has been greatly appreciated and certainly hasn’t gone unnoticed. It’s reassuring to know that there are dedicated people, like yourselves who care about the education and welfare of all our special young people - thank you.”

Early this term I promised that you would know which class your child/ren would be in and who their teacher would be. Tomorrow you will receive a tentative class list and class teacher allocation. At this stage, it is only tentative due to fluctuating enrolments. Classes and teachers will be finalised in the first week of school when actual enrolments are finalised.

On behalf of my staff and students I wish each and every one of you a very safe, happy and special festive season and holiday break. I look forward to seeing you all at the beginning of next year as we start the next phase of our partnership.

With best wishes and kind regards
Jo
MAJOR AWARD WINNERS 2015

Aleesha Wahrlich
Premiers Sporting Challenge Award

David Cotterill
Academic Excellence

Pippa Spoljaric
Judy Grant Memorial Award

Portia Giles
RSL Citizenship

Jessica Vincent
Rotary Endeavour Award for Year 5

Sports Persons of the Year

Hannah Feilan
Larissa Ponsford
Dakota Miles
Heidi Brownlie

SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2016

Jack Stevenson
and
Zali Lavender
Thursday Canteen
Special
Fish Fingers and Curly Fries
$3.50

Swimming Club

Monday was the last swim club before Christmas.

It will start again on the 4th of January 5pm -6pm

Gotcha Award

Winner for Term 4 Week 10 is Wyatt Walder
Well done!

Sarah Moreing receiving an award for the John Barilaro Christmas Card Competition

THE STAFF OF BOMBALA PUBLIC SCHOOL WISH ALL FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY, HAPPY 2016.
Bombala Netball

The Bombala Netball Club have decided that instead of running Saturday netball we will be holding two afternoon/ twilight comps one in first term and one in fourth term. Registration will cover both comps. As with this comp we will have Net Set Go and Juniors held at 4.30 pm - both girls and boys are able to play; and a mixed comp starting a 6pm.

If you are interested could you please let Marni Moreing 0421699452 or Calli Kidman 0417252431 know ASAP as we would like to start first or second week back at school next year.
Thanks
The Committee

Yr 6 Softball Challenge

Last Monday our Yr 6 class battled their brave and determined parents in the annual softball challenge. The competition was HOT. Many, many parents ventured into the playground - either playing or cheering. Everyone had a great time. Thank you Mrs Tozer for your fair and unbiased umpiring!!!!

Following this the Yr 6 Graduation cake was cut and eaten. Many photos were taken. Tears were even shed.
Many thanks to Nicole Hentscher for her cake making and baking. We really appreciate it.
Thanks also to all participating parents and family members for a fun filled morning.

Yr 6 and Mrs Crawford then enjoyed a lunch at Bits and Pizzas before a relaxing afternoon at the pool.
What a wonderful afternoon we had last Thursday at our annual Yr 6 BPS fete. A colourful array of non-uniform, trash’n treasure galore, eats and drinks and stalls and activities a-plenty to amuse all our students ( and some parents too ). It certainly was a great afternoon.

Congratulations to the Yr 6 Students and their parents for the organisation of their stalls. So much enthusiasm and attention to detail as well as supplying prizes went into the preparation of their activities. Of course, the fete would not be a success if it wasn’t for the support of the community. Thank you to ALL the following and anyone else who may have contributed in any way:

- The P&C - Calli Kidman, Lisa Elton, Bobbie-Lee Camm, Kay Warren, Belinda Hurley, Kelly Heffernan - for supplying lunch and donating the profits once the accounts have been settled.
- The milk shake stall is always popular and once again donations of milk, flavouring, cartons and straws helps immensely. Thank you to Katrina Garnock for organising this stall and to her willing band of helpers - Liz Feilen, Lauren Yelds and Di Green - who donated their lunch break, time and certainly energy to this very profitable stall.
- Tanya and Sid Ponsford for the beautiful face painting.
- Margot Ingram and Selina McKinnell who ran the bric-a-brac stall. Thank you to Corinne Morrow and Janice Usher for the hand made treasures for Mrs Ingram to sell. A special thank you to Mrs Ingram for the beautiful Christmas decorations which she organised and supervised in the making, adding the personal touch of your name on the day.
- Anne Roberts and Yr 5 for manning the White Elephant stall and to all those who donated treasures for sale.
- Daniel McKinnell for keeping the music coming.
- Bombala High School staff and students who always pay us a visit and add considerably to the atmosphere and the money raised.
- Katrina Brownlie for working diligently in the Counting House.
- Chloe Murphy for taking great photos.
- Karlee Moro, Cheryl Cotterill and all who donated absolutely anything for us to sell.
- And finally to all staff for assisting anywhere and everywhere. Our fete does not run itself but needs the team to make it happen.

Thanks to all.

We raised over $1100.00 ( with more to come from the P&C) which will go towards next year’s Yr 6 Melbourne Excursion. What a worthy afternoon’s work.

Many thanks again one and all.

Fiona Crawford.
Snap shots of our week!