Dear Families,

As mentioned in our last newsletter our student numbers have been slowly increasing this year. We now have enough students to form an extra class, this will take us from 20 to 21 classes. Unfortunately, this organisation will cause some disruption and some students may need to change classes. This change of classes will not happen until the beginning of next term.

Please be assured that Mrs Clarke and I are working extremely hard to minimise changes and disruption to students and teachers. As soon as we have a clearer picture of what the changes will be, we will communicate to the broader community. Mrs Clarke and I would like to thank you for your support and understanding with this matter.

We have recently had a new emergency evacuation system installed. This system will clearly indicate to students, staff and visitors when evacuations and lockdowns are required. As this is a new system we will have to practice these procedures using our new system with our students.

This new system also allows us to have music as our bell rather than the current siren. This change will occur next week. Hopefully this will be well received by our students and the broader community.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

Year 7 2016 – Expression of Interest High School forms

All of our Year 6 students will be given a Year 7 expression of interest form earlier next week. This is the first step to ensure that we secure a high school placement for your child in 2017. It is important that this form is returned to your child’s class teacher before 16th March 2016.

If you have any questions or need assistance to complete it, please contact Mrs Gibbs before this date.

Look who's coming to Blairmount Public School?

Do not MISS out, limited places available...

On Tuesday, 17th May, we are privileged to have the international speaker, Dan Haesler, visit Blairmount Public School to work with the staff and run a parent workshop. Dan has developed a reputation as one of Asia Pacific’s most dynamic educational speakers. His presentation focuses on GROWTH MINDSET and how parents and teachers can help children succeed. Dan will speak about the differences between a growth mindset (the understanding that you can embrace challenges, persist with setbacks and learn from criticism) and the fixed mindset (where you would avoid challenges, give up easily and see effort as pointless). Throughout the workshop Dan will highlight how we can support students to have a growth mindset towards their learning. He will also suggest different ways we can give honest feedback to children that encourages their effort and is specific to help them improve.

NOTE: Please keep your eye out for a note that will be sent home early next week asking you to RSVP to the workshop. We are also pleased to announce that there will be child minding available that afternoon but you will need to let the school know if you require this service.
ICAS Assessments

Students in Years 3-6 are invited to participate in the 2016 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 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies (computer skills)</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tuesday 31st May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 13th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 2nd August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

If you any questions or would like further information please contact Mrs Gibbs.

Library News

**Bookfair:** Last days Thursday 17th, Friday 18th and Monday 21st March.

**Bookclub:** Issue 2 is due back on Wednesday 30th March. Please remember these catalogues go to the eldest in the family.

**NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge:** All students in K-2 will be participating in this events by listening to the selected books in library and their classroom.

Years 3-6 will be asked by their teachers if they want to participate in the challenge by reading 20 books by August. More information can be found at [https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html](https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html).

Mrs C. Burden
Teacher/Librarian

Supporting Literacy in Year 2

At our school, we have the opportunity to provide students with extra help in the areas of reading, writing and comprehension. Year 2 Support groups are intensive 30 minute sessions with a specialist literacy teacher that works with your child in a small group setting. **If your child is working with me, you have by now received a yellow homework pack which includes a home reader and a green home reading card which needs to be signed every day.**

Please make sure your child brings their yellow homework pack with their home reader to school each day as this book is used in the groups. It is important that someone is available to listen to your child read every day and signs this card. A new reader is sent homework every week.

If you have any questions or would like more information please feel free to speak to me.

I look forward to working with you and your child and sharing their successes along the way.

Happy Reading!

Mrs Anna La Sala
Reading Recovery Teacher

Trivia Night

@ Blairmount Public School
Thursday 31st March 2016
6:30pm for a 7pm
$10 per ticket

Parents/Caregivers, friends and family are invited to a Trivia Night to support/sponsor Ms Susan Fakes in The World's Greatest Shave for the Leukaemia Foundation. Tables of 6 people will be set up but you might like to join others from our community. Bring your own food/nibbles and non-alcoholic drink. Looking forward to a fun night with lots of raffle prizes.

The tickets will be available from the front office or see Ms Fakes

Organised by Campbelltown City Lions Club
Crazy Hair Day/World’s Greatest Shave

Thank You

Thank you from Ms Fakes to the BPS students, staff and parents/caregivers for your support on our Crazy Hair Day when I had my head shaven by Tanesha Lovas for The World’s Greatest Shave for the Leukaemia Foundation. Also, a very big THANK YOU to Corinne Stark (Ruby’s mum) in overseeing the shave and to all the students who had amazing hairstyles. We raised over $400 that day and I hope some of you will join us on the Trivia Night on Thursday 31st March 2016.

Busy, Buzzy, Learner Program

The Busy, Buzzy, Learner program is Blairmount Public Schools new transition program for all children beginning Kindergarten in 2017. The program has been running for the past few years as Ready, Set, School 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 Wednesday 4th May & Thursday 5th May (Term 2, Week 2), the program will take place each morning from 9.15am – 11am and run for 8 weeks. Your child will attend the program only 1 day per week, you will be given the option of Wednesday or Thursday. It is very important that your child attends every session. Parents are asked to stay with their child for the first two 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.

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

2016 School Photos

Our School photos will be taken on Tuesday 22nd 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.
2016 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 Mrs Salmon or your class teacher. This competition is only for Stage 2 and 3 students.

Clean Up Australia day 2016
On the 4th of March students in years 2-6 participated in Clean Up Australia Day. It is one vital day that focuses, and builds awareness on the importance of disposing of rubbish appropriately in order to conserve our environment. Students who participated in the event were safe and respectful learners and were eager to protect the school grounds and surrounds. I would like to thank Mrs Bagley, Ms Fakes, Mrs Brennan and Mrs Dooner for their support and assistance.

Zone Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to Andrew Liddle, Anthony Liddle and Seth Too for competing at the zone swimming carnival last Tuesday. All boys put in a great effort against tough competition & represented Blairmount PS to the best of their ability. Great job boys.

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 it’s 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

TAFE @ Blairmount
A group of Blairmount parents have been enjoying their own opportunity to head back into the classroom this term. Each Thursday the group are participating in a Cert 2 Computer Skills: Use Everyday Technology & Identify own essential skills taught by qualified TAFE teachers. This has given them the opportunity to learn about MS Word, emailing & other technology along with supporting each other through the course. If you are interested in joining this course or any further courses at Blairmount please contact Penny Golledge on 4626 1795.
WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL
HARMONY DAY
Our diversity is our strength
BLAIRMOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS...

ARE YOU INVOLVED IN CULTURAL SINGING OR DANCING?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PERFORM AT OUR 2016 HARMONY DAY CELEBRATION?

PLEASE SEE MISS TAMARA POLLOCK OR CALL 4626 1795

PLEASE CONTACT BEFORE WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH
Welcome to the Hive
A place for all our Busy Buzzy Learners to prepare for Kindergarten in 2017.

Our Busy Buzzy Learners program held at Blairmount Public School is an 8 week transition program preparing pre-schoolers & parents for ‘BIG’ school.

Call now to secure your spot
For further information or to book your child in to the program please call Penny Colledge on 4626 1795.

1 day a week for 8 weeks. Held on Wednesdays or Thursdays at Blairmount PS from 9:15am – 11:00am

Blairmount Public School
Badgally Rd, Blairmount
www.blairmount-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Ph: 4626 1795
The Blairmount P.S. Adidas School Fun Run will be held on Thursday the 31st of March.

Your child should have brought home a sponsorship form.

There are great prizes for raising as little as $10, all the money raised will go to the Year 6 Farewell.

Activate an online student profile page for easy fundraising at schoolfunrun.com.au

The money and sponsorship forms are due back at the office on or before the 31st of March.

BOOK-A-HEAD 02 9824 8800
Shop 67 Minto Marketplace
Outside across from Red Rooster
Pembroke Road MINTO

NITPRO
HEAD LICE SALON
WWW.NITPRO.COM.AU
WWW.ZIGGETTYSNIPITS.COM.AU

100% GUARANTEED LICE REMOVAL
No pesticides using exclusive Nitpro formula
Decked out for kids with TV’s & Wii Games
Inside Ziggetty Snipits Family Cuts Salon with toys, play area & funky car & plane cutting chairs
Business Skills Short Course

Would you like to learn about working in business?

RTO Skills Set

Course number (National code)
161-77003V02 (National Code)

Dates
05/04/16 to 07/04/15

Location and fees
Campbelltown

Smart and Skilled Exemption

Attendance pattern
15 hpw for 1 week

Entry requirements
There are no entry requirements for this course.

Description
This is a short course to introduce you to the business and Finance environment. You will participate in the unit Use Business Equipment and Resources and Operate a Personal Computer. You will also learn about personal grooming and presentation skills to help you participate in the workplace.

Additional information
This course is offered on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.30 am-3.00 pm.

There will be an information session on Wednesday 30/03/2016 at 9.30 am in the Library, Building L, Level 1, AV Room

You will require a Unique Student Identifier to enrol in this course. You can obtain a USI from the following address:


Visit www.swsi.edu.au or contact the Head Teacher for further information.

Robin Ford HT Language, Literacy and Numeracy
p (02) 4620 1848
e robin.ford@tafensw.edu.au

Ena Hedges HT Business and Finance
p (02) 4620 1775
e ena.hedges@tafensw.edu.au

Disclaimer: While every reasonable effort was made to ensure that the information contained in this document is correct at the time of publishing it may be subject to change.
Would you like to learn about working in retail?

RTO Skills Set

Course number (National code)
181-77002V02 (National Code)

Dates
05/04/16 to 07/04/15

Location and fees
Campbelltown

Smart and Skilled Exemption

Attendance pattern
15 hpw for 1 week

Entry requirements
There are no entry requirements for this course.

Description
This is a short course to introduce you to the retail environment. You will participate in the unit Operate Retail Technology and Work Effectively in a Customer Service Environment. You will also learn about personal grooming and presentation skills to help you participate in the workplace.

Additional information
This course is offered on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.30 am-3.00 pm.

There will be an information session on Wednesday 30/03/2016 at 9.30 am in the Library, Building L, Level 1, AV Room

You will require a Unique Student Identifier to enrol in this course. You can obtain a USI from the following address.

https://www.usi.gov.au/students/create-your-usi

Visit www.swsi.edu.au or contact the Head Teacher for further information.

Robin Ford HT Language, Literacy and Numeracy
p (02) 4620 1848
e robin.ford@tafensw.edu.au

Jenny Phillips HT Business and Finance
p (02) 4620 1757
e jennifer.phillips@tafensw.edu.au
Circle of Security Parenting Course

The Circle of Security is a relationship based early intervention program designed to enhance attachment security between parents and children. Decades of university-based research have confirmed that secure children exhibit increased empathy, greater self-esteem, better relationships with parents and peers, enhanced school readiness, and an increased capacity to handle emotions more effectively when compared with children who are not secure.

Topics include:
- Attachment
- Introduction to the COS Map
- Supporting exploration and play
- The importance of “Being with” children
- Path to security
- Our own struggles
- Rupture and Repair

Where: The Wellbeing Centre
86 Proctor Way Claymore
2559

When: Monday 2nd June 2016 until Monday 27th July 2016

Time: 10am-12pm

Cost: FREE - Morning tea is provided

Self referrals and community referrals accepted
For more information please get in touch with:

Eliza 0419 151 906
eliza.walsh@benevolent.org.au
Kylie 0429 875664
Kylie.levings@benevolent.org.au
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<th>WK</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25 January, School Holidays</td>
<td>26 Public Holiday</td>
<td>27 Staff Return</td>
<td>28 Students Return</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1 February</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 PSSA Gala Day Trials</td>
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<td>16 Parent/Teacher 'Meet &amp; Greet' 3-1:30pm</td>
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<td>22 P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
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<td>25 Parent TAFE course 9am – 1pm</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1 March</td>
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<td>3 Parent TAFE course 9am – 1pm</td>
<td>4 Clean Up Australia Day</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7 P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
<td>8 Crazy Hair Day Worlds Greatest Shave (Ms Fakes)</td>
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<td>10 Parent TAFE course 9am – 1pm</td>
<td>11 PSSA Gala Day</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 School Photos</td>
<td>23 Stage 3 Excursion Easter Show</td>
<td>24 Easter Hat Parade (K-2 Only)</td>
<td>25 Good Friday</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>28 Easter Monday</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31 Parent TAFE course 9am – 1pm</td>
<td>1 April PSSA Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 Harmony Day</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8 Last Day, Term 1</td>
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