

Barrack Heights Public School

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‘WORKING TOGETHER’

NEWSLETTER

2016 Term 2 Week 2

TERM 2 IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 4th May

Thursday 5th May

Monday 9th May

Tuesday 10th-Thursday 12th May

Monday 16th May

Mother's Day Stall

District X Country, 10am-2pm, Blackbutt Reserve

Talking Tactics Together, parent and family evening, 6pm

Clubs

NAPLAN

Assembly, 10am in the hall

Dear parents, carers, students and community members,

Welcome back everyone!

My apologies for no newsletter last week! The beginning of the week was quite hectic and then I was off sick!

Term 2 is always a busy time, as teachers prepare to report on your child's progress during the first half of the year. In addition to this, we have a number of other experiences filling our term, including Talking Tactics (Drug Education) for Stage 3 (Weeks 1 & 2); NAPLAN tests for students in Years 3 and 5 (Week 3); District and Regional X-Country and school Athletics Carnivals, Kidsfest (Week 5) and lots more!

We have some SUPER happy news to share – Mrs Natalie Prior has announced that she and her husband Simon are expecting their first child in October. We are excited and pleased for them and wish them all the best on this exciting new journey! In addition to this, Mrs Stephanie Shajnoski and her husband Simon are also expecting their first child in late June.

Term 2 Planning

This week, all teachers will be given half a day off class to work together (Stage teams), planning Grade based units of work for the term. The additional time given to teachers allows them to access additional staff and resources within the school to create the best learning programs for your children. Classes will be covered by regular casuals including Mrs Kea Hamar, Mrs Julie Debnam and Mrs Stephanie Shajnoski.

District X Country

This Wednesday 4th May, 80 Barrack Heights Public School students are destined to compete in the District X Country carnival at Blackbutt Reserve. The back up day (if cancelled) is Monday 16th May. All children need to have returned their permission note and money to the front office by tomorrow Tuesday 3rd May to attend. Mr Ellsmore and Mrs Wheeler will attend the carnival with our competitors. We wish all of our students the best of luck!

New Classroom Furniture

Last week, we took delivery of brand new classroom furniture (tables and chairs) for all classes across the school. The Department of Education is no longer responsible for the storage of school furniture, therefore we are looking to sell off our old furniture to any interested parents, carers or community members.

Desks and chairs will be sold (individually) for \$2 each. A desk and 2 chair combo will cost only \$5. If you are interested in purchasing any furniture, please fill in the form below and return it to the school with the correct money. Alternatively, you can come and see Mrs Wendy Dowling in the Front Office. All furniture will be collected from the school – no delivery is available.

BHPS Furniture Purchase

Name (of purchaser): _____ Ph: _____

Number of chairs: _____ Desks: _____ Combinations: _____

Enclosed payment: \$ _____

Winter School Uniform

We began the year with an excellent effort in wearing the correct school uniform each day. 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.

Communicating with your child's teacher

I would like to encourage all parents to maintain contact with their child's class teacher – either by email, phone, letter or appointment/interview. By the end of Term 2, all teachers will report to you via our usual Semester 1 report, but they may also ask you to come for an interview. You may also request an interview with your child's teacher at any time. Your child's educational success is a team effort – and we must all work together to make this happen. Remember, communication doesn't just have to be due to a concern. Teachers LOVE good news stories – so if you have one, please pass it on!

Talking Tactics Together' Drug Education Program

The children in 5/6S, 5/6W and Years 5 & 6 in 4/6P 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: Thursday 5th May, 2016

Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Where: School Hall

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

Sarah Rudling
Principal

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

P&C Mother's Day Stall

The P & C will hold a Mother's Day stall this Wednesday, 4th May. We have some wonderful gifts for the students to buy ranging in price from \$2 to \$10. The gifts include candles, incense oils, travel mugs, cup & saucer, photo frames, caps, bath lotions, memo pads, bookmarks, pens, cards and more. Buy for mum, nana or grandma or for anyone special.

Kinder parents – please place money in an envelope with your child's name, class and amount enclosed, but **DO NOT POST** in the black money box in the Administration corridor. Please have your child give the envelope to their teacher.

If any parents are available to help with the staff on the day for a couple of hours, it would be greatly appreciated. Meet in the hall at 8.45am.

Only the students going to the District X Country will be able to purchase their Mother's Day gifts between 8.30- 9.00am.

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

YOU CAN DO IT:



GETTING ALONG:

Getting Along means working well with teachers and classmates, showing kindness to others, resolving disagreements peacefully, following the rules of the classroom and making positive contributions to school, home and the community including protecting the rights of others and looking after the environment. Examples of getting along behaviour are being helpful when working in a group, listening and not interrupting when someone else is speaking, talking rather than fighting when someone acts unfairly, not breaking classroom rules, helping others in need, volunteering for a worthy causes and cleaning up the environment.

POSITIVE HABIT OF THE MIND -Playing by the Rules- - thinking that by following important school and home rules, I will live in a better world where everyone's rights are protected.

