Lyn’s Lines
What happened to 2015!!
When I read Michael Grose’ headline, ‘Thank Goodness for Christmas’ I instantly thought, is he mad? This time of year is filled with so many things to do, people rushing everywhere trying to finish work, school, shopping, standing in the never ending line at the post office and food preparation to name just a few. On reading the article it did make me stop and think about our family Christmas and yes we do have many traditions that mean a lot to our friends, family and children. The article jogged a recent memory for me as I recalled a conversation I had with my 21 year old son. Traditionally I bake a Christmas ham and I spoke about changing to a different recipe. I was told in no uncertain terms that that could not possibly happen the ham had to be the same…………yes, a tradition!!!! The article made me think of the things we enjoy about Christmas and what it means to our families.

Have a read of the attachment.

GRADUATION
Tonight our Year six students are celebrating the conclusion to their seven years of primary school – in many cases at Bittern PS for the whole seven years. It promises to be a fantastic evening with lots of memories and we are expecting a few tears! The school wishes each and every graduating student the very best for their future studies at secondary college.

There are many people to thank for their contribution toward the organisation of the night, thanks to Rebecca Mioduszewski and Kate Bacon, and Bailey Forster Tuckey for his rescue of the graduation DVD.

Kate has done a great job with the booklets and individual placemats. A terrific memento of Bittern PS, wait until you see them, they are awesome!

This year there are many families whose youngest child has graduated from grade 6. These families have contributed hugely to the school and the school community over the many years they have been at the school. We would like to acknowledge their efforts in contributing to the culture of Bittern Primary School. Thanks to the following families:

- The Giblin family
- The Grant family
- The Hull family
- The Poulter (Lang) family and
- The Willett family
FAREWELLS & WELCOMES
The end of each year always brings some staff changes and we have to say ‘Goodbye’ to some of our staff who have accepted positions at other schools. Karen Hustwaite, who has been at Bittern PS on and off for 15 years, has accepted a senior position at Kunyung PS and Stephen Espenschied who has been at Bittern PS for 11 years has accepted a position at Somerville PS. Both Karen and Steve have made a significant contribution to Bittern PS and the wider community. Karen has made a substantial contribution to the education of many families, along with Steve who has made Physical Education and ICT a major focus for the students and staff at Bittern PS. We thank both Steve and Karen for their commitment and dedication to the school and wish them all the best for their future endeavours in 2016 and beyond.

Sandra Christie has done an excellent job of the specialist areas of Art & Science this year. Sandra’s efforts with the Art display at the Spring Festival were greatly appreciated by parents, teachers and students. Thanks Sandra for your enthusiasm and commitment to Bittern PS, we wish you all the best for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Sophia Grant who has been our Grade ½ teacher for 2015 as she has accepted a position at Belvedere Park for next year. Thanks Sophia for your efforts this year, your students, parents and colleagues wish you all the best for the future.

Melissa Williams, our before and after school co-ordinator has finished her teacher training and has accepted her first teaching position at Silverton Primary School. We wish Mel all the best on the beginning of her teaching career.

A huge WELCOME to Simone McDonald who is to take up the role of Assistant Principal at Bittern PS for 2016. Simone comes with a wealth of experience in her current role as Acting Assistant Principal at Somerville PS and has also held a similar position at Hastings PS. I know that Simone is very excited about her new position and that she is looking forward to meeting the students, teachers and parents. We also welcome Candice Urquhart who is taking up the before and after school care co-ordinator position. Candice is very experienced and knowledgeable and has a lot of expertise in this area of care.

THERE WILL BE NO HOT DOGS THIS FRIDAY, 18TH DECEMBER
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE
ENJOY THE HOLIDAY BREAK.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL IN 2016