## Term 1 – Week 4

### Permission Notes and Payments Due

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Contribution</td>
<td>$40 student or family $60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textbooks</td>
<td>$50 per student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearly Craft</td>
<td>$40 per student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 5/6 Canberra Excursion</td>
<td>$280 +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 3/4 Winmalee Excursion</td>
<td>$100 approx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5F Chinatown Excursion</td>
<td>$28 + note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Groups</td>
<td>$5 costume levy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### What’s Happening

#### Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>6th Mar.</td>
<td>Bandaged Bear Breakfast – 7.30-9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>20th Mar.</td>
<td>Harmony Day – Orange mufti, School Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>26th Mar.</td>
<td>School Photos – Summer Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27th Mar.</td>
<td>Year 4/5 Chinatown Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
<td>Students last day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>20th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24th April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>27th April</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Value of the Week - Respect

I am practising respect when I:

- speak courteously to everyone;
- take special care of the belongings of others;
- honour the rules of my family, school and nation;
- expect respect for my body and my rights; and
- treat others with dignity.

Medical Information Forms
Please ensure the school has received a medical information form for your child/children.
Forms are also available on the school website in ‘Newsletters and Notes”

2015 Medical Information (doc 51 KB)

Forms may be:
- delivered personally to the office
- emailed to: blaxland-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
- mailed to: Blaxland Public School PO Box 84 Blaxland 2774 NSW
- sent to school with your child

Please safeguard the wellbeing of your child by notifying the school of any change in medical requirements that arise during the year by forwarding an updated medical form.

Permission to Publish
If you do not wish your child to be included in any form of photography, videos and / or publishing please forward a signed and dated letter to the school ensuring we are aware of your wishes.

Parents happy to have their child / children included in photographs, videos and publications need not provide ‘Permission to Publish’ letters.

Newsletter Publication
Cybersafety is an area where children require protection. We ask that parents continue to respect students and their families as they continue to protect our children.
It is expected that while the school uploads the newsletter to the Blaxland Public School website that at no time may a newsletter be shared elsewhere on the internet by a student, parent, family or community member.

As a means to improve safety, following newsletter entries will not include surnames of students.
Thank you for your support.

Fete Meeting
Please come along and join Anne and her team at 7pm on the 23rd February to discuss organisation thus far.
Wonderful progress has been made and we will be enjoying a fabulous pyrotechnic display, lots of great stalls and an evening of fun before we know it.

Mufti Day 25th February
There will be Mufti Day next Wed 25th Feb. The Fete committee will be collecting donations in front of our school hall from 8.30am. We are accepting pre-loved:
- school age + fiction books
- white elephant stall items
- toys & puzzles in great condition

We also need chocolates for our ‘Chocolate Toss Game’ in any brand (30-50grams) and bottled water or coke and lemonade cans.

As a thankyou for your generous support there will be an exciting prize for the child and class with the most donations.

The next Fete Committee update will be held in our staff room on Mon 23rd Feb at 7pm.

School Attendance Policy
The Department of Education and Communities has revised the documents to reflect the new National Standards for Student Attendance Reporting.
Further information is available on the Department’s website: https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/policiesinter/category/search.do;jsessionid=YYeZfRcAHRCcCthAjsDY0pxu.pu0000jbos1001:wis-301?level=SchooIs&categories=SchooIs%7cstudent+administration%7cattendance

Enrolment in school is compulsory if your child is of or above the age of 6 years.

Attendance records are legal documents and as such schools are required to be rigorous in maintaining attendance registers.

Departmental policy requires that all absences are explained promptly by parents within seven days of the first day of any absence period.

Friday, 20 February 2015
All class rolls are monitored by the Department of Education and Communities. This is done by the School Office Assistant during the week and Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) during the year.

In the event of unexplained absences parents will receive a follow up note from the class teacher.

Where unexplained absences continue parents will receive a follow up note from the Principal and or a request for interview.

Attendance concerns may be referred to the HSLO for support.

Medical certificates are sought for frequent absences due to illness.

In some situations the school may request permission to liaise with the family doctor in order to better support students with frequent absences due to illness.

Where wellbeing or safety concerns for a child arise required reports are provided to Community Services Child Protection under the Protecting and Supporting Children and Young People Policy.

Principals have the authority to:
• grant sick to students where absences are satisfactorily explained;
• accept other explanation for absence;
• decline or accept an explanation and record an absence as unjustified;
• grant an exemption from school for up to 100 days in a 12 month period; grant part day exemptions totalling up to 100 days in 12 months.

Absences requiring more than 100 days in 12 months and exemptions from school are referred to the Executive Director of Schools.

Parent Helpers
Parents who are on the school grounds helping in class, sport or any other activity on a voluntary basis are required by Work, Health and Safety to sign in at the Office. In the event of an emergency we need to know who is on school grounds as a matter of safety.

Selective High School Assessments
Applicants will receive a Test authority letter or email and advice in regard to the test by 26th February 2015. If you have not received this information by this date please contact the High Performance Unit on 1300 880 367.

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on the 12th March 2015.

If you believe your child needs any special provisions in the test or extra consideration by the selection committee due to disability, medical condition or behavioural disorder please send the Unit copies of medical documents showing the diagnosis and any recommendations from health professionals.


Sports Trials – YEARS 5 and 6
Primary Schools Sports Association is holding trials to select teams to represent the Blue Mountains.

Students electing to try out are required to have high expertise in the sport demonstrating speed and agility.

We are asked to only recommend students in Years 5 and 6 who are currently playing in representative teams (Rep Teams) and / or A grade teams for the trials.

If your child meets the criteria for the trials please send their class teacher a letter requesting they be included for try outs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>WHERE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Touch Football – Girls</td>
<td>23-2-15</td>
<td>Blaxland East PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch Football – Boys</td>
<td>24-2-15</td>
<td>Blaxland East PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League – Opens</td>
<td>26-2-15</td>
<td>Springwood PS</td>
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</tbody>
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Excursion to China Town
Mr Foye and Year 4/5 are looking forward to an excursion to Chinatown on Friday, 27th March.

Notes are out and may also be accessed through the school website in Newsletters and Notes.
Parents are invited to join their children on the excursion.

Cost is $28.00 per student.

Students wishing to dress in traditional Chinese clothing will require a further $5.00. This is payable on the day at the Chinese Gardens. Please ensure you have returned medical notes as previously requested in order for your child to attend the excursion, along with permission notes and payment by the due date, 9th March.

Text Books
Staff has elected to go online with support for the implementation of the new Maths Syllabus.

We feel Origo Maths still offers a wonderful suite of maths options for students and teachers that is highly motivational, in line with NSW Syllabus goals and extends a program of work that students have worked with previously.

The software is delivered through Slate. This includes:
- the program we are using, Stepping Stones;
- Stepping Stones Static;
- Mathedology;
- Zupelz;
- Teaching Tools;
- Teaching Notes
- Flare
- Fundamentals Games
- Thinking Caps
- Go Maths support
- Honey Pot

The software package offers the students wonderful opportunities to grow in maths.

The school will absorb costs for the software and we ask parents to support the costs towards individual text books.

The cost for maths for the year includes two maths books: Stepping Stones and a Maths Journal @ $38.00

- English is $12.00

This is an increase of $10.00 from 2014, however the opportunities offered to students far outweigh the cost.

For further information please refer to: http://www.origoeducation.com/about-slate/

Dance Groups Years 3-6
Notes were distributed earlier this week. Any children who did not received a note who would like to be in dance this year please see Mrs Ellwood.

Parent Working Group
The school has purchased commercial educational games to support the use of ‘hands on’ maths materials during lessons. Games or kinaesthetic activities are not only lots of fun in learning they provide for different modalities in learning.

While commercial games are an easy option there are activities we need to produce that directly link to the teaching points of lessons taught directly in maths lessons.

Mrs Lees will be coming in to develop resources for ‘Count Me In Too’ Maths and Stepping Stones Maths each Tuesday.

If you are able to join Mrs Lees at any time, an hour or two, or whatever time you can spare during the day on Tuesdays between 9am to 3pm, please just come along.

As we are not working directly with children a Working With Children Check is not required.

Student Illness
It is not unusual for students to experience illness at the beginning of the year. Mrs Smith and Mrs Bedford are wonderful with the children, however, we ask that if your child is unwell that they remain at home for their wellbeing, the wellbeing of other students and the capacity of the office to support unwell or injured students arriving at the office throughout the day.

Thank you for your support.

Head Lice
It has been brought to our attention that there has been an outbreak of head lice in your child's class. 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.

Friday, 20 February 2015
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 1 Week 3**

**Mr Zoglmeyer**
Luke B – excellent work in Reading Groups
Violet S-C – great start to the year. Welcome to Blaxland Public School
**APs Award**
Jorden G - Respect
**VIPs**
Cody L, Charlie H

**Mrs Shaw**
Harry S – being a very happy and helpful class member
Carlito G-P – his wonderful attitude to all class work
**APs Award**
Keira L – showing respect to others
**VIPs**
Jacob V, Sacha McL

**Mrs Palmer/Mrs Connors**
**VIPs**
Lily O, Kynan L

**Mrs Ellwood**
Miranda P – being a quiet, consistent worker
Declan McD- an outstanding start to the year
**APs Award**
Austin L – being a respectful student
**VIPs**
Hudson F-E, Charlotte B

**Mr Foye**
Austin M – wonderful start to a new year
Caitlyn L – wonderful start to a new year
**APs Award**
Isabella M – A reliable young lady
**VIPs**
Leo T, Elijah B

**Mr Ellwood**
Max P – a handsome portrait
Quinn D – excellent publishing of a fine story
**APs Award**
Daniel S - Respect
**VIPs**
Andrew G, Rhiana S

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**Blaxland P.S. SRC**

**Bandaged Bear Breakfast**

*Students and Relatives*

**When:** Friday, March 6th, 7:30-9:00am
**Where:** Blaxland P.S. hall
**What:** A large croissant (ham and cheese, jam, creamed cheese and smoked salmon), a piece of fruit
Juice, Tea, Coffee
**How Much:** $5 pp. Donations welcome!

Order form attached to this Newsletter

All proceeds will go to the Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Please bring your bandaged bears along!

Prizes for best bears in 3 categories:
* 'best dressed’
  * 'cutest’
* 'most personality’

Children’s colouring competition winners will also be announced. (K-2, 3-4, 5-6)