

Banksia Bulletin

Banksia Road Primary School

65 Banksia Road, Greenacre NSW 2190

Tel 9707 3423 Fax 9790 5607 Email banksiaroad-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Caring, creative, challenging and achieving



Tuesday, 8 November 2016

CALENDAR

Week 5

November

Monday 7 th	Homework Club Parent Forum
Thursday 10 th	Bunnies 3rd of 5 sessions
Friday 11 th	Summer PSSA Rd 13 Mount Lewis Transition 1

Week 6

November

Monday 14 th	Homework Club
Thursday 17 th	Bunnies 4th of 5 sessions K-6 Assembly 1P Item
Friday 18 th	Mount Lewis Transition 2 Summer PSSA Semi Finals

Week 7

November

Monday 21 st	Swim scheme commences Homework Club
Wednesday 23 rd	Final scripture class
Thursday 24 th	Bunnies final session
Friday 25 th	Summer PSSA Finals

Week 8

November/December

Monday 28 th	Final Homework Club session
Friday 2 nd	Final day for swim scheme

Dates to Remember

- Mount Lewis Presentation Day at BRPS Tuesday 6th December
- Presentation Day Wednesday 7th December
- P & C disco & sausage sizzle starting from 12:30pm Thursday 8th December
- Year 6 Canberra excursion Friday 9th December
- Year 6 Farewell Tuesday 13th December
- Good as Gold Summer Fun Day Wednesday 14th December
- Last day of 2016 Friday 16th December

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

PARENT FORUM

At the parent forum yesterday I shared the results of the recent parent, teacher and student surveys. Results are attached to the end of the newsletter.

One of the issues we discussed is the traffic congestion after school on Banksia Road and to a lesser extent Boronia Road. I am consulting with parents and teachers and will keep a tally of those in favour and those against. Below is a model we are proposing for a trial in Term 1 next year (after Kindergarten is settled):

Students in Infants (K to 2) would start at 9:05am and finish at 2:50pm. Years 3 to 6 would continue to start at 9:15 and finish at 3pm. Lunch and fruit break times would not change.

We would have a teacher on duty from 8:30am and another starting at 8:45am. This would help accommodate working parents as many students are arriving earlier than 8:45am. Infants teachers would stay with their class from 2:50pm until they are picked up by a parent or older sibling. Currently, 55% of Infants students don't have an older sibling in primary (this doesn't include cousins). Therefore, this would mean approximately 100 students in Infants may leave at 2:50pm which would reduce the traffic on Banksia Road by 20%. Please let me know your thoughts about this model or if you have an alternative to solve the traffic congestion.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Last Wednesday we celebrated Grandparents Day with a special assembly and open classrooms. It was lovely to see so many grandparents visiting classrooms. The day was an important reminder of the integral role our grandparents play in our lives. This day was organised by Mrs Boutros with many parent helpers and also our teachers, Mrs Lin and Miss Papadopoulos.





HALL OF FAME

This week I will officially induct two more teams into our 'Hall of Fame.' Our Junior Girls Soccer team, coached by Miss Tleis, won their competition.



Our debating team also beat the schools within our district. They were coached by Mrs Hallal and Mrs Almir.



MERIT AWARDEES UP TO 4th November 2016

Gold and Silver Merit awards are presented at Thursday afternoon K-6 assemblies.

Congratulations to the following students for receiving their **Gold Award**: Mardhiyyah KM, Yusuf, Hajer 3/4N.

Congratulations to the following students for receiving their **Silver Award**: Miryam, Aaliyah, Mahmood KG, Mohammed, Lujaine, Sunya KL, Yaqub KM, Yasmin KW, Kerem, Nour, Zeinab 3F, Zuhair 3T, Amour 4P, Arielle, Declan 5/6C, Kyriakos 5/6H, Amir 6G,

Congratulations to the following students for receiving their **Bronze Award**: Safwan KL, Sarah, Yara, Houda 1E, Marcus 1F, Sulayman 1P, Ibrahim 3/4N, Aaliyah 3B, Wala, Hassan 3F, Taisir, Taj, Mohammed E, Zane, Mohammed M, Talal, Zinadine, Zacharia 4P, Zakariah 5/6H, Hanan, Zena 6G

Please note Bronze Merit Awards will be given out at Monday morning assemblies.



PSSA Round 13, 11th November

SPORT	OPPONENT	VENUE
Girls Cricket	Skills Development	Graf Park George St, Yagoona
Boys Cricket	Georges Hall	Allum Park
Junior Boys/Girls Basketball	Berala	Basketball Stadium Condell Park Court 6
Senior Boys/ Girls Basketball	Berala	Basketball Stadium Condell Park Court 3
Boys T-Ball/Softball	Malek Fahd	Middleton Park Yagoona Diamond 3
Girls T-Ball/Softball	Greenacre	O'Neill Park Yagoona Diamond 3

****PSSA Remaining Rounds Semi Finals and Finals - TBA**

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup is held in the School Hall at 9.30-11.30 every Wednesday morning for all preschoolers. Everybody is welcome to attend. Final session for 2016 will be Wednesday 14th December.

Come and bring your children and share in the fun.

Morning tea break is proudly sponsored by:
ABOU SALIM Fruit Shop



P & C DISCO/SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The P & C will be coordinating a daytime disco on Thursday 8th December. It will occur from approximately 12:30 till 3pm. A note will go out next Tuesday.

APPLYING FOR SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL 2018

Closing date for applications is **Monday 14th November**. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Parents need to apply online at, www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement before the above date.

All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on **Thursday 9th March 2017**. This round of applications and exams are for Year 7 entry 2018. Should you wish for your child to sit the above exam in 2017 for 2018 entry, visit the office and pick up an Intention to apply letter. This is not an application form as you must apply online.

SCHOOL SURVEY RESULTS

See following pages for summary of School Survey results.

If you didn't get a chance to complete the survey please pass on suggestions in our 'feedback and suggestions box' located in the office foyer.

Partners in learning Survey

Positive	Negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers care x 3 • Many opportunities ie: clubs x 3 • Principal involved with children and respects/embraces Arabic culture • Fun and approachable environment x 2 • Teachers encourage students with certificates • Great teachers/wonderful staff x 4 • Love Good as Gold Day • Parent and community involvement • Wonderful grounds (love the upgrades) • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers need to be more bubbly and have more fun with children • More teachers on duty (child told to walk away from bully but nothing is done to address the bullying) • Staff need to observe professional conduct when talking about other students and parents in public • Home readers (not enough for each level) • Racial discrimination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some students told not to fast - Negative comments from some parents re: no food sold at the Auburn cinemas on Good as Gold Day - Sometimes neglect higher performing students

Areas to improve

- Traffic congestion (see Bank Nth who have a loop system) x 4
- Improve Boronia Road entrance
- The website is useless (no dates in the calendar)
- More teachers on duty at 3pm to ensure students leave safely
- More teachers on duty during playtime
- More support to address behaviour in Stage 3 classes
- Address late arrivals (some students late everyday 15 mins)
- More events after school to accommodate working parents
- Counsellor to facilitate a support group for children who are bullied
- Not addressing bullying (just a poster) x 4
- Engage students in activities that interest them rather than always getting them into trouble

- Invest more time in developing sports skills (arts/drama seem to get the most attention)
- Knock down trees and extend the playground
- Hall too small for our growing school (improve outside speakers)
- Our library needs updating (Bankstown Nth is much better)
- More Homework
- Less Homework
- A better reward system
- Grass area outside 2C to be a garden area for Mrs Ayoubi
- Stronger teachers back on class (have an extension class) x 2

Nett Promoter survey

Subtract the % of promoters from the % of detractors (ie: rate the school out of 10)

2016 21/34 promoters – 1/34 detractors = 62% - 3% = **59**

2015 23/30 promoters – 5/30 detractors = 77% - 17% = **60**

2014 21/32 promoters – 3/32 detractors = 66% - 9% = **57**

Tell Them From Me students

Positive	Negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of friends and I learnt a lot x4 • Best school in the world • Getting better every year and teachers work hard to make us happy x 2 • Spacious grounds, volleyball court etc x 2 • I love PSSA • Great teachers and principal x 2 • Much better than my brothers high school • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I miss my old principal • Some bullies causing trouble x 3 • Some students have no manners • My teacher doesn't listen to me and gives behaviour slips for nothing

Areas to improve

- More sport equipment during playtime
- Cleaner bathrooms / improve toilets x 7
- Soap in the bathrooms
- More synthetic turf in front of the toilets
- Too many steps
- Cut more trees to extend play area
- Cheaper prices in the canteen
- Harsh punishments for students who break the rules
- More lunch time clubs
- Repaint classrooms

Nett Promoter survey

Subtract the % of promoters from the % of detractors (ie: rate the school out of 10)

2016 38/51 promoters – 5/51 detractors = 75% - 10% = **65**

2015 46/86 promoters – 6/86 detractors = 53% - 7% = **46**

Tell Them From Me student questionnaire (Yr 4, 5 & 6 students responses)

Description	2015	2016 Semester 1	2016 Semester 2	Findings
Classroom is well organised, with clear purpose and immediate feedback	us 8.7/10 & State 8.2/10	Us 8.4/10 & State 8.2 (Girls 8.8, Boys 8.0)	us 8.4/10 & State 8.2 (Girls 8.6, Boys 8.1)	Classes are full with some challenging students. Minor improvements in boys' engagement Semester 2.
Teachers hold high expectations for success	us 9.2/10 & State 8.7/10	us 8.7/10 & State 8.7/10 (Girls 9.2 & Boys 8.4)	us 8.9/10 & State 8.7/10 (Girls 9.2 & Boys 8.6)	Notable improvements in boys' engagement Semester 2.
Students are victims of bullying (physical, social or verbal including cyber.	us 35% & State 36%	us 46% & State 36% (Girls 45%, Boys 48%)	us 54% & State 36% (Girls 50%, Boys 58%)	Bullying is becoming a real issue, mainly boys. Smaller class sizes and proactive measures from executive. Zero tolerance. Big focus on boys in the playground (maybe we are neglecting girls & also not many female teachers in upper primary)
Positive Learning Climate (clear rules and expectations for classroom behaviour)	us 7.6/10 & State 7.2/10	us 7.1/10 & State 7.2/10 (Girls 7.2 & Boys 7.0)	us 7.0/10 & State 7.2/10 (Girls 7.3 & Boys 6.7)	As above. Revamp Positive 'Behaviour for Learning' Maintain AP off class to assist the principal with welfare issues, high visibility.

Partners in Learning questionnaire (parent responses)

Description	2015 (33 respondents)	2016 (45 respondents)	Findings
I am well informed about my child's progress in school subjects	us 8.2/10	7.6/10	PLAN data wall? K – 6 P/T Interviews??
I am well informed about school activities	9/1/10	8.4/10	82% use newsletter 77% use social media 65% use website Website is not updated The App will change Improve organisational practices
Does someone in your family talk about the importance of schoolwork	7.4/10	7.5/10	This is an area for growth. Parent workshops 2017?
I can easily speak with the school principal	8.9/10	8.2/10	I don't know what to say about this one, some parents are just not talking to the teacher or AP.
The office are helpful when I have a question or problem	8.8/10	8.9/10	We are very lucky here
Teachers maintain control of their classes	7.8/10	7.8/10	Smaller class sizes and revamp of PBL may assist here
Teachers devote their time to extra curricula activities	8.2/10	8.5/10	Our teachers work hard and look to engage all students
The school helps prevent bullying	7.4/10	7.4/10	This must improve. Time for more proactive measures.
Behaviour issues are dealt with in a timely manner	7.3/10	7.7/10	Greater ownership by teachers to contact parents
Teachers help students develop positive friendships	8.0/10	7.6/10	New students and new staff, takes time to get to know students

Focus on Learning survey (responses by teachers)

Description	2014	2015	2016	Findings
In most of my classes I discuss the learning goals for my lesson	8.5/10	8.3/10	9/10	Explicit teaching and differentiation
The executive has taken time to observe my teaching	5.3/10	6.5/10	7.8/10	QTSS Reform
School leaders have helped improve my teaching	6.7/10	8/10	8.4/10	Instructional Leadership
My assessments help me understand where students are having difficulty		8.3/10	9/10	Greater collaboration using assessment which informs teaching