NEWSLETTER – Monday 2nd February 2015- Term 1 Week 2

WELCOME back to students and parents and a big welcome to all new students and parents! We hope you had an enjoyable holiday together and are ready to start the new term at Bobs Farm Public School. A special welcome is extended to our lovely new students in Kinder this year; David Symonds, Teagan Barnes, Thomas Townend, Daisy Clark, Hayley Telesny and Katea and Kaiyu Schwager. Also welcome to Rory and Scott in yr 5 and Baylie in Yr 6. We hope you love our school as much as we do! Please read our newsletter each week as this is an important means of communication with our parents and community. It is also available on our webpage each week if the hard copy is lost in a bag! Don’t forget to check out Facebook page which we update regularly with lots of photos for you all!

REMINDERS
Wed 4th Feb Pool Day 10-2pm Tomaree Aquatic centre- See note below
Thurs 5th Feb AASCP-After school sport- Touch Yr. 3-6 3-4pm
Fri 6th Feb CANTEEN starts-on Friday 6th Feb
Tues 10th Feb PSSA Cricket trials – BFPS 10am
Tues 10th Feb P&C meeting 7pm in library
Tues 17th Feb 3.15pm Parent meeting- Healthy Lunch Box presentation
Wed 18th Feb Scripture starts
Tues March 3rd P&C meeting AGM School Library 7pm
Mon 30th March Japanese students visit
Thurs 2nd April Last day term 1

School beautifications- Over the holidays we organised weed matting, garden mulching and plantings to make our front gardens beautiful again. The grounds have been kept immaculate, office undercover walkways and toilets have been painted and a new water pump has been installed. A new primary Smartboard projector has been installed and damaged carpet in staff room has been removed and replaced with lino. We have also had a Pest control treatment. THANK YOU to Allan Sams for repairing the broken front gate hinge and our BBQ wheel over the holidays as well. Our school was still busy with activity!
School organisation for 2015: as most of you know our regular staff member of Yr K-2 (Laura) is on maternity leave for semester one. Mrs Kim Anderson (Now Mrs Margan) our part time teacher will be stepping up into Laura’s position on Mon, Tues, and Thurs with Mrs Karen Nye the K-2 teacher on Wed and Fridays. Both these wonderful teachers will be our main casual staff as well. All staff had regular meetings through the vacation period to make it a smooth transition. Mr Williams will continue coming in on Tuesdays for Yr. 3-6 teaching science and music in particular and Mrs Julie Hobson will be a regular on most mornings as our teacher’s aide as we were fortunate to obtain additional funding support for two of our students.

Mrs Nye

HOMEWORK ROUTINE STARTS IN WEEK 4. – Title pages and book covering this week AND reading of course! Primary are asked to do a presentation on an aspect of their holidays in the meantime. This could be a PowerPoint presentation, Animato, photos or poster. Yr. 6 to complete a School Captain speech for Friday’s assembly at 12pm.

CANTEEN STARTS Friday 6th Feb: Volunteer helpers required. Term 1. If you are a new parent to our school please consider helping in our canteen as it’s the easiest and quickest way to get to know the other children and parents.

School Leadership Elections- Yr. 6 students are required to write and deliver a quality speech at this week’s assembly on why they would make a great school leader and assist others in our school. A Leadership day has been organised for our 5 Yr. 6 students and one parent to attend in May in Newcastle.

POOL DAY at Tomaree Aquatic Centre. Wed 4th Feb- We have hired a mini bus for 21 students however we will still need some parent transport. We will leave school at 10.00am and return by 2.00pm. BFPS will pay costs for the bus as well as the BBQ as a special beginning of year treat! Pool entry will be $2.80 per person. Children can buy juice, slushies or iceblocks at the canteen but not lollies or soft drink! We will have novelty events and swimming races for older students. It’s a lovely way for parents to catch up with each other and for new parents to make new friends. Please complete the permission note and indicate transport availability.

Just in Case- Hope all new parents know that a Port Stephens bus service runs from Salamander and Nelson Bay right to our front door for any children at our school. Year 3 students need to reapply for bus passes and forms have been sent home with those students. Please return as soon as possible.

Reading Helpers- We will be organising parent helpers to listen to students read each day from next week if possible. If you can spare one hour per week, all our children will benefit. It doesn’t need any expertise, just a responsive ear and reassurance. Please complete the note at the end of the newsletter indicating if and when you can assist this term. Thanks.

SCHOOL FEES - School fees for the year are $40 for 1 child, $70 for two children, $100 for three or more children at Bobs Farm Public School for the year. This covers some of the costs associated with photocopying, art and craft supplies and a myriad of other things government funding does not provide us with.

MATHLETICS – Bobs Farm PS continue to use this interactive online maths program as it is such an exceptional program. Students will be uploaded for 2014 upon payments made. Costs are still only $30. Mathletics is a web based learning program, which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics covers the K-Year 12 Australian Maths Curriculum and is currently used in over 1000
Australian schools, with more than 30,000 students accessing the site every day! By using a unique user name and password, your child can access the program 24 hours a day so we encourage parents to take an interest in their child’s learning at home with this. To gain the greatest understanding of how Mathletics can benefit your child, we ask you to spend time looking at the program with your child. To view Mathletics go to: www.mathletics.com.au.

Studyladder is also part of mathletics which we will be using this year.

All students will also be participating in a spelling component called Spellodrome. This will cost students $15.00 for the year and can also be accessed from home.

NO HAT, NO PLAY policy to be enforced in Term 1. Please make sure your children wear a school hat! Hats are available from our P&C at a cost of $16. Caps are not acceptable as ears are not covered.

New parents please note; we need a copy of your Drivers licence and 3rd Party insurance to assist with school excursions using private transport. It’s best to do this early in the year.

CLASS NEWS- MRS ELLIOTT’S CLASS- Our Primary class has 17 students Yrs. 3-6. Our Integrated Topic to be covered this term includes; Orientation, skin protection, FAIRYTALES. We will begin some Fairy tale cooking sessions from wk. 4 which can be integrated into our theme. Gardening sessions will occur every fortnight. If any parents can help in this area it would be very much appreciated. Please let Megan know which day would suit….

Requisites and Texts; See fee list at end of Newsletter. Could parents please pay for all text books and online programs ASAP so your child can be issued with them and the class is not held back? If any parents have financial issues in paying fees upfront, please see Megan who is happy to come to other suitable arrangements. We like to get students organised and working as soon as possible for optimum educational outcomes. Primary students require similar class items that they do every year. i.e. 3 x A4 display folders; Home Reading, Homework and Portfolio (available from school if necessary for $2 each), fruit each day for Crunch and Sip, a water bottle and school hat, own scissors, pens, pencils, glue stick, textas, ruler, rubber, USB stick, library bag and they should still have their art smock at school. If a parent wants their child to have a text book please see Megan. In the past it was hard for some children to keep up and several students work at different levels, making a graded text book difficult for them. This year we envisage photocopying needed work which does not become overwhelming for students. Students who will be issued with a book will be informed and parents will be asked to pay. Thanks for keeping organised and looking forward to another wonderful year together.

K/1/2
Welcome back everyone! We wish to extend a warm welcome back to our previous K/1/2 students and a big welcome to our new Kindergarten students, Hayley, Teagan, Daisy, David, Kaiyu and Katea. To their families we know that you are going to really enjoy this first year of school with your child and trust that you will get involved in school life and contact us immediately should you ever have concerns.

While books and stationery is provided for K/1/2 students, there are a few things which children will need to bring to school.

- Hats- School hats are required each day for play and PE lessons
- Water bottles- We have water coolers which the students can use to refill their water bottles throughout the day. We encourage children to drink plenty of water at school.
- Sunblock and Insect Repellent- Please ensure that children arrive at school with sunblock and insect repellent applied. There is sunblock and insect repellent in the K/1/2 classroom, which I will assist the students to apply before going out to lunch if needed. If your child has a sensitivity to particular repellents, please let teachers know and if possible, send a suitable repellent to school for your child to use.
- Crunch and Sip- Students are asked to bring some extra fresh fruit/veg to eat during their Crunch and Sip break. K/1/2 have their Crunch and Sip as soon as they enter the classroom each day as we mark the roll. This snack
helps to sustain their energy and concentration through till 11am when they have lunch. Students are also encouraged to drink their water at this point. Juice is accepted, but water is preferred. Fruit and Vegetables must be fresh (ie. No fruit bars), and some students may like to have their fruit and veg with yoghurt. If cutting is required, please cut fruit and vegetables prior to packing in lunchboxes. Each day student’s eat a healthy snack for Crunch and Sip they receive a sticker on our reward chart and earn prizes throughout the term.

- **Toothbrushes** - Each year K12 discuss the importance of good dental hygiene. Colgate provides the school with lessons, an educational DVD to watch, as well as a class set of toothbrush and toothpaste packs. These packs will be handed out to students this week, and will be used to brush their teeth after recess each day. To ensure that these toothbrushes are kept clean, please provide a labeled toothbrush travel case for your child/ren to store their toothbrush and toothpaste in. If your child requires particular toothpaste, or they wish to bring in a special toothbrush, this is completely fine also.

- **Homework folder** - A4 display folder. Homework will begin in Week 3.
- **Home Reading folder** - Cardboard file.
- **Portfolio folder** - A4 display folder.
- **Art/Paint shirt or smock** (Mum or Dads old T-shirt will do)
- **Spare underwear** (Particularly Kindergarten) - Children are encouraged to go to the bathroom very regularly (especially at the beginning of the year), however accidents do sometimes happen. Please place a spare pair of underwear in your child’s bag, and let your child know that they are there.

Please make sure that all personal belongings are clearly labeled with your child’s name

**Work Books** - ALL K-6 Students will be given their exercise books this week to take home and cover. Covering books helps to protect the lovely work that the students do, so it is something we encourage. If you are unable to cover your child’s books straight away, please return the books to school so that students can continue working in them and we can send them home at another time.

There will be more information in the newsletter in weeks to come, but if you have any questions, please come and see staff.

**News from Mrs Anderson** - Now Mrs Margan
Welcome back. 2015 is already shaping up to be a busy and productive year. I will still oversee home reading progress on a weekly basis.

Please remember that home reading should never be a chore. There are several ways a family can approach this to ensure children enjoy reading.

- You can read with your child. (take turns)
- Make reading a part of the quiet bedtime routine.
- Read to your child.
- Have fun making up a story or predicting what you are about to read.
- Read a story and act it out.
- Read together and make up a different ending.
- Have an older child listen to or read to a younger child.
- Read something that interests you and your child, e.g. magazine articles, movie reviews etc.

Remember, learning is not always formal but should always be fun. Make the most of all opportunities to encourage your children to participate in activities which will stimulate, motivate and engage them. More information will be provided at our upcoming parent information session. It’s great to be back and I am looking forward to a fantastic year.
Our P& C are very involved in our school and would love to invite new parents to come along to whatever school functions and activities are being organised. Hope to see you at our first informal get together which is the pool day with the staff. First meeting this Tuesday 3rd Feb at 7pm in library to meet and greet new parents.

P&C AGM will be held on Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm in school library. All positions will be declared vacant. If you have an interest in a P&C position please text or email Kirstie Jolly on 0409017071 or kirstie.jolly@bigpond.com. Any items for general business that you wish to be discussed then please add them to the Agenda that will be held in the school office or text or email the item to Kirstie Jolly.

UNIFORMS: All students are expected to wear proper school uniform each day at school including school hat when outdoors. Lowes carries our basic colours and our P&C can make orders from a supplier.

CANTEEN - Fridays. Place your lunch orders, name and money in a paper bag and leave in the box at assembly. Helpers are always welcome if you can spare the time any Friday morning.

SCHOOL FEES

Enclose is payment for my child/children ........................................... class ............ for:

Mathletics: $30 ..........

Spellodrome: $15.00 (Yr 1-6) ..........

Targeting Maths Books: $17.00(Selected students) ..........

Soundworks: $7.00 K-5 ..........

Literacy for Year 6 $7.00 ..........

School fees ..........

Total ..........

Cooking will be school funded this term

Signature .................................................................

........................................................................................................

CANTEEN HELPERS

Name ................................................................. Phone ........................................

I can volunteer once a

☐ Term ☐ Month ☐ Fortnight
PARENT HELPER

We are looking for parents helpers this year in all areas. If you have any special expertise that can help our school please let us know. It can mean anything from reading with the children to gardening or your special skill. (Don’t be coy!)

Special Skill: ...........................................Day/Time..........................................................
Reading help ...........................................Day/time ..........................................................

Name:.......................................................... Phone Number.................................................

SWIM Day Permission note, Wed 4th Feb Feb 10.00am -2pm

We will be leaving school at 10.00am
Transport required by parent helpers and bus. (Please give us your details beforehand)
Free BBQ available. Pool entry $2.80. Bring on day.

I hereby give permission for my child/ren..........................................................to participate in the swim day at Tomaree Pool under supervision.
My child is a non swimmer........
My child is a poor swimmer........
My child is a reasonable swimmer........
My child is a competent swimmer........
I am able to help with supervision……
I can help with the BBQ
I understand transport will be by mini bus and private car.

Signed................................................
Date................................................

NELSON BAY MARLINS
JUNIOR AFL CLUB
Dick Burwell Oval, Tomaree Sporting Complex

2015 Registration Day at Dick Burwell Oval

Sunday 15th February 9.00am - 12.00pm

NAB Auskick - 4 Years to 8 Years

$75 for 1st child (includes 2015 Auskick Pack)
$65 for 2nd child (includes 2015 Auskick Pack)
Free for 3rd child (includes 2015 Auskick Pack)

Juniors – U9s, U11s, U13s, U15s, U17s

$95 for 1st child (includes Club Jacket)
$85 for 2nd child (includes Club Jacket)
Free for 3rd child (includes Club Jacket)

***** NO WEEKLY FEES *****

For further information contact Wayne Anderson on wmtbanderson@gmail.com
or visit website
www.nelsonbayjuniormarlinsafl@sportingpulse.net
HELEN O’GRADY
DRAMA ACADEMY
TOMAREE SCHOOL
HALL
2015
“Increase your child’s communication skills, self-confidence and creative talents.

(Improvisation, Scriptwork and Performance)

DRAMA CLASSES - 2015

PRIMARY: 7 – 11 YEARS
4pm – 5pm

YOUTH: 12 – 15 YEARS
5pm – 6pm

MONDAYS: Tomaree Primary Hall

Enrolments now being taken for Term 1.

Principal: Shane Skerly
Ph: 02 49 692338 – dramacorp@bigpond.com
Facebook: helenogrady drama Newcastle.