Dear Families,

Welcome back for term 3, I trust everyone enjoyed the opportunity of family time together.

Last Monday we had an extremely exciting start back to school for the term. As is always the case staff were undertaking professional learning for the day and the focus for this term was using technology. What made this day far more exciting than usual was the fact that 20 parents joined us to learn side by side. This day provided an opportunity for authentic parent and community engagement with the school and to bridge the gap between home and the classroom.

This term is already shaping up to be extremely busy, with our first big event being Education Week. I trust you have already received your invitation to our open classrooms and our showcase assembly for Wednesday 29th July. Should you have any questions regarding our Education Week activities please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Clarke at school.

We also have our annual Athletics Carnival in week 4 of this term on Monday 3rd August. Once again 3-6 students will travel to Campbelltown Athletics Stadium. K-2 students will participate in a sports fun day at school on the same day.

Our Year 5 and 6 students are getting extremely excited about their impending overnight excursion. They will be visiting Canberra and the Snowy Mountains for 3 days and 2 nights in week 5, an experience I am sure they will remember for some time.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

Staffing News

It is with mixed emotions that I can announce that Mrs Sammut will be leaving us in the coming weeks. Mrs Sammut has been successful in gaining a promotion through merit as an Instructional Leader at Campbelltown North PS.

Mrs Sammut has been at Blairmount for 15 years the last 10 if which she has held the position of Assistant Principal and been and integral member of the executive team.

I would like to sincerely thank Mrs Sammut for everything she has done for the students and staff at Blairmount over the last 15 years and wish her every success in the future.

This will mean a change to some staffing and executive organisation. We will communicate these changes as soon as possible.

Child Protection Education

In NSW government schools, Child Protection Education forms part of all students learning in Personal Development Health and Physical Education from Kindergarten to Year 10. All classes at Blairmount PS will be covering this section of the syllabus during terms 3 and 4.

Students learn skills in recognising if they could be unsafe and strategies for protecting themselves.

Strategies including saying ‘no’ if they can, going away from the situation and telling a trusted adult what has happened as soon as possible.

Learning is organised into three themes: Recognising Abuse; Power in Relationships and Protective Strategies.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the content covered in Child Protection please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.
Starting Kindergarten in 2016

If you have a pre-school child turning 5 years old on or before 31st July 2016, they are eligible to enrol in Kindergarten for 2016.

If you haven’t already done so, please collect an enrolment form from the office and return it 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.

Peer Support

The Peer Support program is an educational program designed to foster the social and emotional wellbeing of students. The whole school is in groups of eight with two Stage 3 leaders and they will meet every Thursday this term.

Our first meeting took place last Thursday and in the first week of peer support the students were involved in a ‘getting to know you session’. They met their leaders and the other students in their groups and were involved in four activities to learn something new about each member of the group. This Thursday students will be discussing values.

Please feel free to discuss with your child what they learnt in Peer Support.

Super Heroes & Villains Mufti Day

On Tuesday August 11th, Week 5 the SRC Committee will be having a Super Heroes and Villain themed mufti day. All students are invited to dress up as their favourite super hero or Villain for the day. To participate in the day students will need to bring a gold coin donation. The SRC look forward to seeing all your wonderful costumes.

Education Week

During Education Week public schools across the state showcase a wide range of local and regional activities and events. This year we have planned a great day for the whole school community. We look forward to seeing you next Wednesday as the students and teachers love to get a chance to show the community the amazing teaching and learning that takes place at Blairmount Public School.

You are invited into your child/rens’ classroom to share in some of the brilliant things they have been learning and achieving this year on Wednesday 29th July from 10am till 11am.

Lunch will be as normal at 11am and you are invited to share lunch with your child/ren. The school canteen will have a variety of lunches that can be purchased on the day.

After lunch, you are invited to our Showcase Assembly. This assembly will be run by our leadership team and will take place in the hall. A variety of our performance groups, classes and all of our Kindergarten students will be performing. All parents are welcome to attend.

We hope you are able to come and join us and celebrate the success and achievements of our fantastic school.

Library News

Next week we are holding our first and last Bookfair for the year to celebrate Education Week. If you are coming to school for our Open Day on Wednesday please visit the Library. We have a huge selection of books ranging from only $1.50 with most books about $5 or $6. Parents are also welcome to come to the Library between 8.30am - 8.55am every morning except Thursday. There will also be the opportunity for you to donate a book to our Library.

Mrs C. Burden
Teacher Librarian

P&C Reminder

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 27th July at 6pm in the staffroom. As always everyone is welcome to attend.
Stage 2 Bangabaouï Cruise Excursion
Stage 2 have been learning about ‘Places Then, Now and Tomorrow’ in HSIE. To gain a contextual understanding of the topic we went into Sydney to investigate further.

Stage 2 were greeted at Tallawoladah (also know as The Rocks) by indigenous guides. They boarded a harbour cruise and the friendly, informative Aboriginal guides showed us sights such as Fort Denison, Macquarie's Chair and other sights that have changed over the years.

We then stopped at Clark Island and was greeted by Aboriginal dancers. We were lucky enough to be taught dances by them also.

We explored the island and our guides taught us how Aboriginal people conserved the land for tens of thousands of years. They also showed us tucker around the island such as sea urchin, oysters, sea spinach, berries, juice from a lomandra and many more.

We finished off with a full harbour cruise and some lovely live didgeridoo playing on the way back to the wharf.

Spelling Bee
It’s that time of year again – Blairmount’s Spelling Bee!

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 have been given their spelling lists to take home to learn and practice.

Grade spell offs are as follows:

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<th>Who</th>
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<td>Stage 3 Yr 5/6</td>
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<td>Mon 10th August</td>
<td>9.15am Hall</td>
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<td>Stage 2 Yr 3/4</td>
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<td>Wed 19th August</td>
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<td>Stage 1 Year 1/2</td>
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<td>Tues 18th August</td>
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Kindergarten’s date will be advised in the next newsletter.

Parents and friends are welcome to attend and support.

If you have any questions please feel free to come and see me.

Remember: Practice practice practice!

Mrs Fetterplace
Blairmount visits Birrong for NAIDOC
On Monday 20th July, some of our Stage 3 indigenous girls were invited to dance at Birrong Public School for their NAIDOC assembly.

The girls did an amazing job and represented our school beautifully. They were lucky enough to be accompanied by Pastor Michael Duckett and Aunty Terry, local Aboriginal Elders. The girls were also reunited with Mr Sperling, as he is deputy principal at Birrong and Mr Alone as he brought some dancers from Ashcroft High School.

Mrs Alone

Woolworths Earn & Learn
Blairmount Public School is once again excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Point stickers when you shop at Woolworths between Monday 14th July and Tuesday 8th September 2015. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.

Simply pop the stickers onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it’s completed, just bring it back to school and drop it into your class Earn & Learn box. There is also a collection box in the corridor near the hall if you don’t place it in your class box. A collection box has also been allocated to our school outside Eagle Vale Woolworths.

The class with the most completed sheets in their class box will receive a class prize at the end of the program. The more we collect, the more we can redeem!

Miss Minihan

K-2 Athletics Fun Day
The K-2 Athletics Fun Day will be held on Monday 3rd August, week 4 of Term 3. The students will begin participating in the fun day from 9:30am and it will run to approximately 1:00pm. We have lots of fun activities for the students to participate in throughout the day and we would like to invite the parents in our community to come along for the day to join in the fun. Parents are welcome to stay and have a picnic lunch with their students making it a fun filled day. We hope to see you there.

School Swimming & Water Safety Reminder
The School Swimming and Water Safety Program for 2015 will be held in weeks 9 and 10 of this term. This program will be available for students in years 2 – 6.

Notes will be sent home shortly. This program is always extremely popular and places are filled on a first come basis with priority starting with Year 2 students.

We would like to thank the P&C who cover the cost of the bus hire for this program which significantly reduces the cost for all families.
Henny Penny Hatching are visiting Kindergarten at BLAIRMOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL on Monday, 3 August 2015 for 11 days. They will be bringing 3 chicks and 12 fertile eggs which will hatch over the first week.

All eggs are fumigated before they are set at the hatchery, so there are no health concerns.

Henny Penny Hatching provides an exciting experience for both children and teachers!

For more information check out our website.

www.hennypennyhatching.com.au
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) 9824 8478

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

Campbelltown
21 Blaxland Road
Campbelltown, NSW 2560
Ph: (02) 4620 4855

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

Blair Athol
37 Mount Erin Road
Blair Athol NSW 2560
Ph: (02) 4620 9777

Event Cinemas Campbelltown
Macarthur Square Shopping Centre
200 Gilchrist Avenue
Campbelltown, NSW 2560
Ph: (02) 4628 0999

For their wonderful support of our school
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