

Barrack Heights Public School

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‘WORKING TOGETHER’

NEWSLETTER

2015 Term 4 Week 2

TERM 3 IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 15 th October	Celebration of Learning Day
	Assembly, 2pm
Tuesday 20 th October	P&C Meeting, 6pm
	Year 6 Transition Day- Warilla HS
Thursday 29 th October	Assembly, 2pm
Friday 30 th October	Teacher's Day
Wednesday 4 th - Friday 6th November	Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

Dear parents, carers, students and community members,

Welcome back everyone! As usual, we are beginning another busy and productive term. Thank goodness for the extra daylight, so that we have time to get all our work done! My apologies for not publishing a newsletter last week, but the short week got a little too busy and before I knew it, it was Friday and too late to publish! Hopefully, this week's newsletter will get you up to date and informed for the coming (super busy) term!

As the weather gets hotter, please make sure that your child comes to school dressed in their summer uniform, with their hat, water bottle and sunscreen. Class teachers will encourage students to use sunscreen and drink plenty of water throughout the day.

Pre-school Program

Today, we welcomed our 2016 Kindergarten students into our school to participate in a Pre-School program. These sessions are designed to familiarise our new students to school and get them ready for a smooth transition to "big school". They occur twice on a Monday 9.00-11.30am and then 12.30-3.00pm. If you have a child starting school in 2016 and have not yet enrolled them with us, please do so now. If you are aware of school-age children in your street, please speak with their parents and carers to encourage them to come up to the school and enrol for 2016.

Celebration of Learning

This Thursday, all parents and carers are invited to attend the Barrack Heights Public School's Celebration of Learning Day. This concept was created to showcase the daily, in-class engagement of our students in literacy and numeracy activities. The school will be open to parents and carers between 9.00 – 11.00am and then again in the afternoon, with a special assembly where each class will share their learning with the school. A sausage sizzle, cake and tea and coffee stall will sell items at lunchtime, so that you can have a picnic lunch with your children. Please come and get involved in this special day!

Warilla Community of Schools Public Speaking Competition

Last Friday, our Public Speaking Competition finalists competed against students from Shellharbour, Flinders, Warilla and Shell Cove Public Schools in the Community of School Public Speaking Grand Final, held at Warilla High School. They were supported by our school Stage Finalists, Front Bench and Year 5 and 6 students, who walked to Warilla High as audience members. Jacinta T, Aleisha McG, Danish H and Hartley W used their confidence Key to Success to present their best public speaking performance. Congratulations!

Regional Spelling Bee

Last term, four of our students represented our school at Farmborough Road Public School in the Regional Spelling Bee. In the Junior competition, Sean D (3/4B) came 3rd overall with twin brother Luke D (3/4P) coming 8th overall. This is an amazing achievement by both boys considering that there were over 45

children in the competition. Similarly in the Senior division, Jett M (5/6S) and Ruby McP (5/6W) came in the top 15 students. Well done!

Beyond Empathy Film Project

This November, four Barrack Heights Public School students will be involved in Beyond Empathy's film project, presenting some of their film work at Viva La Gong. The film material won't be screened in a conventional way. Instead the children will be creating a "cubby" house type structure at the Festival that the general public will help to build. Inside the cubby house, film material that the children have created will be screened. The children involved in the project will be the hosts and guides for the general public at Viva La Gong. The children are being assisted in the project by Beyond Empathy and also by internationally renowned arts company Polyglot, who are helping devise and build the cubby house idea with the kids. Congratulations to Raymond S, Bronte W, Jemiah W and Zoe J who attended last Thursday's workshop and will represent our school in this fantastic initiative.

Sorry Business

It is with sadness that I report that a former Barrack Heights Aboriginal Education Worker, Aunty Cheryl Griffiths, passed away in the school holidays. Aunty Cheryl has worked in recent years at Nowra East Public School and her funeral was last week. We send our deep condolences to her family for their loss.

Term 4 Experiential Learning

There are many different ways of learning, developing and growing children into well-rounded and socially aware adults. We pride ourselves at Barrack Heights Public School on providing a wide range of experiences to give our students the best possible education. We always try to keep costs to a minimum, and heavily subsidise many of our excursions and experiences to make them accessible to all.

It is important that parents plan carefully for these experiences, so that budgets are not blown out prior to Christmas! I have asked all teachers to provide parents with a list of activities and associated costs by the end of Week 2. Big items include overnight excursions for Stages 2 and 3, Swimming Scheme (\$10pp) and end of year class parties (approx. \$10pp). Please contact the school if you require assistance for your child/ren to participate.

Behaviour Code for Students

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive and responsive learning environments for everyone. We teach and model the behaviours we value in our students.

In NSW public schools students are expected to:

- Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- Follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers
- Strive for the highest standards in learning
- Respect all members of the school community and show courtesy to all students, teachers and community members
- Resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly
- Comply with the school's uniform policy or dress code
- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- Respect all property
- Not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco into our schools
- Not bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our schools

The principal and school staff, using their professional judgment, are best placed to maintain discipline and provide safe, supportive and responsive learning environments. The department provides a policy framework and resources such as Legal Issues Bulletins, access to specialist advice, and professional learning to guide principals and their staff in exercising their professional judgment. In this context the NSW Government and the Department of Education and Communities will back the authority and judgment of principals and school staff at the local level.

Sarah Rudling
Principal

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

Celebration of Learning Day

On Thursday 15th October 2015 (Term 4, Week 2) parents and carers are invited to celebrate all of the outstanding learning achievements that students have engaged in so far this year. Parents are asked to join us from 9:00am - 11:50am. The day will run as follows:

- 9:00am - Book parade in the hall where students can come dressed as a book character. There will be costume creativity awards given after the parade
- 10:00am - Open classrooms. Parents can follow students back to their classes where they can assist with learning tasks and view their work
- 11:00am - Picnic lunch. Parents/carers and students are able to share a picnic lunch in the playground. Please feel free to bring a picnic rug and lunch to share with your child. A book stall will be set up in the COLA with books selling for as cheap as \$2. A sausage sizzle will also be available to purchase
- 11:50am - End of lunch assembly. Children will say goodbye to their parents before heading into buddy classes for maths activities

We are extremely proud of the enthusiasm and effort our students at Barrack Heights put into their learning. We look forward to seeing you and helping us celebrate these achievements on the day!

Jane Gardner



Smith's Hill High School
Gipps Street, Wollongong,
2500
EXPO NIGHT
Wednesday 7th October,
2015

6.00 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Smith's Hill High School is a public selective coeducational high school catering for gifted and talented students.

Applications for Year 7 2017 close on November 16th 2015

Year 5 students and their parents may wish to take the opportunity to see the school with a view to applying for admission in 2017. Year 6 students who sat the entrance test for 2016 admission and their parents are invited to attend our Expo to view our facilities and programs. Phone enquiries directed to the school on 42294266.

THE LORD MAYOR'S
Picnic
in the **park**

FOR 2016 SCHOOL STARTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

FREE entertainment and giveaways for all 2016 school starters. Join in the fun while finding out more about starting school!

Sunday 25 October, 10am-12pm
@ MacCabe Park (southern end)
Cnr Church & Ellen Street, Wollongong

www.transitiontoschool.com.au

For more information contact:
Carrie Panozzo on 4283 9943 or
transitiontoschool@bigfatmile.com.au

Children & Family Services Coordinator,
Wollongong City Council on 4227 7158



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