Term 1, Week 6

Student of the Week: Brianna S2/3/L

Brianna has been at Clarence Town Public School since she was in Year 3. Her favourite subject is maths. She is a fine student and she likes school. Brianna really enjoys sport. She always does her best and she displays excellent sportsmanship. She loves horse riding. Brianna is helpful in class and the playground and she is popular and a good leader. Brianna always displays fantastic behaviour at school. Brianna is kind, she is honest and she always gives her best effort. Brianna considers safety, she is respectful and she has a love of learning. We think she will be an excellent student of the week.

Student Achievement
Congratulations to our local Cricket team who are doing well in the area competition. The boys had a win at the weekend against Gresford on Saturday and they are hoping to make the semi-finals! Several of the players went to High School this
year, but still remaining in the team from Clarence Town Public School are Keeghan Stericker, Gilbert Aisnworth, Ronin Elloy, Jack Boyton, Harry Boyton, and Taiij Burgess.

We have had lots of positive play in our playground over the past weeks – well done everyone… and special mention to Jemima Hicks, Blake Te-Wake, Patrick Zuber, Chloe Flannery, Lucas Hawkin, Tyler, Clair Bagnall, Aksel Brand, Madeline Bagnall and Lachlan Keller for being exceptional role models.

Congratulations to S1C for winning the best class at assembly last week – they were exceptionally well behaved from the moment they arrived to the moment they departed the Hall and have now set the bar high for everyone else!

Principal’s News
Welcome to week 6 and hopefully some cooler weather as we move from Summer to Autumn this week. Being a leap year we have an extra day today – February 29th – so Happy Birthday to everyone who is extra special to have today as their birthday and remember the old Irish Legend that girls can propose to boys today!

Mr Kemp will be off school for another week as he is currently recovering from surgery to remove his appendix – we wish him a speedie recovery. Miss Bunn and Mrs Jensen will be covering S2K in his absence. S2K sent off Get Well cards and messages to Mr Kemp last week which cheered him up and he is really looking forward to getting back to school.

We have a large number of students away today sick and several who have presented to sick bay already this morning, so please keep an eye on your children and if they are unwell they may need to stay at home to recuperate. Students this morning have been presenting with headache, stomach cramps and vomiting.

It was a very early start today for our Student Leaders who had to be at school by 5:30am to meet me so I could take them to Maitland to meet Mrs Kelson who has accompanied them to the State Young Leaders Conference in Sydney. This conference is large, with thousands of Student Leaders from schools all over the state – public, religious and independent. The students will listen to a series of prominent leaders in our community discuss leadership and what makes a good leader.

Our School Assembly will be Wednesday 2 March at 2pm in the School Hall. All family and friends are welcome to attend. K-2 infants will do the assembly item.

Canteen Roster

TERM 1

Wednesday 2 March
Katie Bagnall
Linda Richardson

Friday 4 March
Kassie Anderson
Volunteer Needed

Monday 7 March
Robyn Keller
Kim Watt

Wednesday 9 March
Jaimy Boyd
Linsay Boyd

Friday 11 March
Megan Speedie
Kristy McLean

Monday 14 March
Rina Rocco
Sam Broadbent

Wednesday 16 March
Megan Speedie
Fran White

Friday 18 March
Kerry Salter
Rita Horn
We look forward to their sharing what they have learnt on their return late this afternoon.

This week we have our:
- Student Leaders – Jack, Samara, Ronin and Abbie representing our school at the State Young Leaders Conference in Sydney today
- Clean Up Australia Schools Day is Friday and we will participate on Thursday when all students will be at school
- Stage 2 and 3 League Tag Day in Dungog on Friday
- Swimming for Sport Stage 3 (Wednesday) **NB: no Swimming for Sport on Friday for Stage 2 due to the League Tag Day**
- Our Weekly Assembly will be held on Wednesday and our new Captains and Student Leaders are looking forward to hosting their next assembly and K-2 are excited about presenting their performance.

Our school/parent/community partnership updates are:

**Fixed Equipment:** After several delays the equipment installation is now complete and the installation of the Softfall has also been completed. Our official opening will be this Thursday when our past and present P&C Presidents – Terrena Hicks and Matthew Brown will cut the ribbon to officially open the playground. Once the safety fencing is removed our classes will take turns in class time to learn the new rules and have supervised play on the equipment before we open up for recess and lunchtime play.

**School Bus Service:** No change from last week with the bus service. If you have any specific questions please give me a ring at school or drop me an email: louise.blakemore@det.nsw.edu.au

**Before and After School Care:** Thank you to those families who returned the survey but we need more responses asap to meet the grant requirements – **the survey is on the School Bag App and attached again to today’s newsletter…if you have not already done so please return no later than Wednesday 2nd March.** This service for our school is still being actively pursued by both the school and the P&C. Attached to this week’s newsletter is a survey to assess need requirements for each day. I have started a submission for a $20,000 grant to support he P&C implementing this program within our school – watch this space!
I will keep you posted on these fronts and advertise start dates as soon as I know anything. I would like to thank the P&C for their hard work in supporting these projects within our school and community.

I will be out of school tomorrow afternoon as I present the first of this year’s Focus on Reading Modules to Gresford, Vacy and Martins Creek Public Schools and on Wednesday afternoon I will be presenting the mandatory Child Protection Training to our Support Staff. Mrs Kelson will be acting Principal during this time and represent me at the Weekly Assembly.

We are constantly reminding students of our PBL Values and school motto along with our Tawny 5 Rules and I would also encourage parents to use these words when celebrating positive behaviour and discussing negative choices with your child.

The Tawny 5 Rules:
- I can listen
- I can put up my hand and wait
- I can work quietly
- I can follow instructions
- I can control what I do and Say

The School motto:
Kindness Honesty Effort

The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Values:
Learning Safety Respect

Through working together we create the best opportunities and learning experiences for all our students.

Have a great week.
Louise Blakemore
Principal

School Voluntary Contribution
Our school voluntary contribution has been set this year at $20 per student or $40 per family. This voluntary contribution is used to purchase books and resources for students. It would be appreciated if parents could pay this contribution as soon as possible.

Student Emergency Contact Details
All students received today an envelope with their child’s emergency contact details (pink note). Can parents please check all details and make any corrections necessary and return to the school as soon as possible. If the details are correct please initial the page and return.

Skoolbag App Hints
Did you know that you can send absence notices to the school on our Skoolbag App?

Go to eForms on your menu bar and select Absentee Form and enter your child's details.

No more having to write a note when your child returns to school!!!

Remember to set up your child’s new class groups by selecting the More button and select Setup Push Notifications. Simply tap on your child’s class until the “on” button is selected.
Mathletics
All students are now using Mathletics in class. Mathletics helps students enjoy Maths and achieve great results. Students are able to access Mathletics via the internet at school and at home. Each student is given a unique user name and password to be able to log onto Mathletics.

As we believe this is an excellent aid to your child’s learning, the school will subsidise the cost of this program. Parents are asked to contribute $12 per student for the cost of this program. It would be appreciated if all payments for Mathletics could be made as soon as possible.

Asthma Care Plan
If your child suffers from Asthma we will require an Asthma Care Plan to be completed ASAP.

Working with Children Declaration
All volunteers in our school eg. Canteen volunteer, classroom helper, driving children to and from sporting activities etc. are required to complete a Working with Children Check Declaration. All declarations must have 100 points of identity attached to the declaration. Please note the office is able to photocopy the identity check when Working with Children Check declaration is returned. **If you completed this form last year you are not required to complete another form as this last for 5 years.**

Any parents who have completed the online Working With Children Check and has received a Working with Children Clearance letter, please supply the office with a copy of the letter. These parents are not required to complete the declaration. Please see the office if you have any questions.

Year 6 Fundraiser
Year 6 will be selling water ice-blocks on a Tuesday and Thursday at lunch time as part of their fundraising efforts. Ice-blocks are 50c each and a range of flavours are available.

Application for Extended Leave- Family Holiday
The Department of Education now requires parents/carers to complete an “Application for Extended Leave Form” when you are undertaking a family holiday during school terms, family business or bereavement. At Clarence Town Public School this form is required for leave of 5 days or more. Travel documentation, such as travel itinerary or e-ticket should be attached to the application if requested by the Principal. All application forms need to be completed before your leave commences and are available from the school office.
Head Lice Alert
It is the time of the year for head lice. There have been a few cases reported in the School. We encourage all parents to make Sunday night “Nit Night” by checking your child’s hair.

Easter Egg Mufti Day
Thursday 17 March 2016 is our Annual Easter Egg Fine Mufti Day. The students can come to school out of uniform and the ‘fine’ is a donation to the P&C Easter Egg Raffle. These donations will then be made into the 2016 Easter Raffle Prizes. Donations of Easter Eggs, as well as baskets and decorations are also appreciated.

Easter Hat Parade & Raffle
This will be held on Wednesday 23 March 2016.

Book Club
Book Club orders and money are due back Friday 11 March at 9am. If you are paying by cheque please make it payable to Clarence Town Public School. This is important as we do all orders online and must issue only one cheque.

Dungog & District Community of Schools - News Updates
This week I will be leading our partner Primary Schools in Focus on reading. As a lead trainer I will be upskilling the staff of Gresford, Vacy and Martins Creek Public Schools so that all of our Community of Schools are using this valuable resource across their schools. By using common programs and initiatives we can ensure we are all working to improve student outcomes across the Learning Community from K-12 and ensure a smoother transition for all our students as they move onto Dungog High School.

The Gifted and Talented Program will begin in the next few weeks and the focus this term is Computer Coding. Mrs Kelson is working with classroom teachers to identify 3 -4 students from Stages 2 and 3 who would benefit from this Community of
Schools project. Once identified information will be sent home for parents to opt in to the program.

**ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES AND GIVE BLOOD**

Mobile Blood Service visiting:

Clarence Town Bowling Club – Cnr Prince & Durham Streets on Tuesday 15 March 2016
1:30pm – 7:00pm

Drink up – Have 3 or 4 glasses of water or juice in the hours before you donate

Eat!! Have a good size breakfast or lunch

Bring photo ID with you.

**$1000 FREE KIDS DENTAL – WITH THE CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE**

Great news, the Child Dental Benefits Schedule continues in 2016!! The Commonwealth Government dental scheme provides eligible children with a $1000 free kids dental benefit on selected dental services within a 2 year calendar period.

In 2014 and 2015 many families were surprised that they were eligible for the free $1000 benefit. To gain access to benefits, children must be eligible for Medicare, must be between 2 and 17 years of age for at least 1 day of the calendar year with the child or parent, guardian or carer receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A or another relevant government payment.

Not sure if you’re kids are eligible?? Contact your local Pacific Smiles Dental Centre, have your Medicare card ready and they can easily check to see if your kids are eligible or have remaining benefits from 2014.

Information provided by Pacific Smiles Dental : visit pacificsmilesdental.com.au for further information.

*Free when services covered by the Commonwealth Government’s Child Dental Benefits Schedule are bulk billed by participating dentists for treatments provided to eligible patients.*
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I am a 2015 Higher School Certificate Graduate from All Saints College, Maitland. I charge affordable rates with the first consultation being free. Please contact me and together we can help your child reach their full potential!

Bethany Mate 0403 143211