**Teacher / Parent Discussions and Goal Setting**

The next phase in our school / community partnership in your child’s learning is coming up in the last few weeks of term. Teachers are keen to negotiate with parents specific learning goals for all students. This will take the form of a parent / teacher discussion, hopefully face to face but alternatives can be explored if a mutually convenient time is not available. The school will send home information on the times teachers are available for these discussions.

**Scripture**

Scripture classes commenced last week. The school has two volunteers who will be teaching Primary Ethics for Years 1 and 3. Parents of students in these two grades who have notified the school in writing that they wish their child to be withdrawn from scripture should have received a note yesterday explaining that Ethics will be taught. Students will only be considered for Ethics classes once they have been withdrawn from scripture. A note stating a preference of Ethics over Scripture does not suffice under Departmental Policy.

**Belair Phone Book (repeat message)**

In earlier years a member of the P&C has coordinated the production of a class phonebook for parents to make contact to set up play dates and organise activities. This is quite a lengthy task which can be simplified using technology. If you wish to be included in this phone book, which will only be provided in a paper copy to families in your child’s class.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1bS81ik5Lab_w-L3w_367A6iOONTxKd6vO2sq0L-evr4/viewform?usp=send_form

Be quick as this link will only be open for the next 7 days.

**Uniform**

Our Belair students always look very smart when seen as a group in their school uniform. There is a certain amount of discipline associated with wearing our uniform with pride. For practical reasons we have relaxed the colour code on Friday sport shoes as it is very difficult to find all white joggers these days. The expectation for the rest of the week is that students wear black shoes as a part of their uniform. There are occasions where a student may be in the company of a sporting star at an event such as a gala day and may feel moved to have a sport shirt autographed. A school shirt with writing on it is not accepted as school uniform. Students are encouraged to take a shirt from home to such events if they think they may have the opportunity to collect a signature.
Cyber Safety Talks

Last Friday Years 4–6 had a presentation by Senior Constable Darren Fleming, the local police youth Liaison Officer. The presentation was all about understanding your online presence and how easy it is for people to find out information about you. Students also were provided information around the law in relation to the use of a carriage service and potential consequences for misusing messaging or social media platform to harass, intimidate or harm others.

Key information for parents has been attached to the digital version of this newsletter.

Athletics Carnival ~ Tuesday 22nd March 2016

The annual school Athletics Carnival will be held at the Hunter Sports Centre at Glendale on Tuesday 22/3/16. This event is for the whole school to attend from Kindergarten to Year 6. All students are to arrive at school as normal by 9am, rolls will be marked then buses will take all students out 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.

Permission notes have been sent home today with full details. Please read the note thoroughly, sign and either send payment to school or pay online by Tuesday 15/3/16.

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

Clean Up Australia Day

This Friday 4th March we will be involved in this very worthwhile activity. We will be collecting rubbish from our local school area.

Please send gloves with your child if you have any, in case we don’t have enough.

Student Awards

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<th>K/1A</th>
<th>1B</th>
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<td>4K</td>
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<td>Additional Students Awards</td>
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<td>Dance</td>
<td>StarStruck</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Kids Care</td>
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Zone Swimming Carnival

Last Wednesday 30 students represented Belair at the Newcastle PSSA Swimming Carnival. All students performed to their very best with the following swimmers qualifying to compete at the Hunter Region Carnival this Thursday at Maitland Pool:

- Jordan B – 12 years 50 m Freestyle, Senior 50m Butterfly
- Lani W – 10 years 50m Freestyle, Junior Backstroke
- Charli N – 11 years 50 Freestyle
- Senior Boys Relay – Jordan B, Connor M, Jack N and Zac T

Rugby League

On Monday, Jordan B and Zac T trialled for the Newcastle Zone Rugby League Team. Both boys were successful with the coach, Mr Nissen, commenting on their outstanding skills and sportsmanship. Congratulations Jordan and Zac and good luck with the Hunter Region selections.

P&C News

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

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

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.

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<tr>
<th>Wed 2/3</th>
<th>Thurs 3/3</th>
<th>Fri 4/3</th>
<th>Mon 7/3</th>
<th>Tues 8/3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robyn S</td>
<td>Anne T</td>
<td>Emma B, Sally A</td>
<td>Help Needed</td>
<td>Kathryn R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Upcoming Events

- 3/3 Regional Swimming Carnival (selected students)
- 4/3 Clean Up Australia Day at Belair School
- 7/3–9/3 Year 4 Camp
- 16/3 P&C Meeting in the staffroom at 7pm all welcome!
- 22/3 Athletics Carnival ~ Kindergarten to Year 6 (whole school)

With today’s newsletter you will receive:
Athletics Carnival ~ whole school K–6
"UKE CAN DO IT"

Come and try the new Ukulele group class for beginners
every Monday 3:15~4:00 pm, at Belair P.S.

When does it start? Mon 7th March
How much does it cost? Depends on numbers ($8-$15)
Do I need a Ukulele? Ukuleles can be supplied for $30 each

For enrolments and other enquiries please contact Hamish

Phone: 0448 695 212
Email: hamish_dyson@hotmail.com
Social media and Primary School students

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, ipads, notebooks and other electronic devices that have internet access capability.

Who provides the smart phone, the lpad, 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.  

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_lEOg

Senior Constable Darren Fleming Youth Liaison

Officer

Newcastle City Local Area Command
French Lessons at Belair School

The FUN way to become bilingual

» FRENCH for 5–12 year olds

Fun after school program at Belair PS
starting in March 2016

Every Wednesday from 3.10pm to 4.10pm

Lots of fun activities, drama, music & games

Phone 0402 818 034
sandra.peachey@lcclubs.com.au
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.porthunertoastmasters.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.