

# Barrack Heights Public School

HUNTER STREET

BARRACK HEIGHTS 2528

Email: barrackht-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: (02) 42 964 222 Fax: (02) 42 972 818

**‘WORKING TOGETHER’**

## NEWSLETTER

2015 Term 1 Week 5

### **TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES**

Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	5/6S and 5/6W Meet the teacher 3.15pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Assembly 2pm in the hall
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Schools Clean Up Australia Day
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	P&C AGM - 6pm in the staff room

Dear parents, carers, students and community members,

### **INTRODUCING OUR HOUSE CAPTAINS 2015**

Congratulations to the following students who were voted by their peers as 2015 House Captains. House Captains lead their teams at school carnivals, organising cheers and generally promoting sportsmanship both on and off the field.

<b>Brisbane:</b>	<b>Captains</b>	<b>Vice Captains</b>
	Hayley D	Shae-lee L
	Domanic I	Haiden M
<b>Hunter:</b>	<b>Captains</b>	<b>Vice Captains</b>
	Ruby M	Chelsea F
	Jake N	James P
<b>Cook:</b>	<b>Captains</b>	<b>Vice Captains</b>
	Poppi R	Lleyton C
	Colleen C	Jay I
<b>Patterson:</b>	<b>Captains</b>	<b>Vice Captains</b>
	Annika T	Hollie W
	Jett M	Broden F

### **CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

In 2015 we are celebrating 25 years of volunteer action across Australia. Last year, thanks to an estimated **572,406** volunteers, we cleaned up **15,708 tonnes** at **7,140 sites** across Australia. Since the national event started in 1990, Australians have donated more than 27.2 million hours taking to their streets, bushland, parks and waterways on Clean Up Australia Day, removing an estimated 288,650 tonnes of rubbish from 145,754 sites across the country.

Since 1992, school communities across Australia have demonstrated their support for caring for the environment through participating in Schools Clean Up Day. The next Schools Clean Up Day is on **Friday 27 February 2015** and our school has registered to participate. Students from Kindergarten to Year 2 will be designated an area inside the school grounds, while students in Years 3-6 will work around the perimeter of the school supervised by their class teacher. Parents are asked to help support the work of their children by sending any gardening gloves and a plastic bag on Friday. Many thanks to the teachers and support staff who form our Environmental Committee and help keep our school green.

### **THE TELL THEM FROM ME STUDENT SURVEY**

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 27 February**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above

### **EVACUATION DRILLS**

We have updated our school Evacuation and Lock Down/Out Policy. The new policy is located on the school website and will be discussed at our next P&C meeting. Class teachers have been talking with their students about the procedures for Evacuation and/or Lock Down/Out. I wish to advise parents and our school community that we will be performing an Evacuation Drill during the next few weeks as per NSWDEC guidelines. If you know your child/ren may be alarmed by the drill, please talk with him/her about the need for the practice and about what it is he/she needs to do so that they are comfortable and ready for the drill. Please be assured that staff strive hard to ensure all students are cared for and will be looked after throughout this process. It is important we perform drills to ensure the safety and welfare of our students. If you have any questions, please come and see me.

### **YEARLY PERMISSION NOTE**

A large number of students have returned their Yearly Permission Note. Many have not. Could you please make sure you check your child's bag, as another copy will be sent home to these children today. Once signed, it will cover your child in a number of different areas including permission to publish, permission to leave the school on escorted, (local) walking excursions and sporting activities, permission to watch curriculum linked PG rated DVD's or internet clips etc. We are doing this to save on paper, and to reduce the amount of times parents are requested for permission to engage in alternate learning activities for their children. We will continue to ALWAYS inform you of intended activities, so that you are aware of any changes to normal school routine. Please fill in all parts of the permission letter, and return it to your child's class teacher.

Sarah Rudling  
Principal

**Kids Helpline** 1800 55 1800  
**Crimestoppers** 1800 333 000

### **Book Fair Week 6**

We are very excited to be getting a delivery of new books soon to set up our Book Fair. All students will have a chance to visit the Fair on Monday, 2nd March and we invite EVERYONE to come on down for a browse and a cuppa on Monday, 2nd and Tuesday, 3rd March from 3pm. Books start from \$4, and all purchases help to buy fantastic resources for the library. Hope to see you there!

Julie Debnam

### **Barrack Heights Learning Club**

The Smith Family's – Barrack Heights Learning Club will run every Thursday during the school term from 3.00pm -4.00pm, commencing Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February in Mrs Miller's room (next to last year's community room).

Free tutoring is provided as well as activities for students in year K – 6.

Please Contact Richard at The Smith Family on 42970833 if interested as places are limited

Richard Zamora, Program Coordinator, Learning For Life  
The Smith Family


### **School Stream App**

Our school P&C has kindly donated and set up a new App available on your Smart Phones called **School Stream**. The App will allow you to access the school newsletter from your phone/device along with class notes, notifications, canteen price lists, our schools' Information Booklet and much more. The App will make communication between the school and families so much easier and we will also save on our printing costs. Detailed instructions on how to download the App are included in the newsletter.



**Our school now has a free app to deliver school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone.**

#### How to get the School Stream app on your mobile device

1. From your mobile device go to the **App Store (iPhone/iPad)** or **Play Store (Android)**, search for **School Stream** and download the app to your phone.
2. Make sure you agree to **push notifications**
3. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, **type your school name into the search** then select your school. For more detailed instructions go to **[schoolstream.com.au/download](http://schoolstream.com.au/download)**
4. Are your children attending different schools? Tap the school selector,  select add a school, type the school name\* into the search then add. Jump between your children's schools by touching the school name/logo in the top blue bar, or switch schools from the slide-in menu.

\*Any additional schools will need to be licensed users of School Stream to appear in the app.

#### Choose what notifications you receive

1. Open the School Stream app on your mobile device
2. From the slide-in menu, go to Settings
3. Under Edit/Alerts select My Schools and select your School to open the Notifications page
4. Toggle notifications on or off individually (e.g. Alerts, Events, Newsletters, etc.)
5. When you have finished, use the Back button to return to the Settings page, then select Done to return to your School

Return at any time to change the notifications you receive.

#### Don't have a smartphone?

If you don't have access to a smartphone and require information to be delivered via traditional methods (printed notices, email and SMS), please fill out the form below and submit it to the office.

**Family name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Students Name	Class

Please indicate the reason:

- ☐ I don't have access to a smartphone (e.g. iPhone, Android, etc.)
- ☐ I prefer not to receive information from the school on my smartphone
- ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## Bringing Up Great Kids



## Free 5 week Parenting Program

This program promotes positive, respectful parent and child relationships. **Limited FREE child minding is also available; please enquire through Family Services Illawarra.**

**After this program you will be better equipped to:**

- Understand the origin and nature of your parenting style
- Understand the messages you give and receive from your child
- Identify and respond to the needs of your child
- Build a positive, respectful relationship with your child
- Source information and support in your parenting

**Date:** Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Mar to 1<sup>st</sup> April

**Time:** 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Location:** Illawarra Women's Centre

**Bookings:** 42555333 or [www.fsi.org.au](http://www.fsi.org.au)



Family Services  
Illawarra Inc.



## Looking for first-class childcare?

Whether you're a parent and need childcare assistance while you study, or a member of the community looking for first class childcare, we can help!

TAFE Illawarra – Shellharbour TAFE Children's Centre currently has vacancies for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years.

The centre is a high-quality long day care service/preschool and operates in new, purpose built facilities. It is rated as 'exceeding' the National Standard for an early education and care service in all areas under the National Quality Framework.



Qualified teachers and educators plan education programs which provide challenging activities for children of all ages using the National Early Years Learning Framework as a basis.

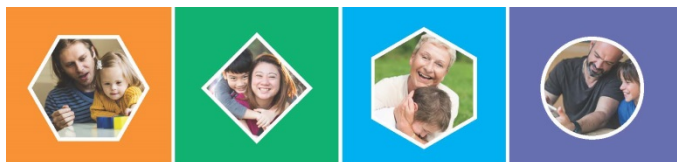
To find out more or to enrol your child please phone **4295 2286** or email [iitstcc@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:iitstcc@tafensw.edu.au)

[www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au)

Follow TAFE Illawarra







**MacKillop  
Family Services**

## Break the Mould



**Foster carers  
come in all  
shapes and sizes!**

**MacKillop foster carers have varied  
backgrounds, lifestyles, cultures and  
family situations.**

But they all share a passion for improving  
the lives of children and young people.

Sound like you?

Find out more about helping change a life today.

Call us on **1300 791 677**

Or visit [mackillop.org.au/fostercare](http://mackillop.org.au/fostercare)



**MacKillop  
Family Services**

[mackillop.org.au](http://mackillop.org.au)  
f /MacKillopFamilyS @MacKillopFS

## AST SURF SCHOOL

PRESENTS



5-12 YRS

**SURFING AUSTRALIA ACCREDITED WATER  
SAFETY AND SURFING PROGRAM**

**SURF GROMS SCHOOL PROGRAM  
STARTING FROM 24TH FEBRUARY**

**AVAILABLE NOW ONLINE**

**NORTH WOLLONGONG, BULLI BEACH  
& THE FARM**

**COME DOWN AND JOIN THE FUN  
LEARN TO SURF WITH US**

[WWW.SURFGROMS.COM.AU](http://WWW.SURFGROMS.COM.AU)

TO FIND OUT MORE:

**1800 711 189**

[INFO@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU](mailto:INFO@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU)

## Oak Flats High School

**CAR  
BOOT  
SALE**

**SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 9AM - 2PM**

Sausage Sizzle, Drinks, Ice Cream, Jumping Castle, Farm  
Animals and Entertainment will all be available on the day.

Oak Flats High School - The Esplanade, Oak Flats.

Car boot sites available for \$20 and take all profits

To book contact Kim Nguyen on 42561888



☺ Poka Dot Kids ☺

1 Ferntree Place

Barrack Heights.

Providing Quality Child Care and Learning  
Experiences

2yr to 5yr

Hours 7.30 to 5.30.

Provide all meals

Unique school readiness program.

Small family friendly centre

Contact Trudy 0407 919530

pop in and check us out

# Are you a young parent - 25 or younger?

Interested in **FREE** accredited work skills training?



Talking Realities...  
Young parenting

**Enrolling**

**NOW**

**Phone Jill –**

**0428 409 875**

Talking Realities is offering the following training opportunity:

<b>BSBWHS201A</b>	Contribute to health and safety of self and others
<b>BSBCUS201B</b>	Deliver a service to customers
<b>BSBWOR202A</b>	Organise and complete daily work activities
<b>BSBITU201A</b>	Create simple word processed documents
<b>BSBITU202A</b>	Create and use spreadsheets
<b>BSBITU203A</b>	Communicate electronically
<b>FSKOCM06</b>	Use oral communication skills to participate in workplace teams
<b>FSKOBM05</b>	Use oral communication skills for effective workplace presentations
<b>FSKNUM07</b>	Locate specific information in highly familiar tables, graphs and charts for work
<b>FSKNUM12</b>	Identify and interpret information in familiar tables, graphs and charts for work

- Lunch and morning tea provided
- Assistance with childcare and transport



**Communities For  
Children Shellharbour**

