Wednesday 9 November 2016

Dear Bluewater State School,

Welcome to week 6, another busy and exciting time for our school community. Here are a few stories and events that are taking place this fortnight.

Instrumental Music Night

Instrumental Music Information Night is tonight. If you are interested in being a part of this award winning program, please join us in the staffroom at 6:00pm. We are looking for students who are currently in Year 2 to Year 5 who are interested in participating in the Brass, Wind, Percussion and Strings programs. Information will be shared on the selection and recruitment process.

Getting Ready for 2017

It is time to start planning for 2017. This process is numbers driven. It's important that we have an accurate idea of how many students we will have at Bluewater State School next year. This allows Jackie and I to form classes and allocate teachers to the groups. If your family has plans to leave the area or we have the pleasure of enrolling a family member, sibling or next door neighbour, could you please contact Christine and Jen in the office to advise them of your plans?

Country Fair

I very much enjoyed the Country Fair. It was great to share this event with my family, chat with parents and to watch the kids enjoy themselves and be proud of their school, it was even enjoyable being pelted with wet sponges. I'd like to thank the organising committee, in particular Tracey Walker. It's hard and often unfair to single people out when it comes to community events like the Country Fair but I'm sure you agree that Tracey's work and commitment to this event was second to none. Thanks to everyone that made a positive contribution, Bluewater State School appreciates you!
P&C Project - Permanent Shade Structure

Our P&C Committee is in the process of obtaining quotes to put a permanent shade structure over the main eating areas of the school. Thanks to Warren and the team for their work thus far. We have quotes starting to roll in and more solid plans to improve the infrastructure of the school, more reasons to be proud of our community. A quick reminder that our last P&C meeting for the year will occur next Tuesday night, the 15th of November. It would be great to see a strong number attend as we look to finalise the year’s activities and plan our final event, the Christmas Concert and Awards night.

Prep Class of 2017

On the morning of the 5th of December we will be joined by our future Prep students. Our new crop of little people are going to participate in some transition activities. It will be their first opportunity to wear their school uniform, pack their lunchbox and mix it with the other kids at ‘Big School’. They will attend assembly for the first time, participate in an English lesson and have lunch in the eating area with the rest of the school. Tea and Coffee will be available in the staffroom for our parents who want to stick around and meet some of the other families that they will navigate school life with for the next seven years.

Yet again there’s lots happening at our school. I hope everyone has a great week.

Regards,

Chris Wicks
Principal

Canberra Camp deposit due now!

$200 deposit is required by the 24th November to secure your child’s flight. Please pay at the office or online.

Country Fair News

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone that helped out with the Country Fair. It truly would not have been possible without the awesome efforts of the parents and the P&C. Thank you to our awesome Principal Mr Wicks, Deputy Principal Miss Somerville and all the teaching and support staff at our school for your help and support throughout 2016. The planning for this annual event starts at the beginning of the school year with fundraising for dodgers and continues throughout the year with the Country Fair Committee meeting monthly to organise this event. If you have wanted to help out at school but perhaps been unsure how, please consider joining a committee. By contributing some of your time or ideas you will be helping your child more than you might realise.

Thank you to Chappy Travis and all the helpers from Northern Beaches Connections, your efforts helping to set up on the day were greatly appreciated.

Donations: Thank you to everyone for their support by selling or buying dodger tickets. There were some great prizes donated by very generous businesses and without their support, the dodger raffle would not be possible. Without the support of parents, grandparents and the local Bluewater Community our school Fair would not be the success that it is every year. All the money raised at the Country Fair by the P&C goes towards making our children’s school experience more enjoyable, either by purchasing resources or investing in facilities which directly benefit the students.

Dodger Ticket seller’s Prize: The top two ticket sellers of the dodger tickets each won a Samsung Galaxy Tab A 7”. Selling between them over 420 tickets are Bea Jay (4B) and Mia (3W). Great effort girls, congratulations!

Poster Competition: There were some awesome posters this year and it is always hard to pick only 10 winners to receive a free rides wristband donated by Amusements Plus. Thank you Chappy Travis for taking on the hard job of judging all the entries. The winners were Claye (Prep W), Mia (2B), Paige (3/4B), Rory McPherson, Jemma Swift, Patric (4W), Angelique (4W), Aimee-Jo (4W), Kasey (5B) and Jorgia (6W).

Prepaid wristband winner: All prepaid wristband recipients went into the draw to win a Samsung Galaxy Tablet donated by Amusements Plus. The winner was Xavier (1B). Congratulations Xavier!

Class Pizza Party Winner: Previously the Pizza Party was awarded to the class with the most volunteers on the night. This year the Class Pizza Party was awarded to the best decorated stall on the night. Congratulations to Prep B and Prep W and to Mrs Bowe and Ms Palomo for all the hard work they put into their class stall. The pizza guy is on his way to your classroom.

Tracey Walker
Fete Coordinator
**Note from Chappy Travis:**
Afternoon Bluewater! I hope everyone has been having a fantastic week. So we have had Records set for the Bluewater Guinness Records. The first was the skipping record which was set by Lexi (4B) with 298 skips. The second record was seeing how far the students could blow a pea with a straw. We had a great turn out and the students had a lot of fun. Over 30 students had a go but we had one record breaker in the end. Ryder (4W) set the second record with an amazing 4.9m. We had many including myself have a go at breaking his record but none succeeded. This week’s record was the Ping Pong challenge of how many times you could tap a ball on a paddle without it hitting the floor. The students had the chance to break the holding record of 403 set by Ben (6W). Keep an eye out for the record breakers at parade and cheer them on when they receive their certificate.

Here is a great quote for this week: **DON’T WORRY ABOUT FAILURES, WORRY ABOUT THE CHANCES YOU MISS WHEN YOU DON’T EVEN TRY** – Jack Canfield

Also if you would like to know more about chaplaincy and what’s involved in being a Chappy, please don’t hesitate to come see me at anytime.

**AFTERSCHOOL YOUTH (ASY)**
Bluewater Afterschool Youth is still on hold at the moment as we in the process interviewing new leaders to join me on Wednesday afternoons for Fun, Food and God. At this stage, ASY is looking good to start up very soon. I will inform parents/guardians ASAP.

We are looking at an end of year breakup at the BIG4 with other Afterschool youth schools in Week 9. More details soon.

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**REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY**

Where: Parade Area

Date: Friday 11th November 2016

Time: 9am

Remembrance Day merchandise on sale

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri Mornings 90c - $10

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND

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The 2016 Mayor’s Christmas Tree Appeal needs your help

The Mayor’s Christmas Appeal has been assisting thousands of local families and individuals in need for over 20 years. Bluewater School are proud to support this year’s Appeal and we are asking families to please donate any non-perishable food items. The red donation bin is located outside the staff room.

What can I donate?
- Christmas Gifts for people of all ages (add gender and age if you choose to pre-wrap the gift)
- Non-perishable food items (i.e. tinned food, biscuits, pasta, noodles, bottled sauces, lollies, Christmas puddings etc)

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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? Allow me to introduce you to the Saver Plus Program!!

For eligibility requirements and further information please contact:
Nikki Storey, Saver Plus Coordinator, Call 07 4728 6786 OR SMS your name to 0418 201 533

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Lawrence and is funded by the Australian Government

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**Northern Beaches SHS Orientation into 2017**

STUDENTS, PARENTS, CARERS AND FAMILIES

Students are invited to attend the final Transition to Junior Secondary for students enrolled in Year 7 for 2017 at Northern Beaches SHS.

THIS DAY IS ONLY FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR ENROLMENT or HAVE AN ENROLMENT INTERVIEW BOOKED

WEDNESDAY 30th November 2016
Meet at the CRC by 8:20am
School finishes at 2:30pm

Parents are welcome to come along for a quick ‘look-in’ at classes between 8:30am and 9:30am—Please sign in at the front office.

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Cartooning Camp here in Townsville these school holidays!
December 12-16th, Belgian Gardens Scout Hall, 46 Evans Street

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**Intrumental Music Information Night**

Is your child interested in learning a musical instrument in 2017? Find out all you need to know about learning an instrument through school. Prospective and current students and families are welcome.

WHEN: TONIGHT Wednesday 9th November 6:00pm
WHERE: Bluewater SS Staff room
WHO: Parents of 2016 Year 2 - 5 students interested in participating in the Brass, Wind, Percussion and Strings Program.
Being a leader

Good afternoon Bluewater community, we are 2 of the Bluewater school leaders. Our names are Malleya and Zoe. We would like to tell you about our journey of being a leader. We will be talking about what being a leader is all about, about our camp on Orpheus Island, and how we try our best to help others.

Over the past few terms we have experienced that being a leader is harder then you think. There’s meetings, responsibilities and requirements. So the roles you have are taking care of the school environment. This is important work for all leaders but is headed up by the environmental leader. It is important to make sure the technology is running and that it is a fun learning area to hang out in. There are many events to help organise like sorting out the NAIDOC week. The Indigenous Leader takes a big role in helping to organise this. Another really important job is Sports Captain. They run sports carnivals and make sure everyone is being sensible in the sports shed.

Being a leader you get to do fun things such as **CAMP!** The 14 of us leaders went camping on Orpheus Island. We went to Orpheus Island to develop our leadership skills and our ability to work as a member of a team.

On Orpheus Island we did team building activities like building a cannonball and putting up the tent. The skills that were needed in building the tent were team work and communication. After that we went to the pontoon that was not very far from the camp site. All the kids went snorkelling and we did a lot of stuff in just 3 days.

To become a leader you had to get a form signed by an older student or a teacher. Then you write a speech and read it to the school. They voted on who became the leaders so it was a democratic vote. At the end of last year at the Christmas Concert we were informed of who the Leaders of 2016 would be. Malleya won the position of Indigenous Leader and I won the House Captain for Fantomes.

We have loved the opportunity to be leaders at Bluewater. We have learnt lots about leadership and have had many opportunities to practice this work at school. We wish the year 5 students all the best as they become the future leaders of 2017.

Written by Zoe and Malleya