



# Barrack Heights Public School

HUNTER STREET  
BARRACK HEIGHTS 2528

‘Parents, Teachers and Students WORKING TOGETHER’

## Newsletter Term 4 Week 9

We are **safe, respectful and accepting.**



### TERM 4 – IMPORTANT DATES

#### What's On

10 December – Monday Swimming Scheme continues for Year 2 to Year 6

#### What's Ahead

17 December – Monday Whole School Presentation Assembly 9:30am

P&C Christmas Guessing Competition Drawn

17 December – Monday Student Reports Issued

18 December – Tuesday Year 6 Farewell

18 December – Tuesday Early Stage 1, Stage 1 and Stage 2 Excursion

“The Nutcracker and the Four Realms” Movie

Greater Union Cinemas Shellharbour

19 December – Wednesday Students Last Day at School!

#### 2019

29 January – Tuesday Staff Return

30 January – Wednesday Students from Year 1 to Year 6 Return

Kindy 2019 Students will have staggered started dates as per previous advice.

Dear Parents/Carers

### 2019 BHPS Student Parliament

Last week, we heard from all our Year 4 and Year 5 Students running for Student Parliament. Public speaking is very daunting for many people yet all our students delivered their speech with conviction. I am extremely proud of all the students who ran for Parliament and confidently with grit presented their speech to an audience of over 250 people. It is our Stage 3 teachers who coordinate our school's Parliament and all associated events. I would like to thank Mrs Wheeler, Ms Scott and Ms Parsons for their ongoing dedication and commitment to our school's Parliament.

BHPS Student Parliament enables all our students to be involved in school governance and decision making through a group of democratically elected students who represent the views of all students at the school. Parliament is integral to our school and provides an opportunity to:

- involve students in democratic processes and decisions making within the school;
- demonstrate the importance of representation and active involvement in the school community;
- democratically elect student representatives;
- develop student leadership and communication skills;
- give a forum for the presentation of student ideas and opinions on school policies that directly impact students;
- improve the school community by addressing student issues and concerns; and
- support the teaching of the Curriculum Civics and Citizenship curriculum.

### Whole School Assembly

On Monday 17 December, we will host our annual Whole School Presentation Assembly. Students will be recognised for outstanding leadership, commitment to learning and personal improvement as well as recognition of community kindness and volunteers who work with our school to provide a holistic education for the students who attend our amazing school. Please come along and support both the students and teachers who have worked extremely hard this year.

## Semester 2 Student Reports

I am extremely proud of the work and effort our teachers and students have put into these important documents. They are a great reflection of the continued dedication and commitment our staff make to care, know and value all their students and teach them at their academic point of need. Reports will be sent home to families on Monday 17 December and should be read with the care and patience that they were written. Although there are no formal interviews scheduled for the end of the year, please contact your child's class teacher if you would like to give feedback or clarify any comments made about your child. For 2019, we have already discussed increasing the number of parent teacher interview sessions we offer throughout the year.

## End of year organisation

This year, school finishes for students on Wednesday 19 December. All schools participate in 5 School Development Days throughout the year. Two of these dates are generally scheduled immediately following the final day of school for students. Many schools opt to complete these two days during the year (after hours) as this enables all staff to finish work on the same day as students. This is called a "Variation to School Development Days". Our staff decided that for 2018, we would participate in the variated professional learning program. As a direct result of this, Barrack Heights Public School will be officially closed from 12noon 20 December 2018.

## Staffing

This year we farewelled Mrs Brown who was successful through merit selection in obtaining a permanent position with Camp Australia. We congratulated Mr Kusa who was successful at obtaining a Deputy Principal Position at Oran Park PS and Ms Bunt who has been successful at being appointment as a state Literacy and Numeracy advisor across NSW. At the end of the year we will say farewell to Mrs Davies who is following her dreams and moving to Tasmania with her family. And of course Mrs Miller and Mrs Wheeler will officially retire as well. If you get the opportunity throughout the week please take the time to say thankyou and farewell to these incredible teachers. Ms Scott will be on leave in 2019 however we look forward to welcoming Ms Scott back in 2020.

Therefore, in relation to our classroom teachers for 2019, we have now conducted an expression of interest for all classroom teacher positions. I am happy to share with community our classroom teachers for 2019 will be:

<b>Early Stage One &amp; Stage One</b> Assistant Principal Miss Broomham Teacher Miss Ugrinowska Teacher Mrs Hodgson (Condran) Teacher Miss Reid Teacher Ms Lewis	<b>Stage Two</b> Assistant Principal Ms Stewart Teacher Mrs Hamer Teacher Mr Borg
<b>Stage Three</b> Assistant Principal Ms Parsons Teacher Miss Finlay Teacher Mrs Shajnoski Teacher Ms Byrne	<b>Support Unit</b> Assistant Principal Mrs Reardon Teacher Ms Dunn Teacher Ms Cole

We are now in the process of placing students in classes, however, this won't be finalised until early next year as it is based on the actual total kindergarten enrolment numbers. Further, we are currently updating our School Handbook that will include all staff for 2019 including all Executive, Student Learning Support Officers (SLSOs), admin staff, our Aboriginal Education Team members and our specialised teaching and non-teaching staff. The 2019 School Handbook will be available to community.

Please remember to continue encouraging home reading for at least 20/30mins a day as it boosts concentration, memory, spelling, vocabulary and reduces stress. These are all critically important aspects to a child's lifelong achievements. <https://bit.ly/2Kd9uTR>

And as adults “Reading a chapter a day keeps the doctor away” – Happy Reading Everyone!



Have a fabulous week!

Mrs Kocovska  
Relieving Principal  
SAFETY, RESPECT and ACCEPTANCE

**Kids Helpline** 1800 55 1800  
**Lake Illawarra Police** 4232 5599  
**Crimestoppers** 1800 333 000

### Communication

School Website: <http://www.barrackht-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

School Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BarrackHeightsPublicSchool/>

School P&C Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1555654897791493/>

Download the **School Stream App** on your mobile phone to access the latest Barrack Heights PS newsletters, receive reminders, updates and much more from our school.



### The Family Referral Service

The Family Referral Service is a free confidential service where you can call one number in the privacy of your own home and ask for help on anything related to family life. The Service will then do the matching of local agencies to the areas you want support/ideas/help in. The service/s matched to you will then contact you and you can arrange when and where to meet up. <https://www.barnardos.org.au/our-centres/family-referral-services/>



# Christmas Guessing Competition

*Prizes have been donated by local businesses*

Extra ticket  
put into the  
draw for every  
full book sold

## \$1 Per Ticket

Booklets sent home with Students

Booklets to be returned  
by 12th December



Drawn at the Presentation  
Assesmbly on 17th December

Proudly organised by  P&C

### Some of the prizes for the Christmas Guessing Comp





# MINNAMURRA RAINFOREST SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Photo: M. Vella/OEH



[nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

## Spinning Spiders at Minnamurra Rainforest

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019**

**Time: 10:30 to 12pm**

**Cost: Child \$10. Accompanying adults free.**

**Park entry fees apply.**

**Meet: Minnamurra Rainforest Centre**

**Grade: Easy. Suitable for children 3 to 12 years.**

**Bookings: 4236 0469**

Come to Minnamurra Rainforest and learn about spiders and their vital role in this special environment. Enjoy a guided walk, discovering the secret places where spiders and other animals live. We will end the activity with a fun craft activity where you can use your imagination to create your very own eight-legged friend.

## Meditation and mindfulness

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Time: 9:00 to 10:30**

**Cost: Child \$10. Accompanying adults free.**

**Park entry fees apply.**

**Meet: Minnamurra Rainforest Centre**

**Grade: Easy. Suitable for ages 5 to 14 years.**

**Bookings: 4236 0469**

The deep tranquillity of the rainforest is the perfect place to get in touch with nature, and with your inner self. Enjoy a guided meditative walk through the beautiful Minnamurra Rainforest, and feel the timeless, calming energy of this ancient habitat.

## Rainforest Eco Art

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Time: 10:30 to 12pm**

**Cost: Child \$10. Accompanying adults free.**

**Park entry fees apply.**

**Meet: Minnamurra Rainforest Centre**

**Grade: Easy. Suitable for children 3 to 12 years.**

**Bookings: 4236 0469**

A rainforest is nature's ultimate art gallery. Come to Minnamurra Rainforest and be inspired by the infinite variety of shapes, patterned, textures and colours with a session of leaf art.

## Deadly and Dangerous at Minnamurra Rainforest

**Wednesday 23<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Time: 10:30 to 12pm**

**Cost: Child \$15. Accompanying adults free.**

**Park entry fees apply.**

**Meet: Minnamurra Rainforest Centre**

**Grade: Easy. Suitable for children 3 to 12 years.**

**Bookings: 4236 0469**

A rainforest is home to an amazing variety of lifeforms, from microscopic creatures to towering ancient trees. Some are dangerous...some are even deadly! Learn about the plants and animals of the forest on a guided walk and enjoy fun games and activities along the way.

**Note to participants: Bookings are required to ensure places in the activities. Printed finish times are approximate, and activities may be cancelled or altered due to unforeseen circumstances. Children must be accompanied by a supervising adult. When attending activities, please bring drinking water, appropriate clothing particularly footwear), sun protection and snack.**

**Bookings required for all activities. Phone 02 4236 0469 or email [minnamurra@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:minnamurra@environment.nsw.gov.au)**



*everyone's family*

## **Learning for Life Scholarship**

### **ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH THE COST OF YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION?**

The Learning for Life scholarship can provide parents with two payments a year for each child (max 4 children) which can be spent on uniforms, school shoes, stationary, BYOD, excursions and all other costs related to school.

***(Payments are to be used for school expenses only!)***

**You may be eligible for the scholarship if your family:**

- ✓ holds a Pension or Health Care card
- ✓ attends a partner school\* (*new students enrolled in Kindy to Year 8 only*)
- ✓ demonstrates a commitment to education (*children attend school regularly*)

**Payments are made in January and July.**

*KINDY TO YEAR 10 students receive \$420 a year.*

*Year 11 and 12 students receive \$679 a year.*

***(Receipts must be provided if requested)***



**Please call or text Alisha McLuckie on 0468 554 184**

**or email [alisha.mcluckie@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:alisha.mcluckie@thesmithfamily.com.au)**

**\*CURRENT PARTNER SCHOOLS FOR THE ALBION PARK/SHELLHARBOUR COMMUNITY ARE:**

- **Albion Park High School**
- **Oak Flats High School**
- **Albion Park Rail Public School**
- **Albion Park Public School**
- **Mt Terry Public School**
- **Balarang Public School**
- **Oak Flats Public School**
- **Warilla High School**
- **Lake Illawarra High School**
- **Barrack Heights Public School**
- **Mt Warrigal Public School**
- **Warilla Public School**
- **Warilla North Public School**



# Kids' fishing workshop



Kids 8–14 years old are invited to come and learn to fish safely and responsibly. Instructors are experienced volunteers and staff from the Department of Primary Industries.

The day runs from 10 am to 2 pm and involves fishing techniques, bag and size limits, and fish handling for *best release techniques*.

**COST is \$40 PER CHILD**, and includes \* rod and reel combination  
\* shirt \* hat \* tackle box  
\* show bag—all to take home!

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.**  
Maximum 25 participants.

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## Locations and Date

**Gaden, Jindabyne**

**Fri-Sat 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Lake Illawarra,**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Greenwell Point**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Batemans Bay**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Merimbula**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

To book, e-mail [stephen.thurstan@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:stephen.thurstan@dpi.nsw.gov.au) or ring Stephen Thurstan, 02 4220 8484 or 0438 245 190

Details on the web: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/info/workshop>  
NSW DPI fishing workshops are run with the assistance of the Fishcare Volunteers and are supported by funds from the Recreational Fishing Trusts