Thursday 28th April 2016

A very moving service on Friday at the school for our ANZAC Day Parade. I want to acknowledge the work of Evonne Craven, our Defence School Transition Aide, who organised the parade. It was again a pleasure to have the Vietnam Veterans from Black River Beach Community, all of our parents who have served and Major Julian Hohnen who spoke to the parade about his experiences abroad.

Thank you also to the parents who came and shared the morning with the children. I am sure that each and every person that attended would agree that the students showed the utmost respect.

It was also fabulous to see the wonderful support at the Black River Dawn Service on Monday. We had a real Bluewater turn out on the day with about fifty students in school uniform. Lockie Hoare speaking on behalf of the Braban family, former students as part of the catafalque party; our school captains as special guests in the wreath laying ceremony, and I was asked to give a speech about how kids perceive ANZAC day. A very proud day for the school.

SCHOOL BUSES

There are some major concerns that I have as a principal, and I know I share those concerns with the other Northern Beaches Principals. I will back the bus company on suspending students from the bus, I will support drivers taking action to ensure the safety of students on the bus. I have asked that the bus company reviews how they are communicating these events and in turn how we communicate these i.e. late bus. I know that we can all do better, but please understand that all stakeholders need to contribute.

I have included over the page, the responsibilities of all stakeholders for travel on the bus.

If you are making a complaint about the bus company, I really do not believe that Facebook is the most productive way. The contact details that you need are as follows:

Transit Group (SUNBUS Townsville)
451-459 Woolcock Street, Garbutt,
Phone: 4771 9800
Email: tsvschooladmin@tagroup.net.au
If you wish to let the school know, please email bus@bluewatess.eq.edu.au which will forward to Jackie and myself but also to the Sunbus email address.

Make sure that you include the following:
Number of the bus, AM or PM, Time of incident or place i.e. Yabulu station or on the highway to Yabulu station. What happened? Who was involved? Who witnessed the incident? Has this happened before? What impact has it had on your child? Contact details, phone numbers etc.

Alternatively you also have the right to make a complaint to the police. I would encourage that you do this if you believe that your child has had their rights violated. It is not ok to ‘get on the bus and rev another child’. We need to be careful that natural justice has been displayed as in most cases there are two sides to a story. We do not accept this behaviour on school grounds and certainly every parent would not like another adult doing that to their child, especially if they do not have the full story.

For all other school transport-related enquiries, please contact TransLink – Department of Transport & Main Roads
445 Flinders Street, 5th Floor, Townsville
Phone: 4758 7544
Email: pttownsville@translink.com.au

Our students at Bluewater show excellent behaviour each and every day at school. It is unfortunate that when they travel on the bus this is not upheld by all.

The code of conduct will again be given out to each student on the bus, you can also download the code of conduct by googling ‘QLD Code of Conduct for school student travelling on the bus’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder Group</th>
<th>Actions</th>
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| Parents/carers and school students | • provide correct bus fare to child/ren  
• ensure children are aware of rights and responsibilities and consequences for misbehaviour under the code of conduct  
• cooperate with the school and bus operator in implementing agreed disciplinary action if required |
| School students | • pay the correct bus fare  
• be aware of rights and responsibilities under the code of conduct  
• show appropriate bus behaviour |
| P&C’s QLD | • utilise communication channels to distribute information to remind parents of requirements under the code of conduct and any issues that arise with bus behaviour at the respective school  
• promote the use of bus safety education resources and messaging at schools  
• include information on the code of conduct in area coordinator training |
| Drivers | • undertake training on bus driver roles and responsibilities under the code of conduct  
• promptly follow the relevant procedures in response to any student breach of the code of conduct |
| Bus operators | • support drivers and work with schools and parents/carers to implement consequences when dealing with students that breach the code of conduct  
• ensure drivers of school services or general routes servicing schools are appropriately trained in implementing the code of conduct  
• where possible and if feasible, allocate the same drivers to the same school services or general route services |
| Industry groups and unions | • implement school liaison officer positions in collaboration with local schools to run bus safety based activities with students  
• utilise existing communication channels to promote available training and resources to operators and reinforce the importance of driver knowledge of the code of conduct  
• utilise existing relationships with community organisations, such as the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, to reinforce the importance of appropriate bus behaviour to school students and parents/carers |
| Queensland Schools | • distribute messaging to students through school assemblies  
• invite bus operator to present at school assembly on the importance of bus safety  
• provide information (e.g. information sheets via school newsletters) on the code of conduct to parents  
• expected behaviour of students while travelling on buses will be included in school behaviour management plans  
• inclusion of safe bus travel message in enrolment packs  
• utilise available education resources to educate students on appropriate bus behaviour  
• engage high school students to develop new education resources on appropriate bus behaviour  
• support the bus operator in implementing consequences for school students who breach the code of conduct  
• host lunches inviting bus drivers from the local bus operator to attend and interact with school students  
• discuss with local bus operator implementing a school liaison officer position to run bus safety based activities with students  
• school principals will ensure the appropriate level of supervision at school bus collection points where appropriate and in accordance with industrial instruments |
| Queensland Government | • undertake blitz operations on school services where bus operators experience behavioural or fare evasion issues  
• actively promote to school principals and teachers the available resources which focus on the bus safety message  
• inform industry when new education programs are being developed for schools  
• develop and provide consistent messaging on the code of conduct to schools and P&C’s Queensland for distribution to parents or for use on social media such as Facebook and twitter  
• form student behaviour consultative committees in collaboration with other stakeholder groups  
• develop and implement pilot programs consisting of a number of actions to address issues that have become prevalent in particular in regions as required  
• utilise initiatives such as Adopt-a-Cop, School-based Police Officers and Crime Prevention Officers to develop relationships between Queensland Police Officers and students |
NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN testing will be on May 10, 11 and 12.

Every year we have parents who wish for their child to be withdrawn from the tests, if you have concerns about the testing please contact the office.

A big thank you to the Tuckshop and Woolworths North Shore who will be providing breakfast to the NAPLAN students from 8am each morning.

I want to acknowledge the work of schools who have displayed similar messages about NAPLAN, certainly the improvement we have had as a school in the standardised testing is great but it is always important to remember the following. Each Year 3 and 5 student will receive this letter and it is certainly how we feel at Bluewater State School as educators.

Dear Students of Year 3 and 5,

Soon, you will sit the NAPLAN test. Before you take this test there is something very important for you to know:

This test does not assess all of what makes each of you exceptional and unique.

The people who score these tests don’t know that some of you love to sing, are good at drawing or can teach others how to use a computer program. They have not seen the way that some of you can dance with grace or speak confidently to a large group. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them when they are sad. They do not know that you participate in sports, help your Mum and Dad or that you play with your little brother, sister or cousins. They do not know that you are caring, thoughtful and that every day you do your best. Because these attributes cannot be tested.

The scores you get from this test will tell you how you did on that day, but they will not tell you everything. They can’t tell you that you have improved on something you once found difficult. They can’t tell you that you brighten up your teacher’s day. They can’t tell you how amazingly special you are.

So come to school ready to do your best for the NAPLAN test and remember there is no one way to ‘test’ all of the wonderful things that make you, YOU!

Regards

Chris Anderson
Principal

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**SMOKE-FREE SCHOOL**

Smoke is banned at this school and for 5 metres beyond the school boundary.

Compliance is a condition of entry and on-the-spot fines apply.

**Update of Student Information**

Each family has received a current print out of your child’s personal details for checking and amending as necessary.

**Please return as soon as possible**

Thank you to those families who have already returned this form.

For parents that have shared custody of their children, only one copy has been sent home with your child. If you require a further copy, please contact the office.

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**on the calendar**

2016/2017

Entertainment books AVAILABLE NOW!

Order online www.entbook.com.au/271l7x2
or see Jodie in the library

All proceeds to Canberra Camp 2017

Order envelopes have been sent home.

Sibling photo envelopes are available at the office.
PBL (Positive Behaviour of Learning) News

“Lunchtime Legends” is the current PBL focus.

Being a “Lunchtime Legend” means that students are: responsible and respectful in the eating area and when moving to play areas.

These are the student expectations:

- Students will be seated when eating. They will ask for the staff on duty for permission to go to the toilets/drinks etc.
- Students will leave their lunchboxes in a tidy manner and ensure all rubbish is placed in the bins.
- After the play bell rings, students will remain seated and place their hands on their head when they are ready to leave the eating area. Staff will check that the eating area is clean and then request students walk to the appropriate play area. Students that are still eating are to continue eating if desired.

Remember Gotchas will be handed out to students displaying responsible and respectful behaviour. Have fun at lunchtime, legends!

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BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at our school
16th-20th May

Our Book Fair theme for Term 2 2016 is Monster Book Fair: Reading is so much fun, it will give you goosebumps! This season’s Book Fair will be an exciting celebration full of hundreds of books kids want to read.

Book Fair will be open before and after school between 8:30-9am and 3-3:30pm on the 16th-20th of May. Books can be purchased during these times.

Scholastic Book Fair is a great way to fundraise for new books for our school.

Each class will have the opportunity to view all of the books available at Book Fair. Children will then write a wish list to take home to their parents.

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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
Gold Coast
Family Holiday!
Bluewater State School P&C Major Raffle

1st Prize: 5 night holiday at Sea World Resort & Water Park for 2 adults and 2 children, unlimited entry for 2 adults and 2 children to Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World and Wet’n’Wild and $1,000 cash

2nd Prize: Samsung Galaxy Tablet 16GB

One book of raffle tickets has been sent home for each family and we would appreciate you selling the book if you are able to. Please return sold tickets and money to the office. If you are unable to sell them, please return them as soon as possible so that others can sell them. This year the two families who sell the most tickets will receive a Samsung Galaxy Tablet. Thank you for supporting Bluewater School by selling these tickets. All proceeds to the Bluewater State School P&C.

2017 ENROLMENT SCHOOL TOURS and OPEN DAY

Join us to experience learning and life at Northern Beaches SHS! Our school tours will provide an opportunity for you to walk through the school campus viewing the main facilities and visiting classrooms, talk to our students and meet school staff. All members of the family are welcome to attend.

When: Wednesday 8th June 2016
Where: Meranti Street Deeragun Townsville

Bookings are essential – contact school office on 07 4751 7111

Personalised Class Tours run at:
8:45am, 9:15am, 9:45am,
10:10am and 12:00pm

After-school hours Group Tours run at:
4:00pm and 5:00pm
Tours depart from the school office

ENROLMENT PACKS
AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL OFFICE

Would you like $500 to help pay your Resource Fees, sporting costs, music lessons, camps, excursions, school-related overseas trips, or even a laptop? Saver Plus can match your savings for education costs dollar for dollar, up to $500. Wouldn’t it be great to take control of your financial situation and learn new skills on how to budget and save? Eligibility conditions apply. For further information please contact: Nikki Storey, Saver Plus Coordinator on 4728 6786 OR SMS your name to 0418 201 533
Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is funded by the Australian Government

TRIVIA Night

Come along for prizes, games, and a night of fun

When: Saturday 14th May at 7pm
Where: St Anthony’s High School - SDC
Joaane St, Deeragun
Cost: $15 per person
Table nibbles provided - soft drinks for sale

All proceeds go to the school chaplaincy programs in the Northern Beaches

To book a table of 6 or just a seat Call / text Jeremy Bill - 0418 598 162
Email - jerrycan99@hotmail.com

Northern beaches correction

Are you Looking For

Adventure

Open to Boys and Girls ages 6 - 26
Looking for youth and adults with a passion for the outdoors and having FUN!!

To find out more Group Leader
contact: 0404 294 652

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Wednesday nights
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Bluewater Station road, Bluewater

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Lunch Friday - 12pm to 2pm

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