P&C Annual General Meeting 16/3/16

Next Wednesday evening at 7.00pm 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.

Community Garden Working Bee

On Friday March 18 our community garden group is holding a working bee to get our gardens ready for planting. If you can come along any time between 2pm and 4pm that would be great. We will finish up the afternoon with a sausage sizzle. The community garden group has great plans to create a garden which will provide produce for sharing amongst our community.

The ‘Tell Them From Me’ Student Feedback Survey

I am delighted that this term, students in Years 4–6 from our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education 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.

More information about the survey is available at:


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (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 consent form to school by Monday 14 March. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.
**International Women’s Day**

Today is International Women’s Day. The first International Women’s Day was celebrated in 1911. There is no doubt that gender equality has come a long way since then. The reality is however, that even in a country like Australia, women are still behind their male colleagues in many aspects of life. The way we educate our children and the attitudes we instil about equity is the secret to a future where all people are treated equally. A big part of this is a combination of what we teach children and what we say and do ourselves. It is hard to avoid stereotypical comments, particularly in relation to how boys should not behave. As a community we can all contribute to an equitable future for all.

**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.

**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.**

**Student Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KCA</th>
<th>Luke D, Annika D, Eloise A</th>
<th>3H</th>
<th>Ruby N, Cake P</th>
<th>4BE</th>
<th>Additional Students Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Hugo W, Kai B, Eliza K</td>
<td>3M</td>
<td>Bella S, Callen F</td>
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<td>Dance</td>
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<tr>
<td>KZ</td>
<td>Dekoda S, Evie W, Jarryd R</td>
<td>3/4F</td>
<td>Ella J, Ashton H</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<td>K/2A</td>
<td>Lim O, April D, Joshua M</td>
<td>4BE</td>
<td>Isabella Y, Ben D</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Holly S, Beau P</td>
<td>4K</td>
<td>Eden L, Adam G</td>
<td></td>
<td>Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Luke C, William P</td>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Lexie B, Tom M</td>
<td></td>
<td>Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Evie O, Ahlia W</td>
<td>5P</td>
<td>George M, Ava G</td>
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<td>Kids Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Matilda D, Taj A</td>
<td>5S</td>
<td>Makayla S, Nicole A</td>
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<td>Honours</td>
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<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Enzo L, Lilly G</td>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Maddy B, Oliver M, Lucy B</td>
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<td>Honours</td>
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<tr>
<td>2PB</td>
<td>Austin M, Bridene W</td>
<td>6J</td>
<td>Zane G, Kari E</td>
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<td>Honours</td>
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**Additional Students Awards**

- Eden L, Chloe J
- Molly B, Maddy B
- Mayla C, Bailey S
- Lily R, Markus L
- Florentine P, Lucas W
- Phopha T
- Thomas F, Emma C, Emily H
- Jaiden A
**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 today with this newsletter. 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 on Wednesday 16th March at 7pm. All welcome!

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

Thank you to the super organised helpers who came along for last Tuesday’s Hot Dog Day. You all did amazing work!

We are trialling frozen custard at lunch times for 60 cents. Give it a try!

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 9/3</th>
<th>Thurs 10/3</th>
<th>Fri 11/3</th>
<th>Mon 14/3</th>
<th>Tues 15/3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renee, Mary, Ruth</td>
<td>Kathleen E, Sharon C</td>
<td>Cheryl A, Steve P, Karen K</td>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Natasha W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Upcoming Events**

- **7/3–9/3** Year 4 Camp
- **16/3** Book Club Issue 2 due back today
  - 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:**

- Tell Them From Me Student Survey
- Entertainment Book Order Forms
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.
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.
"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 enquires 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, 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_JEOg](https://WNw.youtube.com/watch?v=6jMhMVE_JEOg)

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
Dear Parents and Carers

In Term 1 2016, your school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next question. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by Monday 14 March.

More information about the survey and the research is available in English on the CESE website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Warwick Beard               Dr Jenny Donovan
Principal               Executive Director
Belair Public School                     Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS AND EVALUATION
E cese@det.nsw.edu.au     W www.cese.nsw.gov.au
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Monday 14 March

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Name of student/s .................................................................

Roll class/es ........................................................................

Name of parent/carer .........................................................

Signature of parent/carer ...................................................

Date .................................................................