Marking Books vs Monitoring Learning

Historically there was a perception that everything a student does needs to be marked by a teacher. This stems from days when teachers tended to give the class work and then sit down and mark the previous lesson. There was very little in the way of individualising learning for students. These days teachers are actively engaged with students, making adjustments to lessons as student learning needs arise and supporting students in their understanding of concepts being studied.

Parents will be able to see evidence in workbooks of the teacher interacting with their child during the learning process. There will be times that teachers collect books to assess student learning and provide feedback to students on their learning, but not every single piece of work will be marked in the traditional sense. Feedback is provided in many ways to students with the most effective form occurring at the point of learning. Marking a piece of work which is just then put back into a pile does nothing to support student learning. The more time teachers spend beside students understanding where the student is up to in their learning, the best placed they are to meet their learning needs.

Save a Tree ~ Electronic Newsletter Only Option

Most of our school community receive the newsletter via the school APP, via email or access it on the school’s Facebook page. If you would like to help our environment, as well as help reduce school copying costs, please click on the link below which will take you to a Google form where you can opt out of paper newsletters.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1bC9ZT6y1xHdvuAbIwQ3EHJCSwd0jK95ek1IXMqKdWu4/viewform?usp=send_form

P&C Meeting Wednesday 17th March

All community members are invited to attend the P&C meeting this week. By attending the P&C parents have the opportunity to get involved a bit more deeply in school life. It is also a chance to learn a bit more about what sits behind the things we do and the decisions we make.

This Wednesday, Mr Mark Snedden, the new Principal of Kotara High will be calling in at the start of the meeting for ten minutes to say hello to our community.
Year 4 Camp

Our Year 4 students are once again heading off to the Great Aussie Bush Camp from March 7–9. This event was flagged in the Newsletter on February 2nd but we do understand that this is still fairly short notice for families. Parents needing additional time to finalise payments for the camp are invited to make contact with Mr Beard or Ms Waight in the office.

Stage 2 and Stage 3 Parent Information Sessions

* 17/2 Stage 2 Parent / Teacher Night 5pm–6pm
* 18/2 Stage 3 Parent / Teacher Night 5pm–6pm

Mr Beard will be in the library to supervise any students who come to school on the evening. All students who are at school are expected to be under Mr Beard’s supervision and not roaming freely around the school. Students are able to bring a tennis ball along for a game of handball if they wish. Library resources will also be available. Younger siblings are welcome however older students will be expected to entertain them.

Term 1 Invoices

Students will receive their Term 1 invoice today. This invoice includes voluntary contributions which are used to purchase learning resources and consumables such as photocopying. This fee is set at a very low thirty five dollars which is ten dollars less than the fee recommended by the Department of Education. Some parents feel they are in a position to make higher contributions and this is always appreciated. If you have paid today, please disregard this account.

Chicken Pox

There has been a confirmed case of chicken pox in Year 6. If your child presents with a fever, sore throat and eventually spots, please seek medical advice.

Student Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KCA</th>
<th>Next week</th>
<th>2B</th>
<th>Thomas F, Grace M</th>
<th>4BE</th>
<th>Abbie R, Byron S</th>
<th>Additional Students Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Next week</td>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Xavier H, Lila H, Josie W</td>
<td>4K</td>
<td>Felix P, Aya P</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KZ</td>
<td>Next Week</td>
<td>2PB</td>
<td>Max D, Ruby M</td>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Elliott L, Molly B</td>
<td>Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K1A</td>
<td>Xanthe C, Harrison G</td>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Sebastian K, Emily H</td>
<td>5P</td>
<td>Clare J, Ryan C</td>
<td>Honours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Sofia N, Antoni D</td>
<td>3/4F</td>
<td>Elizabeth L, Harry A</td>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Sam M, Sarah K,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Cody C, Angus A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6J</td>
<td>Hamish M, Jack N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Newcastle Zone PSSA Swimming

Congratulations and good luck to the following students who have qualified to compete at the Newcastle Zone Swimming Carnival next Wednesday 24 February:


P&C News

**P&C Meeting:** will be held tomorrow night, Wednesday 17/2/16 at 7pm. All welcome!

**Book Club Issue 1, 2016:** orders are due back tomorrow, Wednesday 17 February.

An Introduction to Scholastic Book Club for New Belair Parents

Scholastic Book Club is a significant fundraising source for Belair. All orders earn a 20% credit which is used for new classroom resources and extra books for the school library.

*Brochures are distributed twice per term
*Brochures are distributed to classrooms on Tuesdays and orders are due back the following Wednesday.
*The due date (a Wednesday) will be published in the school newsletter.
*Orders should be placed in one of the locked boxes in the Office foyer.
*Payments can be made via:
  1. **Credit card** (by telephone or online to Scholastic – see order forms for details). There is no minimum transaction.
  2. **Cheque made out to Scholastic.**
  3. **Cash.**

**Note: Belair does not use the new LOOP ordering system.**

*If you would prefer that the books you have bought are not given to your child to take home (e.g., because they are birthday presents), please include a brief note with your order – books can be left at the Office for parents to collect.

Johanna Dean, Infants Book Club Coordinator text 0410 054937
Belinda Moore, Primary Book Club Coordinator text 0416 673723

Public Speaking Course with Port Hunter Toastmasters

Overcome your fear of public speaking in a friendly, relaxed environment.

**When:** Every Monday morning 9.00am – 11.30am for 6 weeks. Starting **Monday 22nd February**

**Where:** Belair School in the demountable classroom next to the band room behind canteen

**Cost:** $10.00 to cover manuals and training materials.

**Contact:** Rahny Humby on 0439 585987

Unfortunately we are not able to provide provision for the care of younger children during the course.
Please make sure you are using the correct menu.

All lunch and recess orders can be ordered and paid for online at: flexischools.com.au

Register and choose Belair, NSW. This service is for CANTEEN orders ONLY.

If you would like to volunteer in the canteen, please come along and see me or phone me on my mobile which appears above. Everyone is welcome in the canteen and the children love to see their loved ones helping out!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 17/2</th>
<th>Thurs 18/2</th>
<th>Fri 19/2</th>
<th>Mon 22/2</th>
<th>Tues 23/2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robyn S, Lia</td>
<td>Jane B</td>
<td>Rebecca R, Megan M, Sally H, Mel W</td>
<td>Julie F</td>
<td>Brooke C, Lorraine S, Alina</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upcoming Events**

- *17/2* Stage 2 Parent / Teacher Night 5pm–6pm
  Book Club orders due back
  P&C Meeting in the staffroom 7pm

- *18/2* Stage 3 Parent / Teacher Night 5pm–6pm

- *24/2* Zone Swimming at Lambton Pool
  Welcome Morning Tea for New Parents

- *7/3–9/3* Year 4 Camp

- *16/3* P&C Meeting in the staffroom 7pm

- *22/3* Athletics Carnival
  Kindergarten to Year 6

With today’s newsletter you will receive:
Outstanding Student Invoices for Book Packs
Community News

Public Speaking Course with Port Hunter Toastmasters

Overcome your fear of public speaking in a friendly, relaxed environment.

When: Every Monday morning 9.00am – 11.30am for 6 weeks. Starting Monday 22nd February
Where: Belair School in the demountable classroom next to the band room behind canteen
Cost: $10.00 to cover manuals and training materials.

As a parent or carer would you like to brush up on your own Public Speaking Skills? As parents we often dread the note home about preparing for the next class talk / speech. Would you like to help your child with their own public speaking? We have been given a great opportunity by Port Hunter Toastmasters (www.porthuntertoastmasters.org.au) to run their Public Speaking course here at Belair for a nominal charge of $10.00 per person. The course being offered is the same as the one run by Port Hunter Toastmasters for WEA at a cost of $200.

The course runs over 2.5 hours for 6 weeks during this time you will gain skills to help you.

- In presenting a speech
- Impromptu speaking
- Master of Ceremonies
- Proposing a Toast
- Presenting an Award

At the end of the course you will gain a Toastmasters Certificate.

Unfortunately we are not able to provide provision for the care of younger children during the course.

If you would like to register or want further information please contact Rahny Humby 0439 585987.

Kotara South Football Club

Kotara South Football Club is looking for a few more players to register in their U8 and U9s competition, both for boys and girls. If you are keen to play, please contact Rowan Lonergan on 0468 917434 as soon as possible (before Thursday this week would be ideal) – we would love to have you play!

Thank you

Cath Burman 0431 619524
Girls' Liaison Officer / Kotara South Football Club Committee Member