Permission Notes and Payments Due

Voluntary Contribution - $40 student or family $60
Textbooks – $40 per student
All other payments due by 8th April 2016

Please note these amounts can be paid off in instalments

What’s Happening

Term 1

Week 5
24th Feb. School Photos
26th Feb. District Swimming Carnival

Week 8
18th Mar. Harmony Day

Week 9
23rd Mar. Mural in a Day (Year 6)
25th Mar. Good Friday

Week 10
28th Mar. Easter Monday
29th Mar. School Photos

Week 11
8th Apr. ANZAC Day Assembly

Parents......

MEDICAL
Please ensure the school has a medical form for your child with current information. New forms to update information when required are located on the school website:

PHOTOS and MEDIA PERMISSION
Please inform the school if you do not wish your child to be included in photos and media articles.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK
All volunteers must have a current Working With Children Check in place? Applications may be accessed at:

ABSENCES
Please provide an explanation following your child’s absence from school.

Friday, 19 February 2016
**Value of the Week - Respect**

**Definition:**
Honouring someone or something because of their abilities, qualities or achievements. Caring about the feelings, wishes or rights of others.

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.

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**Play group**

**Pre-schoolers**

Gateway Family Services

We have a playschool operating every Thursday morning from 9.30am in the spare room beside 2P. Pre-schoolers are invited to come along, have a play, develop some friendships and engage in craft and art activities while mums, dads or grandparents have a coffee and a chat. The coordinator of the group has child protection clearance and is experienced in providing for the needs of little people.

We thank Gateway Family Services for the work they do in our community and supporting with the playgroup.

Please let the office know of your arrival and they will guide you to the classroom. How you are able to join us.

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**Swimming Carnival**

**Ages 8 to 13**

Thank you to Mrs Ellwood for her seamless organisation of the swimming carnival, to the teachers, parents and students of Blaxland High who supported the effective running of the carnival, to the staff who also supported with supervision of students Years 3 to 6 at school and a big thank you to all the students who were there to cheer their peers on who courageously pushed themselves beyond anything we could have asked of them. Of special note were the many times we saw students acknowledge the effort of their competitors with a hand shake or high five.

Such great children!

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**District Swimming**

**Ages 8 to 13**

The District Carnival is on Friday 26th at Glenbrook Pool. Warm – up is from 8.30am Races begin at 9am sharp.

Cost per competitor is $4.20

Cost per spectator is $2.20

The carnival will proceed in the event of wet weather where it is safe to do so.

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**Blaxland Public School P&C**

Parents and Citizens meet in the school office at 7.30pm the second Monday of the month with the exception of holidays.

Please feel welcome to come along and have a coffee and a chat. The AGM will be held on Monday 14th March. Meeting dates are:

- April 11th (School holidays)
- May 9th
- June 13th (Queens’ Birthday)
- July 11th (School Holidays)
- August 8th
- September 12th
- October 10th
- November 14th
- December 12th

Students who qualify to compete have been notified of arrangements for the day. We wish all our students competing the very best of luck on the day but most of all to have fun and stay safe.

**P&C**

**All Parents**

The P&C will hold an Annual General Meeting on Monday 14th March in the office staffroom.

Please feel free to come along and join us at 7.30pm.

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**Band**

**Years 5 and 6 Students**

**Date: Thursday 25th February**

**Cost: $10.00**

Year 5 and 6 students in the band who elect to attend the mentoring day at Blaxland High School must return permission notes and their $10 payment to the office as soon as possible. Numbers are required for buses and catering.

Thank you for your support. This is going to be a fabulous day of wonderful experiences.

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**Office**

**Parents**

Mrs Smith and Mrs Jamieson will attend a meeting at Plumpton High School on 24th February to discuss the role and function of business managers in schools.

Please be aware that Mrs Bedford will have times during the day in the office, however, there are times she may also be required in classrooms or sick bay.

Payments may be made online through the school website.

General enquiries may be better left until Thursday when Mrs Smith will be back in the office.

Thank you for our support and understanding.

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Friday, 19 February 2016
Year 5 and 6 students discussed the venue for camp this year with teachers and the principal. Time was provided to students to also discuss this with their parents overnight.

Students viewed and discussed two sport and recreation venues, Broken Bay and Narrabeen.

We then looked at the venues in terms of:

- travelling time and arrangements
- isolation of venue
- parent access to the venue after hours
- ability of a student to leave during the night
- cost
- activities the camps provided
- nature of facilities
- access by students and parents during the day
- whether the venue may preclude students attending due to a need to return home at night.
- the expectation of fun
- learning experiences
- tradition
- new adventures bringing even greater experiences or confirming the known.

Students have, as a result, made the decision to attend the camp at Narrabeen.

If you would like to have a look at the facilities offered by the venue it is:

Sport and Recreation
Sydney Academy
Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen 2101


**Costs:**

**Years 5 and 6:** approximately $400.00.

**Year 3 and 4:** approximately $120.00

This is dependent on numbers attending.

Payments may be made in full at the office or online through the school website:


Alternatively parents are welcome to make partial payments throughout the year.

Please contact the school if there are difficulties with your child attending over night camps. We may be able to offer alternative arrangements due to the change of venue location.

Please, if there are financial constraints we encourage you to discuss these with Mrs Smith or Mrs Jamieson to look at how the situation may be managed in a way that supports your child’s attendance at the camp. Information disclosed is considered confidential.

Teachers will discuss attendance at camp with students.

The school is required to ensure risk assessments are in place prior to each excursion and activity students will be engaged in.

Risk assessments also include behaviour.

Any behaviour demonstrated by a student that places another student at risk prior to camp will require individual assessment.

In the event we cannot ensure the safety of your child or the safety of his or her peers due to behavior, the placement offer at camp may be withdrawn.

The camps involve overnight stays and special arrangements may be required for students unable to stay overnight. Reasons could include, for example, fear of being away from home, fear of the dark, an inability to sleep through the night or any issue that may result in their distress or the disturbance of others that impedes another’s ability to participate, rest or sleep.

In this situation please talk to your child’s teacher. We are more than happy to accommodate parents and students, where possible, in organising arrangements that support your child’s attendance at camp.

Payments are to be finalized by the end of Term 3. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept late payments and unpaid invoices will result in camp placement offers being revoked.

Friday, 19 February 2016
Blaxland Public School
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN ON:
29/03/2016

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by Advancedlife Photography. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible, it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at www.advancedlife.com.au using our school’s unique 9 digit Online Order Code. (below) Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering please direct them via email to enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

ORDER NOW
WWW.ADVANCEDLIFE.COM.AU

9 Digit Online Order Code
C3E 9ZX DBZ

You will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book that your child will use to participate in the program. When your child makes their first deposit at school they will earn their first Dollarmites token and our school will also receive a $5 commission.

Thank you for supporting our school and helping teach your child the benefits of saving regularly.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Blaxland Public School.

Working With Children Check
All volunteers
Blaxland Public School is part of a learning community and is very fortunate to have friends and parents who undertake a range of support roles that are of enormous benefit to students and the school as a whole.

All schools have very strict child protection guidelines that are designed to safeguard our students. The Department of Education is vigilant in its processes to ensure that all volunteers are suitable for working safely with children. Everyone who work with children, including volunteers, must have a Working With Children Check through Services NSW.

Absences
NSW Education must begin by the age of six. The Education Act of 1990 requires parents and caregivers ensure their children attend school regularly or are registered with the Board of Studies for home schooling.

There are times when your child may need to be absent from school due to e.g.

- illness
- an infectious disease
- an unavoidable medical appointment
- attendance at a religious function
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence it is important that the teacher or office receives a verbal or written explanation within seven days.

School Banking – Kindergarten to Year 6
Monday to Friday at the Office
You become involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at any Commonwealth Bank, over the phone on 13 2221 or via NetBank if you are an existing customer with NetBank access.

Remember to take identification for you and your child (driver’s licence and birth certificate).
The class teacher may follow up with a reminder within two days of the due date.

Thank you for helping us to meet departmental and government legal requirements and ensure all children are safe and where they need to be.


**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 11th April.

A copy of the note is attached to this newsletter.

Yours sincerely

Kerrie Palmer

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**Student Awards**

**Term 1 Weeks 3 & 4**

**Mrs Dacey**

Anastasia M – settling into Kindergarten
Malakhai T – settling into Kindergarten

**APs Award**

Chloe R – Respect

**VIPs**

Rhys L, Yasmyne C

**Mr Zoglmeier**

Eva A-McL – wonderful start to Year One!
Finlay G – wonderful start to Year One!
Lyla M – being a cheerful, happy learner
Baxter B – excellent thinking in Mathematics

**APs Award**

Sienna McL – Reliability
Angela S – Respect

**VIPs**

Kobe M, Elias V, Bonnie K, Molly D

**Mrs Palmer**

Jaxon C – a wonderful start to the year
Joshua M – a wonderful start to the year
Sharlette S – working quickly and carefully
Jordan G – excellent listening in class

**APs Award**

Sacha McL – Reliability
Jaxon C – Respect

**Mrs Shaw**

Joshua F – being a lovely new member of the class
Jarrod F – being a lovely new member of the class
Alex W – his wonderful attitude in all he does
Rachel L – her mature and positive approach to all her work

**APs Award**

Myles P – always being reliable
Lana T – Respect

**VIPs**

Molly G, Jacob M, Kynan L, Emily G J, Angad P, Jasmine S

**Mr Foye**

R.J. M – trying so hard, all of the time
Charlotte B – fantastic work in ‘sentence in a day’
Austin L – always working quietly in class
Mitch F – being the most enthusiastic sports person in 4/5F

**APs Award**

Jericho H – always being reliable
Caitlyn L – always being a respectful student

**VIPs**

Evie M, Woody S, Jennifer C, Hudson F-E

**Mr & Mrs Ellwood**

Genevieve G – great work on Space
Oliver G – excellent manners
Brock L – useful comments and observations
Lilly N – skilful writing

**APs Award**

Freya C – Reliability
Oliver G – Respect

**VIPs**

Anabella H, Thomas L, Tilly M, Charlie S

Friday, 19 February 2016