Dear families,

Unfortunately due to the wet weather over the last two weeks we have had to postpone our Kindergarten zoo excursion and cancel our PSSA Gala Day.

The Kindergarten excursion has now been rebooked and will be held on Friday 14th June. Our next PSSA Gala Day is scheduled for Friday 21st June. Let’s hope the weather stays fine and these two events can go ahead as planned.

Could we remind all parents to please wait outside of the building when collecting students at the end of the day. All K-2 classes have a designated dismissal area where children will wait with their teacher until collected. All 3-6 classes dismiss children through the external doors of their classrooms. Thankyou in advance for your support in this matter.

Finally I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable and relaxing long weekend.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

Medical Alert – Whooping Cough

There have been a number of recent diagnoses of whooping cough (pertussis) at Blairmount Public School.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough caught at school can spread to younger brothers and sisters at home and can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and is worse at night. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children.

- Children with symptoms should see a GP.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken five days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades. If your school-aged child has younger siblings, it’s a good idea to check that they are up to date with their vaccines.


Stage 3 (Year 5 & 6) Disco - Fundraiser

Years 5 and 6 are having a disco to raise money for the Year 6 farewell.

The disco will be held on Wednesday 19th June from 4pm - 6pm in the school hall. Entry only will cost $2 or students can get entry, hot dog, drink and glow stick for $5.

This disco is only open to Year 5 and 6 students and all money raised will go to paying for the Year 6 farewell.

PSSA Gala Day

Unfortunately our Week 4 PSSA Gala Day was washed out. Our next Gala Day is scheduled for Friday 21st June (week 8).

Please note that payments made for our washed out Gala Day will roll over to Week 8 and Term 3 Gala Days.

Please don’t hesitate to contact the school office should you have any questions.
School Payments
Just a reminder that both online payments via the school website and EFTPOS (debit only) facilities are available to pay for school activities. Unfortunately these methods cannot be used to pay for uniforms.

All permission notes that are coming home now have provision for parents to enter a receipt number from online payments.

ALL notes still need to be placed in the payment box in reception so the child can be marked off as paying on class lists.

Thanks
Mrs Jones
Office Manager

Kindergarten News

Week 7 is going to be a very busy week for Kindergarten!

We will be having our Mum’s Fun Night on the Wednesday (12/6/13). It will begin with afternoon tea in our hall at 4:30pm. Activities will begin at 5:00pm and the night will conclude at 6:00pm. Please return your pink note as soon as possible if you would like to attend. If you need another note regarding the night, please see your child’s class teacher.

We will also be heading to the zoo on the Friday (14/6/13). Just a reminder that the children will need to be at school by 7:45am. The children will need to be dressed in their full winter school uniform and bring a backpack with their lunch and recess. Please ensure your child dresses warm and brings a hat and raincoat with them.

Please come and see me after school if you have any further questions regarding these days.

Miss Kelly Howick

Heartbeat Excursion
On Monday 2nd June, our Year 3 and 4 Indigenous students attended the University of Western Sydney Campbelltown, to participate in the Heartbeat program. The day provides hands-on activities where students have fun learning about health and medicine. The program aims to improve health-related decision-making and inspire students to pursue careers in the health sciences.

Chloe from 4M wrote:
Today we went to Campbelltown University. I had so much fun learning about the skeleton, what foods to eat, how to brush teeth correctly and about the heart. We got to do some fitness activities and got a lot of cool stuff. It was a great day.
Kindergarten 2014

If you have a pre-school child turning 5 years old on or before 31st July 2014, they are eligible to enrol in Kindergarten for 2014.

If you haven't already done so, please collect an enrolment form from the office and return to school ASAP. If you are aware of neighbours or friends with eligible children, please advise them to come and introduce themselves and ask for an enrolment form and information about the school.

Library News

Just a reminder that Issue 4 bookclub orders are due back on or before Tuesday the 18th June.

I am handing out overdue library notices this week, so please check with your child/children to see if they received one. Severely overdue book notices will be posted home. If your child/children receive a note please help them to find the books and return them straight away.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is well under way now but there are many children who have not read one book yet. The teachers are expecting all students to complete the challenge.

K-2 will be read their 30 books but Years 3-6 need to read their own 20 books. Children without internet access at home may record these books on paper in the library and Mrs Price will enter the books for them. The challenge finishes mid-August.

Mrs C. Burden
Teacher Librarian

Year 2 & 1/2M Manly Sealife Sanctuary Excursion

Green Permission notes for the Year 2 and 1/2M Manly Excursion were sent home last week.

Thank you to those families who have already paid. Please ensure the $25 is paid in full by Wednesday 12th June.

Any spare notes are available at the office. Please see me if you have any questions.

We all look forward to having a great day with the children.

Ms Murray
Excursion Organiser

Botany Bay Environmental Education Centre Excursion - Year 3 and 4 Students

Year 3 and 4 Students and Class 4/5S are going on an excursion to the Botany Bay Environmental Education Centre, located at Kamay/Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell, Southern Sydney.

- Year 3 students will be attending on Friday 7th June 2013
- Year 4 students with Class 4/5S will be attending on Monday 17th June 2013.

This excursion has been planned to supplement the work being done in the classroom on British Colonisation in the area HSIE

Thanking you -Stage 2 Teachers

Peer Support Update

Week 6

This week in Peer Support the children will identify their strengths. Children will explore the following important strengths - curiosity, kindness and teamwork. Through the activities, children will be able to recognise which strengths they possess. They will realise how important it is to use their strengths in different situations. During the week encourage your child to share their strengths with you.

Week 7

This week in Peer Support the children will practise developing their strengths. This will help your child become more resilient and optimistic. Ask your child to share the strengths they identified during this week's session.

Miss Dash
Permission to Publish

Last week we sent home a RED note seeking your permission to publish information about your child for the purposes of sharing his/her experiences with other students, informing the school and broader community about school and student activities and recording student participation in noteworthy projects or community service.

This information may include your child’s name, age, class and information collected at school such as photographs, sound and visual recordings of your child, your child’s work and expressions of opinion such as in interactive media.

The communications in which your child’s information may be published include but are not limited to:

- Public websites of the Department of Education and Communities including the school website, the Department of Education and Communities intranet (staff only), blogs and wikis.
- Department of Education and Communities publications including the school newsletter, annual school magazine and school report, promotional material published in print and electronically including on the Department’s websites.
- Official Department and school social media accounts on networks such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter.

Parents should be aware that when information is published on public websites and social media channels, it can be discoverable online for a number of years, if not permanently. Search engines may also cache or retain copies of published information. Published information can also be linked to by third parties.

Please complete the permission slip on the RED note and return to the school by Monday 27th May 2013.

Fantastic Science work in Year 1

Year 1 are learning about observing change in the environment. We have learnt that both the natural and built environment can be changed by people and the weather.

We are learning to observe these changes using our five senses. Today we used our sight (eyes) and touch (skin) to observe the weather.

Knowing about the seasons helps us predict what type of weather we can expect.

There are six D’harawal seasons which give us a more specific indication of what type of weather to expect than the four seasons of Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring.

The D’harawal seasons are:

- January, February and March are Gadalung Marool - hot and dry.
- April and May are Bana’murra’yung - wet becoming cooler.
- June and July is Tugarah Tuli - cold and windy.
- August is Tugarah Gunya’marra - cold and windy.
- September and October are Murrai’yunggaray - cool, getting warmer.
- November and December are Goray’murrai - warm and wet.

http://www.abc.net.au/science/features/indigenous/

Here is some of 1C’s work:

It is Winter. The D’harawal season is Tugarah Tuli: cold, frosty, short days.

Today the weather is warm, windy and a little bit cold. (Tarelle)

Today the weather is sunny. The sun is shining and warm and the air is cool. (Mia)

Today the weather is sunny, windy and a little bit cloudy. (Diva)

Today the weather is sunny and cold. (Rihanna)

The weather is sunny and cold and cloudy. (Amosa)
The Woolworths Earn and Learn program will end on Sunday June 9th. Please put the stickers that you collect onto an Earn and Learn sheet, and place it into the collection box at the front office. If you don't have enough stickers to complete an Earn and Learn sheet, simply put the stickers into the box.

Thank you for your wonderful support so far this year.

Helping Your Child Understand TIME

Through everyday activities and play situations children will naturally use numbers. Young children are very capable of adding a friend's collection to their own and finding the total or starting with a total and taking some away to work out how many are left. We need to help children discover quick and easy ways of using numbers.

How do children learn to use numbers?

When first learning to use numbers, children will need to have the objects with them in order to add and subtract. They will go through a process of needing to see and count each thing one at a time.

We need to help children learn to start counting from a larger number and add or subtract a second number. We also need to help children build mental images of a group or quantity so they do not always have to rely on seeing the objects.

What can you do at home?

- Play board games such as Snakes and Ladders with two dice and encourage your child to add the two numbers rolled. Show them how to count on from the larger number.
- Play card games such as 21 or bust. In this game, two cards are dealt to each player who adds the numbers together. Each player may ask for more cards from the ‘kitty’ with the aim of being the person with the highest score that does not go over 21.
- Ask your child to help you work out how many more items are needed when you are shopping. I have six apples here, how may more will I get to make ten?
- Read a book to your child that has a contents page. Look for a story or chapter on a certain page and work out how many pages until the next story.

Adapted from: Helping your child with - Arithmetic: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. NSW Department of Education and Training.

Breakfast Club

Just a reminder our breakfast club is open every morning from 8.30am till 8.50am. All students are welcome to come and enjoy some toast made by Mrs Golledge, Mr Alone or Mr Rice. The breakfast club cannot serve toast after 8.50am to ensure students have enough time to finish their breakfast and return to their lines.

5/6N - Setting the Scene

Arriving to school seeing kids enjoying themselves, boys playing handball, girls talking to each other and birds singing in the trees. It was a lovely image. It was a pleasant morning and the sounds of taekwondo chanting and seeing teachers, especially Mr Sperling walking around suspiciously, I knew it was a lovely morning. (Tafa)

Early in the morning out on the asphalt, I see the boys playing handball and the girls sitting down chatting and doing their hair. I hear the taekwondo in the hall, and the early morning birds squawking as they fly on by. I see children eating toast, and the teachers walking down to the playground. (Mieke)
Early in the morning, out on the asphalt, birds chirping, kids laughing and running. The sound of taekwondo, girls talking to each other, and boys fighting over the ball. Handballs bouncing on the ground. Toast everywhere. Bell rings, kids everywhere, running to lines, grabbing their bags. (Puhi)

Early in the morning out on the asphalt, people yelling "Hyae!" in the hall. Boys playing handball and soccer. The girls talking and tying each other's hair, boys and girls buying food at the canteen. The bell goes, we all go to line, then we'll be off to class. (Brandon)

Early in the morning I could hear the sound of cars arriving quickly through the gate, people running about from here to there, teachers looking mysteriously for bad children. People getting injured by the asphalt strong cement. The sounds of "Hiya!" from taekwondo and girls chatting to each other. (Eileen)

Early in the morning, out in the playground, I see the boys slapping each other on the back and the girls running to each other while the teachers are telling kids to behave. Handballs bouncing here and there and people saying "HOYAA!" in taekwondo while others say "ouch". The crows squawking, while the cars are parking. Teachers making toast and kids eating them. (Bassair)

Early in the morning, I see people are coming through the gates, the boys playing handball, the girls bunched up into little groups chatting, people in the hall getting taught taekwondo. There goes the bell, everyone running to lines, trying not to be late to lines. (Rachel)

Early in the morning boys and girls running to meet their friends and boys playing handball, girls gossiping to each other. Teachers walking slowly to the asphalt. Kids hitting boards - smack, smack in taekwondo, pieces flying everywhere and birds chirping when cars are parking. (Tania)

Early in the morning out on the asphalt boys and girls playing handball. You can hear the noise from the hall coming from taekwondo, people always going crazy. There are also people eating toast and a bunch of girls talking to each other and laughing. Everyone running around and are very silly. Boys are also talking about what they maybe did in the afternoon from yesterday. There might be teachers walking through the playground and the bell rang. Everyone just rushes to lines and the teachers walking together. They also talk to each other and walk slowly together. (Lauren)

Road Safety

It has been brought to my attention that parents are parking across the pedestrian crossing on Clydesdale Drive. The council has been contacted about this and has assured me that rangers will now be making regular spot checks. Please do NOT park across the crossing as it puts students and parents trying to do the right thing in danger.

Similarly we have some families not using the supervised crossing to cross Badgally Road to come to school. The Roads & Maritime Services provide a crossing supervisor on Badgally Road to ensure the safety of students arriving and leaving school. Please talk with your children and emphasise the importance of using the crossing on Badgally Road when arriving or leaving the school.
An 8 week transition program for all children beginning Kindergarten in 2014
Wednesdays & Thursdays
9:15am - 11:00am

To ensure your child's place in the program or for further information please call Penny Golledge on 02 4626 1795

Enrol now for Terms 3 & 4
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