

# Barrack Heights Public School

HUNTER STREET

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**‘WORKING TOGETHER’**

## NEWSLETTER

**2016 Term 3 Week 1**

### TERM 2 IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August  
1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> August  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August

Students return for Term 3  
5/6W & 5/6S visit to Oak Flats High School  
Ngargin Doctors Graduation  
4/6P Movie Night, 3.30pm  
Bronze Award Mufti Day  
Clubs  
Parent Information Evening  
Assembly  
Education Week  
District Athletics Carnival

Dear parents, carers and community members,

### **Welcome back!**

It has been a fantastic, but cold, two week break – and I hope everyone is refreshed and ready for another great term of learning. Last term, I wrote in the newsletter about the many partnerships we have created with community organisations, businesses and non-for-profit groups. During the holidays, we have secured two more important partnerships. The first is a trial between the Department of Education and Family and Community Services, with a part-time worker based at five schools in the Illawarra. Our school has been chosen as one of these base schools, along with Warilla High, Lake Illawarra High, Albion Park High and Oak Flats High. We welcome Rene Perry into this role during Week 1 and look forward to effective assistance, working together, with the staff and families of Barrack Heights Public School. The second partnership is with Yallah TAFE, with students studying arboriculture using our school as a place to practise their skills in tree cutting! This is an amazing partnership, saving our school thousands of dollars in compulsory tree removal and maintenance. Thank you Geoff and Yallah TAFE!

### **Reports and Parent Information Evening**

I hope that all student reports made the journey home, and that parents and carers enjoyed reading them as much as I did! In my 22 years as an educator, writing and then reading thousands of reports, I believe that our teacher and student reflections/final comments are fabulous, and a true reflection of the deep knowledge our school demonstrates in understanding and addressing every child's individual needs.

An opportunity for you to come and discuss your child's Semester One progress at school will be made next Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July from 3.10 – 6pm. A booking slip is attached to this newsletter and will also be sent home. Please put these booking slips in the postbox in the office, as Mrs Pasalic will co-ordinate interview times across the school. Teachers of all classes will be sitting at desks in the hall and are available to answer any questions or concerns you have about your child in relation to their report. Meetings will be approximately 10 minutes in duration. If you feel that you may need a longer discussion time, please contact the school to make arrangements for a different time. We ask that you understand that 3-4pm is always the busiest time, so you may need to wait to see your child's teacher. Parents of students in KB and K/1P, will have the opportunity to start this process from 2pm on Tuesday.

To indicate your interest in a particular interview timeslot, please have your child return the attached slip to the office and we can give you a closer approximation to your interview time.

### **Babies**

It is my pleasure to announce that two of our staff members have given birth during the last few weeks! Mrs Stephanie Shajnoski (regular casual teacher) had a baby boy, Phillip, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June and Mrs Jessica Buchelin (Speech Therapist) gave birth to a baby girl, Sophie, on the 30<sup>th</sup> June. We are so happy that both babies are healthy and both sets of parents are coping with their first child! Congratulations!

### **5/6W and 5/6S Visit to Oak Flats High School**

This Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July, all students in 5/6W and 5/6S will walk to Oak Flats High School to watch their performance of "Out of the Darkness". Students will be having a sausage sizzle lunch, at the school. The cost of \$4 to attend will be paid by our school, so no money is required. Parents' permission to allow students to walk to the High School has also been covered in our "Annual Permission to" note. If you have any concerns about this experience, please contact Mrs Broomham in the office.

### **Clubs in Term 3**

This Tuesday, all students will attend an assembly to decide on which Club they would like to join for the term. I would like to thank Mrs Elizabeth Scott for her organisational skill in ensuring that students are placed in one of their three choices – it's an incredibly complex job! Mrs Roughan's Fishing Club – which was washed out and then blown out – will make up their "Open Day" this Thursday. All students should have received a note explaining this. Barrack Heights Public School's "Clubs" are a unique feature of alternate ways of learning at school, and we are proud to continue this initiative. Thanks must go to our staff, which spends additional time and effort in creating, planning and preparing these Clubs, in addition to their regular teaching requirements.

### **Alternate Learning Class – Movie Night**

Ms Becky Parsons and 4/6P have been working extremely hard to make mini movies and documentaries, using a "green screen" and iPads in their classroom. All parents of students in this class are invited to a Movie Night, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 3.30pm, in which the students will share their work. I have seen some of the boys work, and am really impressed! Please come along and support this great initiative!

### **Learning Management and Business Reform (LMBR)**

Next week, 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 Ms Judi Collins (in the office) will be out of the school 3 days per fortnight throughout the term. I will attend a training day once a fortnight with other Principals in our area. 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.

### **Tell Them From Me – Survey**

This survey helps our school evaluate our Strategic Directions and School Plan as well as knowing student, parent and staff feelings towards school, any problems that may be occurring at the school, and ideas for making the school better. This is everyone's chance to "have a voice" with regard to education at Barrack Heights Public School. During this term, I will be asking all students, staff and parents to complete the online survey, so that we can work together in understanding and creating a continued culture of excellence in our school.

Sarah Rudling  
Principal

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

# YOU CAN DO IT

## CONFIDENCE



**Positive Habit of the Mind:- 'ACCEPTING MYSELF'**

thinking that it is OK to make a mistakes and trusting in themselves and believing that they will probably be successful in the end.

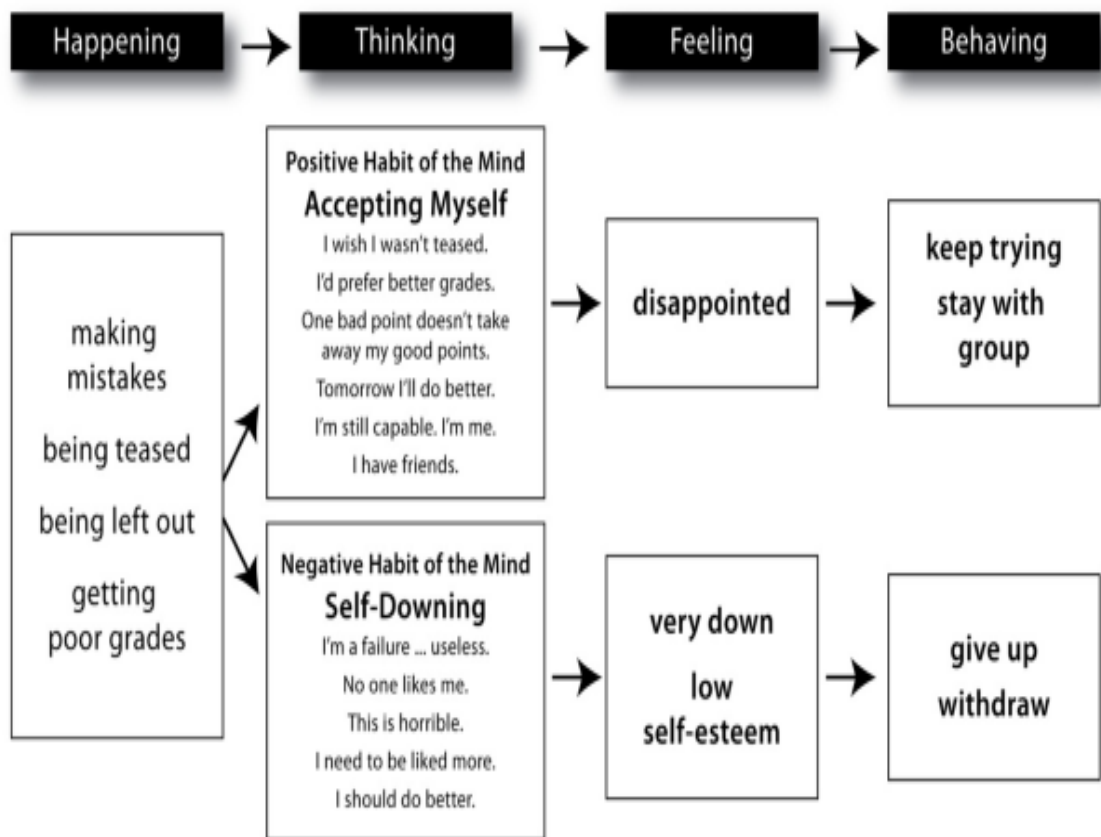
Examples of some confident behaviours are:-

- \* raising your hand in class to answer a hard question
- \* doing hard work without asking for help,
- \* sharing a new idea with your teacher in class,
- \* saying hello to someone new

Term 3

Confidently presenting a SPEECH for the Public Speaking Competition

Confident young people stand up straight, look people in the eye, and speak clearly and with a firm tone of voice.



## **BARRACK HEIGHTS PS PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

I would like a meeting time with my child's teacher/s between (circle):      2-3pm (KB and K/1P only)

3-4pm

4-5pm

5-6pm

All student/s names and classes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph contact: \_\_\_\_\_

# When kids ask "the" questions... Interrelate has the answers!

**Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 90 years' experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skillful presenters.**

The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games.

## *Session 1: Where did I come from?*

1-hour session: Years 3-6

## *Session 2: Preparing for puberty*

1-hour session: Years 5-6

Years 3-4 can attend at parent's discretion

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night.

Keep a look out for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content.

