

TERM 4, Week 8, 8th December 2008

It is part of what we learn in this
age – namely to live out of pure
trust, without any security in
existence;
trust in the ever-present help of
the spiritual world.

Truly nothing else will do if our
courage is not to fail us.

Let us discipline our will,
and let us seek the awakening
within ourselves,
every morning
and every evening.

Rudolf Steiner

Diary Dates

Tue 9th Dec: Bothmer Gym session 3:30-4:00pm here at school. All welcome!

Wed 10th Dec: Playgroup 9-11am here at the school sandpit. Please bring morning tea.

Wed 10th Dec: Tuckshop lunch provided by Sylvia!

Thu 11th Dec: Kindy children join class 1 for orientation 2pm-3pm. Parents are invited to join Marga and the children for afternoon tea from 2:45-3:30pm.

Fri 12th Dec: Class 4/5/6 Play "The Theft of Thor's Hammer" at 12pm. All welcome!

Mon 15th Dec: Class 4/5/6 Excursion to Wet "n" Wild Theme Park. Please send \$14.50 for entrance and pack morning tea, lunch and extra money for the evening meal.
Return to school at 8pm in the evening.

Mon 15th Dec: Board meeting – final one of the year.

Tue 16th Dec: Class 2/3 play "Gilgamesh" at 2pm. All welcome!

Wed 17th Dec: Kindy Festival 12:45-2:45pm. Please bring a small plate to share. Please note that the time has been changed.

Diary Dates Continued overleaf...

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Wed 17th Dec: Primary end of year Celebration and Graduation Ceremony at 2pm. This is the last day of school for the year. All welcome!

Thur 18th Dec: Beach Day for all school families at Brunswick Heads. Games organised by Class 4/5/6. Please bring some lunch to share. All welcome!

Thu/Fri 29/30th Jan: Set up days at school 10am-2pm for families to assist teachers to prepare the classrooms. Please bring some lunch to share. This will count as your work contribution for Term 1 if you can come. All welcome!

Tue 3rd Feb: First day of Term 1 2009 for all children. See you there!

Just two weeks to go and the school is getting ready to welcome the new children who 'graduate' from kindergarten to Class 1. Teachers are busy writing reports and the end of year plays and performances are being practised. These hot nights and increased daylight make sleeping for the children more difficult so there is tiredness beginning to show. Plenty of water and early nights are the best remedy.

A beautiful school festival is planned to finish the year and welcome the new Class 1 children from kindergarten to school. The young children will be 'sailed' up on a golden boat where the whole school will welcome them with song and plays. This event is set for 2 pm on Wednesday 17th December and all parents are welcome to attend.

Dates and times for the class plays have been set with the Class 2/3 play of 'Gilgamesh' being set for Tuesday 16th December at 2 pm, (next week!) and the Class 4/5/6 play of 'The Theft of Thor's Hammer' being set, ambitiously, for this Friday at 12 pm (this week).

As we head toward the long Christmas holidays the question of finding meaningful activities for the children to participate in becomes important. Attached is a flyer advertising some of the holiday programmes available locally and in the wider Northern Rivers area. Horse-trekking, surfing instruction, cricket camps are all on offer. The local area has many one day activities too and the CTC is the best contact point for that. We will publish any holiday programme information if anyone knows of local activities.

We are all looking forward to the beach day at Brunswick Heads on Thursday 18th December. All families are warmly invited to attend this last day of fun for the year. Just a reminder that this is a social day for teachers, parents and children to unwind and relax, and children will be under the supervision of their parents. The older classes will be organising a few games and a treasure hunt, so there will be a relaxed structure to the day. Families can make their own way to the beach and we will be gathering between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Usually we finish around 2 to 3 pm. We will have a large shared lunch so please bring something to share. If the weather is too wet to go a notice of cancellation will be put on the school answer-phone, so check there if you are unsure. A map of the location at the beach is shown below. We look forward to seeing you there.

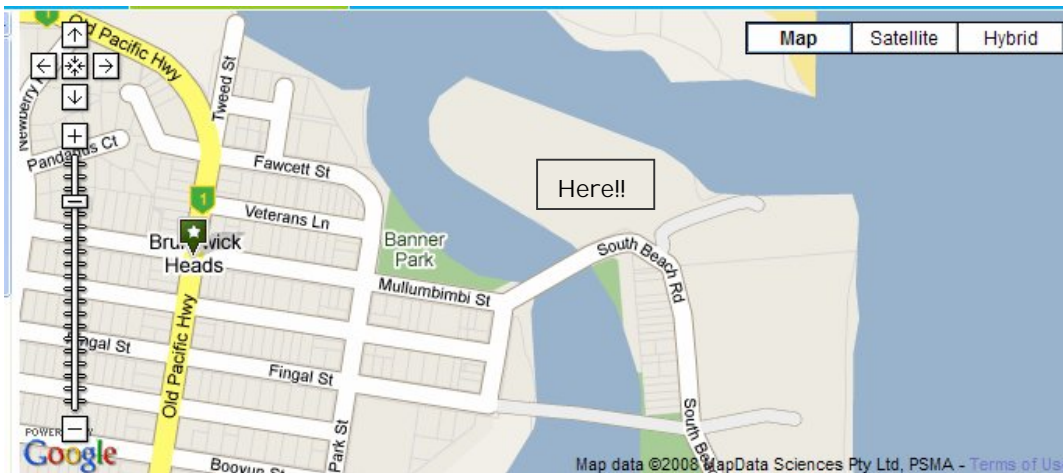
You would have noted the term dates for next year. The set up days that parents are asked to attend will be on Thursday and Friday, 29th and 30th January. For those who are not familiar with the school routines, these setup days are where the teachers and parents get together to prepare for the year, cleaning windows, cutting paper, etc. They are often a nice social time where we can catch up after the holidays, talk about the upcoming year and share some nice food together. The mornings usually start at 10 am and finish around 2 pm.

Library books from school are now due back, so please help your child to find any stragglers that are at home.

Have a great week.

Peter for The College of Teacher

The map of Brunswick Heads meeting place. Please call the office if you are unsure where to meet.



Kindy News

Lovely kindy families, this may be the last kindy news of the term as some families might miss the newsletter next week due to the short week and festival.

Please note that the Kindy Summer Festival is at 12:45 not 1:15. We needed to bring it forward so that the golden boat could arrive on shore at the primary school for their special welcome. We would appreciate families arriving on time so all can coordinate well and flow smoothly.

We have a beautiful new summer story table with a golden beach and beautiful blue water washing up magic shells and gifts from the Sea King. We are playing shell games, listening to shell stories and have nearly completed our shell mobile.

It is a big time of year for one and all. In kindy we are preparing to send some of our children off in the gentle embrace of the Golden Boat. We feel profound gratitude for the time we have shared with them and wish each child and their family sincere blessings and love for the rest of the journey.

On a practical note, please remember to take your child's blanket, slippers and pillow case home to be washed over the holidays.

Thankyou for being a part of our big Rainbow Ridge Kindy family!

Have a truly nurturing, nourishing and blessed time over the break. Take care of one another.

Love Simone, Alenya, Robyn and Sonja.

Footnote:

We would love some help in preparing our kindy space for next year. The following is a list of kindy jobs that need doing over the holidays and can be counted for the 5 hours of service each term. If you feel you can help please contact Laurence to make arrangements on 6633-7045 as soon as possible so that he can organise suitable times, even before end of term if this suits you best.

- ❖ Attaching hessian over downstairs play area.
- ❖ Drilling in some hooks for watering cans.
- ❖ Painting of toilet ceiling.
- ❖ Fresh painting of inside entrance to kindy.
- ❖ Sanding of outside table and re- sealing.

Thanks!

We are moving towards the summer solstice, the end of our school year and Christmas. Class one has just returned from their class camp at Tyalgum Ridge Retreat. It is a magical place at the end of Tyalgum Creek Road. We were spoiled with having en-suite rooms, a swimming pool, being able to feed and pet all their animals, play lots of class building fun games, going on a nature walk and creating an animal scene out of clay. The food was great and the owners and staff were very welcoming and friendly. Some children were sure they wanted to come back next year while others wanted to stay there. They were imagining it to be a Boarding School. It was great to have Jodi with us for the whole trip.

This week we've got several activities, visitors and events: Today Hetty came into the class to teach several new songs after the students got another hole for their bamboo pipe. They learn fast and enthusiastically. Tuesday and Wednesday I have organised a friend of mine, Martha, who has been assisting me in the past with craft and baking, to come in and make gingerbread houses with the children. Marlene will be there as well to help and to support us to finish some craft projects.

On Friday we are invited for a last home visit to Luke's place. It will be Luke's good-bye. Murray, Brigitte and Luke are leaving early to settle in Melbourne where they have relatives and Luke will start class 2 at 'Little Yarra Steiner School'. As well we'll have to say good-bye to Grace. Elisabeth, Grace, Zhan and Rhiannon are moving to Bega where Grace will start class 2 at Bega Steiner School. We wish both children and their families well in their new endeavour and their new school. Luke and Grace will be missed dearly in the class. They will become our first pen pals.

Thursday afternoon the students will have their last Japanese lesson with Harumi for the year and we are not sure yet if Harumi will continue the Japanese Language program next year. That afternoon I will meet our class 1 students for next year and their parents for afternoon tea.

Monday, the 15 of December I will have a pupil free day to finish reports while Jodi will teach the class.

Wednesday, the 17 of December our school will celebrate the summer festival and welcome the older Kindy children into Primary. All parents are welcome.

Please organise during the remaining school time, whenever you might be at school, to bring a box to collect your child's work. (Main lesson books, paintings, paper craft and soft craft).

I am looking forward to seeing you all on Thursday, the 18 of December at the beach at Brunswick Heads to relax and play and wish you a wonderful Festive Season.

It has been an exciting journey this year and I am looking forward to the coming year with class 1 and 2.

Love Marga

Dear families, Paula will be teaching the class until Wednesday. The children have all learned the lines for their play "Gilgamesh" and are working hard to be ready to perform for you all. The play will be on Tuesday of the last week and an invitation will be coming home this week. Our class does not have any performance on Wednesday next week. We will only be formally welcoming the kindergarten children up to the primary school. Therefore all class work from the year including their house-building project will need to be taken home on Tuesday afternoon! There is a lot to take home. If you are unable to pick up your child's work on that day please arrange for another family to pick work up or let me know when you will be able to. I do need some help on Monday afternoon to set the stage if someone could spare his or her time. It would be nice to share some afternoon tea, after the play, as it will be Lotus' birthday - our last birthday celebration of the year! Have a lovely week.

Love Simone

We are going to be working hard this week to get the very humorous class play, 'The Theft of Thor's Hammer', set and ready to go for this Friday, at midday, 12 p.m. We are then free to really enjoy the last week, and particularly our trip to Wet 'n' Wild next Monday. Help is needed! Is anyone available to come in this week to help get costumes ready for the children? After the play, the class would like to invite you to a lunch. They will prepare vegetarian kebabs, salad and cake, (being rather fantastic cooks now), and they would also like to invite you to play some games in the afternoon. (Better get in training now - they are quite competitive!) Some lunch contributions to make it a real feast would be good.

A last excursion is planned for Monday 15th December to the Wet 'n' Wild Theme Park. We have the bus and a driver (Greg) so we are all set to go. The cost per child is a very reasonable \$14.50. The children will need morning tea and lunch as normal and a little money for an evening meal. We will leave school at 9:15 a.m. to arrive at Wet 'n' Wild for their opening at 10 a.m. (Queensland time). The park closes at 5 p.m. and we will head off in order to be back at school at 8 p.m. (our time). I will be watching time closely to ensure that we are on schedule. We will make a stop at Mt Burrell for Benjamin, Kali and Lali at 7:45 p.m. and will call their families if we are running ahead of schedule. For those coming from further afield or with young children, if there is a difficulty with an evening pick up please make contact and I will arrange a way to get your child home.

Busy times these are indeed, and don't forget the beach day. Our class will be responsible for organising the children's games so it would be great if we could all be there. Please let me know if there is any difficulties with getting there or back.

Otherwise have a great week.

Peter

Library News

The end of term is almost here - PLEASE RETURN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS BY THIS WEDNESDAY 10TH OF DECEMBER. Reminders have been attached to your newsletter today. Happy Holidays!

Love Lisa

Applications for Literacy and Numeracy Teaching Position for 2009 and Relief Teachers Applications are sought for the position of Literacy and Numeracy Teacher in Classes 1-6 during 2009. Teaching qualifications are essential and Steiner training and experience are highly desirable. This is a part-time position offering about 9 hours per week. A job description is available from the school office. Ph 6689 7033.

Applications may be made in writing to the school office and close Friday January 16th at 5pm. Applications may also be emailed to admin@rainbowridge.nsw.edu.au.

The school is also seeking casual relief teachers. We encourage enthusiastic, suitably qualified individuals to inquire about becoming involved in our school.

Offered For Sale:

We have some beautiful Christmas cards for sale here at the office. They are \$3 each or \$12.50 for a pack of 5 cards.