Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass; it’s about learning to dance in the rain. — Author unknown

Wow!! What a busy and challenging time it has been at Bullimbal lately. Students, parents and carers and staff have all been working at a frantic pace. I think it comes with the territory at this time of the year. But I would also like to think that all of us have been embracing the opportunity and challenge of 'learning to dance in the rain'.

No sooner had we finished CAPERS and we found ourselves very involved in the planning and staging of our wonderful Christmas Fun Fair on November 21. Despite the weather being rather warm on the day, the event turned out to be incredibly successful. We had a terrific range of stall holders and pleasing crowd numbers across the afternoon. While the Christmas Fun Fair is one of our P and C's major fundraisers for the year, for me, one of the most important and pleasing aspects of my involvement in these days is that I see so many of our families come along to not only support our incredible school but to also have lots of fun and relax. Our Fun Fairs provide a great opportunity for our families to bring their kids out for a fun afternoon where they feel comfortable and are safe.

Many thanks to our entire school community, our families, our students, staff and helpers, for their team work and support which makes events like this possible. From our tireless band of dedicated helpers who donate their valuable time to assisting in preparing for the fair and on the day to our families and community members who come along to have fun and support the day... we simply could not put on these events without every one of you! Further details and information about the Christmas Fair, the support received, and funds raised can be found further into this issue of the newsletter.

Year 12 Graduation Dinner
This week staff and students from our senior class participated in our Year 12 Graduation Dinner at West League Club. Ashleigh and Breanna will soon graduate and this evening was a wonderful celebration of their time at Bullimbal, their achievements and hopes for the future. It was great to have Mal return to say a few words about the girls and their families and the impact they have had on our school. Thanks particularly to Kathy, Rachael and Allyson for organising the decorations. Our very own Kylie made the spectacular graduation cakes. And Karen and Vanessa worked non-stop in planning and organising the entire event. On behalf of the entire school community I would like to wish Breanna and Ashleigh all the best for 2016 and beyond as they transition to adult life at their post-school day programs. Goodbye and good luck!!

Friendship Knitting Group
On Friday 27 November I had the privilege of attending and being guest speaker at a meeting of Tamworth’s own Friendship Knitting Group. Ann Burrows and her team of volunteer knitters have been supporting local individuals and organisations by making and donating blankets. Our students have been the latest to benefit from this very thoughtful and worthwhile initiative, with the school receiving a donation of 12 blankets for our students’ use in the cooler months. Our sincere thanks to Ann and her team for thinking of us. We hope to have Ann and the Friendship Knitting Group at the school for a tour and Family Assembly early next year.

Staff have been working on our Semester 2 reports and plans for the structure of classes for 2016. We look forward to announcing these classes and their staff as they are finalised in the coming weeks.

2015 Calendar - December
3 Cerebral Palsy Day
4 Cerebral Palsy Disco
15 Presentation Day 10:00am
16 Christmas Party and last day of school

Thanks to our Christmas Fair organisers Katrina, Amanda and Pam for all their efforts behind the scenes.
From the P&C

I have been asked to write about our recent “Bullimbal Christmas Fair”. Firstly, I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped. I could seriously fill a page with the names of everyone who helped out. The one thing I love about our school is that we may be small but we have such a strong bond. So to all the parents, staff and friends who helped bake/donated chocolate, helped to sell tickets for Pam Pavey’s raffle, shared our post on Facebook and came along I say a massive thank you to you all.

We made a little under $3000 which is slightly under what we made last year. I was recently asked if I was disappointed with the amount of money raised. To which I answered “no I am not”, the Christmas fair is about so much more than fundraising. It is about being inclusive, having a fun event for our children to come to in a familiar and safe environment. It’s about inviting the community into our school and showing them what a fantastic school Bullimbal is.

There is a saying: “Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.” For me personally, I shared some beautiful moments with students and parents at the Christmas fair. I was privileged to sit with a student as she painted a fairy plaster mould, sharing her enthusiasm and delight as she painted. I watched students purchase toys and books from the trash and treasure, excited by their new additions. I was also privileged to watch as a student who struggles to go up the front at muster / family assemblies got up on the stage and perform a song in front of a new audience. Things like that are priceless. Sometimes life throws challenges that we have little control over (such as the heat on the day) but if you take a step back and look at the big picture you may be rewarded with something so beautiful.

Katrina Webb
P&C President

Presentation Day Change of Time

10am on Tuesday December 15

Transition for our 2016 Kindergarten enrolments is well under way.

Brett had a great time working with Brodie, Jacob and Luke this week in Trish’s Class.
What's happening in Class 1

Wednesday is Library Day
We have lots of fun reading with Beth

What's happening in Class 6

BAKING FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR
GRADUATING STUDENTS
CLASS OF 2015
Congratulations
Ashleigh and Breanna

GRAD PHOTO BOOTH
Thanks to everyone who helped make our Family Christmas Fair a huge success.

Due to a lack of interest the sports day will go ahead but in a changed format. It will now just be an information table at the sports dome and forms for expression of interest to kick this off for mid February next year.

BULLIMBAL ANNIVERSARY TEA TOWEL
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