New Equity Funding for Schools
The NSW Department of Education and Communities has recently released details of funding for 2014 which reflects the socioeconomic diversity of schools. A change to the way these funds are distributed will see Belair receive a small amount of money for students from a low socioeconomic background. The department uses data the school enters from student enrolment forms to determine the amount of funds. This system is highly equitable, as schools across the state receive funding for every child from a disadvantaged background. In the past only schools with high numbers of people from low SES backgrounds received additional funding. Here at Belair we will use these funds to directly target the educational needs of students.

iPads Impacting on Classroom Engagement
Our new iPads are getting lots of work across the school as teachers and students explore new ways to use them in their learning. One of the key areas of difference in the new English Syllabus is the significant focus on digital and multi-modal texts. The iPads are great tools for students to work in these areas. Students are engaged in activities such as composing music, creating images and loading them into movies whilst reflecting on a text they are reading. The big thing with this technology is that it really engages students in their learning.

OOSH Options
Belair has a wonderful before and after school care service for our students. There is, however the ongoing issue with demand for placements exceeding supply. The school has been in negotiation with the YMCA run service based at St James school Kotara and an agreement has been reached where commencing next year, providing there are sufficient numbers, the YMCA will run a bus service between Belair School and their OOSH. Parents interested in this service, please register your interest with our school office and further information will be provided. Our Belair OOSH has offered to leave students on their waiting list if parents take up this offer.

Safe Parking Reminder
Please check parking signs and park accordingly. We must all work together to keep our students safe.

Data Collection For Students with a Disability
Last week we finalised our collection of data for the National Disability Data Collection. Students don’t need the diagnosis of a disability to be included in this data. Teachers make adjustments for learning for students across the school for a range of reasons including mental health issues, physical disabilities, dyslexia, communication disorders and behavioural disorders. Adjustments to learning include things such as additional scaffolding of instruction, greater time to complete tasks, modifying tasks, reading instructions, pre-teaching needed concepts etc. Our school is continually exploring ways to individualise learning for students. The big message in this area is that “to treat people fairly often means treating people differently.” No student is identified in this data collection process.

Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition
Congratulations to all the Year 4, 5, 6 students who participated in the NPBS Maths competition. Belair received 39 Distinctions and 63 Merits. Jonti Crisp and Zac Beleff received High Distinctions in the Year 6 category. Luke Kypri and Daniel Jaeger (Year 4) received High Distinction in the Year 5 category and have been invited to attend Maths Camp in 2014.

Medical Forms
In Term 2 the new departmental medical form was sent home with every student to be completed by a parent and returned to school. If you have not yet returned this form please complete and return to the office ASAP. If your child does not have any medical or allergy diagnoses we still require the form to be returned so our records can be updated / maintained.
School Disco ~ New Procedures

Our wonderful P&C run two discos for our students each year. Some new procedures have been put in place to ensure a happy and safe night for everyone.

At the junior disco, sometimes older siblings need to be in attendance due to family arrangements. These students are asked not to join in the dancing during the junior disco, leaving the floor and the prizes for the juniors.

If high school siblings need to be in attendance, they will receive a stamp when entering with their family. This will allow organisers to monitor who is in attendance and ensure the safety of our students.

Students are meant to be inside the hall unless they are visiting the canteen. Students are not to venture off the main concrete slab under the cola. Any instructions to students by organising parents must be followed.

We would appreciate it if children were reminded of the above on disco night.

Cricket Success Rolls On

Last Friday 1st November the Belair school cricket team played Jewells PS in the Hunter Final for the School Knockout Cricket Competition. We bowled first and successfully bowled them all out for 52 runs, thanks to the bowlers who took an average of two wickets each. We then started the batting with high hopes, Cadel Leeson and Joe Barnett made most of the runs to win the game with ten overs to spare.

We would like to thank all the boys for putting on a great game and Mr Baker for entering us in the competition and giving up his spare time to coach us.

Cadel Leeson ~ Captain

Cyber Safety & Security for You and Your Family (repeated message)

This important information session has been confirmed for Wednesday 27th November at 6.00pm. The “Think U Know” foundation provides free information sessions for parents on cyber bullying; safe behaviour online; accessing inappropriate content; and other aspects of being safe online. For organisational purposes we need to know how many people will be attending.

Please complete the slip below and return to your child’s class teacher by Friday 15 November. Please note that this is an adult only event. Venue will be confirmed once numbers are known.

Cyber Safety & Security for You and Your Family (return slip)

I will be attending the Cyber Safety information session on Wednesday 27 November at 6.00pm. Please return to your child’s class teacher by Friday 15 November.

Parent Name: ____________________________
Child’s Name: ____________________________
Phone: _________________________________

P&C News

School Disco ~ This Friday $5 per child or $10 per family. Infants attend ~ 5.30pm-6.30pm, Primary ~ 6.45pm-8.15pm.

P&C Meeting ~ Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27/11/13 at 7pm. All welcome!!

Kind Regards P&C Committee

Canteen Roster and News

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Person 1</th>
<th>Person 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Robyn Scott</td>
<td>Louise Cooper</td>
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<td>Thur</td>
<td>Raelee Hansen</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>Sandi Park, Belinda Matthews, Krisy Stone</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>Teresa Turner, Janelle Kelly, Irene Tsamouris</td>
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<td>Tue</td>
<td>Lorraine Smith, Brooke Catterall</td>
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If you are unable to do your shift please phone Louise 0438 516 744

Reminder:

School Hats : $12 each

Ice Blocks : Now with the warmer weather children may order their ice blocks with their lunch orders however it is up to them to bring their lunch bag back to the canteen to collect them.

Safari Pops and Frozen Fruit Tubes : are available in Term 4 at the start of recess.

Meal Deal : Sweet & Sour Pork and a drink $4.

Louise Davidson Canteen Co-ordinator