How wonderful it was to have all families attend our Working Bee on Sunday. A new fence out the front of the school was our main goal for the day and thanks to Darren and his behind the scenes organisation—and the hard working crew—we kicked this goal well and truly. Other tasks completed were de-cobwebbing of the exterior building, removal of leaf litter from just about everywhere, weeding, pruning, repairing of sports boxes and cleaning of the mower/sports shed. A huge thank you to all parents and students who attended the day. You all well and truly deserved your lunch.
Bushwhazee

On Monday our students attended the Bushwhazee Day at Leitchville Primary School. We joined students and staff from Leitchville, Koondrook and Gunbower Primary Schools and participated in lots of engaging activities. Our students were organised into grade groupings and were taught about early Australia through learning dances, songs and skits by the two gentlemen from Bushwhazee. These were then performed to an audience in the evening. The day also included activities led by teachers based upon the theme of early Australia. Some made damper, others constructed camp beds, whilst others enjoyed stories and created bush art. This day, although a long one, provided our students with unique learning experiences as well as the opportunity to socialise with students from the other small schools within our cluster. A big thank you to Leitchville Primary School for organising and hosting the day and to their parents for cooking our BBQ tea.

Lion King

Only one week to go! We are all very excited and have been doing some pre-learning about the production in preparation for our exciting adventure. Below are some reminders about the day.

- We are leaving from Torrumbarry Roadhouse at 6am. Note the slightly earlier time.
- We are boarding the train in Bendigo. Student tickets have been booked and paid for. Adults will need to pay their own fare. A Myki card is required. You can get this from the station on the Wednesday Morning.
- Students are to wear full school uniform and will need a coat/jacket
- Students/parents will need drinks, morning snacks and lunch.
- An early tea will be purchased in Melbourne. Students will need $10-15 for this.
- We will arrive back in Bendigo at 6.30pm, and expect to arrive at the Roadhouse around 8pm. Parents who are not on the excursion will be notified by text of our exact arrival time.
- All adult tickets are to be paid for by this Friday. Student tickets must be at least part paid and arrangements made for full payment by next Tuesday.
- If payments are not made by these dates, the tickets will be allocated to parents on the waiting list.

Please remember we are small school with limited funds. Every effort has been made to keep the cost of this and other events at minimal cost to families. It is worth noting that the Bushwhazee day cost our students nothing beside their lunch—other schools charged upwards of $10 per child.

Have A Snooze

Due to the huge day we will be having on Wednesday June 3, we will begin school one hour later to allow time for kids and adults to get their “grumpies” out! Therefore the bus run will be one hour later than normal in the morning. The afternoon run remains the same.

Footy Netball

It has been a busy week, with our Year 4, 5 and 6 students and Mr T heading to Kerang yesterday to participate in the Kerang & District Primary Schools Sports Association Football and Netball Lightning Premiership. Once again our students joined forces with students from Koondrook, Gunbower and Leitchville Primary Schools to form the Murray Plains Cluster teams. One netball team won three of their four matches and the other two from four. The footballers met stiff opposition and managed to pull off a narrow victory in one game.
Special Visitors

Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents and community members who attended last week’s morning tea and open day. I am sure you will agree that the students did a fantastic job catering, decorating and hosting this event.

Unfortunately our ‘Yummy’ raffle was not sufficiently supported with donations, so we did not hold it and a fundraising opportunity was missed. On a more positive note, our morning tea coincided with the publishing of our advertising feature in the Riverine Herald. The article was written by our Year Five student, Zac Woodgate and received a most positive reaction from those who read it at the morning tea. If you did not get a chance to read it, you will find a copy attached to this newsletter. Congratulations to Zac for his ‘Wonderful’ writing. A published author at age 10 is pretty awesome.

Just over a week ago, we were lucky to be visited by Matilda’s great grandmother (GG) and her partner Kevin. They were given a personalised tour of our school by their great grand-daughter and were most impressed by what they saw. We love having visitors to our school and welcome relatives, neighbours and friends. There is no better way to show people what our wonderful school has to offer, than by personal account.

Holiday

Don’t forget Our Maj’s birthday holiday. There is no school for students or teachers on Monday 8 June.

Report Writing Day

Speaking of ‘No School’ – Wednesday June 17th is has been set aside as a Student Free Day so that Staff can have the opportunity to come together and write student reports. Students do not attend school on this day. Yay! Staff however, do. Boo!

Tickled Pink

A total of $35 was donated to Breast Cancer Network Australia from this scrumptious Pink Day event. Thank you to all families who supported this community initiative. What a lovely way to support those we know who are fighting this disease.

MACC News Term 2

Wow! We are already halfway through Term 2. We have been very busy in Art, exploring different ways to present our ideas through the theme of Celebrations during the first weeks of term. We finished off Term 1 with Easter and began the new term with our exploration of the 100th Anniversary of the ANZACs through the emblem of the poppy. We began with the images of the ceramic poppies cascading out of the Tower of London on Remembrance Day 2014 and an introduction to the 5000 Poppies Project in Federation Square on Anzac Day. The P-2 children used paper construction methods to create a mini Poppy Wall for their school. Grades 3-6 used poppies in a mixed-media collage.
We then looked at the work of Georgia O’Keeffe and used oil pastels to respond to her poppy paintings. These artworks have been on display in the local communities and the schools. For Mothers’ Day we continued with paper construction techniques and made pop-up cards. Students then used air-drying clay and Magiclay to create presents. They really enjoyed the experience of modelling with clay products. We are now continuing on with our individual *My Map Book* books for the remainder of this term. We have been working on some “awesome” face maps and some schools have begun to explore warm and cool colours in preparation for a map of their heart. We will review paper construction skills for a map of their stomach and finish the term with a treasure map which will combine painting and construction skills.

Ms Sally Bentley - Murray Plains MACC Art Teacher

**Coming Soon**

*The Cookbook. A Welton Production starring The Welton Kids*
Wonderful Welton
by Zac Woodgate

My name is Zac Woodgate and I am a Year Five student at Welton Primary School. Welton is a beautiful rural school located at Torrumbarry. Our very own bus picks up students from Wharparilla, Torrumbarry and Patho and delivers them to our fantastic school nestled amongst the bush.

I believe that the best thing about Welton is the friendly students, teachers and parents. Welton is a real community of kind, enthusiastic and helpful people. Everyone is an individual who has their own unique qualities recognised and celebrated; but we all work together to achieve great things.

Welton has a lot of different subjects. We have English, Numeracy, Science, Music (we are learning guitar), Humanities, ICT (we have our very own iPads), Physical Education, Art and Library. I think the best subject of all is Outdoor Ed. In Outdoor Ed we go for bushwalks, make shelters, have campfires and even make damper and billy tea.

Welton Primary School Students always do well in NAPLAN and excel in other pursuits. I think this is because our teachers always have time to provide us with 1:1 support - this helps us learn faster. Many of our students are working well above our year level. Each student has his/her own Individual Learning Plan, this allows students, teachers and parents to work together so us kids can achieve our personal best.

Our school is small, but we don’t miss out on anything. We join other small schools for swimming, athletics, football and netball as well as group days. Welton also has lots of exciting whole school camps and excursions. This year I am really looking forward to going to the Lion King, Museum and to Phillip Island.

Our school has a system that rewards good behaviour and this makes our students safe and happy. Our senior students help organise activity days and camps. This gives them opportunities to develop their leadership skills.

I hope that you can come to our school and take a look around. I am very happy to show you around. I just know you will love Welton as much as I do.