Wednesday 3rd February 2016

2016 has started extremely well and I extend a warm welcome to our new and returning families.

It was very pleasing to note when I walked around the school last week the excitement of our students and their parents about returning to school after a very long break. I also noted the support shown by our parents in ensuring our students were wearing their uniform. Our uniform certainly looks striking out in the community.

The energy and engagement by our staff during our professional learning days, the week before school started, was first rate. A range of topics were covered including Phonics, Digital Technologies, and Behaviour Management.

I welcome a number of new and returning from leave teachers to the Bluewater State School team. Transferring from Wilston State School Northern Territory, I welcome; Mrs Virginia Dwyer (Prep B). Transferring from The Willows State School is Mrs Janelle O’Farrell (1B). I welcome back Mr Grant Whiteford (3/4B), Ms Marcelle Quantrell (Learning Support) and Mrs Birgitta Rose (Local Relief Teacher). Also, welcome to our new LOTE teacher Ms Anna Kendall, Speech Language Pathologist Miss Jess Dobe, and School Chaplain Chappy Travis.

I am looking forward to be working with the student leaders and seeing them grow in their leadership positions. Congratulations to:

Olivia H and Angus H (School Captains)
Miami L and Harrison S (Vice Captains)
Zoe P and Cooper A (Fantomes House Captains)
Brooke G and Jye P (Falcons House Captains)
Simone P and Jack M (Rattlesnakes House Captains)
Ben T (Environmental Leader)
Malleya B (Indigenous Leader)
Mikayla K (Arts Leader)
Hayden C (Technology Leader)

It is important to remember that the pick-up/drop off zone is not a parking zone. Drivers must stay in the car. If we are all patient we can ensure all our students are safe.

Regards

Chris
Our **Whole School Attendance** Rate is currently 94%. Our aim is to be above 95%.

A huge thank you to parents for phoning in when your children are away. We have noticed a considerable improvement and currently have no unexplained absences and the number of follow up phone calls is reducing.

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**DEFENCE SCHOOL TRANSITION AIDE**

I would like to introduce myself Mrs Evonne Craven. This year at Bluewater State School I will be the Defence School Transition Aide. Previously I worked at Bluewater as a Teacher Aide. My knowing our school’s values and procedures should enable the many exciting plans and activities I am endeavouring to introduce to Bluewater to be able to fit in perfectly for our defence families.

I am enthusiastic and thrilled to be introducing this exciting new position to Bluewater State School and I am looking forward to meeting all our Bluewater Defence Families.

*Evonne Craven*

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**2016 Swimming Carnival**

**Thursday 25 Feb 5:30pm at North Shore**

$3.00 for participants only

Notes have been sent home, Open for children born 2004-2008 and they MUST be able to swim 25m freestyle (half the length of Northshore Pool). Children can enter the other strokes if they are also capable. All welcome and encouraged to come and cheer, there is no charge for spectators however only participants are allowed in the water.

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**PCYC Townsville – Bluewater School Age Care**

It is with great excitement that I can announce School Age Care is open at Bluewater State School. Townsville PCYC in partnership with Bluewater State School can now offer to families Before and After School and Vacation Care. PCYC runs a fun and engaging child-initiated program involving craft, sport and imaginative free play activities in a safe and supervised environment.

On behalf of Townsville PCYC I would like to thank Mr Anderson and his team, the P&C and the Bluewater school community for all your support and for being so welcoming.

*Shannon McDermott*

**Area Manager School Age Care**

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

Q: What times are you open? A: Before School Care opens at 6:00am and finishes when school starts; After School Care starts at 3:00 and closes at 6:00pm. Vacation Care operates from 6:00 – 6:00pm. We are open Monday – Friday, except public holidays.

Q: How much does it cost? A: Before School Care costs $13 per child and includes breakfast. After School Care costs $17 per child and includes afternoon tea. Vacation Care costs $41 per child, excursions and incursions incur extra cost.

Q: Do you have vacancies? A: Yes we do; we can provide care for 55 children at each session. Currently we are caring for between 8 - 10 children a session.

Q: How do I contact the service? A: You can phone us on 0466 498 360 or email bluewatersac@pcyc.org.au

Q: How do I enrol my children in the service? A: You can either collect an enrolment form from the Science Room in the library before school or after school or you can enrol online at https://bluewatersac.hubworks.com.au

Q: Do you walk Prep students to and from class? A: Yes, we will walk Prep students to class and collect them from class.

Q: Can my child attend after school activities like Auskicker or After School Youth? A: Yes they can. We have an Activities Escort form which parents complete to give PCYC permission to sign children in late or out early.

Q: I’m eligible for childcare benefit; will I be able to get a fee reduction? A: Yes, we are registered for Child Care Benefit and you will be able to receive your fee reduction.

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**on the calendar**

February:

9th P&C AGM

P&C General Meeting

17th Tuckshop Meal Deal

25th Swimming Carnival

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Hi,

My name is Chappy Travis; I have come to join the team at Bluewater State School this year. I volunteered here with Chappy Drew at the school and in Afterschool Youth during term 3 and 4 of last year.

I'm currently studying a Diploma in Community Service and a Certificate in Youth Work and Mental Health.

I have worked several different positions before I had a calling for Chaplaincy. I was a stockman on several cattle stations, a chemical engineer for a company called Ecolab and have been a youth worker for Anglicare.

I am very excited to be here at Bluewater State School this year and for the years to come. I'm excited to get to know the kids, staff and parents. I am looking forward to starting up Afterschool Youth again this year and to share in some fun programs with kids of all ages and grades at Bluewater State School.

Blessings,

*Travis*

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**AFTERSCHOOL YOUTH**

*(for Year 4-6)*

starts up again next

Wednesday 10th Feb

3:00-4:30pm.

See Chappy Travis

for more info.
**Instrumental Strings**  Welcome to a new year of music making.

Contracts, loan forms and requirement list are being sent home this week if your child has missed out on notes please contact the office.

Instruments are provided for first year students by the school. Parents will need to purchase an instrument for continuing students on violin and viola.

Instruments can be purchased from Arties and other local providers. If you are purchasing instruments via Gumtree or E Bay please be aware of the quality of the instrument and also the size. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate in contacting me on 0439 536 751.

Tutor books, rosin, shoulder rests and rock stops (cellos) can be purchased from Arties or the Keyboard shop. It is important that students have these requirements, by the end of February.

Lessons will start next week, on Tuesday.

*Belinda Fairbank*

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**Music Aid**

**Music News - Mr Cook**

Wow!! The Band has played on Parade already (Super Good Students)

The Band will be practicing each Monday in the CPA from 8:30 to 9:00 and will then play some songs for the students as they sit for Parade. During parade, they will play Advance Australia Fair, Happy Birthday and also THE COWBOYS SONG.

I am looking forward to lessons each Thursday and all the new beginners will be getting their instruments to borrow as soon as the loan forms are returned and the Tutor book and equipment is bought.

For those parents still needing to purchase an instrument for their child, Arthur Florence from MUSIC AID Ph 0410491406 has some great value second hand instruments for sale.

Early in term 2 the Band will be performing along with many other schools at FANFARE.

If you have any questions or concerns you can email me on mcook66@eq.edu.au

Yours in Music

*Malcolm Cook*

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**Rugby Union**

**Players Wanted**

Western Suburbs Junior Rugby Union Club is seeking players 6 to 13 years of age to compete in the Townsville District Rugby Union Under 8s, U10s, U11s, U12s and L13s competition 2016.

Come and join a great, friendly and family orientated club.

**Training**

Begins Tuesday 2nd Feb and Thursdays @ 5-6pm, The Weir State School Oval next to Tony Ireland Stadium.

**ENQUIRIES:**

JUNIOR 0419025147 or hwlangford@gmail.com

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**TOWNSVILLE BASKETBALL 2016**

Townsville Basketball has a great range of competitions for all ages and skill levels in 2016.

**SIGN ON DAY: SATURDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2016 FROM 9.00AM TO 12.00PM AT TOWNSVILLE 106.3FM STADIUM**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT www.townsvillebasketball.net.au **

**TOWNSVILLE BASKETBALL**

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**Patches of Bluewater Craft Group**

Meet every Thursday at Bluewater Community Centre

9am to 1pm

New people are welcome

Contact: Shannon Stanford on 4788 6465

Patches of Bluewater are proud sponsors of 3 x $100 Encouragement Vouchers presented at the 2016 Bluewater State School Christmas Concert