Recently 16 talented Ben Venue swimmers were selected to represent the Armidale District at the North West Regional Carnival at the Monckton Aquatic Centre.

All swimmers put in a huge effort with many recording improved times from the school and Armidale District carnivals.

Well done boys and girls, you should be very proud of your great success.

Following some exciting and very competitive events at the Regional Carnival, four Ben Venue swimmers will represent Ben Venue as part of the North West Team and will compete at the State Carnival in Sydney next week! Lara Moloney will swim in the 50m Freestyle and Backstroke and Elise de Crespyign will swim in the 50m Backstroke. In addition to these individual events, our Senior Girls Relay Team (Caitlin Lord, Lara Moloney, Isobelle Dick and Elise de Crespyign) will also compete at the State Carnival.

Congratulations and good luck Lara, Elise, Isobelle and Caitlin! What a great achievement!
Karen Watson - Swimming Manager

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<th>TERM 1 2015 CALENDAR</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
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On Friday 20 March we celebrated Harmony Day. All students were encouraged to wear orange or their own country’s traditional dress. The celebrations started with a whole school assembly where Ben Venue students talents were showcased. We were entertained by the Junior Choir singing a Maori song from New Zealand and the Year 1 Language Club sang a song about ‘My Friends’ in Mandarin.

A fashion parade was held with traditional clothing from Bangladesh, Libya, Pakistan, Greece, France, Chile, China, India, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Japan. A big thank you to those students who were in the national dress costume parade and performed, you were very entertaining! Katie Hunt

If you are interested in sponsoring the Ben Venews for the next twelve months, please contact the front office for further details.

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The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) program will again be on offer for students in Years 3-6 in 2015. This competition provides an opportunity for students to gain a measure of their achievement in an external competition. All students receive a certificate and an individual student report.

Entries are now open for the DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES, SCIENCE, WRITING, SPELLING, ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS competitions. Entry forms are available at the office or from class teachers.

AROUND THE CLASSROOM
2W Wow! What a busy term 2W have had! Students have settled well into the routines of Year 2 and are enjoying our English unit, ‘Wombat Stew’. Students particularly enjoyed using their imaginations to write nonsense substitutions for one of the verses.

Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Smokey, wacky, For a snacky, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Smooshy, mooshy, Tastes like sushi, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Jelly, smelly, In my belly Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Sticky, icky Oh so icky, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Lots of chilli, Oh so silly, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Furry, slurry, Makes me burpy, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Sticky, icky Oh so icky, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Lots of chilli, Oh so silly, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Furry, slurry, Makes me burpy, Wombat stew
Wombat stew, Wombat stew, Smacky, wacky, For a snacky, Wombat stew

Our HSIE and Science and Technology units saw the whole of Year 2 visit Moxon’s Bakery last week. There students enjoyed learning about the process of bread making and enjoyed some treats associated with birthdays, Easter and St Patrick’s Day. Thank you to Moxon’s also for the amazing cakes for the staff they were delicious!!!! A massive thank you to Olivia’s dad, Trent Rush for giving up his time to show Year 2 around the bakery. We loved it!

As the weather is getting cooler, it is important to remember to send your child to school in warm clothing. As jackets and jumpers are often removed during the day, it is essential that these items are clearly labelled so that they can be promptly returned to students. This term, 2W students have been working hard to become more organised and it has been fantastic to see so many students remembering to bring their supplies to school each day.

Tabatha Sullivan

ONLINE ICAS COMPETITIONS PAYMENTS IMPORTANT INFORMATION
If you are making an online payment for your child to sit an ICAS Competition it is imperative that you indicate which tests you are paying for (Maths, English, Science, Digital Technologies, Spelling or Writing).

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AROUND THE CLASSROOM
6W Already this year 6W have learnt about many interesting topics and participated in lots of great activities.

In Science students have been busy studying ‘Marvellous Microorganisms’ and have enjoyed experimenting and investigating yeast in the bread making process. They are now ready to start looking at other microorganisms such as germs and mould.

In English students have enjoyed reading and viewing different texts around the unit ‘Global Connections’. Some of the texts have included ‘We Are All Born Free’, an illustrated version of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and ‘Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes’, which is a very moving and inspiring story.

Students have also analysed several advertisements and compared techniques used to influence the way people think, feel and act.

Recently, Year 6 students attended the Life Education Van and learned about the substances in our world called drugs. Students enjoyed learning about how some drugs, such as medicines, are very useful to us whilst other drugs can be harmful and dangerous.

Seniors Week ‘Morning of Melodies’ Performance
On Wednesday March 18 a small group of experienced students from the Ben Venue Orchestra were invited to perform at the 2015 Armidale Care for Seniors ‘Morning of Melodies’.

The BVPS orchestra performed beautifully and some of the Seniors joined in, singing the National Anthem when we performed. Olivia Clarke, Grace Petrov Ethan Hinds, Toby Nelson, Yuho Takayama, Isabelle Douglas, Makayla Westaway, Madison Sim, Janda Collins-Widders, Kaylee Swick, Aiden Swick and Will Rowe-Dawson represented our BVPS orchestra at this event.

Thank you very much Natasha Ledger, Lauren Hinds, Lynne Clarke and Zunjie Wu for helping transport students, music stands and instruments. Bronwyn Paul, Orchestra Coordinator