Important dates:
Monday 17 March to Monday 23 March 2014

Monday 17 March ~ Active After School Primary
Wednesday 19 March to Friday 21 March ~ Year 11 Biology Excursion
Thursday 20 March ~ Active After School Primary
Friday 21 March ~ Harmony Day
Friday 21 March ~ Manilla Horse Sports
Friday 21 March ~ Arinya Zone 15/Open Rugby Union Trials
Congratulations to all swimmers who swam at regional carnivals last week. They did a great job and should be proud of their efforts. Especially well done to Matthew Thompson who will now attend the state carnival in Homebush in the coming weeks. Congratulations also to Joshua Austin who will be representing the North West for Touch Football in Newcastle. We wish them well!

School Fees are steadily flowing in. Thank you to all who have paid their General School Contribution Fees and their Elective Fees this helps to provide extra support to our students. For many, times are hard and coming up with the money all at once can be difficult especially if you have several students K – 12. You are welcome to pay school fees each term or even weekly ~ this may lessen the financial burden on the household. Please contact me at school if you need assistance. All enquires are kept strictly confidential.

This week we have our Harmony Day activities, a primary assembly on Friday, Year 11 Biology Excursion and Horse Sports in Manilla. Another action packed week! Our own Horse Sports is rapidly approaching and will be held on Friday 4 April. If you can assist on the day please contact the school.

Finally congratulations to the new P&C committee, consisting of Sue Reed (President), Johno Frost (Vice President), Rhonda Phillips (Treasurer), and Tracy Frost (Secretary). I am looking forward to working with the committee and the entire P&C body.

Following the AGM held last Wednesday night the executive remains unchanged. We hope to continue to work with the staff at the school to provide the extra resources when needed and to support our school community for the betterment of the students at Barraba Central. We encourage parents to keep the lines of communication open to help resolve any issues as they arise.

At the general meeting the new policy on senior student flexible timetable and motor vehicles used during school hours was discussed and will be going out to parents shortly.

Uniform changes are being looked at with the synthetic secondary shirts to be replaced with cotton ones in the future to keep the students looking good. Our uniform supplier has changed the style of jumper that is available and the green unisex shorts style is being looked at to find a better fit and encourage student uniform compliance.

We will be replacing a fridge in the canteen and looking at partially financing new play equipment for the primary as well as a new PA system.

Upcoming dates to keep in mind for P&C events are: catering for the Horse Sports Day at the Showground on Friday 4 April and the Zone Cross Country on Monday 19 May. Volunteers are always needed to help these days run smoothly so if you have a spare hour or two for the day it would be appreciated.

**P&C meets every second Wednesday of the month at 6pm.** Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 9 April and all are welcome. If you have any questions, concerns or comments but cannot make it to a meeting please feel free to contact any of the committee members or drop us a letter care of the Schools office and we will discuss it at the meeting. Bring your children along as free supervision will be provided while you are at the meeting.

**President:** Sue Reed 67821225  
**Vice President:** Johno Frost 67833147  
**Treasurer:** Rhonda Phillips 67821848  
**Secretary:** Tracy Frost 67833147

Adam Forrester  
Principal
Year 5/6 I had the pleasure of a visit from Kelly & Clinton from ChildFund. Students have been privileged to be able to interact with a rural village school in Timor-Leste. Students have been learning about the lifestyle of these children, types of houses they live in, where and how they live. It has been a very exciting time for our students as they were able to see and talk to the students from Timor-Leste via Skype. Can’t wait to find out more in the future about their new friends in Timor-Leste!
Girls long green school pants are on sale from the Primary School office. These are 'Vibrant' brand which are extra long and may need taking up. They are therefore reduced to the very generous price of $5.00 a pair. Sizes vary so please be quick.

**Take Home a Big Brother or Big Sister**

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2014 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Spain, Germany, Italy, Finland, Norway and Denmark will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au), email [scceaust@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaust@scce.com.au) or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Travel back in time in our B.C. (before computers) exhibition to get inspiration to make your own weird and wacky Time Machine from a whole assortment of objects. Sculptor Jeremy Rudge will guide children through an exploration of a world that existed when things were still made by hand and time travel existed only in the imagination.

BYO morning tea and lunch. All materials supplied. Under school age must be accompanied by a responsible adult. PREPAYMENT essential at www.trybooking.com/ELQZ
Primary classes K-6 were able to attend rugby skills sessions on Friday with the Rugby Development Officer ~ Garry Walsh. The children enjoyed games and activities during the morning and we thank to Gary Walsh for visiting our school and developing the skills of our children. Those boys and girls interested in playing junior rugby this season can sign up on Thursday 27 March at the rugby grounds at 3.30pm.

Our School Rules

This week’s focus rule is the ‘BLUE’ rule. Please support your child/children in becoming familiar with our school rules.
Swimming

BCS students travelled to the North West Swimming Trials in Armidale on Tuesday 11 March where they competed against more than 25 schools. Matthew Thompson is off to Homebush in Sydney to compete in the NSW Swimming Championships on the 6, 7 & 8 April. Matthew assured his place at Homebush by winning 2nd place in the 14yr boys 100m Breaststroke at a time of 1.34. Matthew also placed 14th in the 14yr boys Freestyle. This will be his 3rd swimming championships at Homebush and he will now be concentrating on a personal best at his upcoming event. Congratulations Matthew and good luck at Homebush! Annabelle Pegus placed 5th in the 13yr girls 100m Butterfly, also 16th 13yr girls 50m Freestyle. Felicity Dennis placed 8th in the 14yr girls 100m Breaststroke. Darren York placed 9th in the 17+yr boys 50m Freestyle. Nilsson West placed 12th in the 17+yr boys 50m Freestyle. Although it was a little bit chilly in Armidale on the day the BCS students cheered and supported each other throughout the day. Congratulations to you all and well done!

Touch Football

Joshua Austin travelled to Tamworth on Wednesday 5 March to compete in the Arinya Zone 15/Open Touch Football Trials. Joshua will now represent the North West Touch Football team at the State Carnival at Newcastle in May. Joshua is going to be fundraising to help with the costs of the trip. North West Schools Sports Association tickets will be available at $2.00 per ticket. Congratulations Joshua and good luck at the carnival! Prizes will be drawn Tuesday 9 December 2014. All winners will be advertised in the Northern Daily Leader. So please support Joshua and buy a ticket in the raffle.

1st prize $1500.00
2nd prize $700.00
3rd prize $400.00

Secondary students worked with Gary Walsh on defence training with a lot of time spent on quick cleanouts and staying low in the ruck. In attack the students worked on placing the ball deep in order to get quick-ball from the ruck. Gary Walsh was very impressed with the skill and enthusiasm of the secondary students.
As Abraham Lincoln said “The best way to predict the future is to create it”. Volunteer to host an international high school student in February 2014 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Help determine the future resilience, diversity and global awareness of your children and family. Carefully selected students will arrive in July 2014 for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

(Hospitality Café)

This week ‘The Patch’ will be open for business on Tuesday 18 March to students and staff. The menu will vary each week however, the drinks will remain the same. These include:

Mars Bar slice ~ 50 cents
Chocolate Brownies ~ 50 cents
Strawberry/Chocolate Milkshakes ~$2.50
Spiders ~ $2.50
Tea ~ $2.00
Iced Coffee/Chocolate ~ $3.50
Coffee ~ $3.50
Hot Chocolate ~ $3.50

Please note that tea and coffee will only be available to senior students and staff.
Congratulations to Anna-Lee Bridges who has signed a School-Based Traineeship contract with NSW Health. Anna-Lee will complete one hundred days of paid employment in nursing during Years 11 and 12 as part of her HSC. Combined with this workplace learning, Anna-Lee will participate in TAFE training and by the end of next year Anna will have Certificate III in Health Services as well as the Higher School Certificate. Our thanks to Cathy Stein and Patti Crowley at the Barraba Hospital who will supervise Anna’s work giving her the benefit of their professional experience and the support to prepare for a career in nursing. Anna-Lee is very positive about the pathway she has chosen and has embraced her TAFE study, work commitments and HSC units with a high level of organisation and enthusiasm.

For more information about School-Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships (SBATs) contact Judy Campbell (VET Coordinator).

Photo: Martin Losoudier (NSW Health SBAT Coordinator), Cathy Stein (Manager of Nursing), Anna-Lee, Jo Bridges (Anna’s mother), Ken Thomas (Career’s Advisor, Barraba Central School), Raelene Hoy (State Training Centre).
Primary school
Science assignment starters

Not sure where to go to help your child find out about electricity, natural disasters, the solar system or other science projects?

Have a look at our project starters.
Find out more:

Secondary school
Developing resilience

We often hear complaints of "That's not fair!" from our kids when things don’t go their way. Teachers talk about how you can help your child develop the skills to bounce back from everyday disappointments.

Find out more:

2014 LAPTOP STOCKTAKE

During the month of March the School’s Technology Support Officer (Jason Hawken) requests that all students & staff bring their allocated laptops to school, they must be turned on & logged on for at least half an hour. You do not have to do anything special, just leave the laptop logged into the schools Wi-Fi network. For any further details please see Jason (STSO) on Tuesdays or Thursdays.
### Term 1 - 2014 Calendar

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