



BLAIRMOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Mr Greg Turnbull

Week 10, Term 3

Learning Together

22/9/2011

Dear families

We have once again had an extremely busy term that has included Education Week, Science Day, excursions, athletics carnivals and the stage 3 overnight excursion to Canberra and the Snowy Mountains. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to lead a school that offers such a variety of opportunities for our students and for our students to represent us so well at all times.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and parents who gave up their own time last Friday evening and all day Saturday to work on our new three-year school plan. Their insight and expertise was greatly appreciated. This plan is extremely important as it will guide everything we do as a school over the coming years. It will be published and made available to everyone early next year.

Last week all parents of Year 3 and 5 students received the results for this year's NAPLAN. As a school we are extremely proud of our results this year particularly in all areas of literacy.

Finally I would like to wish all families a relaxing and enjoyable break and look forward to working with all of you again in term 4.

A reminder that there is NO 'Pupil Free Day' at the beginning of term 4. All students resume on Monday 10th October.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

Blairmount on Twitter

We are constantly trying to improve and think of new ways that we can communicate with our school community.

With that in mind Blairmount Public School now has its own Twitter presence where we have started placing short updates of the wonderful and exciting events happening in our school.

To follow Blairmount PS on Twitter simply go to www.twitter.com/BlairmountPS. Should you have feedback or questions regarding our use of twitter please contact Mr Turnbull.

Bronze & Silver Awards

Congratulations to these students
who received a

Bronze Award:

Joshua Howse KW

Kimberly Ive KC

Kaiden Bantin KC

Peter Furner KC

Kaden Cowle-Lynch KR

Kaitlyn King KW

Deacon Fox 3C

Valelia Tautali 3-6W

Ryan Schultz 3-6W

Dylan Morton 5B

Caprice Nussbaum 5B

Silver Award:

Reese Harris 1T

Tahlia Fox 2M

Footy Colours Day - Thank You Blairmount

Thank you to all our students, staff, community members and the school canteen for helping to raise money for the 'Fight Against Cancer' cause. We managed to raise \$716.45 that will go towards helping people fighting cancer in the Macarthur area. What a great effort! Paul Nunnari, silver medal Paralympian, visited with our stage 3 students to accept the cheque and entertained us with his stories. He was very appreciative of our efforts to help fight against cancer.



Year 2 Excursion

Monday 12th September, Year 2 went on an excursion to Wollongong Science Centre and Planetarium at Fairy Meadow. We saw lots of exhibits, watched a rocket show in the planetarium and learnt all about bubbles and balloons.



We had a lot of fun making balloon rockets and also learning how to make a balloon kebab without popping the balloon. We had a great time learning about different things like how energy can be made to power things and how machines work. We also looked through microscopes, searched for fossils and saw dinosaurs that looked and sounded so real.

We all had a wonderful time.

Term 3 - Ready Set School

Congratulations to our 15 Term 3 Ready, Set School Graduates. You are all amazing children and we are all very proud of your effort. Many thanks go to the families of the children who strongly support the program.

There are vacancies still available for Thursday and Friday mornings in Term 4. Please contact Mrs Murray to secure a place for your child.



Attendance

Our **Attendance Champion** class for weeks 8 and 9 was 3C. Congratulations for making a real effort to be at school every day and on time during these last two weeks. 3C was presented with a certificate and an attendance trophy at the week 8 assembly for their wonderful effort.

You may have noticed that around the school there are 3 new display cabinets which show what our attendance target is and how far or close we are to achieving it. The attendance rate that we have been aiming for is 93% and our whole school attendance rate reached 93.6% in Week 8! As we reached this goal, we had stage discos this week to celebrate this wonderful achievement. Congratulations everyone for working hard to achieve our school attendance goal.

School Swimming Scheme

A permission note went home to all year 2, 3 and 4 students regarding the Swimming Scheme program which will take place at Campbelltown Swimming Pool, Bradbury in Term 4. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to further develop their swimming and water safety skills.

Group 1 (students from 2R, 2NS, 4A and 4C) will participate in five 90 minute lessons on **Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2011**.

Group 2 (students from 2M, 3C, 3K and 3-6W) will participate in five 90 minute lessons on **Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November 2011**.

Our P & C have kindly offered to pay for the bus cost which means that for the 5 lessons it will only cost each child **\$11.00**.

As there are only 60 places available for each group, you need to be quick to return the permission note and pay \$11 to ensure that your child has a place.

Heartbeat

On Thursday 15th September some of our Year 4 and year 5 Aboriginal students attended an event called Heartbeat at UWS. They participated in a variety of activities within the area of medicine with other Aboriginal students from the Campbelltown area. All students represented Blairmount proudly.

Term 3 - Attendance Disco

Congratulations to all our families for ensuring we reached our Attendance target of having all of our students here for 93% of the time.

We reached this target in Week 8 and had our Discos this week.

The children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Let's keep up the great work Blairmount. Let's look forward to many more celebrations!!!!!!

Regional Spelling Bee Competition

On Tuesday 20th September, 4 of our students travelled with Mrs Murray to Prestons P.S to represent our school in the 2011 Regional Spelling Bee Competition.

The Stage 2 representatives were Sophita Korkeaw and Brandon Phanith. The Stage 3 representatives were Anna Ali and Cole Fortuin. Their spelling skills were amazing and they all tried their very best. We are all very proud of their efforts.

A huge congratulations must go to Sophita who was successful at Placing 1st to become the Regional Junior Spelling Bee Champion. This is an amazing achievement.

Sophita will now progress to the State Finals to be held in Sydney in November. On behalf of the entire school community congratulations and best wishes for the next level of competition.



Congratulations, Sophita, Anna and Brandon. Cole was unavailable for this photo.

Woolworths Earn and Learn Program

Our school is taking part in Woolworths Earn & Learn community program. This year, they are giving away more than \$5 million worth of educational resources for schools all over Australia.



From July 18th to October 18th 2011, Woolworths will give you one Earn & Learn point for every \$10 you spend in store (excluding the purchase of cigarettes, alcohol and gift cards). All you need to do is save those docketts, bring them to school and put them in the Woolworth's docket box at the front office.

We have **15,102 points** so far and that is a terrific effort. Make sure you keep ALL your docketts during the holidays and bring them in when we return for term 4.

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2012

It seems that enrolments are getting earlier every year! If you have a child turning 5 by the end of July 2012 you are able to enrol them for Kindergarten next year.

At the moment we have a number of applications for students who are 'out of area'. These will only be accepted if there are vacancies after local enrolments.

Please pick up an enrolment application form from the office as soon as possible.

Please remember when you come in with your completed enrolment application form you also need to bring;

- Proof of students residential address
- Birth certificate or identity documents
- Immunisation history statement
- Copies of any family law or other relevant court orders (if applicable)

Please be aware without these documents we will be unable to accept your enrolment.

Kindergarten orientation will be held in Term 4. More information about orientation will be supplied at a later date. Please continue to check the newsletter.

Hope to be seeing you soon
Elizabeth Dash

Term 4 - Ready, Set School Enrolments

National Partnerships funding together with Good Beginnings will host The Ready, Set School program. The program is designed for parents and children beginning Kindergarten in 2012 and is **completely free**. The program will increase your child's readiness for Kindergarten and help engage parent/carers in understanding the education process.

The program will take place each Thursday and Friday morning from 9.15am - 11am and run for 8 weeks. It is very important that your child attends every session. Parents are asked to stay with their child for the first three weeks only. Sorry, no younger siblings may attend.

Each session will have a specific focus with a variety of activities including music, art, craft and social play. There will also be opportunities to visit the library, computer lab and become more familiar with different areas of the school. Many different skills will be highlighted including some simple, cheap and effective ideas for you and your children at home.

Limited places are still available for Term 4. To ensure your child's place in the program and to confirm your child's place for either Thursday or Friday mornings next term, please contact Ms Karen Murray on 4626 1795 or leave your name, your child's name and contact details for her at the front office.

Personal Development, Health & Physical Education Ideas

Active Tips for Busy Families

- ✓ Make time to be active as a whole family.
- ✓ Go out and play with your children - play tag, throw a ball, play basketball, soccer or ride a bike.
- ✓ Set a limit on television watching, computer time and video games to no more than 1 to 2 hours a day.
- ✓ Meet friends or family in a park and bring some balls, hoops, frisbees or other outdoor games to play.

T.E.F.T's visit to Belgenny Farm!

On Wednesday 14th September, 8 responsible people from year 5 went on an excursion to Belgenny Farm for an environmental expo.

The first activity we did was caring and learning about chickens and ducks. Most of us got duck poo all over our shorts.

After that we made a worm farm but we can't keep it at school yet because there is no home for it.

The next thing we did was learning about compost we saw all the different stages of composting and we saw lots of tiny little bugs. Then we made our own mini gardens using succulent plants which are plants that hold lots of water.

The next station we went to was making more plants from one, by clipping of the stems of a plant the secret is to dip the end of it in honey. After that we learnt about Leadership and played very fun games.

Then we made paper plant pots out of newspaper and inside of them we planted beans. After that we collected cherry tomato seeds and a sunflower seed each.

Finally we had lunch and played a fun game of tip. Lastly we went into the hall and did a couple and surveys and got presented with gardening tools, a gift voucher and 2 native plants which are now planted in our beautiful garden here at school.

We all absolutely loved our day, we learnt a lot and we would like to thank Mrs. Bagley and Mrs. Richardson for taking us along and this great experience.

By Kayesha Ganem, Georgia Marshall, Isabelle Velasquez, Max Stark. Members of the newly formed environment group T.E.F.T (The Environmentally Friendly Team)

Term 3 Attendance Class Champions

As you may have seen inside our new attendance display cabinets around the school, the following classes were the winners of the Attendance Trophy for this term.

Congratulations to **KC, 2M and 3C** for their excellent attendance.

Keep up the great work!!!!

Blairmount Birthdays

Rana Abdo, Charli Espinosa, Isabelle Velasquez, Sarah Brown, Alaa Alkhafaji, Melissa Rako, Ashleigh Brock, Chloe Fox, Hussain Abbas, Bassair Al-Salemi, Jazmine Drennen, Payten Fretton, Gabriel To'O, Brendan Mani, Cruz Ieremia, Zahraa Alkhafaji, Annelise Cordoba, Sapakuka Fuesaina, Ghamzah Matthews, Regan Perceval, Anna Marie Fuesaina, CJ Lawson, Halamehi Neiufi, Latoyah Sinaki, Jack Hardacre, Francis Mochang, Hayley Bennett, Maila Safia, Tyrone Krapljanov-Sparks, Sammy Ryan, Caprice Nussbaum, Corianne Parkinson, Saymon Sengal, Max Stark, Oliver Velasquez, Leshant'e Epati, Beverly Gordon, Haylie-Anne Norman



SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



KidsFest

Tuesday 4 October

9.45am (for a 10am start) - 12.30pm

Showing: 12pm - 12.30pm

(families welcome)

Team Up and Create!

These school holidays KidsFest is all about creativity and working together. KidsFest is a free half-day creative workshop program for children to participate in a series of performance based workshops before teaming up to be part of a special showing for the family. Suitable for ages 5 - 7 and 8 -12 years. Light lunch will be provided for participants.

Select one of the following workshops for the day:

Drama

Imagine you woke up on a desert island. You would have to start from scratch to find food, shelter and fun stuff like games and toys, too. Using the magic of drama, and the power of team work, we'll create a whole new world of fun and adventure. Suitable for 5 - 7 year olds.

Hip Hop Moves

Move to funky R'n'B tunes in this high energy hip hop workshop. You don't need experience, just enthusiasm! Wear comfortable, loose clothing and sneakers. Suitable for 5 - 7 year olds.

Drumming

Can you feel the rhythm? Can you feel the beat? Join the ultimate team of drummers as you learn to create rhythms, feel the funky beat and get into the groove. Bring along your favourite song with a beat to share with the tribe. Suitable for 8 -12 year olds.

Flamenco Dance

Explore the rhythm and movement of flamenco dance. Stamping your feet, clapping your hands and using your body as an instrument is all part of the fun! Wear thick sneakers or shoes with a heel. Girls should wear a flowy skirt. Suitable for 8 -12 year olds.

Bookings are essential for all school holiday programs.

Campbelltown Arts Centre

Cnr of Camden & Appin Rds, Campbelltown

4645 4100 / artscentre@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au / www.campbelltownartscentre.com.au

Also on at the Arts Centre.....

These activities will run during the school holidays, are **free of charge**, self guided and require adult supervision. Materials are available from the front desk.

Drawing Competition

Categories: 4 - 6, 7 - 10, 11 - 16 years

Create a drawing showing what you love most about the Arts Centre. The winning drawings will be displayed on our website and winners will be awarded a special prize. Entries close Thursday 6 October. Winners announced Friday 7 October.

Watercolours in the Garden

Suitable for children 4+

Create a colourful watercolour painting inspired by our Japanese Koi fish in our beautiful garden. Use our koi template or create your own design.

Sculpture Garden Challenge

Suitable for children 6+

Take the Sculpture Garden Challenge! Head out to the Sculpture Garden and answer a series of questions. Successful challengers will be rewarded with a special prize.



The Happiest Show on Earth

Wednesday 21 - Friday 23 September, 9.30am & 1pm

Saturday 24 September, 10.30 am

\$8 child & conc/ \$15 Adults/ \$30 Family. 50 mins + Q&A (15-20 mins)

Children, parents and grandparents will love this show! Happiness is up for grabs, in a story emblazoned with foot-stomping music, dazzling vaudevillian theatrics and must-see magic. This is a wonderful production and families across Australia have loved it! Patch Theatre Company has specialised in producing quality theatre for 4-8 year olds for close to 40 years. Their award winning work is beautifully crafted to provide rich and rewarding theatrical experiences. Accessible for wheelchairs and people with limited mobility.

GRANIPOPICHINO

Bring your Gran or Pop (or both) to *The Happiest Show on Earth* and get a FREE GRANIPOPICHINO!



arts nsw



Campbelltown Arts Centre is a cultural facility of Campbelltown City Council and is assisted by the New South Wales Government through Arts NSW.