The staff at Berridale PS are very keen to offer families the opportunity to attend an Information Session that will focus on THRASS (Teaching Handwriting Reading and Spelling Strategies). This is a major part of our whole school Literacy approach and supports students to become more independent in their learning. The session scheduled for last Monday did not take place due to a lack of participants. We will be offering another session on Monday 19 May in our Library 3.30 – 4.30pm. Please join us and find out how you can help your child’s learning in Literacy. Everyone is more than welcome.

The annual National testing for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) are taking place this week. These tests are to establish national data and provide schools with valuable information about student learning needs. They are designed to assess the cumulative learning that takes place throughout each child’s school years. However, we would like to remind families that they are “one test on one day” and certainly do not give the detailed information that our extensive school-based measures provide throughout the year. We have been preparing students for the test conditions they will experience during the process but it is important for families to realise that we do not “teach to the test” and do not have access to the questions or focus areas prior to each test day. The results of these tests will not be released by the Department of Education and Communities until late Term 3 2014.

Mr Matthew Brown the Relieving Director, Public Schools NSW will be visiting our school on Thursday 15 May.

The Harry Nichols Shield event is on again this year and is being organised for Friday 16 May in Cooma. Those students involved in this event will once again enjoy a great carnival.

The Cyberbullying and Social Media Presentation by the NSW Police has been rescheduled for Tuesday 20 May at 10.45am.

We wish all our District Athletics representatives the best of luck in the Carnival being held at Snowy Oval in Cooma on Thursday 22 May. A reminder to all families that they must arrange their own transport to and from the venue. Berridale staff will meet students at the Snowy Oval and will be supervising them throughout the day. Please return permission notes and the $2 Snowy Mountains District levy for Carnival entry to the Front Office as soon as possible.

Too sick for school? As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it
Mental maths strategies. We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here: www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

Meg Couvee
Principal

**Important Dates**

Tuesday 13 – Thursday 15 May NAPLAN Testing
Thursday 15 May Director, Public Schools NSW visit
Friday 16 May Harry Nichols Shield
Monday 19 May Parent Information Session – THRASS (Teaching Handwriting Reading and Spelling Strategies)
Tuesday 20 May Cyberbullying / Social Media Presentation by NSW Police
Wednesday 21 May Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership Project Day
Thursday 22 May District Athletics Carnival @ Snowy Oval in Cooma
Friday 23 May DRUMBEAT Program
“Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the things you can think up if only you try!”

It’s funny to think about thinking. It seems like it’s something that just happens on autopilot, and not something that you can control. Realizing that you’re actually in control of your thoughts, and you can think deep thoughts or not-so-deep thoughts, happy thoughts or sad thoughts on command, it becomes clear that it’s your responsibility to think the thoughts you want to think. Seuss seems to be encouraging you to think in all sorts of different ways, and different directions so that you can scour the mind for really amazing ideas.
**Student Leader’s Message**

Stage 3 has had a wonderful 3 weeks with Mrs Glover who has helped us with Literacy and Maths. She has also done some beautiful artworks with us. Stage 3 wishes her all the best and hopes she becomes a teacher because we all think that she is great at it.

By Abi

**Kites**

Less than a month until our excursion.

Kites are for sale at Berridale Public School, the money we raise will be going towards our Melbourne Excursion. We are really looking forward to it now.

By Eddy

Berridale School have been rehearsing for our up and coming play, Porridge. We’ve all been working hard to get our parts correct and it’s going to be good to watch!

By Shannon

**P & C News**

**Canteen** – Don’t forget that tomorrow, Friday, 16th May, the Canteen will be opening for Recess only, with a limited menu (no baked goods). Renee Watts, our Canteen Co-Ordinator Extraordinaire, has kindly offered to show us the ropes around the Canteen on this first Friday trading day – so feel free to come along to see how it works.

A Canteen Roster, for both Monday Lunch & Recess and Friday Recess will be posted in the Office if you can spare some time to volunteer throughout Term 2.

Thank you to all those who have already assisted!

**Smencils** - are still available at the office!

**Mothers Day Stall** – Thanks again to Angela Field for organizing the stalls last week – we hope all our Berridale Mums enjoyed their gifts!

**General Meeting** – Monday, 2nd June 2014 at 3.30pm

Thankyou

Berridale Public School P&C

E: berridalepnc@gmail.com
Berridale Public School
We are a ‘Nut free’ school

Berridale OOSHC

We would like to thank the Corby family for donating a desktop computer! All we need now is a monitor to go with it. If you have an old one sitting at home we can gladly give it a new home.

“News Flash” Vacation Care

Due to continued declining numbers in Vacation Care we regret to advise parents that we can no longer remain open during Holiday Time. The decline in numbers means we have lost our sustainability funding, which helps to cover costs. To open during this time we need at least eight children. This can be reviewed when demand increases again in the future…please call if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Wish List

Fruit, Cucumbers, Tomatoes etc                                      Long Life Milk
(for warm milo)

Cheese Slices (wrapped)                                             Toilet Rolls

If every family brings at least one of these items it helps keep our cost’s down…thanks

Congratulations to all those who participated in the Mothers’ Day run/walk. Well done too Finn Ziesak and his cousin Svetlana for funning in the 5 km event and Mr Smith too!!
Thank you from all of us at OOSH!

Cooma basketball Association

Aussie Hoop (4yrs/7yrs) and Mini (8yrs/11yrs) Basketball.

Times for the above are now

Aussie Hoop Girls Wednesday 3.45pm – 4.30pm
Mini Ball Girls Wednesday 4.30pm – 5.30pm
Aussie Hoop Boys Friday 3.45pm – 4.30pm
Mini Boys Monday 3.45pm – 4.30pm

Fee Registrations Aussie Hoop $20.00  Mini Ball $50.00  Covers players for 12 months

Game Fees – All players $50.00  Covers players for school terms 2 and 3

All players receive trophies and other awards at the end of the season, tops are provided. Would like players to wear black shorts/track pants and white tops.

Betty Longhurst (Coordinator)  0457 177 162

Beautiful Africa – A New Generation

Choir Of Children From Africa

When:    7.00 p.m. – Friday, 20th June 2014

Where:   Memorial Hall - Jindabyne

Free Admission

Seating is Limited so please register for your FREE ticket by 10th June

Email:  mountainlife.oasis@gmail.com
You are invited to the launch of the exciting new novel for young and old "Sealskin Coast."

4 p.m. Friday 30th May

Cooma Library, Vales Street Cooma

RSVP 6455 1730

Term 2 2014
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