Term 4 – Week 4

**Permission Notes and Payments Due**

*Voluntary Contribution* - $40 student or family $60
*Textbooks* – $50 per student  **Overdue Please finalise account**
*Yearly Craft* - $40 per student  **Overdue Please finalise account**
*Gymnastics/Zumba/Yoga* - $40  **Overdue Please finalise account**

*Please note these amounts can be paid off in instalments*

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**What’s Happening**

Term 4

**Week 5**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.  Teddy Bears’ Picnic, 10 – 11am
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nov.  Year 6 to Blaxland High School
- 5<sup>th</sup> Nov.  AFL Clinic, K-6

**Week 6**
- 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.  P & C Meeting, 7.30pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> Nov.  AFL Clinic, K-6

**Week 7**
- 17<sup>th</sup> Nov.  Captains’ Posters
- 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.  Helpers Morning Tea, 11am
- 20<sup>th</sup> Nov.  AFL Clinic, K-6

**Week 8**
- 24<sup>th</sup> Nov.  Captains’ Speeches and Voting
- 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.  Presentation Day
Value of the Week - Cooperation

I am practising cooperation when I:

- work well with others;
- offer my help and ideas freely;
- follow the rules;
- ask for help when I need it and
- help keep a safe, happy environment.

P&C News

Upcoming dates:
31st October – Spooky Family Fun Night 5pm – 8pm
9th November - P&C General Meeting 7.30pm
14th December - P&C General Meeting 7.30pm

Spooky Family Fun Night – If you haven’t volunteered your time already, please think about doing so! Many hands make light work & you will receive a free child’s ticket! All funds raised will go towards building a new sandpit!

OOSH – The P&C Executive and the school have completed mountains of paperwork and applied for a grant to assist with the set up costs. We now need to wait for the application to be processed which could take 2-3 months. We will continue to keep you updated with any developments.

P&C in 2016 – In March 2016 we will be holding our AGM and will be looking for some new members to take over. Please think about what contribution you may like to make to your child’s school and how you can make a difference.

Please come along to the next P&C meeting so you can get involved! We’d love to see some new faces. If you have any queries regarding our meetings &/or ideas please feel free to contact Kylie Jones – P&C President on 0404 064 819.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

All Parents, Carers and Teachers are invited to an information session on the National Disability Insurance Scheme on Thursday 12th November at 7.30pm in the school hall.

This is a healthcare program initiated by the Australian government for people with a significant and permanent disability.

This directly affects families of little people who are currently receiving funding as the result of a diagnosed disability.

NDIS is being rolled out across Australia over a number of years. Eligible people in the Nepean Blue Mountains area are now able to access the scheme.

Unlike previous disability supports systems clients are engaged in:

- thinking about what they want their life to be
- creating a personal plan with a planner who helps to fully develop ideas, support mechanisms, funding and timelines
- choosing service providers with the help of a connector and
- capacity building.

Presenting at the information session is an officer from NDIS and a service provider.

Please feel free to come along to gain insight into the scheme, how you can access support or how the government is now providing support for people with disabilities.

Everyone is welcome.

Please refer to the attachment for further information.

Teddy Bears’ Picnic

Kindergarten 2015 invite Kindergarten 2016 to a Teddy Bears’ Picnic on Tuesday 3rd November at 10.00am.
Mums and dads are invited to a morning tea with our current Kinder parents and P&C while the children and their teddies enjoy a play and morning tea on the oval or in the hall if the weather is inclement.

This is the time that the 2016 Kindergarten students meet their school buddy who will support them during their first year at school.

This is also an opportunity for our new parents to speak to other parents about a year in the life of a Kinder student here at Blaxland. You may have questions that, as a parent you may feel more comfortable speaking to the P&C or to another parent until relationships are built with staff.

2016 School Captains
Year 5 students are invited to apply for one of four 2016 school captain positions.

1. Posters
The process begins with a display poster that tells the students and teachers about themselves and their leadership skills.

The posters are A3 and need to include a photo of the candidate. Posters will be displayed in the Library from Tuesday 17th November for all to see. Voting will take place on 24th November.

Parents may like to discuss qualities a school captain brings to their leadership role. For e.g.
- Acting with responsibility, integrity, honesty
- Having a sense of purpose
- Taking on additional responsibilities
- Making a decision as part of a group
- Equality and equity
- Being active and reflective listeners
- Earning respect of others
- Interest in social issues
- Support of students and teachers
- Role modelling
- School values
- Good choices – ethical behaviour, rules
- Being popular does not always mean you are a good leader – sometimes it is very hard being a friend and a leader. We can't always do what we want – we have to do what we believe is the right thing to do. A good leader is not necessarily popular.
- Working well with others

2. Speeches
Parents, Family & Friends Welcome
Candidates will present their speeches to the school community on Tuesday 24th November.

Boys will present their speeches at 10.00am. Girls will present their speeches 11.30am.

3. Voting for 2016 Captains
The student body will vote immediately after each speech session.

Preferential voting is studied by the senior students and this is a wonderful opportunity for them to put their knowledge and understanding into practice.

For our younger students it begins the dialogue about voting, why it is important and how we, as a nation go about this task. These experiences then become an ideal platform to extend their learning in Years 5 and 6 when they study government.

Parents may wish to take this opportunity to discuss, with their child or children the concepts:
- of what makes a good student leader
- that voting is about making a choice about leadership, not about choosing a friend, buddy or a friend of a brother or sister
- that being a captain isn't about being popular student
- of role modelling, following rules, making good choices
- of being friendly, helpful, supportive, respectful etc.

This will support the work teachers will engage in to prepare the students, Kindergarten to Year 6 for voting.

Helpers’ Morning Tea - 18th November
Parents and friends of the school who have supported with, for example; sport, transport, learning, different programs throughout the year, P&C, fundraising and committee work – anything to do with our school are invited to a morning tea at 11.00am on Wednesday 18th November. It is a small way in which we can say thank you for all the wonderful work you do for our beautiful children and school. For catering purposes, please let the office know if you are able to attend. Phone: 47392817

Friday, 30 October 2015
Presentation Assembly
Kindergarten to Year 6
Parents, friends, family
Thursday 26th November
This year we are trialling a new format for the presentation assembly to better accommodate students.

Presentation Assemblies will be in the school hall at:
- 9.15am for Kindergarten to Year 2
- 10.00am for Years 3 to 5
- 11.30am for Year 6 Graduation

We hope you are able to join us on Thursday 26th November to celebrate student achievement.

Feedback on the structure will be sought from students, parents and staff in order to inform 2016 organisation.

Head Lice
It has been brought to our attention that there has been an outbreak of head lice. It is possible that your child may have contracted the condition. We are asking that all parents examine their child's hair for signs of lice infestation. The lice themselves are often hard to find because they move around on the head. Therefore, you should be looking for the eggs or nits. These appear as tiny silvery white specks attached to the hair shaft near the scalp. Dandruff and hairspray may look similar but these are easily brushed away, the eggs are not. Other signs of lice infestation may be a red rash and scratch marks on the scalp, nape of the neck or behind the ears.

If your child has contracted head lice do not be alarmed. Although the condition is unpleasant, it is easily treated with specialised treatments available from the chemist. After treatment use a fine tooth comb to remove the dead lice and eggs. Any articles that may harbour lice such as school hats, clothes, towels and bed linen should be washed in hot water and detergent. Combs and brushes should also be washed in hot soapy water. If possible, after washing, these items should be put into the sun to dry. As head lice are highly contagious it is suggested that you examine and treat all members of the family at the same time.

Student Awards
Term 4 Week 3

Ms Everett
Marissa W-J – spectacular reading!
Scarlett G-P – trying really hard with reading
APs Award
Tatum S - Cooperation
VIPs
Elias V, Henry P

Mr Zoglmeyer
Alex S – outstanding written work
Lara H – great application in Maths Groups
APs Award
Liana L - Cooperation
VIPs
Eva A-McI, Liana L

Mrs Shaw
Rohan D – working well in groups
Willem H – being a nice friend
APs Award
Alex W – always being a cooperative student
VIPs
Aislinn W, Benny T

Mrs Ellwood
Hudson F-E – producing an excellent standard of work
Rheannon W – working well in class
APs Award
Charlie S – Cooperating happily in all activities
VIPs
Noah S, Talia L

Mr Foye
Tom M – effort during Yoga
R.J. M – always trying his best
APs Award
Lily S - Cooperation
VIPs
Jed F, Caitlyn L

Mr Ellwood
Phoebe R – swift completion of all her work
Angelina D – mature writing skills
APs Award
Max P - Cooperation
VIPs
Geordie S, Alison D

Friday, 30 October 2015