New School Finance System ~ LMBR

We are currently preparing to switch to a new finance system (Learning Management Business Reform) which is being rolled out across all NSW Department of Education schools. As this system is rolled out there will be some “blackout dates” when payments to the school will not be possible. These dates will be publicised as soon as possible. Parents are urged to settle any accounts as soon as possible to avoid inconvenience in weeks to come.

P&C Annual General Meeting ~ Wednesday 16 March

Tomorrow evening at 7pm the school P&C meets in the staffroom. All members of our community are welcome. The P&C is a welcoming group of parents who work to support the education of students at our school.

Easter Scripture Assembly ~ Wednesday 16 March

All students who attend scripture will attend an assembly tomorrow, Wednesday at 11.20am. Ethics classes will take place as normal this week.

Community Garden Working Bee ~ Friday 18 March

This Friday March 18 our community garden group is holding a working bee to get our gardens ready for planting. It would be great is people coming along were able to bring a wheelbarrow and shovel. A mattock also would be handy. We will finish up the afternoon with a sausage sizzle.

Earth Hour at Belair School ~ Friday 18 March

This Friday 18 March, Belair PS will be supporting Earth Hour. All lights will be turned off for one hour after lunch.

Belair School Cross Country~ Friday 18 March

This Friday 18 March, the students from Years 2–6 will have the opportunity to compete in the school cross country event from 9.30am–11am. This is conducted in Hudson Park next to the school. All students are encouraged to compete. The Zone course for juniors (10 years and below) is 2km and the seniors course is 3kms (the course at Hudson Park is modified). Students are to come to school in their normal Friday sports uniform with normal joggers. The event will go ahead regardless of weather, as long as we believe it is safe to do so.
Harmony Day ~ Monday 21/3/16

Harmony Day is held each year on 21 March. It’s a day to celebrate our cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. The message of Harmony Day is **everyone belongs**.

Harmony Day coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This year marks 50 years since the declaration of the Day.

The signature colour for harmony day is orange. Students are invited to dress in orange or add an orange adornment such as a wristband or ribbons. Teachers will be exploring the harmony day theme in classrooms leading up to our celebration.

Athletics Carnival ~ Tuesday 22nd March 2016

The Athletics Carnival will be held at the Hunter Sports Centre at Glendale next Tuesday 22/3/16. All students are to arrive at school by 9am, rolls will be marked then buses take all students to Glendale. Students are to wear their sport uniform but they may wear a coloured t-shirt to match their House colour if they have one available at home. Parents are welcome to come along and watch. Anyone wanting to help out on the day, please let the school know.

**NB: Please ensure that your child’s permission note is returned to school by Tuesday 15/3/16 as we are unable to phone parents for verbal permission.**

Swimming News

Congratulations to Zachary Stanbridge who has qualified to swim at the PSSA State Swimming Championships. Zachary will compete in the 13 years 50m Freestyle at Sydney Olympic Aquatic Centre Homebush on 6 April. Good luck Zac!

Starstruck 2016 ~ Super Heroes

Congratulations to Group1 and Group 2 who have been successful in their audition piece for Starstruck 2016. Their success is a result of the hard work and commitment of each student.  


More details about the dances they will be learning and performing will be available in a week.

French Classes

Over sixty students turned up to have a taste of after school French classes. Please note that this is a private company running these lessons and they are hiring our facilities to conduct their classes. Due to the high demand there is likely to be classes on two afternoons per week. All communication should be directly with the French teachers. Parents with students in OOSH should make arrangements with OOSH and any after school service provider as to the care and supervision of their children.
Stewart House Donation Drive

An envelope has been sent home today for the Stewart House Donation Drive. By making a small donation, you will support the 1,800 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW. For more information about Stewart House, please visit their website https://www.stewarthouse.org.au/

Pokemon Cards

For a while now Pokemon cards (and similar) have been popular with a large group of students. It is common for students to want to trade cards and play games for “keeps”. Trading of cards has always been banned at school. Despite this, trading has taken place and problems have arisen where students have been treated unfairly in this process and there has even been a significant amount of theft of cards. It is disappointing to see that some students who, in other aspects of their life are fair and honest, behave this way where cards are concerned. Instead of banning the cards at school, we hope to use this as a learning experience for students. Trading of cards is not allowed unless Mr Beard or another teacher is directly supervising the activity. Both students must be happy with the trade and trading will be restricted to students of a similar age to avoid older children taking advantage. Students must seek permission from their parents before trading. This will be done on an honesty basis – no notes required.

Parents are also asked to help. If you notice that your child has a pile of cards significantly larger than you were aware, they have at best been trading which has been outside the school rules. It would be great if the students who have lost significant numbers of cards could have them returned.

Home Time Arrangements

We would like to remind parents to please make sure your children know what to do in the afternoons after school. As not every class has a phone, late messages can be difficult to pass onto students especially if they are not in their classrooms. Thank you for your support.

Student Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KCA</th>
<th>April W, Hannah H, Mikael K</th>
<th>3H</th>
<th>Lucille W, Jack F</th>
<th>Additional Students Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Grace G, Christina Y, Harriet B</td>
<td>3M</td>
<td>Emily M, Bella S</td>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KZ</td>
<td>Harry T, Evie B, Helena D</td>
<td>3/4F</td>
<td>Lamaara W, William L</td>
<td>Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1A</td>
<td>Harrison G, Bodie Z, Hannah M</td>
<td>4BE</td>
<td>Lucas B, Ava B</td>
<td>Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Liza C, Ashton B</td>
<td>4K</td>
<td>Andrew M, Lily C</td>
<td>Kids Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Ethan C, Chloe M</td>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Emily T, Nick A</td>
<td>Honours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Cooper M, Alex M</td>
<td>5P</td>
<td>Evy A, Jordan T</td>
<td>Honours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Annabelle M, Matilda D</td>
<td>5S</td>
<td>Hayden B, Hamish N</td>
<td>Honours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Samuel B, Ana G,</td>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Chloe J, Jarvis V</td>
<td>Honours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2PB</td>
<td>Finn F, Emelia R</td>
<td>6J</td>
<td>Jameson C, Olivia M</td>
<td>Honours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
P&C News

Book Club: Issue 2 orders are due back to school by Wednesday 16/3/16.

Entertainment Books: order forms have been sent home. If you order a book before 29/3/16 you will receive bonus offers. If you wish to purchase the book please pay online via the link or place money in the box marked Entertainment Books in the office foyer. If you have any enquiries please contact Christina on 0408 203050.

The next P&C Meeting will be held tomorrow, Wednesday 16th March at 7pm. All welcome!

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

Canteen Easter Bun Day: Thursday 24 March. Orders are going home this week. Please have money and orders returned by 21/3/16. Sushi is no longer available. All sandwiches are made on wholemeal bread and bread rolls are white.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 16/3</th>
<th>Thurs 17/3</th>
<th>Fri 18/3</th>
<th>Mon 21/3</th>
<th>Tues 22/3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robyn S, Ruth</td>
<td>Jane B</td>
<td>Karen R, Karen B, Derek L</td>
<td>Julie F</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upcoming Events

* 16/3 Book Club Issue 2 due back today
   Easter Scripture Assembly ~ 11.20am
   P&C Meeting in the staffroom at 7pm all welcome!
* 17/3 Cricket vs The Junction PS
* 18/3 Earth Hour at Belair School
   School Cross Country
* 21/3 Harmony Day
* 22/3 Athletics Carnival ~ Kindergarten to Year 6 (whole school)
* 24/3 Kinder / Year 6 Buddies Easter Hat Making
   School Assembly ~ 12.15pm
   Canteen Easter Bun Day
* 25/3 Good Friday (no school)
* 28/3 Easter Monday (no school)
* 31/3 Zone Cross Country
* 8/4 Last day of Term 1

With today’s newsletter you will receive:
Stewart House Donation Envelope ~ K–6
Belair Community Garden

Friday 18th March 2pm–4pm

Working Bee

All Welcome

To clean out the old garden beds around school.
Top up beds with soil so planting can start.

Sausage Sizzle provided for our hardworking volunteers!

Bring: Enthusiasm!
Shovels / Secateurs / Loppers / Gloves

For further details contact: Mr Beard or Mrs Allars at school 4952 1735
Look out on Facebook and the school app for updates if weather is bad.

This project has been supported by the NSW Government through its Environment Trust.

**************************************************************************************************************

I can attend the working bee on Friday 18th March 2pm–4pm

Name:____________________  Contact number:________________________________

Childs class:____________  I would like _____________ Sausage Sizzle.

Please return slip to school by Wednesday 16th March for catering thank you.
Community News

Coaches and Players Required

Kotara South Netball Club is looking for girls aged 9, 10 & 11 who are interested in playing netball.

Kotara South Netball Club is affiliated with Newcastle Netball Association and we have teams in competitions ranging from 7 years through to seniors.

We are also looking for coaches and managers to be involved in our club.

We are currently seeking a coach for an Under 9s and an Under 11s team if you can assist.

Please contact us at kotarasouthnetball@gmail.com if you would like some further information.
Sport and Recreation has some great holiday options for kids and families these autumn holidays.

Our Kids’ Camps provide 7 to 17 year olds with the chance to branch out and be their own person while trying lots of fun activities.

Then there’s our all-inclusive Family Camps, which give parents and guardians a well-earned rest with accommodation, meals and instructor-led activities included in the price.

With over 40 outdoor activities to choose from, including fishing, mountain biking, kayaking, abseiling and rock climbing, there’s plenty to keep everyone entertained.

Julie-Anne Hawker
Marketing Officer

sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au
All of the above social media applications are rated 13+. That means the creators of these social media platforms state that users should be over 13 years old to activate accounts.

These applications can be used on smart phones, computers, l pads, notebooks and other electronic devices that have internet access capability.

Who provides the smart phone, the l pad, the notebook, computers, etc and internet access?

*Answer: PARENTS!*

Who allows young people less than 13 years of age to access these social media applications?

*Answer: PARENTS!*

Who assists the young person to create the social media profile?

*Answer: PARENTS or siblings!*

Social media education is not part of the school curriculum. The social media issue with young people is a parent problem, not a school problem. As parents you give your child the tools and permission to access these applications. Don't expect the teachers to do the parenting on this problem when your child misuses or is a victim of social media. The school will deal with matters inside the school grounds, you as parents deal with matters outside the school grounds. You have assisted in creating the social media problem by allowing your child to have these social media profiles. As parents you must take responsibility to resolve these issues with your children.

Have you as parents contemplated how the information your child displays and posts are available to other social media users? Social media profiles are created by criminals too.

If you are unsure what to do as a parent, please refer to this Government website. [https://esafetv.gov.au/esafety-information](https://esafetv.gov.au/esafety-information)

Also check out this YouTube video created in the USA showing the ease at which young people are being lured into dangerous situations through social media. [https://WNw.youtube.com/watch?v=6jMhMVE_!EOg](https://WNw.youtube.com/watch?v=6jMhMVE_!EOg)

Senior Constable Darren Fleming Youth Liaison

Officer

Newcastle City Local Area Command
LEARN TO PLAY LACROSSE

10 Week Training Camp
Coached by 2015 Australian Representative
Matt Taylor

Thursdays 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Date: 25th Feb - 5th May
Location: Howzat Sport Center
Cnr Brooks & Tooke Streets,
Cooks Hill

First session FREE!
$15 per session
Sticks provided

To register, email info@nsa-lacrosse.com