



Barrack Heights Public School

HUNTER STREET

BARRACK HEIGHTS 2528

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'WORKING TOGETHER'

NEWSLETTER

2015 Term 2 Week 2

TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 29 th April	Talking Tactics parent evening
Thursday 30 th April	District Cross Country "Pay It Forward Day"
Thursday 7 th May	Vision Screening- Years 1 & 3 Assembly 2pm in the hall
13 th -14 th May	NAPLAN testing
Thursday 21 st May	Kids Fest Art- Stage 3, Turtle making with Auntie Pearl.

Dear parents, carers, students and community members,

ANZAC Commemorative Assembly

Thank you Mrs Dimi Wheeler and our excellent Parliament Leaders for their well-organised ANZAC assembly last Friday. Our special guest, Jim McGeehan from Warilla RSL was highly complementary of our school and has asked if we would specifically request him to attend any further commemorations we have. In addition to our Friday school assembly, I was joined by our Parliament Leaders Ruby M, Jay I, Poppi R and Hunter D at the Shellharbour City Council Centenary Commemoration Service on ANZAC morning. Our students laid a beautiful wreath (hand made by Mrs Sonia Paselic) on behalf of our school. Thank you to the parents who came not only to support their children on the day, but supported our school. I am a very proud Principal!

District Cross Country

This Thursday, the washed out District Cross Country Carnival will be held at Blackbutt Reserve. All notes and money previously handed in will be acknowledged as permission for students to attend. If your circumstances have changed, please contact the front office. Ms Becky Parsons and Mrs Natalie Harris will be the two teachers in attendance on the day.

Winter School Uniform - reminder

Winter uniform for both boys and girls consists of a royal blue tracksuit, red collared school polo shirt and appropriate footwear. **Girls may no longer wear leggings/tights as part of their school uniform.** If the weather is extremely cold and you feel your child needs extra protection from the wind, they may wear a parker, beanie, scarf and gloves in the playground, but will be asked to remove these during class time. If it is possible to buy these in school colours, please support our royal blue. The school hat must still be worn to play.

School Plan

Last week, all staff worked on completing our new School Plan. This document is created for a three year period and includes 3 Strategic Directions. Our focus group discussions, interviews and recently collaborated student data has allowed us to create a strong vision for our school. The complete School Plan was endorsed by the P&C last week, and will be published on our school website by the end of this week. I encourage all parents and community members familiarise themselves with this document.

'Talking Tactics Together' Drug Education Program

The children in 5/6S, 5/6W and Years 5 & 6 in 3/6H and 2/6D have been engaged in a Drug Education Program at school called 'Talking Tactics Together'. The program provides children with information and skills to help them make informed life choices. **As 'Talking Tactics Together' is an interactive family drug education program, the children will be presenting a range of fun, interactive drug education activities, this Wednesday evening, to their family members.** This is a fun way to engage and

communicate with your child about their learning at school. The evening will provide an opportunity for families to participate in a range of drug education activities. Open communication with parents is an essential element in helping to reduce young people's substance use and can protect them from difficult life events. Research has found, and young people agreed that, 'for parents to have maximum influence on young people, they need to discuss issues in an open and balanced way and start during the early school years'. The children, as presenters, and staff strongly encourage family members to attend. A light supper will be provided on the night.

When: Wednesday 29th April, 2015

Time: 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

Where: School Hall

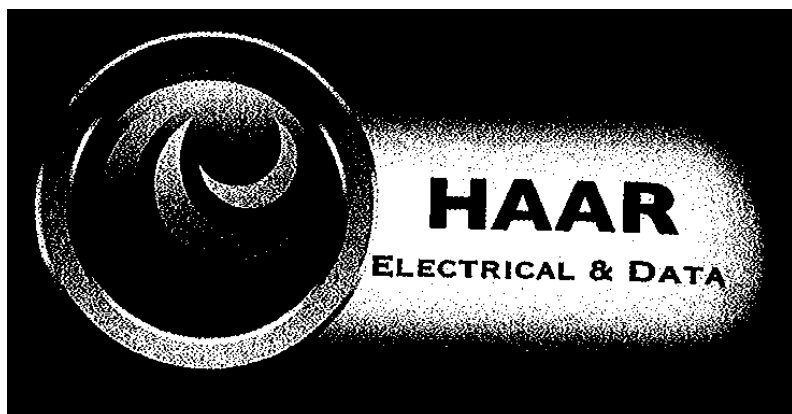
Mrs Woods (Health Education Officer Illawarra Shoalhaven), Mrs Wheeler, Ms Scott, Ms Dunn, Ms Rudling

Sarah Rudling
Principal

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

HAAR Electrical & data

An enormous thank you goes out to our electrician, Adam Haar, who donated a substantial amount to our school in a way of reduction in his bill for installation of the new fans in the hall.



Adam Haar: 0407 496 328

Domestic, Commercial & Industrial
Electrical, Data & Communications

Email: adam@haarelectrical.com.au
www.haarelectrical.com.au

Vision Screening

Free vision screening is being offered Thursday 7th May for Years 1 and 3 students. The screening looks at basic visual abilities such as clarity of vision, the ability to coordinate both eyes as a team and eye movement proficiency. The screening will follow a protocol developed by Optometrists Association of Australia. Please complete the screening questionnaire and permission note (being sent home this week) and return by Friday 1st May.

Stewart House

Don't forget to collect up your unwanted items of clothing for the donation to Stewart House in the bags sent home in week 7. Please ensure that all clothing donated is washed and in good condition. Please return your donated clothing by Friday 8th May as collection day Tuesday will be 12th May. Bags can be left just inside the hall near the bbq.

No Smoking Law

Smoking is already banned in enclosed areas of public places in NSW. The law now extends the smoking ban to 4 meters either side of any entrance/exit from a public building, including schools.

Parents as Teachers and Community Helpers (PaTCH)

As part of the Early Action for Success strategy, Barrack Height PS is offering PaTCH training. PaTCH provides parents and community volunteers with the skills needed to support the teaching of reading, writing and early number at school and at home.

Volunteers learn to:

- Develop their understand of how children learn
- Consider how children learn to talk, read and write
- Understand the importance of speaking and listening in developing literacy and numeracy
- Assist children by listening to and talking with them about books being read and stories being written
- Understand the need for children to be able to talk about numbers and quantity with words and symbols

Volunteers undertake a 10 week training course involving:

- Participation in 5 fortnightly training sessions totalling 10 hours of tuition with a small group of volunteers and Mrs Collins
- At least 15 hours practicum in K-2 classrooms, completing between training sessions tasks, with observations and feedback from the class teacher and Mrs Collins
- Collection of work samples, resources, photos and reflections using a learning journal
- Accreditation upon completion of all aspects of the course which can be recognised as prior learning when undertaking further studies at TAFE.

Interested parents and community members, please contact Mrs Collins at the school or leave your name and contact phone number at the office.

Jo Collins

Have you considered becoming a Foster carer?

Attend a foster care Information Session
and hear about fostering from local foster
care agencies and foster carers

You will learn about:

- *steps to become a foster carer*
- *roles and responsibilities of foster carers*
- *support available to foster carers*
- *the need for all types of carers,
especially Immediate 'crisis' carers*

Thursday 30th April

6:30pm - 8pm

Venue: Ribbonwood Centre
93-109 Princes Hwy
Dapto

**To register your attendance
contact Savita on:**

9281 8822

savita@acwa.asn.au

Find out more about fostering today: www.fosteringnsw.com.au



AST SURF SCHOOL PRESENTS



**NORTH GONG
THE FARM
BULLI**

**AUTUMN
SESSIONS
STARTING
27TH APRIL**



NEW PROGRAM: MUMS GO SURFING!

- THE BRAND NEW FUN, FIT AND HEALTHY MUMS SURF PROGRAM
- COME AND ENJOY THE OCEAN AND EACH OTHERS COMPANY IN THE OUTDOORS
- INCLUDES ONE AND HALF HOUR SURF SESSION FOLLOWED BY COFFEE/TEA AT THE LOCAL CAFE

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!

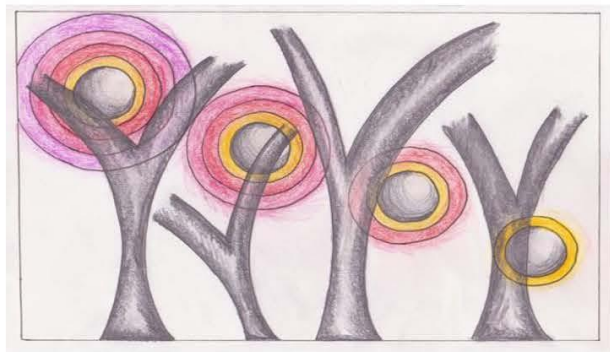
WWW.SURFGROMS.COM.AU



**TO FIND OUT MORE:
1800 711 189
INFO@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU**



Single Mother's Support Group



We are a group in the Illawarra community which advocates for and supports single women and their children, in an informal way.

This community inspired group brings single mothers together to share ideas, provide social support and create community that goes beyond a 9-5pm service.

Tea and coffee provided.

Children welcome and morning tea and activity will be provided.

Monday 10am - 12pm: **Illawarra Women's Health Centre**
2-10 Belfast Ave, Warilla


Friday 10am – 12pm: Fortnightly, starting 10th April
Berkeley Neighbourhood Centre,
Winnima Way, Berkeley

Contact: Denika Thomas 4255 6800



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**
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) _____