Dear families,

It is great to be back and we have enjoyed catching up with all of your wonderful children. We look forward to working with all of our families this year to ensure that our children have the best possible opportunities provided.

Welcome to all of our new parents/carers who have Kindergarten students and new students who have just started at Blairmount. We hope that your children are all happy, making friends and enjoying their new school.

It is great to see all students back safe and settled into the school routine. It is pleasing to see all the happy faces of our students and even more pleasing that they are all keen and ready to learn.

Our school newsletter will be sent home fortnightly on a Thursday. I would encourage everyone to take a few minutes to read our newsletter as it will contain regular school updates and reminders of upcoming events.

In some staffing news Mr Sperling received a promotion to Deputy Principal at Birrong PS in the last week of last year (Please see his farewell later in this newsletter). I would like to welcome Miss Tamara Pollock to Blairmount as our new Assistant Principal.

Next Monday (9/2/15) students will be bringing home a ‘Green student information card.’ 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

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Staffing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Principals</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support/RFF Teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admin Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Liaison Officer</td>
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<td>Community Engagement Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher’s Aides</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2015 Class Structure
This year we have 20 classes. In primary schools, classes are organised in a variety of ways. Our school has a mixture of classes that are multi aged or stage classes.

There are reasons why these classes are formed:
- Educational - classes are formed on the basis of educational rationale to ensure they have an educational benefit for the student. Our teachers spend a long time working together to form classes that offer the best possible learning for all of our students.
- Administrative - this is where there is an uneven enrolment in school years and composite classes need to be formed.

In all classes, ‘straight’ or otherwise, children’s abilities will be at different levels. All children learn at different rates and in different ways. Remember when they were preschool age, they walked, talked, grew teeth etc at different ages and stages. No children are the same. If your child is in a class with younger children, this doesn’t mean that your child is not smart nor will it hold them back in their learning.

All teachers at Blairmount are experienced and are K-6 trained. Staff work in stage based teams and plan together. Stage teams often group children across classes or teach different lessons to deepen the learning of students (eg rotational groups).

Older students are not held back in composite classes. Teachers manage different grades in the one class by grouping children according to what they already know and giving small group instruction. This is achieved through continual assessment for learning. Learning programs are ‘differentiated’ or made different for the different levels of student achievement by teachers extending the work of those who learn more quickly and giving more support to those who need it, through group work and individualised learning.

Children in composite classes do no better or worse academically than their peers in a straight grade class, and, socially, their development can be enhanced. They can be more confident, can operate better as part of a group, become more independent learners and better problem-solvers. They also make friends outside of their standard age-groups.

Multi-age classes work well where both teachers and parents believe that the quality of the teaching & learning taking place is far more important than whether or not the class was formed on an age basis. Children need time to settle into their new class and get to know their new classmates and teachers.

The class organisation for 2015 is as follows;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>KR</td>
<td>Mrs Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Mrs McGaughey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Ms Davison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1P</td>
<td>Mrs Pollard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1T</td>
<td>Mr Neill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1T</td>
<td>Mrs Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Mrs Bagley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2K</td>
<td>Mr Krahe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2E</td>
<td>Mr Elvis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2O</td>
<td>Mrs O’Keefe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Ms Chatterjee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>Mr Middleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>3/4P</td>
<td>Miss Pollock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>4S</td>
<td>Mr Pereira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Miss A Minihan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>4/5A</td>
<td>Mrs Alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>5E</td>
<td>Mr Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Mrs Cavallaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>6H</td>
<td>Ms Howick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>6J</td>
<td>Mr Collins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Staff
We have a number of new staff members joining us for 2015.
- Mrs Tamara Pollock (Assistant Principal)
- Mrs Tania Pollard
- Mrs Kellie Ryan
- Mr Steve Evans

It is fantastic to have some new faces around bringing and sharing their experiences with the Blairmount staff. I am sure you will join with me in welcoming them to the Blairmount community.
Farewell from Mr Sperling

Thank You, Good Bye, Good Luck and All the Best!

To the Students, Parents and Community Members of Blairmount Public School,

I am writing to say thank you, goodbye, good luck and all the very best with your studies, efforts and aspirations for the future.

In the final week of 2014 I was fortunate enough to be promoted to Deputy Principal at Birrong Public School.

Due to the timing of this promotion however, I was not able to personally say goodbye to the many wonderful students I had taught or parents or community members that I had worked with during my time at Blairmount Public School.

And, as I commence the new year meeting a new staff, new students and new parents and community members of my new school, I thought I’d reflect a little upon my time at Blairmount including why I will always hold it special.

I commenced at Blairmount in 2008 and had the pleasure of teaching students from Kindergarten to Year 6 in various capacities including Release from Face to Face Teacher, Classroom Teacher and Learning and Support Teacher.

I enjoyed this time immensely particularly when students actively engaged in learning, gave their best and achieved fabulous results.

I too enjoyed all of the fabulous special events such as Harmony Day Celebrations, NAIDOC Celebrations, Kinder Fun Nights and any other reason to celebrate student success and make a positive contribution to the Blairmount community.

I am also proud to have been part of Blairmount’s dynamic learning community over the last few years to improve the opportunities for all our students with all aspects of school life and know that the best is still to come.

So please take care, work hard, achieve your dreams and goals, and continue to make Blairmount stand out within the Campbelltown Network of Schools as a place of excellence.

All the very best and kind regards from Mr Sperling.

Parent / Teacher ‘Meet and Greet’

There is a Parent / Teacher ‘Meet and Greet’ afternoon planned for Tuesday 17th February starting at 3.15pm.

Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child’s 2015 teacher. At this meeting the organisation and expectations for the year will be given to parents explaining learning programs and possible costs that may be incurred in 2015 allowing parents time to plan.

2015 School Photos

Our School photos will be taken on Tuesday 24th March this year.

As in previous years envelopes will come home closer to the date, NO money is to come to school before photo day.

Money is given directly to the photographer.

S. Jones

Blairmount PS – Uniform Shop

The operating times will be Monday – Friday from 8.30am.

Cash and EFTPOS are available, sorry no credit facility is available.

Like us on Facebook

To keep up to date with everything that goes on at our school please visit and like us at our official Blairmount Facebook page, it can be found at www.facebook.com/blairmountps
Blairmount Smartphone App

Blairmount now has its own Smartphone App. The App is available to download from both the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

The App will be used to further enhance the communication between the home and school and will add to what we already do with our school webpage, Facebook page and Twitter account.

Search for Blairmount Public School in

Is Your Child in a New Class Without their Friends?

At some stage in their school life your child is likely to find themselves in a class without their close friends. It's normal for them to initially feel a little anxious about this, so how should you handle it?

Find out more:

Harmony Day

Harmony Day at Blairmount Public School will be celebrated on Thursday 19th March 2015. We are still in the beginning planning stages of organising events for this day. If you have any ideas for the day or would like to organise a dance / performance group, please contact Mrs Sammut by Friday 20th February.

School Bus

The Busabout bus fare has increased to $1.20 for students who live too close to school to have a bus pass. Please ensure your child has enough money as if they don't they won't be able to board the bus.

Thanks
Valentine’s Fun!
P&C Mufti Day
Thursday 12th February 2015

Roses are Red, Violets are Blue. Come dressed in RED & support your school
A Gold coin donation will be collected on the day

All funds raised go towards our Blainmount School Community

Macarthur CDC’s Social Skills Group

At Macarthur CDC, children gather in small groups in a fun, innovative and dynamic environment to develop and enhance their social skills and interactions.

Our programs are designed for children of all ages and tailored to meet the needs of typically developing children and children with additional needs.

Macarthur CDC’s programs combine structured & specific learning tasks as well as unstructured tasks that allow children to learn in a natural and age appropriate environment.

Advice, support resources and strategies are provided to families to facilitate ongoing learning at home and school.

MACARTHUR CHILDREN’S DEVELOPMENTAL CLINIC

Understanding and managing emotions
Inference and perspective taking
Sharing and turn taking
Self-esteem
Confidence and assertiveness
Starting, maintaining & ending conversation
Communication
Dealing with conflict
Basic problem solving
Making & maintaining friendships
Understanding humour
Listening & attention
Playing and team work
# Kathy's Kitchen Canteen Menu

**Blairmount PS Term 1**

## SALAD BOXES
- Lettuce, Grated Carrot, Grated Cheese, **Small** $3.50, **Medium** $4.00, **Large** $5.00
- Diced Cucumber & Tomato
- Add Fresh Chicken or Ham $1.50

## FRESH FRUIT SALAD
- Small $3.50
- Medium $4.00
- Large $5.00

## DIP BOX
- Sticks of Carrot, Celery, Cucumber, Cheese & Crackers
- Small $3.00
- Medium $4.00
- Large $5.00
- Dips- Corn Relish or French Onion $1.00

## CONDIMENTS
- Barbecue Sauce 30c
- Caesar Dressing 30c
- French Dressing 30c
- Garlic & Avocado Dressing 30c
- Honey & Mustard Sauce 30c
- Italian Dressing 30c
- Mayonnaise 50c
- Ranch Dressing 30c
- Sweet Chilli & Lime Dressing 30c
- Thai Dressing 30c
- Tomato Sauce 30c

## YOGHURT PRODUCTS
- Paul's Dora The Explorer Yoghurt 90g $2.00
- Paul's Kids Vanilla or Strawberry
- Yoghurt Pouch 70g $1.50
- Vaalia Low Fat Fruit Yoghurt - All Flavors 160g $2.50

## ICE CREAM/ICE BLOCKS
- Bulla Choc $2.00
- Choc Coated Ice Cream $2.00
- Icy Pole $1.00
- Frozen Orange Cup $1.00
- Moosies $1.50
- Mini Gelato Cup Bubbleyum $2.00
- Mini Gelato Cup Caramel $2.00
- Split $1.50
- TNT Sour Pop $1.00
- Zooper Dooper $1.00

A variety of freshly made **HEALTHY SNACKS** will be made daily and available at recess and lunch.

Like us on FACEBOOK at Kathy's Kitchen Blairmount Public School Canteen
To keep updated with all the **FRESH & HEALTHY** food available daily.
You can inbox Ms Low with any queries.
# Kathy’s Kitchen Canteen Menu
## Blairmount PS Term 1

### Sandwiches - Wholemeal Bread

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baked Beans</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baked Beans &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese, Tomato &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken, Lettuce &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devon</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Mayo</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg, Mayo &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg, Mayo, Lettuce &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham, Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham/Chicken &amp; Salad</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honey</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemon Spread</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandwich Chicken</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/Chicken &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/Chicken, Cheese &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaghetti</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberry Jam</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegemite</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegemite &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Wraps 50c extra

* Create your own sandwich - price to be advised

### Hot Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef Noodles</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Noodles</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken &amp; corn Roll</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried Rice</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lasagne</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausage Roll</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaghetti Bolognese (incl. cheese)</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach &amp; Ricotta Roll</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet n Sour Chicken</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveller Beef Meat Pie</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveller Beef, Cheese, &amp; Bacon Pie</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveller Chicken Parmia Pie</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Burgers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Burger lettuce, cheese, mayo</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish Burger lettuce, cheese, mayo</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetarian Burger lettuce, cheese, mayo</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Add Salad to Burgers Extra $1.00

### Chips

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burgerman</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delights</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doritos</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpeys</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Rock 28g</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Rock 45g</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smiths 27g</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smiths 45g</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Drinks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hot Chocolate</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juice Bomb</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Milk 300ml</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Milk 500ml</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchy Premium 375ml</td>
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<tr>
<td>Popper</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop Top</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quench</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slushie</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up &amp; Go</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>WK</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>26 January Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 February P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2 March P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews 3-6pm</td>
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