



Jerangle Public School

Learning Together

Newsletter

Week 8 - Term 2

18th June, 2020



Upcoming Events

Thursday 25th June

School photo day

Tuesday 30th June

Teddy bears' picnic

Captains Flat PS

Wednesday 1st July

Bike safety fun day

Tuggeranong

Friday 3rd July

Last day of Term 2

From the Principal's desk

With a huge smile and a skip in my step, I am very excited to see that some of the great things that make Jerangle such a special place to learn are rapidly returning. A huge thank you to Mr Smith, who we stole from Bredbo Public School who stole him from Queanbeyan East Public School, for covering my week of leave following the extreme bushfire period we endured at the start of the year. Having barely left Jerangle since October the opportunity to get out, see family and put a few kilometres on the car was well overdue. I was ecstatic to secure a high-quality member of another school's executive staff and unwind by the beach and rainforests, safe in the knowledge that between Geoff and the outstanding team at Jerangle the school was in good hands. Mr Smith thoroughly enjoyed his experience as one of the highest principals in NSW (at 1150m) and wanted to thank everyone for making him feel so welcome.

Hi all at Jerangle! May I start with a huge thank you for the warm welcome and support that I received on day one at your awesome little school. It was a pleasure to briefly step into Mr Schwetz's shoes and experience how friendly, wonderful and helpful the students, staff and community are at JPS. I was thoroughly impressed with the teaching and learning that happens at your school and was inspired to share that great work with others. It will be hard to forget seriousness of the construction zone (in the sandpit), the personal sporting losses on the tennis court and the epic fishing adventure during a Minecraft adventure on Friday! Thanks again to all at Jerangle, hopefully I will be back up the hill real soon! - Mr Smith



Further easing of COVID-19 restrictions

It's very rare that I get excited by an unexpected email. I am even less excited when that email is from the Department and excitement isn't even close to likely if it includes the words 'COVID', 'guidelines' or 'situation report'. I'll leave you to imagine what happens when I receive the trifecta! So, it was a brilliant surprise to find that the Department was to ease some restrictions almost immediately and permit further gains from the commencement of next term. I am very pleased to announce that we have sprung from the gate faster than a thoroughbred to bring back some of the amazing things we do as the norm. Effective immediately we can and are:

- ✓ Commencing visits to our friends in other schools to aid our learning and development.
- ✓ Commencing music lessons and seeking funding to recommence sporting lessons ASAP.
- ✓ Commencing day trips to outdoor locations.
- ✓ Preparing our smiles for school photos.

Many restrictions remain in place for now and are planned for consideration by the Department during Term 3.

- ✗ Parents and community members are asked not to enter the school grounds. Please ring the school if you feel your visit is unavoidable.
- ✗ Overnight excursions.
- ✗ The use of bubblers by students is not allowed. Please ensure your child has a drink bottle each day.
- ✗ School assemblies, P&C meetings, family and community days.

Let the Activities Begin

Bredbo Adventure

After fires, floods and lockdowns everything is an adventure so we were beyond excited to brush the cobwebs off the bus and wheel down to our friends at Bredbo for the day. It was great to catch up with Mr Smith and finish off a few bits of work before hitting the playground for some very passionate soccer matches. Unfortunately, due to the social distancing requirement from the department I was not allowed to show off my unrivalled soccer skills directly on Mr Smith, a lucky escape for him!



Bike Fun day

Ben H. has planned a bike fun day as a reward for the effort students have put into a very long and challenging start to the year. Students will travel to the Learn Ride Centre and foreshore bike path at Tuggeranong Creek and spend a day practicing their road and riding skills on Wednesday 1st July. Congratulations to Ben who has excelled as a school leader in very unusual times for taking another step up to organise such an awesome day.

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Students will travel to Captains Flat Public School on Tuesday 30th June. Infants students will participate in the much-loved Teddy Bears' Picnic and senior students will join in with the older students in the Stage 1,2 and 3 class for a fusion of fun and learning.

School photos

I am very pleased to announce that Katie Phillips has squeezed us in at very short notice to take our school photos once again. Last year Katie went the extra mile to make sure every photo was awesome. In the same fashion as last year; Katie will take the photos and let parents pick their favourites and order a package that suits their needs. Hopefully this weekend will give you enough time to sort any haircuts or uniform issues. I humbly apologise for the short notice but school photos have only just become permissible and if we don't get to take them now it will be several months before the grass thaws (and Ben H. might get taller than me!!).

Our local legends

Congratulations to our most recent local legend award recipients:



Week 6: Dylan for a consistent effort and always doing his best

Week 7: Ben G. for a mature approach to his learning and throughout the school day

Student Showcase: Congratulations to

Ben H. for a captivating recount of his fictional brush with death. I loved reading every detailed second of it and Ben and I both agree it is worth sharing. If at any time you become too enthralled please take a few seconds to take a deep breath before plunging back into the adventure.

FLASH FLOOD

My head started to bump against the top of the tunnel, blood trickled down my face. The water was getting higher, the sewer was wide and I wasn't a good swimmer. I tried to get across to the side but the current was too strong to get out of.

A minute later I see a ladder hanging from the roof and leading to a manhole. I reached for the ladder but missed it by millimetres then keep on going along the drain. I'm moving faster and faster, I see light up ahead but also brown rusted bars, **SLAM!!** I smash against the bars but the rusty bars do not snap.

The water keeps pushing me harder and harder against the bars, I start screaming in panic then see my life flash before my eyes. The screaming doesn't work until a couple were walking past, they made sure I was ok then went and got the lifeguard from around the corner. The enormous muscle lifeguard came from around the corner running, the lifeguard came up to the bars and ripped them out of the concrete then I fall flat on my face.

The lifeguard carried my back to the tower and called the ambulance then he asked me who I was and what is my phone number, the ambulance came and took me to the hospital where they treated me for the water in my lungs. The lifeguard called my Mum and told her where I am and what he thinks happened in the drain.

Two weeks later I am back at home, I learnt a lesson never to go yabbing when it is stormy.

By Ben Hopkins