Belmont North Public School - Newsletter

Cnr of Nikkin & Darling Streets, Belmont North NSW 2280
T: (02) 4945 4861  F: (02) 4947 7851

Monday Note – Term 1 Week 6 – 2016

Principal's Report – Mr. Shaun Dixon.

I had the privilege of attending Canteen Manager Training last Tuesday with members from the P&C. We enjoyed a very insightful day with lots of interesting tips, tricks and advice to assist our school team to run and support a healthy, viable canteen. The day pointed out to me yet again, how hard our volunteers work to ensure that the students at Belmont North PS have all the opportunities that are enjoyed by much larger schools. You are doing a fabulous job. Thank you.

School Attendance – Every Day Counts!

A day here or there doesn’t seem like much, but every day counts! I have included a poster and information about student attendance. (On page 5) This information highlights just how much school can be missed through the odd day, here and there absent.

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. Belmont North Public School works in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of your children at school. When your child attends school every day, engaging in learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children that will enhance and benefit their future.

Unexplained Absences

Please make sure to advise the school office by email, phone or written note of any student absence (including full day, late arrival or leaving early). This information helps us to accurately maintain correct and up to date information which appears on student and school records. The school will follow up any unexplained absence from school regularly via a letter home requesting reason for absence.

Upcoming Events

March 4
Clean Up Australia Day

March 8
P&C Annual General Meeting – 9am

March 24
Easter Hat Parade

April 7
Last day for students

Important Announcements!

Skoolbag App NOW available for download.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Missing 1 day of school per week from Kindergarten to Year 12 is equivalent to finishing Year 10… That’s 2 ½ years of school missed”

Every Day Counts

 skewed
Term 1, Week 5 Award Winners

Principal’s Award

KJ Melody
K/1S Madeline
1L Laura
2S Amity
3/4A Connah
5/6M Amy
5/6O Royce

Student of the Week

KJ Tahn
K/1S Codie
2S Hannah
3/4A Michala
3/4B Meila
5/6M Erin
5/6O Amelia

Merit:

KJ Mahlie
K/1S Lucas
1L Anastasia
2S Ella
3/4A Tayla
3/4B Lucia
5/6M Lailah
5/6O Latisha
LIVE PERFORMANCE 
BY: CHELSEA BASHAM

Chelsea Basham will be performing at BNPS this Thursday 3rd March.

All students will attend this free mini concert.

Her debut album ‘I Make My Own Sunshine’ released in August 2012 produced two #1’s, earned her a Golden Guitar for Best New Talent in 2013 and a nomination at the prestigious APRA awards in 2014.

After performing a duet with superstar Keith Urban at a packed out show at the Perth Arena, Chelsea has been working on her highly anticipated second album.

CLEAN UP
AUSTRALIA DAY

Students and staff will participate in Clean Up Australia Day on Friday 4th March.

We will clean up the school and the areas outside of the school fence. Please send a pair of gloves or old tongs for picking up rubbish with your child/ren on this day if you wish.

Mrs Smith

DATE CHANGES AT 
END OF TERM 1 
(Read Principal's Report)

Students finish Term 1 on Thursday 7th April.

Staff Development Day is on Friday 8th April.

TERM 2 – RETURN DATE

Students and Staff return to school on Tuesday 26th April.

EASTER HAT PARADE

Our Easter Hat Parade will be held on Thursday 24th March.

More information will be provided soon.

WHOLE SCHOOL 
ASSEMBLY

Our whole school assembly is on every Thursday at 2.30pm

Parents & caregivers welcome to attend.

BELMONT NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWS
How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**For iPhone and iPad users:**
1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "Install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

**For Android users:**
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

**Please Note:** Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

**For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 81 or 10 device users:**
1. Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 81/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

**Please Note:** The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au Don’t forget to like us on Facebook! 🌟
# Every Day Counts....

**A day here or there doesn’t seem like much, but...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When your child misses just...</th>
<th>that equals...</th>
<th>which is...</th>
<th>and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...</th>
<th>This means that the best your child can achieve is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day each fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 ½ a years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day a week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 ½ years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days a week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days a week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Give your child every chance to flourish...**  

**Every day counts!**
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Late arrival is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertaking) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and District staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

- Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129
GREAT EFFORT

2016 ZONE SWIMMING TEAM

Last week our champion swim team travelled to Swansea to compete in the Zone Swimming Carnival.

In a very competitive arena, each member of the team swam to their utmost ability resulting in Cailan securing a spot in the finals and several others swimming personal best times.

I must commend all students for the way they represented our school both in their effort and behaviour.

Thank you to all the Parents/Caregivers for their support, as these days are not possible without your help.
UNIFORM SHOP
Open Friday mornings from 8.30am to 9.30am.

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 6</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29th</td>
<td>Kristy &amp; Bec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1st</td>
<td>Lacey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2nd</td>
<td>Tina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd</td>
<td>Kristy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 4th</td>
<td>June &amp; Kayleen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THANK YOU.....

Thank you to Codie & Brayden Baker & Family for generously donating a Bellini to our school canteen.

Very much appreciated from The Canteen Helpers.

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 8th March
Time: 9am
Nomination forms available from the front office.

Thank you to Codie & Bec for generously donating bread used for the Bunning BBQ and the Parent Information Night.

Our fundraising BBQ & parent information night was a huge success, in part due to your kind donation.

P&C would like to thank Brumby's Belmont, Jewells Bakery & Redhead Bread Shop for generously donating bread used for the Bunning BBQ and the Parent Information Night.

Our fundraising BBQ & parent information night was a huge success, in part due to your kind donation.

COMING SOON
HOT CROSS BUN DRIVE
& ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

EASTER HAT PARADE
THURS 24th MARCH
START MAKING YOUR HAT!

MOTHER’S DAY STALL 2016
To make our Mother's Day stall a huge success and to ensure that all students get to purchase a gift on the day, the P&C would greatly appreciate gift donations.

Donations can be left at the school canteen.
BELMONT NTH P&C HOT CROSS BUN FRUNDRAISER

All orders & payments to be placed in the P&C letterbox (located in the canteen area) by THURSDAY 17th MARCH 2016

6 Pack - $7.00
Traditional Choc Chip Fruitless Mocha

Delivery will be on: WEDNESDAY 23rd 2016

Order forms will be sent home on Thursday 3rd March.
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Belmont North Netball Club
is looking for players in the following age groups to ensure that the 2 teams have reserves.

Under 8’s – Born 2008/2009
Under 9’s – Born 2007
Intermediate – Born 2002 / 2003

If you are interested please contact the registrar Scott Wheeler on 0414 890 073 after 6.00pm weekdays or check out our Facebook page

Belmont Automotive Service Centre

Delivering Personalised Service
All types of servicing to all makes & models • All types of mechanical repairs
Suspension idle • Exhaust repairs • Computer diagnostics • Reap checks (inc. LPG)

PHONE - (02) 4947 7925
4 LIVINGSTONE STREET BELMONT NSW 2280

For professional, efficient car servicing and motor repairs. With fast turnaround times and very competitive rates, you will leave as a very satisfied customer knowing your vehicle is in excellent shape

*** LUBE SERVICING STARTING AT $114 ***
(Conditions apply)
We are a small family owned and operated workshop located next door to the Belmont Public School in Livingstone Street Belmont.
Check out our Facebook page or website for Monthly specials, mention the special of the month at time of booking to redeem.

www.belmontautomotive.com.au

Weekly lessons now at your School!
Keyboard, Guitar, Drums, Singing, Ukulele, Rock Band

BOOK NOW!
Be quick. Limited spaces available!
* PHONE 1300 168 742 * ONLINE www.themusicbus.com.au

WARNERS BAY AFL
Julia Ferguson
whaleflutters@gmail.com or 0402 925 902

Kickability

Kickability is a specially designed program for children with a disability to allow kids and their families the opportunity to be involved in the game of Australian football.

To find out more about Kickability or to register your interest, contact your local club.