Dear Families,

Last week was our first PSSA Gala Day for 2015. Mrs Clarke and I took the opportunity to visit two of the fields to see our teams perform. We were able to go to both the softball and the cricket. At both venues Blairmount students were demonstrating outstanding sportspersonship, actively participating and demonstrating outstanding behaviour. I am extremely proud of the way our students represent our school at these events.

The Blairmount Public School 2014 Annual School Report is now available to be downloaded from: http://www.blairmount-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/annual-school-report If you do not have access to the internet copies can also be collected from the office.

I would encourage you to take the time to have a read of it. The report outlines the achievements made by the school and also the targets we are aiming for.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

P&C Committee 2015
P&C Members;
President: Roula Khouri
Vice President: Tia Cordoba
Secretary: Maria Curcuruto
Treasurer: Joanne Searle
Fundraising Co-ordinator: Marietta Viliardos

The P&C meeting is held every first Monday of the month at 6pm in the Blairmount Public School staff room.

The P&C at Blairmount Public School for 2015 is run by our very dedicated and committed team of parents and staff who are making a difference in our children’s lives. The P&C committee work together with the staff at Blairmount to make the school a better place and a safe environment for our children.

We would like to extend an invitation to all parents and carers to come along to our P&C meetings, this would provide an opportunity for parents and carers to learn about the upcoming events and assistance for the school that is provided by the P&C for the rest of the year.

We would like to also thank all the parents for helping your children in taking part in fundraising for their school. If anyone could assist in any way possible and help assist in collecting funds and or donations please do not hesitate to contact the P&C committee.

P&C Events Planned for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Hot Dog Day / Easter Raffle Tickets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Footy Mufti Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 June</td>
<td>P&amp;C Movie Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 July</td>
<td>Education Week Disco K-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 July</td>
<td>Education Week Disco 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 September</td>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 September</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 October</td>
<td>Crazy Costume Mufti Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 November</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting AGM 6pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How is the P&C assisting our School

- School Swimming Scheme Buses: $2600
- Year 5/6 Camp: $19 per student
- Year 6 Farewell Cake: $250
- Year 6 End of Year T-Shirts: $10 per shirt
- New Fridge and Toaster for B’fast Club: $500
- Committed to supporting the school financially to replace classroom air conditioners
Something exciting is happening in 6J and it is called GENIUS TIME!

**What is Genius Time?**
Genius Time is time for students to study a new idea or skill that they choose and are passionate about.

**Why is Genius Time important?**
Students take ownership in their own learning. They learn about something they want to learn about. Genius Time sparks curiosity, and students have an opportunity to become their own genius. It encourages life-long learning, imagination, perseverance, self-awareness, adaptability, as well as other life-lessons.

**Ashley and Alyssa:**
In Genius Time we have made a website that soon will be showing hairstyle tutorial videos and also hopefully selling hair bows that we have made ourselves. Our website is up and running and soon our hair bows will be available. It’s really fun learning and becoming a genius at our passion especially doing it with one of your best friends. The reason we love Genius Time is because we get to learn about our passion. We look forward to Genius Time every week because it gives an opportunity for us to do what we love. If you want to see our website go online to http://hairandbows.simplesite.com/

**Faith:**
In Genius time I have been working on a model of a house that I am designing. My passion is trying something new like architecture because it is something new that I haven’t experienced.

**Jonathan and Noah:**
In Genius Time we are working on a car to change the oil, tyres and the windscreen wipers. We haven’t done this before but it is so fun because we are learning so much about a car. We are going to video ourselves and put it on the school YouTube channel.

**The Amazing 6J**
6J now has a website. If you would like to see photos and samples of 6J’s work please visit our site.

http://6jblairmount.weebly.com

**Sewing Machine Needed**
Hi my name is Aleasha my class is 6J and we are doing genius time.

For my project I have chosen to learn how to make a dress. I have researched this but now I’m asking if anyone has a sewing machine that I can borrow. I promise I will take good care of it.

Thank you for your support.
Aleasha R
Support needed for a student affected by a house fire

The Blairmount Community were sorry to hear that over the weekend one of our female year 3 students lost her home to a fire. Gratefully, the student and her family were not home at the time.

As a community I am asking that we support this little girl as she has lost her clothing, toys and all personal belongings. We as a community can show our support by donating any toys that are no longer used or clothing. If you have anything suitable for a nine-year-old little girl please contact the office.

A big thank you in advance
Melissa Clarke

Zone Swimming Carnival

We had 3 students qualify for the zone swimming carnival, which was held on Tuesday 10th March. Andrew L, Anthony L and Tilden B all put in 100% effort on the day with Andrew and Tilden making the finals.

Congratulations on a job well done, you were all terrific ambassadors for our school!

Investigations in 4/5A

4/5A have been investigating how heat affects different things. In our first experiment we tested how quickly different conditions would change jelly from a solid to a liquid. When we put the jelly in the microwave for 30 seconds, it changed state from a solid to a liquid. When it was in there for 2 minutes, all of the liquid evaporated and only the crystals were left.

In our second investigation, we tested different materials to see which would keep food warmer for longer. We found out that food sitting in a bowl on top of boiling water keeps food warmer the longest. The average food temperature was 50.25 degrees Celsius. The plate of food with the foil on top had an average temperature of only 33.88 degrees Celsius. So, if you are planning a party and you need to keep the food warm, we suggest that you put your food in a bowl that is on top of or in a container of boiling water.

By Ruby S, Esther S, Claxton L and Zeph L
**Stage 3 News**

**Year 7 Expression of Interest forms**
Earlier in the term, our Year 6 students took home an Expression of Interest form to indicate which high school they will be attending. Thank you to those who have returned these forms already. For those who haven’t, just a reminder that they are due back to your child’s Year 6 teacher by **Friday 20th March**. If you need another form, please see the ladies in the front office.

**Courage to Care excursion**
Our Stage 3 students are booked in to attend the Courage to Care exhibition at Liverpool City Library. The Courage to Care exhibition aims to highlight the problems of bullying, racism and discrimination and promote understanding and acceptance of all people in our multicultural society. On Wednesday 25th March, students in 6H and 6J will be attending. On Thursday 2nd April, 5/6C, 5E and Year 5 students in 4/5A will be attending. The permission note and the $3, are due to the front office by **Friday 20th March**.

**Thank you to our P&C**
Our P & C work tirelessly to help support the initiatives and experiences that are happening at our school. One of these is the Stage 3 camp that is planned for August. A HUGE THANK YOU to our P&C who have contributed $19 per student to the Stage 3 camp to reduce the total cost for parents. We value the experience that this camp provides for our students and the assistance of the P&C to support this is greatly appreciated.

Mrs Sammut

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**ICAS Assessments**

Students in Years 3-6 are invited to participate in the 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. The competitions are conducted each year by Educational Assessment Australia, an organisation of the University of NSW.

The following competitions are available to 3-6 students, along with the sitting dates for each, in 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday 19th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(computer skills)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 3rd June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 15th June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 28th July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 11th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our Year 2 students are also invited to participate in the Science, English and Mathematics assessments on these days. There are some spare notes at the front office if you wish your child in Years 2-6 to participate.

If you would like to download some practice papers, please go to this website:

https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/download-practice-questions

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**2015 Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition**

This term, Stage 2 and 3 students have been preparing for our school public speaking competition to be held early next term. As in previous years students are preparing speeches on multiculturalism from a list that has been provided to them. Over this term students have been working on how to write and prepare planned and impromptu speeches. Two students from each class will be chosen at the end of this term to compete in a stage final to be undertaken early next term. Students are encouraged to write their speeches at home however, if any help is needed please see Miss Minihan or your class teacher. This competition is only for Stage 2 and 3 students.

Miss A Minihan

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**NAPLAN 2015 Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May 2015</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May 2015</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May 2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Language Conventions 40mins</td>
<td>Reading 45 Mins</td>
<td>Numeracy 45 Mins</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing 40 min</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Language Conventions 40mins</td>
<td>Reading 50 Mins</td>
<td>Numeracy 50 Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing 40 min</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Eco Group Apple Slinky Fundraiser

The Eco group is very pleased to announce that we raised $55 last week with the apple slinkies. We will be making and selling apple slinkies again next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. They will be 50c – bring your own apple or buy one from the canteen. We are fundraising to raise money for a new garden shed to put our garden tools in. We anticipate selling the apple slinkies each fortnight next term, until we raise enough money for the garden shed. Thank you for your support.

Science in 1P

This term, 1P have been observing changes in the land and sky. Last week, we studied the movement of Earth using shadows as well as balls and torches. Then, we wrote a recount about what happened and what we learnt.

Thomas - On Tuesday, 1P traced Aramis’ shadow. The shadow moved because the Earth moved and the sun did not move.

Corey: On Tuesday 1P went outside. We traced Aramis’ shadow. Later on we got torches and we got balls.

Tanya Pollard.

Stage 3 Antarctica Talk

At school, stage 3 classes have been learning about Antarctica for HSIE. On Thursday the 5th of March, our classes were lucky enough to have a special guest named Mr Bagley come to our school. He shared with us his amazing Antarctic adventure in the hall and enjoyed some biscuits and milk with us. Mr Bagley talked to us about all of the animals he came into contact with and some facts about them.

He also told us facts about Antarctica and tested our knowledge about it.

Overall, everyone really enjoyed it and learnt a lot of new things about the place.

We would all like to thank Mr Bagley for taking time off work to come in and talk to us about his adventure! We all really appreciated it.

Thank you,

Samantha (6H)
Ready, Set, School Program
The Ready, Set, School program is a transition program for all children beginning Kindergarten in 2016. 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.

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.

This transition program will begin in term 2.

To ensure your child’s place in the program or if you have any questions, please contact Penny Golledge on 4626 1795.

Online Fundraising Tips
Online fundraising is fun, effective, and easy. Within minutes, you can build your own personal fundraising page and share it with friends and family all over the world!

You can do this from your computer without having to get out of your chair! There are no forms to fill in, no money to collect, and no hassles. To make the most of your fundraising efforts, we have compiled a few tips we have learned through experience.

Top 5 Online Fundraising Tips
1. Make your fundraising page your own
To make your fundraising page as effective as possible try to tell a story. Explain why you are trying to raise money, the specific uses the money can be put to, and why you are personally moved to support your school. Personalise your page!

2. Don’t set your target too low!
You may be surprised by how deep your supporters will dig to help you get across the line to reach your fundraising goal. Raise as much as you possibly can for your chosen cause by trying to set an ambitious, but achievable target.

3. Email your close friends and family first
Send an email to close friends and family that you think are likely to be your most generous supporters first, before asking others to donate. People tend to match the amounts already donated, so target your most generous supporters first!

4. Don’t just use the ‘Share your fundraising page’ facility to share your link
Let as many people as possible know you’re fundraising! Copy and paste your personal fundraising URL from your page and ask your parents to share it via their own email network, social network and text messaging.

5. Update your Fundraising page and email your supporters again
People mean to donate, but sometimes it gets pushed to the bottom of the inbox and they forget. It usually takes more than one round of emails to nudge everyone into action, so don’t feel embarrassed about asking people again.

To update your fundraising page, log in to your account by entering your username and password (which you set when you set up your page). Tell everyone how fit (or otherwise) you are feeling and how much money you’ve raised so far. Then re-send the link to your updated page by email.
Blairmount Public School
would like to thank

By Kat
Mary Kay Cosmetics
Australia
Ph: 0419 491 379

Eagle Vale
Shop 14
Eagle Vale Shopping Centre
Eagle Vale, NSW 2559
Ph: (02) 9624 8478

Macarthur Square
Level 2 Shop 87
Macarthur Square Shopping Centre
200 Gilchrist Avenue
Campbelltown, NSW 2560
Ph: (02) 4624 9100

Blair Athol
Cnr Blaxland Rod & The Kraal Dve
Blair Athol, NSW 2560

Campbelltown
21 Blaxland Road
Campbelltown, NSW 2560
Ph: (02) 4620 485

Lyn-Chris Confectionery Pty Ltd

Tony Trpezanovski
Managing Director

For their wonderful support of our school
BLAIRMOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL
P&C ASSOCIATION

Mother’s Day Stall

Children need to pre-order & pay for Blairmount Money before Friday 24th April 2015.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On **Wednesday 6th May 2015**, the P&C will be running their annual Mother’s Day Stall. The Stall allows children to purchase a special gift for their mother, grandmother or special someone, while at the same time raising money for Blairmount Public School P&C. Participation in this event is entirely voluntary.

For this year’s Mother’s Day Stall gifts will range in price from $1, $2, $3, $5 and $10.

This year’s **PRE-PURCHASED** stall will provide your child with the opportunity to purchase more than one gift if they choose. There is **NO LIMIT** to the number of gifts that can be purchased providing they have purchased Blairmount Money **PRIOR** to the day.

A limited amount of gifts will be purchased and children who have pre-ordered and paid for Blairmount Money will be given the opportunity first to purchase a gift or gifts of their choice, anything that is left over will be sold at lunchtime.

In order to streamline the running of the stall, the reply slip needs to be completed and returned with your order. (Blairmount Money will be handed out to children on the day of the stall. $1 = 1 Blairmount Dollar).

**What do you need to do before the day?**
Please return the attached slip, along with all monies addressed to P&C Mother’s Day Stall, in a sealed envelope to the front office by **Friday 24th April 2015**. **NO MONIES WILL BE RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE.**

**CHILDREN WILL BE PURCHASING GIFTS – WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY 2015**

**RETURN SLIP – MOTHER’S DAY STALL**
Return this slip and monies by **Friday 24th April 2015**

Child’s Name: __________________________________________ Class: __________________

Amount of money enclosed: $ ___________________________
Claymore

Kids Study Time

Supporting kids aged 6 to 12 with homework, reading and school projects

Please ring Claymore Community Centre on 4626 2007 to book a place for your child

Day: Tuesday (during term)
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Where: Claymore Community Centre
Cnr Dobell and Gould Roads, Claymore

Students’ homework achievements are recognised through a celebration at the end of each term.
Dear School Parents,

On **Thursday 2nd April 2015**, the P&C will be selling **Hot dogs & Drinks** in conjunction with the School’s Easter Hat Parade. This would be a great opportunity for parents and children to share a lunch time meal together, while raising money for Blairstown Public School. Participation in purchasing Hot dogs and Drinks is entirely voluntary.

An **Easter Raffle** by the Blairstown P&C will be drawn during the **Easter Hat Parade**. Tickets will be sent home with the eldest child in each family early March. Monies and tickets for the Easter raffle are due back on **Monday 30th March, 2015**. Additional tickets will be available from the front office and tickets may also be purchased on the day.

**HOT DOGS AND DRINKS ARE TO BE PRE-PURCHASED!**

In order to streamline the running of Hot Dog & Drink orders on the day, the reply slip below needs to be completed and returned with your order & monies. (Tokens will be handed out to each child on the day e.g. 1 token per order).

**What do you need to do before the day?**
Please return the attached slip, along with all monies addressed to: **P&C Hot Dog Day**, to the front office by **Monday 30th March, 2015** (This will give us time to purchase hot dogs & drinks ready for the day).

**Picking up order on the day- Thursday 2nd April, 2015**
A **token** is to be exchanged for each hot dog/drink order.

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO HOT DOGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON THE DAY**

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**RSVP RETURN SLIP — P&C Hot Dog Day**
Please return this slip & monies by **Monday 30th March 2015**

**Child’s name:** ___________________________  **Class:** _______

*Please indicate quantity per order:*

[ ] x $4.00 (Hot dog & popper)
[ ] x $2.50 (Hot dog only)

All orders include extras: Tomato/BBQ sauce

**Total orders:** _______  **Total Monies paid:** _______
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WK</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>26 January Public Holiday</td>
<td>27 Staff Return</td>
<td>28 Students Yr 1-6 Return</td>
<td>29 Kindergarten Begins</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 February P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 PSSA Gala Day Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 P&amp;C Valentine’s Mufti Day</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>16 Parent / Teacher 'Meet &amp; Greet' 5:15pm</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>2 March 'Beverages &amp; Bikkie' 8:30 – 8:55am</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2 March 'Beverages &amp; Bikkie' 8:30 – 8:55am</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>6 PSSA Gala Day</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 Assembly – 5/6C</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20 Harmony Day</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 Assembly – 4M</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>2 K-2 Easter Hat Parade</td>
<td>3 Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>K-6 School Fun Run</td>
<td>Parent / Teacher Interviews 3-6pm</td>
<td>Parent / Teacher Interviews 3-6pm</td>
<td>K-2 Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>5/6C, 5E &amp; 45A Excursion</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Hot Dog Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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