

Barrack Heights Public School

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‘WORKING TOGETHER’

NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 IMPORTANT DATES

2016 Term 2 Week 6

Monday 30th May-Tuesday 7th June

Tuesday 31st may

Friday 3rd June

Life Education van

ICAS Science test

Regional Cross Country, Nowra

Dear parents, carers and community members,

National Reconciliation Week

Each year National Reconciliation Week (NRW) celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. The dates that bookend the week are significant milestones in the reconciliation journey.

May 27—Marks the anniversary of Australia’s most successful referendum and a defining event in our nation’s history. The 1967 referendum saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and recognise them in the national census.

3 June—Commemorates the High Court of Australia’s landmark Mabo decision in 1992, which legally recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a special relationship to the land—a relationship that existed prior to colonisation and still exists today. This recognition paved the way for land rights or Native Title.

This year, 2016, is particularly momentous, with Reconciliation Australia celebrating a number of anniversaries— including 25 years of formal reconciliation in Australia with the establishment of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation in 1991. It is also 15 years since Reconciliation Australia was formed and 10 years of success in its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) program.

The theme for NRW 2016 is *Our History, Our Story, Our Future*.

Our History, Our Story, Our Future is derived from the [State of Reconciliation in Australia](#) report, which asks all Australians to reflect on our national identity, and the place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and rights in our nation’s story.

‘Our History’ reminds us all that historical acceptance is essential to our reconciliation journey. Historical acceptance will exist when all Australians understand and accept the fact that past laws, practices and policies deeply affected the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, often having devastating immediate impacts and causing much of the disadvantage that exists today. It is also a commitment to ensuring these wrongs are never repeated in the future.

‘Our Story’ reflects the fact that the journey towards reconciliation forms a significant part of Australia’s story, as do the stories of both trauma and triumph told by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It also encourages each and every one of us to make reconciliation part of our own story.

‘Our Future’ reinforces that reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, in the knowledge that we believe in fairness for everyone, that our diversity makes us richer, and that together, we are stronger. Information from www.reconciliation.org.au

On Tuesday, Mrs Mangos will escort six of our senior students to the Shellharbour City Council Reconciliation Walk in Shellharbour town. Here, they will represent our school and take part in activities with local Aboriginal Elders and Community members to share and learn about knowledge and understanding significant to reconciliation in our community.

Life Education

I would like to thank the Life Education Team for their generous sponsorship to provide free visits for our students to the Life Education Van this week. This is the fourth year that we have been sponsored by either

the University of Wollongong or local businesses for our children to attend Life Ed for free. Normally, this experience would cost \$5. We are extremely lucky to be gifted this donation during 2016.

Learning Management and Business Reform (LMBR)

Beginning this term, our Administration Team will begin training in the new Department of Education Learning Management and Business Reform (LMBR). This is a huge overhaul, of every system of finance and school management across the State. Both Mrs Wendy Dowling and I will attend our first training day this Tuesday, with both Mrs Dowling and Ms Collins attending further intensive training during Term 3. Our school, like all schools in the Illawarra will make the switch to this new system during Term 4.

Parents will be informed of new payment methods in the coming months, with the school reducing its capacity to accept cash. Please understand that this transition and training time will cause some disruption to the office, but we will endeavour to work together to keep our community informed and updated as we learn more.

Regional Cross Country

On Friday, Denzel W, Kobe W, Lewis B and Abbie Q will attend the Regional Cross Country Carnival in Nowra. We wish them speedy legs and sportsmanship in representing our school.

Sarah Rudling
Principal

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

GETTING ALONG

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 is fair and everyone's rights are respected and protected.



Getting Along means working well with teachers and classmates, 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. Some examples of how students can use the Getting Along key include:

- Being helpful when working in a group
- Listening and not interrupting in class when someone else is talking
- Sharing materials
- Following important classroom and school rules
- Talking rather than fighting when someone acts unfairly

Kindness at Barrack Heights

This weeks' Kindness Ambassador of the week...

Special Lunch Order- Kindness Fundraiser

All children should have a note and order form about the special lunch that will be available next week on Friday 10th June. The cost is \$5 for spaghetti bolognaise, garlic bread and fruit drink. The orders need to be in with money by Wednesday 8th June.

This is a fundraiser organised by the Kindness Ambassadors with the funds going towards the construction of our Kindness Corner.

Kindness on Purpose - K Mart

This year has seen a major focus on kindness at Barrack Heights Public School. During term one we had a fantastic kindness day featuring our first ever kindness ambassadors, kindness artwork, the kindness video, barbeque lunch and a visit by Katrina Cavanough who spoke to all the classes.

This term the focus continues with a new group of kindness ambassadors and Katrina will again be visiting later in the term to speak to classes. The ambassadors will be meeting every two weeks and they will be nominating students and staff who have shown extraordinary acts of kindness. Three people will be selected and they will each receive a certificate to acknowledge their kind deeds and one lucky winner will receive the K Mart Kindness award which will be a \$20 K Mart voucher.

K Mart have generously donated twelve \$20 vouchers in support of our program and Barrack Heights Public School would like to thank K Mart for their generosity.

At today's assembly the following were announced as certificate winners Sean D. 5/6W, Charlotte F. 3/4M and Mrs Maranesi 3/4M. The K Mart Kindness Award voucher winner was Charlotte. Congratulations to all three who were nominated by the ambassadors for being wonderful, kind people who make Barrack Heights Public School such a great place.

PaTCH Training 2016

Unfortunately we have not had enough interested in PaTCH training this year to run the sessions here at Barrack Heights. Anyone who is still interested in PaTCH is invited to join the group training at Warilla North PS. The training sessions start with an introduction to the course on Wednesday the 8th June at Warilla North from 9-10am. Anyone who would like to attend the Warilla North training, please give your name to the office staff so we can pass your name onto the PaTCH trainer for inclusion in the group, thank you.

Jo Collins

Early Action for Success, Instructional Leader

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