Year 6 Graduation
On 3 December we celebrated the transition of our Year 6 students into high school in 2016. While reflecting on their primary years we have some sadness that they’re leaving primary, however, we are also excited to see them undertake this new chapter in their schooling. Their behaviour at our assembly and the morning tea that followed showed what a wonderful group of students they are. They are a credit to the school and their families. We wish them all the best in Year 7.

Costco donates to BCS students
BCS Kindergarten students were the lucky recipients of school backpacks donated by Costco wholesale. A representative from Costco visited the school on 4 December to distribute the backpacks, which also included lots of goodies, such as pencils, pencil cases, rulers, glue sticks and exercise books.

The students were delighted with their surprise packages and would like to say thank you to Costco.

Corben visits Victor Chang Institute
On Tuesday 8 December I had the privilege of visiting the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute. While there I got to tour the laboratory section and heard about many interesting experiments that had been taking place. One included a juvenile Zebra fish, which are transparent, allowing for the view of the animals heart. This has allowed for examination of how their heart forms as well as how genetic disorders affect the fish. This research has been used, scaled up for human research. From this some people have overcome hereditary heart problems. Overall it was a great experience, which I will value for a long time to come.

Corben Hart

Notes from the Counsellor
By Lesley Adamson
Pets as Christmas gifts
A pet given to a child can have a very special meaning, and can be one of those gifts that last for years, and keep on giving back. Many of you could be thinking about giving your child that special gift of a pet for Christmas – perhaps after having faced pleading for months.

However there are important factors to be considered:
- Is your family ready for a pet – that requires commitment for years? Is the family lifestyle suitable? Do you go away often?
- Will who look after the pet when you go away on holiday? Who is home for much of the day - a lonely pet could become bored and cause a great deal of damage. Do you have enough space, and the appropriate restraints, such as secure fence, safe shelter.
- Who will look after the pet on a daily basis - feeding, exercise needs, grooming, loving attention, sleeping, discipline.

- Is the child mature enough to know the needs of the animal, and to commit to caring for the pet?
- Is your child old enough? No child under 5 is old enough to look after a pet, and a child under 10 years old need to be closely supervised by an adult, with someone willing to take over care of the pet if the child no longer wants to be a pet owner. Mum or Dad nagging about cleaning the mouse cage, taking the dog for a walk, or giving fresh water to the bird, is not an option – and not having fresh water can mean a dead pet.
- A cat or dog, guinea pig or mouse, bird, or any live creature, should be given to a child only after lots of discussion.
- A puppy, particularly, can be a wonderful companion to a child, but puppies need special attention in the area of training. A cute puppy allowed to do amusing things, e.g., snatch food, could become a nuisance, an annoying, or dangerous dog. A young dog that is allowed to jump up will become an adult dog that jumps up – a very different matter. A biting puppy is one thing, but a biting adult dog is quite another. Hygiene can be a problem; a puppy has to be trained – a task requiring time and patience, as well as skill; picking up poo daily (or cleaning the cage of another type of pet); changing the water, and so on.
- An older dog, calmer, friendly and used to interaction with children, could be a better choice. A young animal could be too much of a responsibility for the family.
- An older dog will need less discipline, and cause a great deal of damage. Do you have enough space, is home for much of the day.
- Who will look after the pet when you go away on holiday? Who can do this? Is the family lifestyle suitable? Do you go away often?

However there are important factors to be considered:
- Is your family ready for a pet – that requires commitment for years? Is the family lifestyle suitable? Do you go away often?
- Will who look after the pet when you go away on holiday? Who is home for much of the day - a lonely pet could become bored and cause a great deal of damage. Do you have enough space, and the appropriate restraints, such as secure fence, safe shelter.
- Who will look after the pet on a daily basis - feeding, exercise needs, grooming, loving attention, sleeping, discipline.

- Is the child mature enough to know the needs of the animal, and to commit to caring for the pet?
- Is your child old enough? No child under 5 is old enough to look after a pet, and a child under 10 years old need to be closely supervised by an adult, with someone willing to take over care of the pet if the child no longer wants to be a pet owner. Mum or Dad nagging about cleaning the mouse cage, taking the dog for a walk, or giving fresh water to the bird, is not an option – and not having fresh water can mean a dead pet.
- A cat or dog, guinea pig or mouse, bird, or any live creature, should be given to a child only after lots of discussion.
- A puppy, particularly, can be a wonderful companion to a child, but puppies need special attention in the area of training. A cute puppy allowed to do amusing things, e.g., snatch food, could become a nuisance, an annoying, or dangerous dog. A young dog that is allowed to jump up will become an adult dog that jumps up – a very different matter. A biting puppy is one thing, but a biting adult dog is quite another. Hygiene can be a problem; a puppy has to be trained – a task requiring time and patience, as well as skill; picking up poo daily (or cleaning the cage of another type of pet); changing the water, and so on.
- An older dog, calmer, friendly and used to interaction with children, could be a better choice. A young animal could be too much of a responsibility for the family.
- An older dog will need less discipline, and cause a great deal of damage. Do you have enough space, is home for much of the day.
- Who will look after the pet when you go away on holiday? Who can do this? Is the family lifestyle suitable? Do you go away often?

Assistant Principals’ Award
One student is chosen from each primary class by the Assistant Principals, Mr Clarke and Miss Smith. Students must consistently display our PBS values of consideration, achievement, responsibility and enthusiasm. These award cards count towards the students’ Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Congratulations to:

- Diggers: Nerson Cuevas
- Poppies: Sophie Moritz
- Gallipoli: Maribelle Riley-Tyler
- Lighthorse: Jasmine Kneas
- Squadron 34: Jade Andreata
- Coves: Robbie Watson
- Troops: Jordan Wattam

P&C news
The P&C Canteen Volunteer Christmas Party is on Sunday 20 December at 11.30am at Braidwood Servicemen’s Club. There will be a BBQ lunch with some lucky door prizes. Please let Heather know if you can attend by Wednesday 16 December on 48423793. Thank you to everyone that has helped in the canteen in 2015. Hope to see you all next year!!!

Thank you Heather

Back To School!

Dates for students to return to school in 2016
Wednesday 27 January - STAFF only
Thursday 28 January - Years 2-6, 7,11,12
Kindergarten PLAN (by appointment only)
Friday 29 January - Years 8,9,10
Kindergarten PLAN (by appointment only)
Monday 1 February - Kindergarten & Year 1

Friday 18 December
CALENDAR

Term 1 2016

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

25 January

26 January

27 January

28 January

29 January

Week 1

Australia Day Public Holiday

Staff only return to school

Years 2-6, 7, 11 and 12 return to school

Years 8, 9, 10 return to school

Week 2

1 February

2 February

3 February

4 February

5 February

Kindergarten start school

In 12 University of Wollongong Discovery Day

Presentation Evening 2015

Congratulations to all recipients of awards at this year’s Presentation Evening. It was a fabulous evening and everyone who attended enjoyed celebrating the achievements of our students. For a full list of award recipients, please go to our website at http://www.braidwood-c.schools.nsw.edu.au/gallery/presentation-evening-2015.

Thank you to all our supporters, special guests and sponsors, whose generous support helped make the evening and the student awards even more special.

Egg cartons needed at school

We are in desperate need of egg carton donations to ensure we have enough to use through the school holidays. If you have some egg cartons at home, can you please drop them into the front office. Thank you.

Wanted Urgently

All library books and textbooks returned. Library items borrowed this year are now due back. (Apart from books required by 2016 Year 12 students over the summer break).

We are also happy to receive donations of board games and card games and suitable magazines in very good condition for our reading and lunchtime programs. Motorbikes, fishing, cars and horses are the most popular topics for the magazines.

Don’t forget you can still borrow from the Public Library over summer, so you can keep on reading.

Thank you for your support and best wishes for the New Year.

Mary Langidon, Teacher Librarian

Junior Golf Holiday Program to be Offered in Braidwood

The Braidwood Golf Club, in conjunction with Jack Newton Junior Golf, is running a three session school holiday MyGolf program for children aged 7 -13 years. The MyGolf program is designed to provide an introduction to golf for children by promoting skills development and the social and fun aspects of the sport. Children will be involved in special activities designed to develop the skills of golf. They will have opportunities to play on the beautiful Braidwood Golf Course. A lunchtime barbeque and presentation will conclude the final session.

The cost of the three sessions is $35, which covers everything including a participant pack (a golf club, cap, PVC ball and drawstring bag).

The program will run on the mornings of Monday January 11th, Tuesday January 12th, Wednesday January 13th from 8.45 am to 12.00 noon.

Participants can register by going to mygolf.org.au and entering the postcode 2622.

More information can be obtained from Rod Coady (ph: 48422829, 0410402203) or Sue Harrison (ph: 0431550857)

‘G’day Braidwood!!

Summer Holiday Junior Tennis Clinic

The Braidwood Golf Club, in conjunction with Jack Newton Junior Golf, is running a three session school holiday MyGolf program for children aged 7 -13 years. The MyGolf program is designed to provide an introduction to golf for children by promoting skills development and the social and fun aspects of the sport. Children will be involved in special activities designed to develop the skills of golf. They will have opportunities to play on the beautiful Braidwood Golf Course. A lunchtime barbeque and presentation will conclude the final session.

The cost of the three sessions is $35, which covers everything including a participant pack (a golf club, cap, PVC ball and drawstring bag).

The program will run on the mornings of Monday January 11th, Tuesday January 12th, Wednesday January 13th from 8.45 am to 12.00 noon.

Participants can register by going to mygolf.org.au and entering the postcode 2622.

More information can be obtained from Rod Coady (ph: 48422829, 0410402203) or Sue Harrison (ph: 0431550857)

Host Family needed

BCS has been given the opportunity to have another Japanese Teaching Assistant in our classes next year. This will be another great experience for all our students as, like our current assistant Yuya, the new assistant will help out in Secondary Japanese classes and visit Primary classes.

We need a family to agree to host our Japanese Assistant for 3 weeks from 20 February 2016, in a “home stay” setting. A host family will need to provide our Assistant with a bed (preferably in their own room) and 3 meals each day. In return, he will pay a small amount of “board”. The Assistant will come to school each day, but on weekends he would stay with the host family. He would probably appreciate a trip to Batemans Bay and/or Canberra, but will also enjoy experiencing life in regional NSW - whether you live in town or on a property - as it will probably be quite different to his home in Japan.

If you are interested in hosting our Assistant, or would like to know more, please contact Mrs Alisa Stephens as soon as possible by phoning or emailing the school.

Egg cartons needed at school

We are in desperate need of egg carton donations to ensure we have enough to use through the school holidays. If you have some egg cartons at home, can you please drop them into the front office. Thank you.

Wanted Urgently

All library books and textbooks returned. Library items borrowed this year are now due back. (Apart from books required by 2016 Year 12 students over the summer break).

We are also happy to receive donations of board games and card games and suitable magazines in very good condition for our reading and lunchtime programs. Motorbikes, fishing, cars and horses are the most popular topics for the magazines.

Don’t forget you can still borrow from the Public Library over summer, so you can keep on reading.

Thank you for your support and best wishes for the New Year.

Mary Langidon, Teacher Librarian