Dear families,

Thank you to everyone in our community for your support and understanding over the last week, as we had to reorganise our school to accommodate a 20th class. It is amazing the difference a couple of new enrolments can make to the school organisation.

Hopefully everyone will now settle into their new classes with their new teachers for a fantastic year of learning. I wish everyone a happy term and ask that if you have any concerns at all about your child’s education please see your child’s teacher immediately. The sooner issues are resolved the better. Classroom issues are best resolved at class level. Of course if you wish to discuss any matter with me please do not hesitate to make an appointment.

A reminder that our school newsletter is sent home each fortnight on a Thursday. I strongly encourage all families to take a couple of minutes to read the newsletter. It is our main form of communication with our community and regularly contains information and reminders about school events.

It was fantastic to see so many parents join us on Monday afternoon for our Parent / Teacher Meet and Greet. I trust you found the information useful and now have a clearer understanding of class routines and expectations.

Last week we sent home Pink Student Information Cards. It is vitally important that emergency contact details for all students are updated as a matter of urgency.

There have been a number of occasions, already in 2013, where the office have had great difficulty making contact with a parent or a nominated contact person because phone numbers did not connect or have changed.

Please return the completed cards to the school as soon as possible. Should you require any further information or assistance please contact the school.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

Like Us On Facebook
We are always trying to improve the ways in which we share information and events with our community. To continue with this we have established an official Blairmount facebook page, it can be found at www.facebook.com/blairmountps
We will be posting regular updates and reminders, if you visit our page and ‘Like’ us all updates will automatically appear in your timeline.

Thank you to the 170 people who have already done this.

If you have any feedback or suggestions regarding our facebook page and updates please don’t hesitate to contact me at school.
2013 Class Structure

This year we now have 20 classes. All schools needed to submit their numbers for 2013 by last Wednesday - so there will be no further changes to our organisation for this year.

The class organisation for 2013 is now as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>KH</td>
<td>Miss Howick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Ms Davison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>KR</td>
<td>Mrs Rixon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>KP</td>
<td>Mr Pereira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Miss Chatterjee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Miss A Minihanje</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>Mrs LaSala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1/2M</td>
<td>Mrs Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2E</td>
<td>Mr Elvis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Miss Lawton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Mr Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>3K</td>
<td>Mr Krahe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Mrs Gawthorne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Miss C Minihan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4Y</td>
<td>Miss Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Mrs Alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>4/5S</td>
<td>Mr Sperling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>5/6N</td>
<td>Mrs Naisby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Miss Dash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Mrs Cavallero</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C Update

It was fantastic to see so many parents, turn up to our first P&C meeting for the year.

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that the following people have been elected to fill the P&C executive in 2013:

- Tia Cordoba - President
- Telloa Walters - Vice President
- Moana Faleali’i - Secretary
- Sharon Ah Chong - Treasurer
- Kathy Low - Fundraising Coordinator

Please accept our apologies for this inconvenience; unfortunately it is necessary to ensure the safety of all concerned. We would like to thank you all in advance for your support and understanding in this matter.

Tuesday Afternoons

As many of you would be aware we have a problem on Tuesday afternoons with students from Eagle Vale HS finishing early and entering Blairmount PS. Unfortunately these high school students are behaving in an inappropriate manner towards our students, staff and parents.

To ensure the safety of our school community (students, staff and parents) we have decided that all gates will be locked at 2pm. However the pedestrian gate on Clydesdale Drive will remain open and those parents picking up students are of course welcome to enter the school. All gates will be unlocked at 3pm.

Did you know you can now make payments for most school events online?

We have launched a new online payment portal linked to your school’s website to make it easier for you to pay for school related payments. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

When?
This payment method will go live on Monday 25th February 2013.

How?
Log onto School site at:
www.blairmount-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Click on “$ Make a Payment” and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard.

School Photos 2013

Our School Photo’s this year will be taken on Tuesday 26th March 2013 by Master School Photography a company we have used many times in the past.

So put that date in your diary!
Ready, Set, School Program

The Ready, Set, School program is a transition program for all children beginning Kindergarten in 2014. The program has been running for the past few years and we have received wonderful feedback from parents. They feel their children are better prepared for Kindergarten and teachers are also seeing the benefits of students who have participated in the Ready, Set, School program. The program will increase your child’s readiness for Kindergarten and help engage parent/carers in understanding the education process.

Beginning 8th May, the program will take place each Wednesday morning from 9.15am - 11am and run for 8 weeks. It is very important that your child attends every session. Parents are asked to stay with their child for the first three weeks only. Parents will then be given the opportunity to take part in a variety of planned parent workshops.

Each session will have a specific focus with a variety of activities including literacy, numeracy, music, art, craft and social play. There will also be opportunities to visit the library, computer lab and become more familiar with different areas of the school. Many different skills will be highlighted including some simple, cheap and effective ideas for you and your children at home.

Places are still available for next term. To ensure your child’s place in the program or if you have any questions, please contact Penny Golledge or Melissa Clarke on 4626 1795.

Fortnightly (Even weeks) Weeks beginning: 18th Feb, 4th March, 18th March, 1st April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/6N</td>
<td>4Y</td>
<td>2C</td>
<td>2E</td>
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</table>

Every child will need a waterproof library bag. Some children have brought calico bags or bags made from paper. These are not waterproof, so I have given these children a plastic shopping bag to put inside these types of bags.

The library will soon be opening at lunch on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This will provide them with extra opportunities to return and borrow books.

A reminder that Issue 1 bookclub is due back at school this Friday (22/2/13).

Mrs C. Burden
Teacher/ Librarian

Clean Up Australia Day

Blairmount Public School will be participating in the ‘School’s Clean Up Australia Day’ on Friday March the 1st. The students from Years two to six will join over 2,000 schools around the country to help remove rubbish from our precious environment.

The students will clean up our immediate school environment as well as the external fence line. Each participating student will be issued with a pair of gloves and closely monitored by supervising teachers.

This is an excellent opportunity for our students to be involved in service to the community as well as conserving our environment.

School Bus Update

The school bus lease is now finished and the bus has been collected. The school is now in the process of purchasing the bus at auction. We apologise for any inconvenience and will endeavour to get the bus back in the school as soon as possible.

Library News

The library timetable is now finalised and up and running.

Borrowing days are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KH</td>
<td>1C</td>
<td>KR</td>
<td>KP</td>
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<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>KD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Fortnightly (Odd weeks) - Weeks beginning: 25th Feb, 11th March, 25th March 8th April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4M</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>1/2M</td>
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<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>6C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3K</td>
<td>4/5S</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Happy Birthday
Lina Nabuka, Mikyla Herangi, Peter Phouangpanya, Cobey Watkins, John Williams, Caitlin Chaophrasy, Ruby Chaophrasy, Christian Norwood, Jordan Hughes, Pursayis Ahmad, Kodelia Manapori, Jada Carlyon, Ashley Clissold, Esther Soalii, Tane Croft-Ritete, Primo Tahana, Cassidy Brock, Geofelyn Robinson, Christian Douangdara, Alyssa Khouri

Assembly
Our K-6 assembly’s will commence on Friday 1st March. All parents are welcome to attend. This week 4/5S will be presenting an item for the assembly.

Before School Activities

Come and join the fun

Taekwondo

Starts 8:30 sharp in the school hall

Yr K-2 Monday
Yr 3-4 Thursday
Yr 5-6 Friday

UNITED TAEKWONDO
Fitness and Self Defence
Canberra - Sydney
Upper Hunter - Riverina - Adelaide - Tonga

NO SMOKING NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO OR EXIT FROM A PUBLIC BUILDING
Effective 7 January 2013 smoking is banned within 4 metres of a pedestrian entrance to, or exit from a public building. This will include all entrances and exits for our school. Penalties of up to $550 apply for anyone who fails to comply with the law under the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000.

NO SMOKING NEAR CHILDREN’S OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND AREAS IN PUBLIC PLACES
Smoking is banned within 10 metres of children’s play areas in outdoor public places in NSW.
BLAIRMOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL’s NEW SCHOOL RULES:

Students at Blairmount Public School have been busy learning their new school rules including the difference between desirable and undesirable behaviour.

- Do your best
- Let others learn
- Participate in learning
- Follow directions and instructions
- Be prepared for learning
- Keep focused and stay on task
- Actively listen

- Always be polite and use your manners
- Be cooperative
- Respect your own, others and school property
- Respect yourself and take responsibility for your actions
- Respect your school and the people and creatures in it
- Wear your school uniform with pride
- Respect the feelings of others
- Respect all natural and built environments
- Keep your play and eating areas clean from rubbish
- Be in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing.
- Be sun safe – Wear a hat or stay under shelter
- Move safely at all times
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- Use all equipment correctly
- Travel safely to and from school
- Stay safe in cyberspace

Students are encouraged to demonstrate desirable behaviour at all times by following the school rules and earn some of our fabulous new awards including:

~ Desirable Playground Behaviour Awards ~
~ Being a Learner Award ~
~ Being Respectful Award ~
~ Being Safe Award ~
~ Being a Safe and Respectful Learner Term Award ~

Please support and encourage your child to learn the new school rules and demonstrate desirable behaviour by following these at all times.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WK</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>28 January Australia Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>29 School Development Day</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>11 P &amp; C Meeting 6pm</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>18 Teacher Meet and Greet 3.15pm</td>
<td>19 Kindergarten Vision Screening</td>
<td>20 Kindergarten Vision Screening</td>
<td>21 Issue 1 of Bookclub Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 Kindergarten Hearing Testing</td>
<td>28 1 March Clean Up Australia Day (12.45pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 P &amp; C Meeting 6pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8 Clean Up Australia Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>11 Book Fair</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20 Harmony Day K-8</td>
<td>21 PSSA Gala Day 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 Easter Hat Parade K-2</td>
<td>28 Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 April Easter Monday</td>
<td>2 Parent / Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>3 Parent / Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>4 PSSA Gala Day 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>8 K-2 Attendance Disco</td>
<td>9 3-6 Attendance Disco</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12 Cross Country - Fun Run Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 6pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>