Reports

On Friday this week you will be receiving your child’s annual school report. These reports are designed to give you a clearer picture of your child’s achievements. They will help you understand how your child is progressing and how we can support your child’s future learning. Your child’s strengths will be identified and you will also see areas for future development.

Sound Achievement (C) means that your child is ‘on track’ in relation to what he or she is expected to learn. Other grades will indicate whether your child is doing better than expected or needs more support.

These grades are different from the grades you might remember from your school years. The ‘Outstanding’ to ‘Limited’ grades don’t rank your child in his or her class. Rather, the grades indicate whether your child is ‘on track’ and learning what is expected, doing better than expected or needs more help. For example, a grade of ‘Sound’ indicates that your child is making sound progress in relation to what he or she was expected to learn over the last semester – your child is ‘on track’.

Kindergarten students, students with learning difficulties and students who are learning English for the first time will receive a written report but without the ‘Outstanding’ to ‘Limited’ grades.

While ‘Outstanding’ to ‘Limited’ grades are an important indicator of your child’s progress at school they are only part of the picture. Student reports will also include information on your child’s level of effort and teacher comments on their progress. This mix of information will help you discuss with your child and his or her teacher how to provide encouragement and improve progress. If you have a concern about your child’s progress or behaviour or you just want to have a general discussion about your child, you don’t have to wait until you receive a written report. Schools provide opportunities for parents to talk with teachers or the Principal. As well, you can always call the school to make a time for a special meeting. It’s best to ring the school in advance to schedule a mutually convenient time.

All effort has been made to ensure that your child’s report is an accurate reflection of their achievement this year and that there are no typing mistakes. If you do spot an error please inform us and we will rectify the mistake and reprint the report for you.

Gifts for Teachers

As we are approaching the end of the year you may well be considering purchasing a gift for your child’s teacher as an indication of the appreciation that you have for their hard work this year. I have received a couple of emails from parents asking about pooling money to purchase a more expensive gift. The Department of Education has a Code of Conduct for employees prohibiting the acceptance of gifts valued in excess of $50, including gifts from more than one person. The exception would be for someone who is retiring as there can be no possibility of the gift giver receiving a benefit. The gift would be entered into the school’s Gift Register if that occurred.

Library Books

We are currently completing a stocktake of our library collection. There are a large number of books that have been borrowed but not returned. Can you please check around your house for any Belair PS books and return them this week. If you know that your child borrowed a book but you are unable to find it, please contact the school. This is a great opportunity to discuss with your child the importance of caring for property that doesn’t belong to you. Money to replace lost books is greatly appreciated as otherwise our collection will become greatly diminished.
Happy Memories Special Assembly

The special Happy Memories assembly and afternoon tea will begin at 12pm tomorrow, Wednesday 9th December. Happy Memories is for Kinder and Year 6 students. This is a unique event for Belair PS students where the Kindergarten children present their Year 6 buddy with a medallion in recognition of their Happy Memories from primary school, as they prepare to leave us and head off to high school.

The time was altered to enable parents attending the Kotara HS Presentation Day to be able to attend both events. We apologise for any inconvenience while hoping that this solution supports as many of our parents as possible.

Whole School Assembly

Today was the last ‘normal’ whole school assembly for the year. On Thursday there will be a rehearsal for Years 3-6 for the Presentation Day assembly on Monday 14th December.

Drama Performances

On Thursday the drama groups will be performing. There will be a performance for K-2 from 9 till 10am and for Years 3-6 from 10 till 11 am. Well done to all of the students involved. The performance at our assembly a few weeks ago was excellent and this is sure to be equally exciting. Thank you to Zena Sutcliffe and Alison Loredo for their hard work in making this performance possible.

High School Transition

Our Year 6 students attending Kotara High School will be visiting the school for a transition day on Friday 11th December. This is an opportunity to become familiar with the school, to meet teachers and to make friends with students coming from other local primary schools.

Presentation Days

It was a pleasure to attend the Presentation Day for Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 on Friday. Thank you to all of the families and friends who were able to attend. It is always great to see the high level of support being given to our students and teachers. The students behaved beautifully and their performances were very good. Thank you to all the staff involved in organising these important events.

It was also very exciting to be there for the P&C Raffle draw. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket and to everyone who made a donation. Congratulations to all of the winners.

On Monday 14th December, we will be having the Stage 2 and Stage 3 Presentation Day. This is a very formal event. Please ensure that your child is wearing their full school uniform with black shoes and no jewellery other than stud earrings / sleepers and a watch. The assembly starts at 9:30am in the school hall.

Pacific School Games

From the 21st to the 29th of November, Emma H competed at the Pacific School Games in the National Championships for the NSW Touch Football Team in Adelaide. After several games against all states around Australia, she faced Queensland in the Grand Final.

It was an extremely close game but unfortunately NSW lost by only 1 try (4-5).

Emma received a silver medal from the Pacific School Games and came home the second best touch football team in the whole of Australia. It was a fantastic experience for Emma and a part of her life she will never forget. Congratulations Emma!
School banking is closing this week

The last deposits will be collected and processed on Wednesday 9th December. School banking has been very successful this year and will be returning in 2016.

Presentation and Awards Day 2015- Monday 14th December

Parents and friends are warmly invited to attend the Belair PS Annual Awards Day on Monday 14th December in our school hall. The ceremony will commence at 9:30am with the presentation of awards which will focus on the academic, sporting, cultural and citizenship achievements of students in Years 3–6. We will also announce the School Captains for 2016. The band and choir will be performing. The families of students receiving the major awards will be notified via mail or phone.

A Volunteers Morning Tea for parent volunteers (K–6) will be served in the library after the awards service on Monday 14th December.

Year 6 Farewell

Students are asked to be at Kahibah Sports Club by 6pm on Thursday 10th December. Dancing with parents gets under way at 8:15pm. The night should be finished by 9:30pm. A reminder for all Year 6 students to bring along a camera to the Year 6 Farewell with your name clearly labelled for the photo booth.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all students who competed at the annual Belair PS swimming carnival last Thursday. It was pleasing to see such a high participation rate and excellent behaviour. All students kindly encouraged each other and the peer support was fabulous. Many thanks to Mrs Flook for her organisation and the staff and parents for assisting in the smooth running of the day. The place certificates will be handed out on Thursday. The Junior and Senior Champions will be announced next Monday at Presentation Day. The Champion house is…Kookaburra.

Student Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KA</th>
<th>Archie E, Oscar M, Benjamin C</th>
<th>KBC</th>
<th>Zala J, Tyler R</th>
<th>KM</th>
<th>Sofia N, Nic C, Adam R, Angus A</th>
<th>KZ</th>
<th>Jocelyn Y, Alex M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Xavier H, Thomas B</td>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Bredene W, Amahlri R</td>
<td>1T</td>
<td>Macy W, Alexander J</td>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Bella S, Dimitri H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2DP</td>
<td>Zavier M, Lucille W</td>
<td>2K</td>
<td>Cake P, Zane C</td>
<td>2/3A</td>
<td>Jaiden A, Alena H</td>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Ben D, Jessica K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5F</td>
<td>Jordan T, Eva N, Hannah O</td>
<td>5P</td>
<td>Ella H, Thomas H</td>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>Eleanor M, Olivia H</td>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Will C, Makeley N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Dawn D, Brandon B</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Lani W, Emma B</td>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>Eden P, Kealey C</td>
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</table>

Cheese!
Thank you to all the wonderful helpers that came in to help with Friday’s K-2 Presentation Day Morning Tea and for those helping out on today’s Red Day. Without your fabulous help, these special days would not be possible.

** It is our last week for Sushi, so please get your orders in by Wednesday.

** Zombie Chips are now discontinued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 9/12</th>
<th>Thurs 10/12</th>
<th>Fri 11/12</th>
<th>Mon 14/12</th>
<th>Tues 15/12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robyn S</td>
<td>Rachel P, Jane H</td>
<td>Dianne M, Kristy W, Karen K, Cheryl A</td>
<td>Kym P</td>
<td>Kathrine R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upcoming Events**

- **10/12** Year 6 Farewell
  - Drama Performance ~ K–2 (9am–10am) and Years 3–6 (10am–11am)
- **11/12** High School Transition
  - Reports Go Home
- **14/12** Presentation Day ~ Years 3–6
- **15/12** Stage 3 Party Day
  - Kindergarten Party Day
- **16/12** Stage 2 Party Day at The Forum
  - Stage 1 Party Day
  - Year 6 Clap Out
  - Last day of 2015 for all students
- **28/01/16** First day Term 1 for Years 1-6

**Community News**

NEWCASTLE

2016

HELEN O’GRADY

DRAMA ACADEMY

Improvisation, Scriptwork and Performance

LOWER PRIMARY - UPPER PRIMARY - YOUTH - SENIOR YOUTH - ADULTS:

Enrolments now being taken.

Principal: Shane Skerly

Phone: 02 49 692338

Email: dramacorp@bigpond.com

Facebook: Helen O’Grady Drama Academy – Newcastle