Alpine Life
Please reread Autumn Festival Float

Gala Day Float - This year’s theme “Alpine Life”
This year we are going to re-create a replica Cattlemans Hut. Our idea is to have the hut sitting in a tandem trailer, (as we do each year) with the younger children waving out of the window of the hut.
Older children could walk beside the trailer dressed in whatever it is that "Alpine Life" means to them. i.e Snowboarder carrying their snowboard, mountain biker riding their mountain bike, downhill mountain biker, bush walker dressed as a bush walker, skier in their ski gear carrying their skis, a gold miner carrying a gold pan, a paraglider flying a cardboard paraglider, a fisherman carrying their fishing rod, a horse rider?

Put your thinking caps on and get creative with what it is that your child would like to be that represents life in the Alpine area.

The following materials are needed for the building of the hut:
Framing pine, plywood, old roofing iron, old brown paint etc. If anyone has anything to donate please see Rosie Fletcher at School or call her on 0402103410.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SCHOOL MOBILE NUMBER IS AT THE BOTTOM OF EVERY NEWSLETTER IF YOU NEED TO RING AND OUR LANDLINE IS NOT WORKING.

April
22° prep/1 swimming
24° Bright Fun run
25° Anzac Day
27° Life Ed
29° prep/1 swimming

May
4° First sports day Myrtleford.
6° 2/3 swimming
9°-12° NAPLAN testing
13° 2/3 swimming
20° 4/5/6 swimming
20° Walk To School
22° School ANZAC celebration. NO COSTUMES REQUIRED
25° Grip Leadership
27° 4/5/6 swimming

June
3° 4/5/6 swimming
8° Sports day Myrtleford we will miss this one.
6°-10° Fifteen Mile Creek
15° Sports day Myrtleford.
17° 4/5/6 swimming
24° 4/5/6 swimming
24° Last day term 2

July
13° Back up Sports day Myrtleford

After Holiday Reminders

- AS THE COLD WEATHER APPROACHES PLEASE NOTE THAT BEANIES AND GLOVES SHOULD BE PLAIN BLUE. WE CAN GET REALLY COOL BEANIES WITH A LOGO FROM OUR SUPPLIER SO I WILL TALK TO KRISTIE AND LET YOU KNOW COST ETC.

- NAVY TEE-SHIRTS TO BE WORN UNDER POLO SHIRTS AVAILABLE FROM TARGET IF AN EXTRA LAYER IS NEEDED. PLEASE NO SKIVVIES

- WE HAVE LOTS OF LOST PROPERTY. PARENTS PLEASE CHECK THAT YOUR CHILD HAS THEIR JUMPER AT THE END OF EACH DAY

- STAR PERFORMERS

These children are doing a great job and making real progress with their learning: Amber, Ewan and Hannah.

What happened this week?

Art van Jo Briscomb was here.

Builders are still on site; so please keep the traffic flowing in the right direction morning and night.
Let's start the term by celebrating how lucky we are to have dedicated and committed staff who are teachers who love what they do. For those of you who don't know teachers hours of employment are 7.6 hours a day. That time includes meetings, parent teacher interview, training and work done at home for preparation and correction. There is obviously no way we can restrict our work time to these hours and meet all the requirements placed on us by DEET. Our teachers also work the maximum number of hours doing face to face teaching that I am legally allowed to timetable.

As a small school we have less people to do all that is necessary for the smooth operation of the school. The teachers do at least 2 lots of yard duty a day, often doubling up when they're not timetabled to ensure that any behaviour that we are concerned about is monitored. Teaching is a high energy occupation; however we love what we do and are motivated by the amount of job satisfaction that we get from each day. Knowing that our efforts are appreciated and that we are supported in our endeavours by the parent community will ensure that our motivational levels remain high.

Teachers are required to be at school 10 minutes before the start of the day. Our teachers are often at school before 8.00am. We have a briefing each day at 8.30 to ensure that any changes to the daily program are discussed and that the organisation for the day is clear to everyone. Mornings are a really busy time here at Wandi. This seems to be the time that parents often want to speak to teachers about their child before the day begins. Unfortunately it is also the time that teachers are trying to either photocopy or gather up their resources for the start of day. My time as a classroom teacher last year served to remind me how difficult it is to start a class when your thoughts have been directed away from the commencement of the day onto a specific child related issue. Over the years I have often requested that parents refrain from doing this in the morning, however the bottom line is we are a small school and we try to accommodate families' needs so that issues are resolved quickly avoiding stress for all concerned.

Our teachers take notice of parent feedback, and where there is a problem where a student's learning needs are not being met in the classroom we make changes to improve that child's prospects for success. I do think however we have to be a little more cautious regarding making changes that impact on a whole group which then enables a child to resist adapting to group expectations. Over the years it has been my observations that the happiest and most confident kids are the ones that can be flexible, are able to decide how important an incident really is and have the ability to fit in with other group members successfully. Resilience is an area of concern at the moment hence the visit during the 2/3 Bounce back classes by Sophie Buckle a social worker this term. She will cover respect, resilience and successful group interactions with these children when she visits. The first week back seems to be the ideal time to encourage parents to see themselves as team members and to make it clear that your assistance is always appreciated. Put simply if you become aware of a problem please offer to be part of the solution. A great example of this is having the bell rung on time. I have an alarm on my phone for each belltime, but even with this aide it isn’t as simple as you would think to interrupt a discussion to send someone to ring the bell. I WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE IT if a parent noticed that the bell was late and went and rung the bell for me. YOU ARE NOT INTERFERING you are helping in a simple but effective way. IF you notice inappropriate language or behaviour please draw our attention to the problem when ever it occurs. Remember they are your children even though you hear us referring to them as ours. Please value our efforts and lend a hand whenever you can.

This week a round of applause goes to:

- Sarah Higman for driving the swimming bus for us on Friday.
- David Gough a local painter who has stepped up to help get the school painted. This has meant juggling his other jobs around when the builders and plumbers have finished with the scaffolding. David’s generosity has saved us an enormous amount of money as we haven’t had to pay for scaffolding because the Dept is paying as part of the roof project.

Thank you 😊

Reminders that Kristie usually works on a Tuesday and Thursday.
The children had a great start to Term Two. I am noticing how settled the Preps are after returning from holidays. We have been re-establishing work routines in the class, particularly in Reading. At the beginning of the day we have 10-15 minutes of sustained reading. All the children enjoy selecting a few books to have on their table to read while I work with a group of children. It is pleasing to see the children’s improvement in their ability to read and preparedness to have a go at writing. The Year 1s are beginning to think more deeply about their learning and what they need to do. Thanks to all the reading parents who have returned. If you have some time in the mornings, I have spaces that need filling. Thanks in anticipation.

This week the children chose new class captain for Term 2. Thank you to Hannah and Sinta for a fantastic job they did last Term. Congratulations to Sam and Stella, our new class captains.

In Maths our main focus is moving from Counting and Place Value to addition and subtraction. The children have been using ten frames when adding numbers.

Year 2/3 Numeracy
Again another good start to the term where the children are keen to get back into learning. Over the next few weeks the Year 3s will be looking at how NAPLAN test questions are presented. NAPLAN will be during May. This will also be an opportunity for the Year 2s to start to become familiar with how NAPLAN is conducted. Our focus for Term 2 is Addition and Subtraction. At the beginning of the Maths session the children are focusing on becoming quicker at solving simple addition and subtraction sums to 10, 20 or 50. We will be working on sums that require trading and no trading.

Class Report 2-6
Mrs Reid
Grade 2/3
This week the 2/3 class started planning their flipped fairy tales. Students were introduced to story grammar and 7 Steps to Writing Success as formulas to create successful narrative stories. It was wonderful to see the creative spins that were planned for well know fairy tales. In reading this week our focus was on ‘Use Prior Knowledge to Connect With Text’. Using prior knowledge can help students connect their own experiences with the text to better understand and make sense of what they are reading. The term prior knowledge is also thought of as making connections.

I would like to congratulate the students that I have benchmarked this week in reading. It was evident that these students who dedicate themselves to reading at home have moved significantly in levels.

Grade 4/5/6
This week the 4/5/6 class stared to write a creative narrative piece. The students have used the story grammar formula and a narrative graph to plot and explain how their story will flow. We have also started Words Their Way for spelling and have continued using Reciprocal Teaching in our reading groups. This week we started the topic of addition and subtraction that will run for the next three weeks. In our money maths unit we focused on the smallest amount of change you can have and why this can be a benefit. We also discussed rounding and why this is essential to know when shopping with cash rather than a card.
EVERY DAY COUNTS  This article was included in Bright’s newsletter and I thought it was a really informative article and worth including in ours.

Primary School Attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things are school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts. ”

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice. If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

How’s the sponsorship going everyone?
Remember all profits go straight back to YOUR school!
Hope you managed to ask your family and friends over the school holidays. Remember your sponsorship forms and money needs to be dropped into the Bendigo Bank in Bright by Thursday, 21st April 2016.
Don’t forget to select your prize that corresponds to the amount of money you’ve raised. If you raised over $10 you could be the lucky winner of the IPod Touch kindly donated by Woolworths of Bright. This will be announced at the Bright Fun Run on Sunday, April 24th.
Be sure to remember to register for the Bright Fun Run!
Visit the website www.brightfunrun.com.au for more information.

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School Captains.
Back Row: Owen vice captain, Ella vice captain, Max sports captain,
Middle row: Will playground coach, Grace class captain, Amber student leader Molly S sports captain
Front row: Indiah school captain