26 November 2015

Parent Surveys

I sent home a parent survey about a range of school programs. Thank you to the families that have already completed the survey and returned them to school. Your opinions are highly valued. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and return it to the school office. A copy of the survey is attached to this newsletter.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea

It was great to have many of our parents and grandparents who volunteer around the school join us today (Thursday) for our Thank You Morning Tea. The volunteers who help around the school provide a huge service to our school, the students’ and school life. Thank you all who have helped on excursions, worked in the canteen or uniform shop, on school banking, in classes, transporting students, with special days or served on the P&C or K-6 Club. Your efforts are greatly greatly appreciated.

Hall Audio Visual System

Due to the great fundraising done by the P&C the school has been able to purchase an electronic drop down screen and high powered projector worth $10,000 for the school hall. This is a fantastic improvement for our whole school community. The system can operate from a DVD player or computer. It enables the school to hold a variety of events and presentations in the hall. Just recently Mrs Harding utilised the system for our Kindergarten Orientation Presentation to parents while Mrs Price used it as part of our latest Pop-up morning tea. This is great use of your P&C contributions. I thank the P&C and whole school for your generosity.

iPads

We have been able to purchase a second set of roaming iPads to be used throughout the school due to the fundraising efforts of the K-6 Club. This hard working group of volunteers has organised Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day stalls, raffles, been involved in the organisation of the discos and various other fundraising event. They have generously donated $8,000 this year for the extension of the school’s iPad program. We are

Principal’s Report

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What an exciting and busy time of the year!

Kindergarten Orientation

Thank you to the many existing families and new families that joined us over the last three weeks for our orientation program for the 2016 Kindergarten students. I trust the families found the information and workshops very valuable. Getting to know our new students will be of great benefit for a settled start for 2016. We look forward to see all our Kindergarten students during the Best Start Assessment and then starting Wednesday 3rd February 2016.

Year 6 Camp

I thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon and evening visiting the Year 6 Campers at Point Wolstoncroft two weeks ago. This is a fantastic camp that provides our students with a huge range of outdoor, physical and personal challenges. Thank you to the teachers for their commitment to this week long activity.

PSSA Grand Finals

Unfortunately Australia’s extremes in weather beat us this year and the PSSA Summer Grand Finals were unable to be held. Congratulations to the Junior and Senior AFL, Boy’s T-Ball and Senior Cricket teams who have been awarded joint premiers for 2015.

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very excited with the educational possibilities associated with this new technology. I thank the school community and K-6 Club for your generosity.

Painting

The school is fortunate to be in the middle of an internal paint of blocks 1, 2 & 8- Kindergarten and Year 4 rooms. This has caused a little disruption moving classes to our spare demountable or the school library. The result will far outweigh any difficulties with our once dark, drab and flaking classrooms transformed to beautifully fresh, bright and attractive learning spaces. It is my hope that we will be able to have the remainder of the older school classrooms painted at some time next year.

There are many many special events over the coming weeks. Please be aware of the organisation.

P&C and K-6 Club Christmas Disco

Please join us tomorrow night, Friday 27th November for our great end of year Disco. It is always a great night for all the family.

Principals Morning Tea

Next Tuesday, 1st December at 9.30am, we will be holding our Principal Morning Tea. At this event we acknowledge the students who have demonstrated outstanding behaviour and attitude throughout 2015. Invitations for parents for this event were sent home earlier this week.

Sports Assembly

On Friday 4th December, at 9.30am we will be holding our special Sports Assembly. At this assembly we acknowledge the outstanding sporting achievements of our Years 3-6 students. Invitations for award recipient parents were sent home earlier this week.

Presentation Assembly

The 2015 Presentation Assemblies acknowledging student achievement in the areas of Academic, Citizenship, Effort and Improvement will be held on Wednesday 9th December.

Years 3-6 at 9.30am
Kindergarten to Year 2 at 11.45am

Parents are most welcome. Invitations for award recipient parents were sent home earlier this week.

End of Year Fun Day

Students will be participating in an End of Year Fun Day on Thursday 10th December. As is our tradition students from Kindergarten to Year 5 will catch buses to Westpoint Blacktown for the movies while Year 6 enjoy a special water adventure day on the oval. Permission notes have been sent home about this activity. Copies are attached to the Newsletter.

Students Reports

The staff are very busy producing student reports for this semester. This is a huge undertaking. Reports hopefully will be sent home on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December.

End of the 2015 and the Beginning of 2016 School Year

Wednesday 16th December will be the last day of school for students for 2015.

Staff return in 2016 on Wednesday 27th January.

Year 1-6 Students return in 2016 on Thursday 28th January.

Kindergarten students start on Wednesday 3rd February.

Classes for 2016

If your circumstances change and you are no longer intending for your children to attend Blacktown South Public School please inform the school office.

Andrew Bowmer
Principal

Principal’s Reading Awards

Congratulations to the following students from Kindergarten – Year 6 who have been awarded the Principal’s Reading award for 100 nights of home reading.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Willy Zhang</th>
<th>Jonathan Jose</th>
<th>Pahulu Pepa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Byravee Nadarajah</td>
<td>Andrew Lee</td>
<td>Avi Dahiya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerald Tint</td>
<td>Niyati Shah</td>
<td>Elizabeth Harwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yajat Jhally</td>
<td>Duke Siitla</td>
<td>Rahi Patel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy Kilagoz</td>
<td>Aarya Jhally</td>
<td>Meer Patel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to the following students who has been awarded the Principal’s Reading award for 200 nights of home reading.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Naved Ali</th>
<th>Gad Abdallah</th>
<th>Nicole Tomah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prem Desai</td>
<td>Jaiman Godla</td>
<td>Joshua Mares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seyon Uthayanan</td>
<td>Arozo Raji</td>
<td>Anna Ho</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

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

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

### PENRITH OBSERVATORY

#### Astronomy Night - Telescopes for Christmas

The Penrith Observatory together with the Western Sydney Amateur Astronomy Group (WSAAG) will be running an Astronomy Night on Saturday, 28 November from 8pm – 10pm. The evening will include a presentation from WSAAG members who will look at some of the different types of telescopes you could buy for your families and friends, a 3D astronomy movie and stargazing through the University’s computerised telescopes (weather permitting).


### WHOOPING COUGH INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.
**POP- Parent Payments On-line**

Parents and caregivers are able to pay school fees, camp fees, excursion money, etc. online. This will enable you to pay securely from home through Westpac Bank and not have to worry about sending money to school with your child. Simply log onto the school’s website click on the $link and you are directed to the Westpac Bank Secure Online Banking site.

We still request that fundraising, sport and multi day money be brought in by your child as these small amounts would be too hard to ‘track’ with online payments.

P & C, K-6 Club and Clothing Pool **WILL NOT** be linked to POP. Amounts owing to these organisations will have to be paid for in cash.

We have attached a link for you to see how easy the process is.

*Mrs Dobbie*  
*School Admin Manager*

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**Canteen**

The Canteen helpers all enjoyed a wonderful luncheon last Friday. Many thanks for all your help this year.

We are still in need of new helpers for next year so if you can spare one day a month we would love to hear from you.

Our Canteen helpers for the next three weeks are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30th November</td>
<td>Sandra Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st December</td>
<td>Helen Wu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd December</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd December</td>
<td>Apellsha Dave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th December</td>
<td>Sandra Green</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7th December</td>
<td>Sujatha Basker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th December</td>
<td>Jean Loveday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th December</td>
<td>Apeksha Dave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10th December</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11th December</td>
<td>Dhruv Modi</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14th December</td>
<td>Kim Jeffreys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15th December</td>
<td>Sandra Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th December</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th December</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
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*Mrs R Fogg*  
*Canteen Supervisor*

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**K-6 Club**

**Christmas Family Disco**

The Annual Christmas Family Disco is on **Friday 27th November**. It will be a great way to end 2015 and to say thanks and see you again next year to all your friends at BSPS.

The disco will run from 5.30pm – 8:00pm.

Entry is via Flushcombe Road, Benaud and Joseph Street gates ONLY.

The cost is $10 per family or $3 per person.  
Tickets will be sold at the door on the night.

**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT FOR THE DURATION OF THE DISCO**

We will have a DJ with great music and the following stalls: A BBQ cooking up sausage sizzles and chicken kebabs, cold drinks, ice blocks, fairy floss, slushies, show bags, lollies, cakes and glow sticks for sale. For Mum and Dad there will be free tea and coffee.

Tokens to buy items from the stalls may be purchased from the canteen on the night.

Any donations for the cake stall would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the cake stall on the night. So it’s a great time to show off your baking skills!
SANTA’S VISIT
Our elf sources tell us Santa is VERY happy with the students (and teachers) at BSPS and he has us on his list of places to visit this December. Keep up with the good manners and best behaviour!!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
1st Prize – idance sing cube
2nd Prize – Panasonic CD stereo system
3rd Prize – Hoyts player and movie pack
4th Prize – AMF bowling pack
5th Prize – Parramatta Eels pack
6th Prize – Blacktown South Public School sport pack
7th Prize – iTunes gift card

Raffle tickets will be sent home next week. Tickets are $1 each and each family will be asked to sell a book of 5 tickets ($5 value). If you require more raffle tickets you can collect them from the front office.

Remember all the money raised from the Christmas raffle will be used to purchase more iPads and laptops for students to use in the classroom. The more tickets that are sold, the more iPads we can buy! So don’t forget to buy your tickets, there are some fantastic prizes to win!!

OUR NEXT MEETING
The K-6 Club has now held its last meeting for 2015.
Our next meeting will be held in early 2016.

SKOOL IS KOOL - The Good Guys Homebase Prospect
The Skool is Kool program for 2015 has now concluded.
Look out for details early in 2016 for next years program.
Thank you to everyone who participated this year.

School Banking
Just a reminder that the last day of school banking is Tuesday 8th December. Banking will then start back up in Term 1 2016. Thank you to all our banking helpers who volunteer their time each Tuesday; your help is always appreciated.

Kind Regards,
K-6 Club

P&C News

The P & C – Parents & Citizens Association - is a group of interested parents or citizens who would like to contribute to the school. If you are available in the evenings but not in the day then this is the group for you.

We meet once a month, first Tuesday of each month (except January) in the Staffroom at 7.00pm. If you attend the meetings and would like to give us your contact details we will ensure you receive the agenda and minutes and any other emailed information that we discuss at these meetings. This is an opportunity for you to make new friends with other parents in the school community, while helping the children at the same time. If you would like any other information or want to discuss what goes on, please call Paul Wynne, President of the P & C on 0414 465 963 or just come along to our next meeting.

Charlie’s Restaurant – Cash benefit for our school
Charlie’s Restaurant is in Blacktown City Bowling Club, Lismore St Blacktown (opposite The Hospital), last year Charlie donated a percentage of every sale to our school where the persons presented a “Charlie’s Restaurant Voucher”. Click on the link below for flyer and coupons and print these off, put on your fridge or wherever else you can see them easily. When you go to Charlie’s just take along a voucher, present it the time of purchase and our school will receive a cash benefit. This is a way you can contribute without much effort.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you for all your assistance and contributions to our fundraising programs. All funds raised contribute towards purchasing valuable resources which will benefit your children’s learning.

P Wynne
President

BLACKTOWN SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 4

Week 8
Friday 27th November
• 3-6 Assembly – 5/6N presenting
• P&C and K-6 Club Christmas Disco

Week 9
Tuesday 1st December
• Principal’s Morning Tea
• School Banking
• P&C Meeting held in the staffroom commencing at 7.00pm

Thursday 3rd December
• Year 6 High School Orientation

Friday 4th December
• Sports Assembly

Week 10
Monday 7th December
• Year 6 Farewell
• Year 5 Opportunity Class 2016 Orientation

Tuesday 8th December
• Last Day of School Banking for 2015

Wednesday 9th December
• Presentation Day Assembly

Thursday 10th December
• End of Year Fun Day

Friday 11th December
• K-6 Club Christmas Raffle Drawn

Week 11
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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</table>
| Monday 14th December  | • Talent Quest  
                         | • Year 6 Arch                              |
| Tuesday 15th December | • Santa Visit  
                         | • Talent Quest                             |
| Wednesday 16th December| • LAST DAY OF 2015 for Students             |
| **2016**              |                                             |
| Thursday 28th January | • Years 1 – 6 Students return for the first day of Term 1, 2016 |

Please click below for any notes that have gone home in the past fortnight that you might have missed: