From the Principal

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Thalia, Tristan, Charlea, and Alice, who after all this time still have managed to keep their attendance rate at 98% or above. Well done! Our overall rate is now at 93.6%, and once again climbing towards that elusive target of 95%. Attendance is one of the key indicators of our school’s overall performance. Just remember that every day your child does not attend school will affect our overall attendance rate, and also reflect in the progress that your child is making at school. If you haven’t already done so, check out the Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV.

http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland

POSITIVE SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR PLAN

Terri and I have been implementing this Plan for three weeks now, and the attitudes of the children are noticeably changing. All children have managed to reach the mandated weekly number of Tokens and have been able to take part in some super rewards. The first week saw them making paper planes to fly in a competition organised by Paul Jackson; and last week we took them up to Boulia on Saturday night to watch the Aussie Adrenaline Freestyle Motocross Riders. These riders were amazing to watch and all children had a fantastic night out! This week the activities will alternate between cooking for the Market Day to help raise the funds for our Cairns Trip and doing some great Art activities. The children genuinely feel that this program is assisting them in improving specific behaviours. Some comments from last week’s Report Cards include:

• “Behaviour Busters are the best. They help to distract the bad things in you.”
• “If Behaviour Busters did not come into my life I would be naughty. I’m glad it was made.”
• “The Behaviour Busters are awesome to help me work and not lose concentration.”
• “Starting Behaviour Busters was a bit harder at the start, but they help me concentrate on my work so it improves.”

PARADE

School Parade was held on Friday 8 August. This was our second parade, and once again there were an impressive number of parents and community members present. Thanks to all those who took the time out of their already busy day to support our students. The students really enjoy showcasing the things that are important to them; and it is also wonderful to be able to publicly acknowledge the students who are doing super work here at school.

TOILETS

Our undercover walkway from the front gate and around to the toilets incorporating an insulated cover over the actual toilet building is finally about to be built. Wayne Green from Building Asset Services visited the school last week along with Brian Lauder (the contractor who will complete the work), and final plans were discussed. Brian will also modify the urinal and pedestals to make them more child friendly, as well as install privacy screens and a retaining wall to stop the soil from under the built up mound being washed away. This work will take place whilst we are away in Cairns and then into the holidays, so all will be ready to begin Term 4.

CHAPLAINCY

The school has not had a Chaplain since Adam Walker resigned in the middle of last year. Adam’s position involved working between Longreach School of Distance Education, Muttaburra State School and here. Fortunately Adam had a pilot’s licence which enabled him to cover the vast distances he needed travel to provide his services, and it has proved difficult to find someone to replace him who not only has the required Chaplaincy skills, but also the means to travel. For this reason, Bedourie was placed
into the Urandangi and Boulia Cluster in the hope that someone could be found who was willing to provide Chaplaincy to these geographically closer schools. Unfortunately the position still could not be filled. Scripture Union have now decided to try another model whereby a mobile Chaplain will be employed to cover a large area. This position has temporarily been filled, and David and Emily Kamholtz will be in Bedourie next week to work at the school. David and Emily have three young children, and will be living in their campervan during their visit. Each school within the area will receive two visits during the Semester, and our second visit will be during the week of Splash’N’Arts Camp.

ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR
Late Wednesday afternoon, we were advised that our new ARD, Mr David Roach, will be visiting the school on Thursday, 4 September. David will arrive at the school at about 11:30 am and needs to leave by 2pm. Both Terri and I are looking forward to welcoming David into our school so he can see first hand the great work that is happening here at Bedourie.

STEP UP INTO PREP
Next term, we will be running a Pre-Prep program at the school one morning each week. All children who are eligible to start Prep next year are encouraged to attend, as not only will they have heaps of fun, but will also become familiar with our school and its routines. An Enrolment Package can be collected from the school now.

SCHOOL CAMP
Our Cairns Trip is fast approaching. I spoke with Toni from Stonestreets yesterday, and she assures me that all is on track. She is just putting some final touches to the itinerary and will then send it out to us. Children (and staff) are all getting very excited! Forms will be sent home early next week.

Leanne Hohnke-Jansen
(Principal)

From the P&C
Planning is still underway and the first thing on the schedule is the Market Day which will be held this weekend (Sunday 24th) at the Community Hall. The P and C Stall is again selling all sorts of baked and home goods, so anything that you are able to supply to sell will be greatly appreciated. Please drop off goodies between 8 and 9am.

Plans are in full swing for the “Tringo” (Trivia and Bingo) Night which will be held on Saturday the 4th of October. This is on the last weekend of the school holidays. There will be great prizes up for grabs in both the trivia and the bingo. The entry fee will cover entry to the trivia and dinner which is Pizza. For those that are so inclined, the bar will also be open on the night.

For any events we always need helpers. Again, I invite any parents to come to a meeting with the P and C to help with community events. We are raising money for ALL of the kids to go on school camp. The next P and C meeting will be on Thursday 9th October.

Paul Jackson
(P&C President)
From the Principal

Quality learning and achievement – every student, every day
Effective teaching – every teacher, every lesson

On Thursday 24 July, Outback Patrol visited the school. Steve the puppet man brought along all of his puppets. The favourite was Nigel the Dragon.

The children enjoy showing parents and community members activities they participate in at school. At Parade on Friday 8 August, they demonstrated how we get our brains activated and ready for thinking using Brain Gym. They also performed the Skipping Sequence that was their Talent Item for Windorah Sports Camp.
AUSSIE ADRENALINE

What a Night!

THE MELBOURNE CUP

The Melbourne Cup came to Bedourie State School yesterday. We were even able to hold it!