The Tell Them from Me Student Feedback Survey – Years 4, 5 & 6

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. This survey is totally anonymous – teachers will have no information on individual student’s responses.


A consent form and FAQs for parents / carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

New School APP on the Way

The current Belair APP has proved somewhat problematic and we are moving to a better product. The new APP will be online in a couple of weeks. We look forward to a product which is more reliable and provides a greater range of functions.

School Partnership Team

One of our 3 strategic directions for 2015–17 is “Constructive learning partnerships across the school community”. The school is establishing a School Partnership team to explore new and creative ways to strengthen partnerships across our community. Parents interested in being involved in this team, please contact Mr Beard.

P&C Meeting

The first P&C meeting for 2015 will be held in the staffroom (through the office and up the stairs) at 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 Feb. All parents are most welcome. The P&C provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to learn a bit more about what is happening at Belair. Parents can be involved in the P&C as little or as much as they want. Come along for a look and meet the team.

School Email List

Last year we trialled emailing our newsletter to parents as well as sending home a paper copy. To sign up for an emailed version, please type the following URL into your browser. Later in the year we will invite families to opt out of a paper newsletter and just receive the emailed version. This will be totally optional.
http://eepurl.com/Wu40D

Student Invoices

All students will be bringing home today their school account notice for fees, book packs and any other monies owing. Payment can be made via the POP online service, cheque or cash.

Parent Online Payments (POP)

Most school payments can be made online via the Belair School Website. Near the top of the home page there is an icon called “Make a Payment.” You will then be taken through the steps to make your secure payment. This can only be done using a credit card. Please note, payments to P&C entities such as the uniform shop and Red Day orders cannot be made via the POP system.

Kindergarten News

Firstly, a big warm welcome to all our 2015 Kindergarten students and their families to Belair PS. Our Kindergarten students have settled in very well and it is hard to believe they have been at big school for just over 2 weeks. Big school can be an exciting and somewhat daunting time for these students and their families but our 4 Kindergarten classes have quickly settled into routines and are enjoying their time engaging in learning experiences in and out of the classroom.

Our Best Start Assessments have now been completed with reports to be sent home to families today.

Thank you to all the families for preparing their child / children for big school. The formal learning journey often begins at big school with their first year of Kindergarten an important milestone. On behalf of our Kindergarten teachers, and our support staff, we are very much looking forward to support and enjoying this learning journey with your child and you.

Please see the extended version on our school website.
SRE – (Scripture)
SRE commences this week. The SRE program is coordinated by Belair Baptist Church. Parents interested in learning more about the program are invited to contact David Morgan, Assistant Pastor, Belair Baptist Church.

Book Packs
For parents still needing to pay, we offer our Parent Online Payment system as well as cash or cheques through the office.

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
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Mozzie Menace
It is strongly recommended that students bring a wipe or roll on insect repellent for the playground. Children not wearing repellent are encouraged to avoid playing under trees or near bushes.

Student Banking
Please remind students that banking day is Tuesday. The banking is collected before 9am on a Wednesday.

Uniform Shop News
Uniform shop currently has a good supply of second-hand clothing pool items for sale: grey school shorts and green track pants $1, jackets and shirts $5. We welcome donations of uniforms that are no longer needed. COMING SOON: New polar fleece jackets will be arriving towards the end of Term 1. Larger sizes are anticipated to arrive in time for the Year 6 Canberra excursion.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 18/2</th>
<th>Thu 19/2</th>
<th>Fri 20/2</th>
<th>Mon 23/2</th>
<th>Tues 24/2</th>
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If you are unable to do your shift please phone Louise 0438 516 744

A big thank you to all volunteers for today’s RED DAY. The new menu for 2015 will be going out next week. Noodle Cups and Fried Rice are no longer available. Sushi orders need to be in tomorrow morning before 11am for Thursday’s lunch ~ $3.50 each. We have new gluten free chips called Zombies $1.

If anyone has unwanted dinner plates they would like to donate to the canteen, please phone Louise.

Upcoming Events

- 25/2 Zone Swimming
- 2/3–4/3 Great Aussie Bush Camp ~ Year 4
- 5/3 Regional Swimming
- 11/3 Stage 1 Awabakal Excursion
- 12/3 Stage 1 Awabakal Excursion
- 24/3–26/3 Canberra Excursion ~ Year 6
- 27/3 Zone Cross Country
- 30/3 Athletics Carnival
- 7/5 School Photos ~ Date Change

Notes Received with today's Newsletters
- Students Invoices
- Canberra Excursion Note ~ Year 6 (available on school website)
- Tell Them from Me Survey ~ Years 4, 5 & 6 (available on school website)
- Best Start Assessments ~ Kindergarten
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Each of our Kindergarten students has at least one year 6 Buddy. Our school’s successful Buddy Program has been in place for many years and is very much part of the positive culture of our school. The Buddies are an important part of our school support program and provides Year 6 with opportunities to develop leadership, mentoring, nurturing and social skills.

Students in Kindergarten are now working out the way the school works and are exploring the options available in the playground without their buddies. The Buddies will continue to be a part of a Kindergarten students’ first year at Big School and possibly beyond, with planned visits to classrooms and opportunities to engage in craft activities and sporting events over the school year.

Home Reading books and folders have been sent home. Friday sport and library visits and borrowing opportunities have all begun. This week is also the first week where Kindergarten students will share news with the class. Family stories and significant events, favourite toys, holidays and celebrations no doubt will be the hot news topics with many Kindergarten students relishing the opportunity of sharing their news with a captive audience of 20 peers.

Thank you to all the families for preparing their child/children for big school. The formal learning journey often begins at Big School with their first year of Kindergarten an important milestone. On behalf of our Kindergarten teachers, and our support staff we are very much looking forward to support and enjoying this learning journey with your child and you.

Rozi Marsh
Assistant Principal

Please see photos on following pages