A very big thank you to the parents who have and are attending our parent – teacher conversations this week. We believe these conversations are so important, as we learn so much from you about your children. The two-way partnership between school and home is strengthened through your attendance, so thank you all very much. We appreciate your time, especially considering the weather we have had this week. Some of our Tuesday evening parents were especially stoic as our school lost power during their conversations. It was rather interesting going around our school and seeing teachers and parents sitting under Exit signs for lighting, finishing their discussions. Apologies to those of you whom we had to reschedule. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

You may have heard from the media that it has been National Tree Day, recently. Our school was registered by Ms Kalweit and Mrs Holland. We have received over 200 trees to plant, some of which were planted last Friday by our grade 2 class and parent helpers who again braved the wet and cold weather. Our Prep/1 class will plant more trees on Monday, with some buddies from grade 8 and parent helpers. We hope they have better weather in which to work. Mr Hyland has also helped and will assist again on Monday. Our school grounds will look better for having these new trees and shrubs planted.

Some of our Work Skills group also participated in this national event last Wednesday, by assisting the Wynyard Landcare group plant over 100 trees on Table Cape between the lookout and the lighthouse. Not only did the students support the local environment by taking part in this activity, but they were also able to learn about the different species of trees, soil and topography in a real-life, hands-on situation. Wynyard Landcare was very appreciative to have the students working with them, and they supplied the trees, weed mats and protective covers for our students. We always look out for any such opportunities where our students can work with our community. Thanks to Mr Walsh for making this happen.

Another community project has been organised by our Pathways Planning Officer, Mrs Deb Winton. Mrs Winton will be escorting Katrina, Loren, Montana and Kimberley from Grade 8 to Coast FM, Community Radio to participate in “Country Kids Chat” between 1.30pm and 2.30pm on Wednesday August 13. Tune in to FM 106.1 to hear our students talk about our programs at Yolla. We know they will do an excellent job. Good luck and enjoy the experience!

Last Friday our school hosted a meeting of the principals of our network and our Principal Network Leader. They were very impressed with our school, the art work on display, and were very complimentary of the wonderful afternoon tea provided by the Grade 9/10 Home Economics class. I received very complimentary emails from them all this week, passing on their appreciation not only of the food, but the way it was presented and the manner in which the students interacted with them. Congratulations to you all and to Ms Medwin.

Lately we have had quite a few of our classes interrupted with students receiving phone calls from their parents, in class time. Can we please ask that if there is a need to talk to your child during school times, please phone our office and we will ensure they get your message. If it is urgent we will remove your child from class to talk to you on the school phone. This also allows us to support them when receiving any urgent or perhaps unsettling news. Mobile phone calls in class time can disrupt learning not only for the student receiving the call but for everyone else in the class. Thank you for assisting us with this.

Our SEC have organised a “Jeans for Genes” Day tomorrow, Friday August 1. For a gold coin donation we are asking that we all wear jeans with our regular school uniform tops. Going by the weather forecast I think this will be a great idea, as it is forecast to be very cold. It is a great cause, so if possible we look forward to seeing lots of Jeans for Genes tomorrow.

**PE Gear**

Several years ago the school introduced a PE uniform for students to wear in PE classes and on sports days. There were several reasons for this including hygiene, comfort, creating a team atmosphere and being organised for lessons. It is becoming evident that students are forgetting or choosing not to bring their PE gear and are instead participating in their school uniform and school shoes. It is important that students bring along a change of clothes for PE or, for the early childhood students, wear their school uniform and school shoes. The upper primary and secondary classes should be bringing a change of clothes for these lessons. Shoes are important too as black school shoes or boots need to be removed to protect the gym floor but running shoes need to be worn to protect and support the feet. We would appreciate family support in making sure students have suitable clothes and shoes for PE lessons. PE tops are available at the school office, size 4-16 are $16 and adult S - XXL $20.

**SEC Lunchtime Yoshi Tournament**

The SEC are running a lunch time tournament of our favourite PE game, Yoshi. The Grade 3/4/5 teams play on Mondays, 6/7s on Wednesdays and Grade 8/9/10s on Fridays. It is free to come along and watch. Teams are on display in classrooms and it is important that students bring their running shoes to participate. Good luck to all of our teams.
Yolla District High School
DIARY OF SCHOOL EVENTS

Tuesdays
Launching into Learning Playgroup - 9.30am to 11.00am

Mondays and Thursdays
Breakfast Club in D1 8.30am-9.00am

Thursdays
School Banking

Wednesday 6 August
5-6 Sports Day

Thursday 7 August
Masters Builders presentation

Friday 8 August
BigHart Performance Grade 6-10

Tuesday 12 August
ICAS Math Comp

Tuesday 12 August
Speak Easy

Wednesday 13 August
West Coast Football and Netball trip

Wednesday 13 August
Students talking on Coast Fm 1.30—2.30pm

Monday 18 - Friday 22 August
Science Week Activities

Saturday 23 Aug - Sunday 14 Sept
2014 Primary Kaleidoscope Burnie Regional Art Gallery

Tuesday 2 September
Chess Kids Tournament

Tuesday 23 September
Buddy Afternoon

This Friday, August 1, is Jeans for Genes Day. The SEC are inviting all students and staff to wear their jeans with their school uniform tops and give a gold coin donation. The money goes to vital research into genetic diseases in children. Students will also be taking part in some learning activities about genetics on this day in classrooms. We hope everyone takes part in this special day.

We have 3 of our wonderful teachers nominated for this prize - Mrs Anita Holland, Ms Jenni Maartensz and Mrs Abbey Pennington. Please vote for our teachers online at the Sea Fm website http://seafmtas.com.au/burnie, you can vote as many times as you like. The teacher/class that wins will receive a maximum of 30 Ipod shuffles for the class and an Ipad for the teacher.

Grade 10 Exams
As reported in our last newsletter, our grade 10 students will be getting a taste of exams, in English, Maths and Science next week. The purpose of this is to help our students appreciate this style of testing which will be used in future learning, and to give both teacher and students valuable feedback as to how they are travelling and what may be future learning goals for the remainder of their grade 10 year. The format of these exams will be tailored to the learning needs of our students. Some will be completing oral exams, some will be using graphic organisers to demonstrate understanding, some will be sitting written exams, and some combinations of these.

Attendance
Regular, uninterrupted attendance at school is critically important for children’s learning. Obviously, if a child is ill then school is not the best place for them, as they cannot concentrate on learning tasks when unwell. If your child is sick for longer than 2 days then a doctor’s certificate is required. If there are circumstances that require your child to be away from school please phone us or send a message to school so we can enter the correct data into our attendance records. Where possible we ask that any appointments are made outside of school hours, or late in the school day so as to be least disruptive as possible. The more days away from school the harder it is for students to catch up on missed work and the more difficult it is for them to feel connected to their classmates, teachers and school community. Please phone us at school if you would like to discuss this further or have any information relevant to your child that may help us understand any absences. Thank you.

Early Childhood Students
We would encourage all of our classes to wear gumboots for outside play and to bring along slippers for indoors, as the ground becomes wet and muddy during term 3.
Write 4 Fun!

Congratulations to April Potter who entered the 2014 Schools Writing Competition. April has been awarded a certificate for EXCELLENCE IN WRITING placing her in the top 4 percent of 11,500 entries with only 465 Excellence in Writing awards available. Here is April’s entry below.

A Surprise for Nick

The house fell silent once again. All you could hear was the low growl of the washing machine and the creaking of the old wooden walls against the harsh wind. Then it started up again...low at first, getting louder as the minutes ticked by. The voices kept yelling, like two fires roaring away at each other over who was going to burn the wood. It was like being in a nightmare, but the pain was real.

Just like other times the yelling soon stopped, but this time.... but this time Nick heard the door slam and their two dogs barking as someone walked out into the night. He heard his Dad yelling out to stop being ridiculous but before he knew it the rumble of the old Corolla faded away from the house.

The next morning Nick went down to have breakfast in the kitchen and was surprised to see his Dad already there staring into a bowl of cereal and mumbling angrily to himself. “Where’s Mum gone?” Nick asked. His Dad looked up suddenly, obviously startled by his son’s presence.

“Your mother’s having a break, but if we stick together we can work through it” dad said softly.

When Nick got home from school that afternoon he found his Dad outside with a few blokes from the workshop where his Dad works. They had grease all over their hands and clothes, like you would expect, but the other thing that Nick noticed was an old rusty car in the middle of the yard.

“I thought you only did work at the workshop?” Nick said slowly, trying not to startle them at all. The men turned to look at the boy, they were all grinning wildly. “Nick!” Dad said as he turned around too, “I’ve got a surprise for you!” Dad started to walk around to the back of the house, so Nick guessed that he needed to follow. When he saw what was around the back of the house in a small homemade pen, he couldn’t move. He just stood there silently, telling himself to keep breathing. “Do you like him Nicky? I got him from a friend of mine, we’ve had an agreement, if I fix that old rust bucket out front he’ll let us keep him!” Nick just stared at the foal, its big blue eyes, its golden coat and its small hooves.

“He’s... AWESOME!” Nick yelled and ran towards his father to give a big bear hug.

“I’m glad you like him” Dad said,

“Like him? I LOVE him!”

Nick slowly made his way towards the small foal with his hand outstretched in front of him, “here boy,” he whispered. The foal slowly crept forward towards the boy. Nick put his hand out further so he could just touch the foal’s nose. It jumped back a bit and just watched the boy. Nick smiled gently at the foal. At that moment, as they watched each other, the sadness from last night was forgotten.
Work Skills Tree Planting

On Wednesday, July 23 the Work Skills Class joined with Mr Peter Lawrence and Graeme Stevenson from Wynyard Landcare to plant trees at Table Cape. The trees were planted on the edge of the walking track from the Lookout to the Lighthouse. We planted approximately 100 native trees of varying styles. This was an excellent opportunity to contribute to the local community and prevent erosion from both climate and native animals. A lot was learnt from Mr Lawrence and Mr Stevenson about plants, local topography and soils.

Cattle Handling Team News! By Sonja Dudfield

Hope all are rested and had an enjoyable break, pity about the weather but suppose it is Winter.

The muster is progressing, Mr Lehman has said its a goer. Time approaching fast - real scary. Most members have had their heifers allocated. Some of the juniors are still awaiting for the arrival/birth of their heifers. Lets hope they have all arrived by muster weekend.

Our new jackets have now been ordered. Unfortunately we were unable to get same colours as our shirts but we do have same logo, so everyone will still know who we are. Hoping these will be ready in time for the muster. Another addition to our uniform in the attempt to make us look a little more professional. (We can only try!!!!).

Work still progressing as always on obtaining sponsorship for the team for the forthcoming show season. Semex have come on board again with some more hats. Unaware of other definite sponsors, just awaiting their responses.

Won't be long and we will all be in full swing, bellowing cattle, sleepless night, rotten weather and kids growling cause their heifer won't do as she is told. Most of us parents know how that feels!!

Good luck and best wishes to those Tasmanians representing the State in the National Finals of the Beef and Dairy Junior Handling and Judging at the Brisbane Show in a few weeks. Extra special wishes to our own Stuart Lehman who will be competing in the Final of the Junior Dairy Judging. Stuart as most would know is an ex-team member but still supports our team with advice, assistance and cattle (when he has some). Go get that prize Stuie!!!!! To represent the State at a National Final is what all our members are striving to achieve and I'm sure that with the hard work that's put in you've all got a chance and I'm sure you'll get there. Keep up the good work, we know you can all do it.

Science Week

As a part of National Science Week, we at Yolla will be providing an exciting look into science.

The year 10 students have been working on understanding and practising hands-on science at school. They will be presenting their experiments to the school and also giving the other classes a chance to get hands-on with science.

The presentations will be held in the Gym as follows;
- Kinder to Grade 2 on Monday 18 August from 9:30am to 11:00am
- Grade 3 to Grade 5 on Monday 18 August from 11:30 am to 1:00pm
- Grade 6 to Grade 9 on Tuesday 19 August from 9:30am to 11:00am

Parents, grandparents etc. are most welcome to attend one of the sessions to observe some of the science happening in our school.

COMMONWEALTH SCHOOL BANKING WINNER!

Izzy Holland was one of 6 Tasmanian students to WIN a $275 Toy voucher from ToysRus, plus $1,000 for our school just for banking three times in the term, last term. How fantastic!!! Anita is quite excited, and Commonwealth Bank will present voucher to Izzy at the next assembly.
Event details:
Yolla District High School
Monday, August 4
11.30am - 1.00pm
Early Childhood Playground
Come along and help plant some trees to rejuvenate our playground.
Contact the school office for more details on 6438 1188.
Start time: Friday, 22 August at 6pm (please have tea before you come or bring it with you)
End time: Sunday, 24 August at 2pm

The weekend is designed to help train people (grade 8 and up) who are involved or who would like to be involved in volunteering at Riverbend’s holiday camps.

Registration forms are available from the school or contact Riverbend on 6452 1635 or admin@riverbend.org.au

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Would you like your newsletter emailed?
Please contact the school with your details