



Newsletter

Blairmount Public School

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Week 8, Term 4

Learning Together

28/11/2013

Dear families,

Teachers are currently working at completing end of year reports for students. Our staff work extremely hard to ensure that parents receive accurate information regarding the academic progress of their children. Reports will be sent home on Friday 13th December.

We are currently planning for our enrolment entitlement for 2014 and need to know of any students who may not arrive back at school on Day 1 2014 (Wednesday 29th January). This can occur if a family takes an extended holiday and intends to return to school at a later date.

We need notification of this, in writing, so we can include these students in our enrolment numbers. We also need to know of any students not returning to Blairmount due to other circumstances, such as moving out of the area or changing schools. A speedy response to this request would be greatly appreciated.

When students return in 2014 they will stay in their 2013 classes with their 2013 teachers for approximately the first and possibly the second week. This will allow us to be very sure of numbers and class structure before any students find out their new class or teacher.

Once we are sure of our numbers all students will be reorganised into their new classes and a note will be sent home advising families that the change has taken place.

Should you have any questions regarding this organisation please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Regards
Greg Turnbull
Principal

Blairmount Presentation Days

We invite all community members to attend:

- K-2 "Blairmount Christmas" presentation on Tuesday 10th December at 9.15am in our school hall.
- 3-6 Presentation Day on Thursday 12th December at 9.15am in the school hall.

Some Useful Information

Comprehension Help for Teens

Some kids will read perfectly in primary school and then suddenly struggle with comprehension in high school. Here's why. Comprehension help: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/reading/comprehension-strategies-you-can>

Planning for the Future

Throughout your child's school life you'll need to make choices about aspects of their education and future. Here's a selection of tips to help you plan for parent teacher talks, subject selection, careers advice and back-to-school.

Planning for the future:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future>

Kids, Homework and Lies

Do you think your child is lying about their homework? Listen to psychologist Anne Hollonds chat with James O'Loghlin on what to do when the dog eats their homework.

Homework tips:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/kids-homework-and-lies>

Maths at Home

Kids' early experiences with measurement are often based on watching their parents. Seeing mum or dad measure and pour ingredients for a

recipe or weigh items at the fruit shop will often become part of their play.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics/mathematics-tips/helping-your-childmeasure-mass-and-volume>

Maths Tips for Tweens

Kids who find maths easy in the early years of school can be turned off quickly if they get confused and can't work it out. Here are 10 ways to get your tween through the more challenging times.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics/mathematics-tips/tips-for-tweens-who-findmaths-hard>

P&C AGM

The annual P&C AGM was held last Monday night. It is with great pleasure that I can announce that the following people have been elected to fill the P&C Executive in 2014:

President - Tia Cordoba

Vice President - Maria Curcuruto

Treasurer - Sharon Ah Chong

Secretary - Taloa Walters

Fundraising - Rina Richter

We are looking forward to working with our P&C team to support all of the students at Blairmount.

Happy Birthday

Jack Murphy, Jayden King, Kaden Cowle-Lynch, Sarah Donnelly, Cohan King, Lilly Williams, Amber Hudson-Wearing, Mykaila Smith, Ezekiel Meafua, Chelsea Palmer, Cailin Fahey, Jackson Price, Taylah Hughes, Victoria Tuilotolava, Jurnee Ieremia, Daniel Prasad, Ashley Craig, Fatmatu Bah, Shirley Alofia, Gemma Dalmás

New Sports Uniforms

We now have available for sale Blairmount Public School sports uniforms. The sports uniform can be worn to school ***every Friday***, PSSA Gala Days and Zone Carnivals.

The sports shirts are \$20 each and the sports shorts are \$15 each. ***However to launch the new uniform we have a special price if you purchase during term 4. You can buy the shirt and shorts together for just \$30.***

To order the new sports uniform please complete the Uniform Order form at the back of this newsletter and return it with payment to the office.



Successful Shooting Stars

Over the last two weeks I am very proud to let you know that so many 3G students have achieved their learning goals. Congratulations to the following students.

For multiplication; April, Jarrod, Angelene, Dallin, Ajay, John, Zion, Joyel, Tennielle, Nikita, Tariq, Tamati, Melodyz, Jemima, Claxton, Shane, Jordan, Tanika, Portia, Starr, Ryan and Melissa.

For reading; Angelene, Ezekiel, Tennielle, Kirra, Zion, Ajay, Joyel, Portia, Jarrod, Dallin, Tanika, Elijah P, Tariq, Claxton, Melissa, Jemima and Tamati.

For addition and subtraction; Tennielle, Jay, Claxton, Melissa and April.

I am very proud of the continued effort of all students in 3G.

Mrs Lauren Gawthorne

Thank you

A big thank you to everyone that came down to Eagle Vale McDonald's to support our Year 6 farewell. It was a great night and it was so good to see so many families supporting our school.



5A's Inquiry Based Question SOLVED!

Last week 5A visited Woolworth's Eagle Vale to purchase all the products they needed for their smoothies for beach day.

5A split into their 3 flavour teams, strawberry, mango and banana and shopped for all the products they needed to make their smoothies.

They came back to school and made their own advertising decorations, measuring cups and created their own work rosters for beach day.

On beach day all 5A students worked extremely hard to produce a quality product and to sell their smoothies. All flavours were in high demand but 5A have finally solved their inquiry based question 'what is the most sellable smoothie to sell at beach day' the answer is BANANA!!!

5A want to thank everyone involved for their support. A big thank you to Mrs Webb and Mr Alone for assisting us with our question and a HUGE thank you to Woolworth's Eagle Vale for donating all the smoothie products to us.



Educational iPad Apps

The following apps have been very popular with teachers and students and have been used in many classes this term.

Story creator is great for creating stories, recounts and procedures. Students can add text, photos, videos and record their voices.



Educreations is great for working out mathematical problems. Students can write, draw and record their explanations then share them with their teacher and other students.



Please look out in the next newsletter for more apps that we have been using at school.

Mrs Lauren Gawthorne

Library News

The last issue of Bookclub (Issue 8) is due back at school on or before Monday 2nd December. Thank you to all the children who ordered from Bookclub this year. We have earned valuable reward points through these orders.

Borrowing has now finished for the year. Please help your child(ren) to return all their books by the end of this week. It is expected that lost and damaged books be paid for. Most of our children are excellent borrowers and returners of books. A good hiding spot for library books is under the bed, so try there if you can't find a book.

A huge thank you to Mrs Price for her tireless efforts in the library this year. Most of her time is spent shelving the returned books so they are readily available for our students to borrow.

The Premier Reading Challenge certificates are in the process of being printed. All students from Kindergarten to Year 2 will receive a certificate as their books were read to them. However, only a handful of Year 3-6 students will be receiving a certificate for completing the challenge by themselves.

Mrs C. Burden
Teacher Librarian

Generous Donation

We have been very lucky to receive a large donation towards the Year 6 Farewell made by an extremely kind anonymous person. We thank you very much for your generosity in helping to make the Year 6 Farewell an exciting and memorable one for all.



2013 Spelling Bee

On Wednesday 6th November Sophita Korkeaw of class 6C participated in the State Spelling Bee competition. This is the 2nd time Sophita has made it through to the Finals and this year she made it through to round 7. This is an amazing achievement. Mrs Gibbs listened to the broadcast on radio and she was amazed by the challenging words that were being spelt and even Mrs Gibbs couldn't pronounce!! Congratulations Sophita.



P&C End of Year Report

The 2013 Blairmount P&C have continued to perform a voluntary service to the school community and have had another successful year in helping to raise funds for the students of Blairmount Public School. Over the course of the year we have raised over \$15,000.

Some of the ways we have been able to assist the school and your children has been by providing:-

- A donation of \$2000 towards the buses for the School Swimming Scheme. The swimming scheme is very popular and provides a wonderful opportunity for our Blairmount kids to improve their swimming skills. Our contribution also ensured that parents paid only the bare minimum if they wished to have their child participate.
- A donation of \$520 to help subsidise the cost of Year 6 shirts so that every Year 6 student could have the opportunity to purchase a shirt at a reduced price.
- Monetary contributions towards Harmony Day, Peer Support, Family Donation, Mr Rice's farewell gift, Easter program and Year 6 Farewell cake.

The P&C have continued to promote the school, support the teachers, students and families of our diverse school community. We've had the opportunity to participate in school based working bees, provide parent perspectives at school planning meetings, open days and orientation days.

This year also saw the sale of the P&C Uniform shop to Blairmount Public school, enabling the school community to have greater access to purchasing items.

Thank you for your help as you've continued to support us with our various fundraising events during the year - Easter raffle, cake stalls, Smencils, Mother's and Father's Day stalls, Christmas In July Disco, Mufti Days and Movie Night. Thanks also for your donations "tips" from the Canteen.

Special thanks to Mrs Taloa Walters for her role as Vice President, Mrs Sharon Ah Chong as Treasurer and Mrs Moana Faleali'i as Secretary. Thanks also to all P&C members and volunteers

who have given freely of their time to lend a helping hand during 2013.

We greatly appreciate the support of our Blairmount School executive, teachers, students and school community for helping make 2013 a very successful year. Looking forward to another fun filled year in 2014!

Have a happy and safe Christmas.

Mrs Tia Cordoba
P&C President



Daystar Foundation

Daystar is a community based, not-for-profit organisation creating futures through education for children. We do this by linking schools, families and communities; and mobilising resources in the form of money, services, goods and volunteer time with a clear message that everyone can make a difference. Daystar generously provide Blairmount with all the supplies of bread, margarine and spreads for our breakfast club.

They have asked for our help by selling raffle tickets to raise funds so that these programs can continue in the future. Raffle books will be left at the front office & the canteen where tickets can be purchased for \$2.00 each. Please show your support by purchasing a ticket for this great cause.

Volcanos in 5/6N

Over the last two weeks the students in 5/6N have been learning all about volcanos in science and decided to test their knowledge by making paper mâché volcanos in class. The students researched the processes involved with the task and have decided to create short movies to help inform others on how to make a successful volcano. They have been using the iPads to photograph and record all the hard work they have been doing. All students will be posting their videos onto YouTube so make sure to keep an eye out over the next few weeks.

Here are some photos of their amazing volcanos.



English in 4/5S

In 4/5S this term we have been studying 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl. The students found the use of rhyme within the book very interesting and they decided to create their own rhyming song. All the students in the class used their creativity to explain how they would get rid of the teachers in the school just like the witches planned to turn all the children into mice. All the students worked really hard on their work and should be very proud. Below are a few examples.

Teachers, teachers yuck, yuck, yuck
Dump them in the garbage truck.
Rap you up, all in foil.
And shove you in the pan to boil.
Make your hair all fall out
Then you'll grow a big, grey snout.
Put you in a little hole
Just big enough to make you roll.
Bells will ring in your ears
And in your eyes there will be tears.
You'll feel the urge to call your mum
If you do that would be dumb.
We will crumble up your bones
And put them into cones.
Now it has come to an end
Don't even bother calling a friend.

By Ashley & Cassi

Come teachers we have a surprise
See us tomorrow at sunrise.
Hi teachers thanks for lunch
Come over and try our poisoned punch.
Once the poison has settled in
We will chuck you in the bin.
Then we shall jump on you
And roast you on the barbecue.
Now we shall clap our hands
And turn you all into elastic bands.
We will wear them all the time
Until it is half past nine.
All at once, a lot of fibs
There are no teachers only kids.

By Alyssa & Payten

Blairmount Public School - Term 4 - 2013

WK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	7 October Public Holiday	8 Students Return	9	10 Interrelate for Year 6	11 Assembly 2E
2	14	15	16	17 Interrelate for Year 6	18 PSSA Gala Day
3	21	22	23	24 Interrelate for Year 6	25
4	28	29	30 Year 6 @ Eagle Vale High School	31 Interrelate for Year 6	1 November Assembly 1L & 1A
5	4 Camp Quality Puppet Show (Free for all Students) P&C Meeting 6pm	5	6	7	8 PSSA Gala Day
6	11	12 Kindergarten Orientation	13	14	15 Assembly 2L
7	18 5A Excursion Eagle Vale Woolworths	19	20	21 Stage 3 'Beach Day' Year 6 Farewell Fundraiser (Mufti)	22 Assembly 2C
8	25 P&C Meeting (AGM) 6pm	26 Year 6 Farewell Fundraiser at McDonald's Eagle Vale 5pm - 7pm	27	28	29 Jump Rope money due
9	2 December Issue 8 bookclub due	3 Captain/Prefect speeches & election	4	5	6 Assembly 4Y
10	9	10 K-2 Presentation Assembly P&C Cake Stall	11	12 3-6 Presentation Assembly P&C Cake Stall	13 Student Reports Go Home Jump Rope Stage 1
11	16 Year 6 Farewell Campbelltown Catholic Club	17 Class Party Day	18 Last Day For Students	19 School Development Day Staff Only	20 School Development Day Staff Only

Have your Year 6 farewell or Formal coming up and haven't got your outfit yet!?

Call Shazz or Jules from Claymore Youth Centre and we'll organise for you to come down and check it all out ...

We have a big selection in styles, sizes and colours to choose from and it's all **FREE!!!**



We have Dresses, Formal pants, Fashion Jewellery, Handbag, Boys Collar Shirts (few different colours), and a few pairs of shoes



MISSION AUSTRALIA together we stand

Shazz 0427 406 232 or Jules 0427 580 446

Come along and join us...

Celebrating Claymore

End of year free event

At Claymore Youth Centre

Wednesday 11th December from 4-7pm

Family Event

Youth Activities, Sports, Talent Show (local talent), Kids Activities, Jumping Castle, Photo Booth, Reptile Show, African Drummers, Music, P & C Fundraiser, Information Stalls, Interactive Games, BBQ, Carols

• Loads more and fun!!!

**This is a drug & alcohol free family event*

This event is supported by Claymore Action Network (GAN)

For any further enquires call Sharon Black 0427 406 232