NEWSLETTER –Monday 8th February 2016- Term 1 Week 3

WELCOME to another new little boy to our kinder class Johnathon Sanders!

REMINDERS

**Tues 9th Feb**  
PSSA Girls Cricket trials – BFPS 10am

**Wed 10th Feb**  
NRL Blitz wellbeing presentation Yr. 3-6 10am

**Wed 10th Feb**  
Basketball skills 12-1pm K-6

**Wed 10th Feb**  
GO4Fun 4-6pm (10 week program)

**Friday 12th Feb**  
Surfing program Yr. 2-6 One Mile Beach 3.30-4.30pmish

**Friday 12th Feb**  
Canteen – **Kirstie**

**Wed 17th Feb**  
Radio 100.9 Captains and Chaplain to talk /Scripture starts

**Thurs 18th Feb**  
7 Steps Literacy training- Megan

**Fri 19th Feb**  
Zone Swimming, Raymond Terrace, Canteen at BF – **Emma**

**Fri 26th Feb**  
Canteen - **Kylene**

**Tues March 1st**  
P&C meeting AGM School Library 3.15pm Free child minding

**Thurs 24th March**  
Easter Picnic at local farm

**Friday 25th March**  
Good Friday

**Mon 28th March**  
Easter Monday, students return on Tuesday

**Friday 8th April**  
Last day term 1

**Eco grant update**  Thank you to Shea who is on the roll to spend the last of our funds for our gardens before the end of term. Our students K-6 will be involved in re-establishing our vegie gardens, planning designs for our totems and with the help of some artists will assist in repainting them. Shea will also assist with life cycle murals and hubby Dan with some picket fencing around the garden. Thank you to Loretta who donated 2 PRODUCTIVE black chickens to our school so we will have more eggs for cooking lessons!

**Stephanie Alexander Cooking program**- I will make a start with cooking with Yr. 3-6 today when we attempt Cornish Pasties! K-2 will also be cooking up a mini storm with Mrs Margan. As we will cook for 5 sessions we ask that parents contribute $5 pp towards the cost of the ingredients.i.e $1 per cooking session for each child.
HOMEWORK ROUTINE STARTS IN WEEK 4. – Title pages this week AND reading of course! Students need to bring in a folder so we can organise their readers. Yr. 6 to complete a School Captain speech for this Thursday’s morning assembly at 9am.

School Chaplain- We are very fortunate and pleased to introduce Lisa Martin, our chaplain at BFPS who will begin at our school on Monday 15th Feb and also be a staff member on Wednesdays. Her role will be to support our students and staff in any way she can. It is not a religious role. Lisa will introduce herself to everyone when she starts.

Wed 24th Feb- BFPS are hosting the Principals of small schools network meeting from 12pm-3.30pm. Could members of our P&C cater for about 10 Principals? Please see Megan.

Surfing program Yr. 2-6 starting this week Fri 12th Feb due to surf conditions last week. Free surf lessons for students who are 8 years old or older. Younger students may attend and play beach games on the sand with adults. Please complete the indemnity and permission forms which must be brought along to the session before students are allowed to participate in the surf. Parents need to provide or arrange their children’s transport to ONE MILE Beach on the 4 Friday afternoons. Participating surfing students do not need anything apart from their swimmers. The Surf School provides rash vests and boards. Please pack extra food/water however. On Friday 4th March we plan to have a BBQ at One Mile with all parents and students of our school so keep that afternoon free if you can. More details later.

School Leadership - A Leadership day has been organised for our Yr. 6 students and one parent to attend on 19th May at the Great Hall, Newcastle University.

Stronger Smarter Institute training- Megan attended this training last Thursday and Friday as well as days last year. Essentially it’s about high expectations relationships with students and parents which require high levels of trust and safety. It provides a framework to describe behaviours, dispositions and conversational processes needed to develop quality relationships within the classroom, staffroom and school community to create high expectations learning environments where students can thrive and succeed. Megan will elaborate further and participate in initial activities with students and parents during the term.

POOL DAY at Tomaree Aquatic Centre - Thurs 25th Feb 10am-2pm BBQ lunch and get together

Zone Swimming – will be held on Friday the 19th of February at the Lakeside Leisure Centre, Raymond Terrace. If your child is an excellent swimmer and you would like them to attend please speak to Megan or Caroline to receive the relevant forms and information.

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. If any student is yet to receive a bus pass please see Caroline in the office.

Reading/ general Helpers- We will be organising parent helpers to listen to students read each day. 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. We also need a parent to assist in changing readers over on any day that suits you. Please complete the note at the end of the newsletter indicating if and when you can assist this term. We always love parents becoming involved in any way. We always have a list; our sand pit needs cleaning up before we can organise clean sand, our outdoor kid’s kitchen setting needs a good clean and we will need some straw and help in our gardens. Any help is always appreciated in a small school. Thanks.

CLASS NEWS- MRS ELLIOTT’S CLASS– Requisites and Texts; 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, own head phones for computer work, library bag and they should have an art smock/Tshirt at school. Thanks for keeping organised!
Welcome back to students and parents! Hello to our new students and parents also. Thursdays are Library/Art days so it is great if you can provide your children with a library bag if they wish to borrow books. An old T-Shirt/paint shirt is also handy if they don’t already have one at school. Primary students should also have a glue-stick and textas for our activities. I am also in need of some new ice-cream containers (large or small) or 1kg yogurt tubs. If anyone has any can they please leave them at the office? Thank you, Mrs Merrilees

MATHLETICS – Bobs Farm PS continue to use this interactive online maths program as it is such an exceptional program. Mathletics is a web based learning program, which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics covers the K-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 which is a program tailored to individual student levels and which 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.

P & C NEWS
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. We are thinking of organising a Movie Night at school again this term. So come along and get to know each other and make new friends!

P&C AGM will be held on Tuesday 1st March in school library at 3.15pm Child minding will be provided. All positions will be declared vacant. If you have an interest in a P&C positions 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.

CANTEEN HELPERS

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

I can volunteer once a

☐ Term  ☐ Month  ☐ Fortnight

PARENT HELPERS
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.

Special Skill: ................................ Day/Time......................................................
Reading helper ................................ Day/time .................................................
Home Reader change overs ............................................................... Day/time ...
Cooking program helper ............................................................... Day/time ................................
General tidy upper ................................................................. Day/time ................................
Gardening help ................................................................. Day/time ................................

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

Parent Permission Form for students attending Surf School and beach games as part of Sport in Schools program on Fridays 3.30 - 4-30pm starting Friday 12th February

I hereby give my K – 2 child/ren .......................................................... permission to participate in beach games for AASCP on 4 x Fridays beginning Fri 5th Feb to Fri 26th Feb at 3.30pm to 4.30pm. They will not be swimming.

My 3 - 6 child/ren .......................................................... have permission to participate in Port Stephens Surf School on 4 x Fridays beginning Fri 12th Feb to Fri 4th March at 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

I can help with transport .........I can transport ............children including my own children.

I cannot help with transport but my child will be travelling with ........................................

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