**Term 1 – Week 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permission Notes and Payments Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voluntary Contribution</strong> - $40 student or family $60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Textbooks</strong> – $50 per student</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yearly Craft</strong> - $40 per student</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gymnastics</strong> - $40</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yrs 5/6 Canberra Excursion</strong> - $280 + Yrs 3/4 Winmalee Excursion - $100 approx.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4/5F Chinatown Excursion</strong> - $28 + note</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dance Groups</strong> - $5 costume levy</td>
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Please note these amounts can be paid off in instalments

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**What’s Happening**

**Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th Mar.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26th Mar.</td>
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<td>27th Mar.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd April</td>
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**Term 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th April</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th April</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>27th April</td>
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</table>
Value of the Week – Enthusiasm
I am practising enthusiasm when I:

- look forward to something eagerly;
- have a positive attitude;
- do things wholeheartedly and
- look on the bright side.

Congratulations Girls
Blaxland High School is the first school in NSW to organise transition acting and dance groups.
25 positions were available for each Year 6 group. The senior girls went along for auditions on Wednesday 25th February.
At the audition there were a series of warm up activities where the girls participated in impromptu scenes about ‘Pigs’. Some of the girls did scenes about dinner, ballet, and a free range family.
All of the students who auditioned from Blaxland Public School were accepted into the acting transition group.
One of our two dancers was selected for the dance group.
Dance audition involved learning part of a dance, practising what was learnt followed by a group performance.

How clever are you? Well done girls 😊

Guess which girl is the dancer!

District Swimming Carnival
Last Friday, February 27th, 9 students from Years 3-6 attended the Blue Mountains District Swimming Carnival at Glenbrook. Congratulations to Shanee, Ali, Claire, Jed, Rhiana, Lochlan, Mitch, Freya and Tom for your fine efforts, personal achievements and wonderful behaviour.
Your school and community are very proud of you.

Mrs Ellwood

Fete Meeting
Thank you to the families who organised around work, dinner and children to come along to the meeting.

Much of the organisation is already in place due to the efforts of many of our mums.
The next meeting is on Tuesday 17th March at 7pm at school.
Please come along, have a chat and a coffee, there may be a way for you to support the group, if not on the evening then possibly in the lead up.

Funds from the fete will be used to upgrade the playground for the children beginning with the area in front of the Kindergarten and Year 1 rooms.

Play by Design sent Mrs Smith a number of suggestions for the area.
One design in particular has some wonderful design elements.

We love the idea of the safe wet area, sand, places to sit or explore, meandering paths and grass areas. While the picture is not representative of our playground area it does contain the features we wish to include and gives you some idea of what it is we hope to create for the children.

Once we have an idea of funds available we will be able to have appropriate plans drawn for display to the community.

Hopefully, as time goes on and the vision grows we will be able to further develop the area as funds allow.

Mrs Smith has already organised the purchase of some colored seating for the area. It is an exciting venture that will, without doubt bring delight, lots of fun and happiness during the children’s learning and playtime. We thank our school community for providing this opportunity.
Selective High School Tests
The placement tests for selective high schools will take place on Thursday 12th March.

Year 6 students who elected to participate will receive test information regarding venues and times directly from the high performance unit.

It is expected that this information will have been received by students by 26th February. In the event the information is not received please call the performance unit on 1300 880 367 and let them know.

Good luck to all students participating.

Parent Helpers in Classrooms
It is our understanding that if you are helping in a classroom where your child is a Kindergarten to Year 6 student you may elect to sign a prohibited declaration form which can be obtained from the office.

We would ask, however that parents who support with P&C, sport or any activities that you organise a Working With Children Check which covers interaction with students across the school, for e.g. Mothers' Day Stall.

Thank you for your support.

School Photos
Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 will be involved in school photos on Thursday 26th March.

All students are required to wear new school uniform.

For the girls this is their navy shorts or skorts and school polo shirts, white socks and all black sneakers with black laces.

For the boys this is their navy shorts (not sports shorts please), school polo shirt, white socks and all black sneakers with black laces.

Choir, Dance, Band, SRC and Captains will have additional photos taken.

Siblings may also elect to have photos taken together.

We are waiting on the envelopes from Advanced Photography and will forward them to families as soon as they arrive.

Packages will be available, offering a range of prices and photo sets. Payments may be made directly to Advance Photography on line or you may choose to provide payment in the envelope provided by the photographers.

Envelopes with your selection of package or packages are returned to school by Friday 20th March.

China Town Excursion
Mr Foye and Year 4/5 are off 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.

Permission notes and payment are due at the office by 9th March.

Harmony Day
The school, Kindergarten to Year 6 will celebrate Harmony Day on Friday 20th March.

2015 marks 15 years of celebrating cultural diversity in Australia.

Friday 20th is a school day where the students further explore values such as inclusiveness, respect and sense of belonging.
Further information about Harmony Day may be accessed through: http://www.harmony.gov.au/

Parents are more than welcome to come along and join us. Activities begin at 9.30am concluding after lunch.

It is a mufti day and children are asked to dress in orange if possible.
Monetary Payments
Mrs Smith asks that all payments to the office are in a marked and sealed envelope or zip lock bag.

Please ensure your child’s name and class are clearly marked on the envelope along with what the payment is for.

As you can appreciate, when students leave money at the office without identification it is extremely difficult to allocate the payment correctly.

Thank you for your support.

P&C Meeting
Parents and Community members are invited to the first P&C meeting of the year on Monday 9th March at 7pm.

Everyone is welcome.
The cost to join the P&C is 50c and is payable on the night.
Membership provides you with the ability to vote. We will meet in the office staffroom.

Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC)
The school has again approached BMCC to attend to the issues of pedestrian safety on Wilson Way with upgrades to:
- the Wilson Way railway overpass to the lights closest to the highway entry to the school. Currently it is taped off with warning tape. Barriers need to be erected and or replaced.
- Wilson Way road area closest to Koala Rd by way of a pedestrian refuge, connecting footpath and kerb ramps.

We have also requested kerb and footpaths in Baden Place in order to demarcate safe walking paths for the children.

Hopefully, 2015 will bring good news from the council in regard to keeping pedestrians, particularly under the age of 14 years as safe as we possibly can.

We will pass on updates to you from the council as we receive them.

P&C AGM
The P&C Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Monday 23rd March at 7pm in the school office.
The AGM is a time where we:
- take the opportunity to thank the outgoing executive for their hard work and focused initiatives in fundraising and the support of Blaxland Public School;
- declare the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary open for election;
- nominate candidates and vote.

In order to vote parents and community members are required to be financial members of the P&C. The cost is 50c and payable to the treasurer at the P&C meeting on Monday 9th March.

Parents or community members considering taking office are invited to attend the AGM or apply in writing if you are unable to attend the meeting.
The written application is tabled along with nominees present.

We hope you are able to join us.

For your information we have included the following section on roles of the P&C as stated by the P&C Federation.

President
Duties The President is responsible for:
- The successful functioning of the P&C Association meetings
- The attainment of the P&C Association’s objectives
- Ensuring that the P&C Association takes part in decision-making processes in the school
- Fostering fair participation of all members and ensuring that all new members are made to feel welcome
- Supporting volunteers
- Consistent adherence to the constitution
- Acting as the P&C Association’s spokesperson when public statements or actions are needed
- Setting up lines of communication with the Principal
- Being signatory on the Association’s bank accounts
- Chairing meeting. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents will chair the meeting or the meeting can elect a chairperson from the members present for that meeting.

Voting The President is entitled to the same voting rights as any member. However, a President, when in the Chair, often abstains from voting in order to preserve the impartiality of the position.
The person chairing a meeting does not have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote. In the event of a tied vote, the motion should be lost.

Thursday, 5 March 2015
Sub-committees The President is automatically a member of all P&C sub-committees. The President should be informed of all sub-committee meetings and decisions, this would occur through written report.

An experienced President gives opportunities to the Vice-Presidents to develop their skills in chairing meetings. Federation recommends that a vice-president be delegated to chair part of a meeting. The training process could also include delegating the responsibility of sub-committee leadership to vice-presidents.

The President also has important responsibilities outside of meetings and is looked to as a leader of the parent community.

The President does not make unilateral decisions and should be mindful that all public statements accurately represent the views of the association.

Notice of Meeting P&C Constitution by-laws state that P&C Associations meet on a regular day each month ‘during term time’ at the school. Secretaries may use the P&C newsletter, school newsletter/website, school sign, or other means to promote meetings. Motions on Notice, issues and events to be discussed should be advertised along with names of guest speakers.

Agenda An agenda is a list of items of business to be considered at a meeting. An Agenda should include the name of the organisation, the type of meeting (e.g. Annual General Meeting, General or special meeting); where the meeting will be held; the date the meeting will be held and time the meeting will commence. An Agenda should contain the following;

1. Welcome and formal opening of meeting
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (Receipt/Amendments/Adoption)
4. Business arising from the previous meeting Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Reports:
   - President’s report
   - Treasurer’s report
   - Sub-committee reports
   - Principal’s report
7. General Business
8. Close

An agenda for Annual General Meetings will be similar to the above with the inclusion of items that only occur at an AGM such as election of Officers and Executive, appointment of the Auditor, membership fees, by-law changes etc.

Role Of The Treasurer as stated by the P&C Federation

Treasurer
Duties
Whilst all P&C members must be mindful of complying with financial accountability requirements, this is the Treasurer’s primary responsibility.
The Treasurer receives and deposits monies, maintains records, draws cheques* and presents accounts. The Treasurer also ensures that all funds held and handled by P&C are properly and openly accounted for as the Treasurer is responsible for all funds held in the name of the P&C Association. This includes all P&C Association committees. This does not mean that the Treasurer must undertake the actual bookkeeping themselves but they must ensure that the various sub-committee financial records have been kept to the Treasurer’s satisfaction. The Treasurer is a signatory on the P&C accounts and should not delegate this responsibility.

The Treasurer should encourage members to understand the state of the P&C Association finances. The Treasurer must ensure a case book or books are kept, recording all financial transactions of the P&C Association.

Planning, budgeting and cash flow A budget is a planning document to estimate the income and expenditure of the organisation for a given period (usually the financial year of the P&C Association).

The budget is a statement of intention rather than of fact and can be altered at any time, with due notice given by way of the Agenda, by majority vote, after its initial ratification at a general or special meeting. Budget estimates are founded on past economic performance, adjusted to anticipate the probable effect any special projects or one-off events. Once the overall budget has been approved, it is helpful to break the budget estimates with actual income and expenditure levels at regular interval throughout the year. This comparison allows the Treasurer to recommend changes to the budget so that it more accurately reflects the real financial situation of the P&C association. These changes, in turn, allow the association to amend its fundraising or expenditure plans for the year.

Note: The P&C Association budget is separate from the school’s budget.

Surplus funds The Treasurer makes recommendations about surplus funds. Surplus funds may be lodged as term deposits with any financial institution that has full trustee status.

Audit The financial accounts of the P&C Association must be submitted to an independent audit each year. The Treasurer produces a full statement of financial position declaring all funds held in the name of the P&C Association, including those of sub-committees, along with the Secretary who presents the Minute book of the same period to the Auditor.

After completion of the audit the financial statements, with all signed certificates appended, are to be presented at the Annual General Meeting for approval and adoption.


SRC Disco
In conjunction with Harmony Day, the SRC will be holding a disco for Kinder to Year 6 students on Friday 20th March in the school hall. The theme is ‘Orange’.

Kinder to Year 2 attend from 4.30pm to 6.00pm.
Years 3 – 6 attend from 6.00pm to 7.30pm.

Mrs Ellwood and the SRC will have notes out for you soon.

University of NSW Primary Competitions
Students in Years 3 to 6 have the opportunity to enter the University of NSW Maths, English and Science Competitions.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report.

If you would like your child to enter any or all of the competitions, please complete the slip below and return it with payment to the school office by Monday 6th April.

A copy of the note is on the school’s website.


Click on:
1. Newsletter and Notes section of the menu
2. Permission Notes
3. NSW Primary Comps

Or through the following link.


Yours sincerely
Kerrie Palmer

Thursday, 5 March 2015
University of NSW Primary Competitions

I would like my child ___________________________ to enter the competition/s below.

- Science Competition $8.80
- Maths Competition $8.80
- English Competition $8.80

Signed parent/Guardian _______________________
Date ___________________

Student Awards

Term 1 Weeks 4 & 5

Ms Everett
Felix McC – great listening in class
Angela S – beautiful class work

APs Award
Sienna McL - Enthusiasm

VIPs
Declan H, Bonnie K

Mr Zolgolmeyer
Jaxon C – wonderful work in reading groups
Ebony B – excellent focus in Junior Choir

APs Award
Joshua M - Enthusiasm

VIPs
Isabella W, Sophia W

Mrs Shaw
Chris S – his wonderful attitude and effort in class
Mia H – great work habits
Evie F – a great effort in writing
Claudia K – great work in reading groups

APs Award
Rohan D – being a trustworthy student
Aislinn W – being an enthusiastic student

VIPs
Eli P, Benny T, Molly G, Willem H

Mrs Palmer
Myles P – Hard work in Spelling

APs Award
Ellexus M - Trust

VIPs
Lillian M, Annabel B

Mrs Ellwood
Mikaela K-T – settling down more readily to her work
Noah S – an excellent start top the year
Kael L – good decision making regarding his work
Rheannon W – pleasing attitude to her work

APs Award
Zach C – being a trustworthy student
Jack W – being enthusiastic student

VIPs
Woody S, Taleah V, Natalia M, Isaac M

Mr Foye
Jed F – sportsmanship in games
Elijah B – excellence in bookwork
Caity L – outstanding research
Freya C – outstanding research

APs Award
Jed F – a trustworthy student
Austin M - Enthusiasm

VIPs
Joel D, Isobel O’T, Blake S, Oscar K

Mr Ellwood
Lily H – a perfectly published procedure
Maddy R – quick, efficient work in all areas
Nick J – a great effort with his activities graph
Angelina D – a beautiful portrait

APs Award
Terri D – Trust
Thomas M - Enthusiasm

VIPs
Grace S, Brad B, Shanee R, Tyler E

Blue Mountains Occasional Care!

Ever needed care for your children on a casual or term basis to attend training, appointments, meetings, or for respite?!
We provide Licensed, Approved Childcare, in a warm, caring environment.!
Qualified staff provide a quality educational program, incorporating the 5 Learning Outcomes of the Early Years Learning Framework.!

Venues: Blaxland - Monday
Lawson - Wednesday
Blackheath - Friday

Opening Hours: 9.30 - 2.00
Phone: 0412 932 801 for bookings and information.
Email: bmoccsmocs.org.au
Reasonable daily rate, discounts for Term Bookings, Rebates available from Family Assistance.