Happy Gonski Week

This week public schools received notification of their funding for the coming year. 2016 will be the third year since the introduction of the Gonski funding. In NSW this has been delivered through the Resource Allocation Model (RAM). Funding has been allocated to ensure equity within our schools. We receive funding for Socio-Economic background, Aboriginal background, English Language Proficiency and Low Level Adjustment for Disability. As Belair is in an area with minimal disadvantage, we receive less funding than a school in more disadvantaged areas.

The allocation of funding has been incremental. In 2016 we will receive approximately $50,000 more than we received before Gonski funding. This funding is making a real difference in our school and in the support we are able to offer. Teachers and students are being supported in classrooms through the capacity to employ additional School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs – formally known as teacher’s aides) and we have been able to provide teachers with time for professional learning and for creating classroom resources that will benefit all students. Individual students with specific learning needs such as low levels of English, poor social skills or difficulties with literacy or numeracy are able to receive targeted individualised support to meet their needs.

As the roll out of Gonski funds to schools continues, we will be able to further develop programs and strategies for meeting the needs of all students and thereby reduce the impact of disadvantage on the level of student achievement within the education system.

Our staff will be wearing green on Friday to symbolise our support for the Gonski funding model.

Staffing News

Congratulations to Matt Baker and his family on the birth of their baby daughter. The proud father reports that mother and daughter are both doing well.

Congratulations to Nadine Tagaroulias who has been successful at interview and will be leaving us at the end of the year to begin a new adventure as an Assistant Principal of Kahibah PS. We will miss her here at Belair PS! Nadine is a proven, outstanding teacher who has worked in the primary and infants areas of our school and supported many successful programs and community events. She has demonstrated a strong commitment to all students and great professionalism in her role as Assistant Principal at Belair PS. I have begun the process of filling Nadine’s position. It will be filled through the advertisement process.

Roger Knox will be retiring at the end of the year. Roger has been a teacher at Belair PS for 9 years and has worked for the Department of Education for 38 years. He has taught, inspired, supported and led during his teaching career. We will miss his calm manner and dedication to many programs including those involving sport and fitness. We wish Roger the very best in his retirement and hope that the years ahead bring him much joy and relaxation.

Roger’s position has been filled by the Department. Kellie Bevan comes to us from a small school out west. She has been working in the local area over the past 12 months. Kellie came to meet the staff today. Her friendly, professional demeanour will be a great asset for our school.

Opera House Choir

We hope that the students have a great time representing our school at the Combined Schools Choir performance at the Sydney Opera House tomorrow.
Commboxes

Some very exciting news! Using the money from the Jogathon ($10,000), the Spring Ball ($4,000), the P&C ($4,000) and school funds ($18,000) we have purchased four Commboxes. These devices replace the oldest of our Smartboards and incorporate the latest technologies including a multi-touch screen that is virtually unbreakable and has excellent clarity of picture and sound. The new screens will be installed this week into the KM, KZ, 1S and 3H classrooms.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our fundraising events without which this would not have been possible.

Bush Tucker Garden Project

We would like to say a huge thank you to the P&C, Luke Bellamy and Nadine Purdy for securing a $1,000 grant on behalf of Belair PS to create a native plant garden within our school. We have consulted with the local AECG and Uncle Perry to ensure the plants chosen are bush tucker plants native to the local area and sourced from appropriate areas. In Weeks 5 and 6, teachers and students will be planting the bush tucker and if you are interested in volunteering your time, hardware and gardening skills please contact Ms McAllister or Mrs Purdy.

Injury Free Day

Injury Free Day (IF Day) is an annual event that aims to highlight safety and encourage school communities to be safe at school and at home and to pass these lessons onto their families.

It promotes the importance of injury prevention awareness in the preschool, school and community. KIDS Foundation encourages preschools and schools to always strive to be Injury Free. However, during October, Community Safety Month, the Injury Free campaign is delivered to preschools and schools nationally to place an extra emphasis on the importance of injury prevention.

We have nominated this Friday as being Injury Free Day for Belair PS. Teachers have been talking to the students about staying safe and how we can minimise injuries through safe practices at school.

Stage 1 Blog

Some exciting news for Stage 1 families......

Parents / Carers and students of Stage 1 can now access the Stage 1 blog at: http://belairstage1.blogspot.com.au/

The blog is a fantastic learning tool which has links to websites that are relevant to this stage of learning as well as information on reading, writing, speaking and listening, spelling and mathematics. We hope you enjoy looking at the blog to learn more about what we are doing within our classrooms and the skills we are working on your child knowing.

We would like to say a huge thankyou to Kristin Hadley-Helleur who created our stage blog. We look forward to hearing your feedback!

Athlete’s Foot Promotion

Our school is now registered with the Athlete’s Foot at Kotara, Charlestown, Greenhills and Glendale. This means that for every pair of shoes that you purchase at one of these stores, we will receive a $5 donation. You don’t have to purchase school shoes. This program is for any family member who purchase any shoes from their range of school, sports, work and casual shoes. Just mention Belair PS as you are paying.
**Children’s Crossings**

We have a Children’s Crossing near our Terence Street entrance. The following comes from the Service NSW website. Please ensure that you are aware of these regulations and keep our students safe through adhering to them.

*These are part-time crossings which operate just before and after school hours, as well as other times such as school excursions and lunch times. They are highlighted by red flags with the words children crossing on them.*

*When the flags are displayed you must slow down and stop before the stop line if a pedestrian is on or entering the crossing. You must not proceed until all pedestrians have left the crossing.*

*You must not stop on or within 20 metres before or 10 metres after, a children’s crossing.*

---

**Student Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KA</th>
<th>KBC</th>
<th>KM</th>
<th>KZ</th>
<th>Ethan C, Lucy R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harvey W, Aaliyah H</td>
<td>Oliver C, Amelia W</td>
<td>Coco D, Flynn A</td>
<td>Tom D, Bonnie K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marley S, Mackayla S</td>
<td>Zac T, Emma D</td>
<td>Liam J, Ella A</td>
<td>Ariane J, Angel N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katerina R, Breagen P</td>
<td>Milla S, Amelia W, Tim B</td>
<td>Cameron A</td>
<td>Will T, Zoe Mc</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Canteen Roster and News ~ (Canteen Supervisor Sonja 0438 684 401)**

Please note there is no Sushi this Thursday due to the RED DAY.

We now have Gluten Free Chicken Tenders available from the canteen. Try one for $1.50 each or try two in a wrap with lettuce and mayo for $3.80.

**RED DAY** this Thursday 29th October and the theme is Halloween!! If there are any parents able to come along and help on the day, would you please contact Sonja 0438 684 401.

---

**Upcoming Events**

- **28/10** Opera House Excursion ~ Choir
- **29/10** Canteen RED DAY ~ Halloween!!
- **30/10** Injury Free Day
- **2/11–13/11** Swimming School ~ Year 2 (leave school at 11.30am, return 1.30pm)
The P&C are currently seeking helpers for two volunteer roles:

1. **P&C Banking:** This position requires a volunteer for approximately 1–2 hours a week to go to the canteen and bag up and sign out any banking for the canteen, uniform shop and P&C fundraising. It then needs to be taken down to the Commonwealth Bank at Westfield and placed in the express banking shoot.

   It is not a difficult job and could be spread over two days or between two people. The job needs to be completed between 10am and 2pm as this is when the canteen is open.

   Training will be provided.

   We are desperate to get someone for this position as the two people who are currently doing the job have been doing it for a number of years and now have work commitments that prevent them from continuing on.

   It is an essential role within the school and does need to be filled by Friday 30/10/15.

   For more information or to volunteer please contact Christine on 0402 139 071.

2. **School Banking:** This position requires a volunteer for approximately 2–3 hours a week to collect the children’s school banking envelopes from the office, count the money and check and record deposits online. Money then needs to be deposited at the Commonwealth Bank at Westfield. Access to a computer is necessary (a school computer can be used) and money can be collated at school or off site.

   Once the banking is reconciled the children’s deposit books need to be returned to the school ready for the next week’s banking.

   At the current time this is being done on a Wednesday during school hours however, the day is flexible.

   This role could also be shared between two people to make it quicker or so that each person only had to do it fortnightly.

   Again we are very eager to fill this position as the person doing this job has been doing so for a long time and now has work commitments that prevent him from continuing on.

   School Banking is very important to the children involved as well as being a fundraiser for the school and if a volunteer is not found, then School Banking will be unable to continue. Training will be provided for this role.

   For more information or to volunteer please contact Col on 0417 527 777.
Upcoming Events

* 28/10 Opera House Excursion ~ Choir
* 29/10 Canteen RED DAY ~ Halloween!!
* 30/10 Injury Free Day
* 2/11–13/11 Swimming School ~ Year 2 (leave school at 11.30am, return 1.30pm)
* 9/11 Year 5 Leadership Speeches
* 10/11 Kindergarten 2016 Parents / Students in Hall ~ 9.30am
* 11/11 Year 5 Excursion
* 18/11 P&C Meeting at 7pm
* 19/11 ES1 Transport Excursion ~ Kindergarten
* 24/11 GATS Cluster Day
  Captains Speeches
* 27/11 Year 6 Mini Fete
* 2/12 Scripture Christmas Assembly
* 1/12 Surf School Mufti Day
* 2/12 Scripture Christmas Assembly at 11.30am
* 3/12 Swimming Carnival
* 4/12 ES1 and Stage 1 Presentation Day
* 10/12 Year 6 Farewell
  Drama Performance
* 11/12 High School Transition
  Reports Go Home
* 14/12 Presentation Day ~ Years 3–6
* 15/12 Stage 3 Party Day
  ES1 Party Day
* 16/12 Stage 2 Party Day at The Forum
  Stage 1 Party Day
  Last day of 2015 for all students

With today’s newsletter you will receive:
School Disco Note ~ whole school