Term 2 - Week 3

Principal’s Report:
A belated but warm welcome back
It’s lovely to be able to finally (& formally) welcome everyone back to Term 2. I’m not going to dwell on the events of the last two weeks other than to say, I’m glad we all got through the dramatic weather event safely and relatively unscathed. Whilst we still have many trees (on the ground) still to be removed we are only waiting on one more tree ‘of concern’ to be taken down. It is located on a neighbouring property and has necessitated the relocation of Mrs Moore’s class to Cooinda. I would like to say, though, how much I appreciated the support and understanding given by the school community during the school’s ‘non-operational’ period – it made an already difficult situation much easier to manage.

Home/School Communication
Recent events certainly highlighted the need for a variety of communication mediums to be used to share important information accurately and quickly. The school’s primary communication systems remain the School Website, the School App, the Road Sign and the School Newsletter. The importance and value of the Road Sign was demonstrated recently as, without power, the website, school app & the newsletter were neither practical nor reliable systems of communication. The Bensville & Empire Bay Chit Chat Facebook page proved to be a valuable means of communicating to parents but will only be used in situations similar to those we experienced recently. If you haven’t added the new ‘Tiqbiz’ school app to your smartphone, I encourage you to do so.

Tiqbiz School App
The ‘new’ school app is free and easy to use. You simply go to the ‘App Store’ or equivalent Android application store and type “Tiqbiz” in the search function (do not type in Empire Bay Public School as you will only get a result for the ‘old’ school app which we no longer use). Download ‘Tiqbiz’ not ‘Tiqbiz Admin’ and once loaded you search for our school – no password is required. The other thing to keep in mind is how you set up the ‘groups’ – some parents are missing messages because they have set their groups up for only certain grades. Generally speaking, app messages are sent to the ‘whole school’ group and if you’ve set your groups up for only grade 3, for example, you’ll not get the ‘whole school’ message – my recommendation would be to tick all groups or set up for ‘whole school’ only.

NAPLAN
My best wishes go to the staff and students who begin their NAPLAN program next week (Years 3 and 5). The National Assessment Program begins on Tuesday 12th with the Language and Writing assessment, on Wednesday the Reading assessment will be conducted and finishing on Thursday with the Numeracy assessment. I am confident that our students have been well-prepared to undertake this national assessment program and that everyone will manage to keep the whole process in a sensible perspective. More information and parents support can be found at: www.nap.edu.au

ANZAC Day 2015
I was also very proud of the 70 + students and parents who were able to attend the local 2015 ANZAC Day service commemorating the 100th anniversary of the landings at Gallipoli. Our local community greatly appreciated the school’s efforts and the respect and understanding this display represented – thank you Jody Sharma for being our new Parent Coordinator on the day. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Marilyn Scott and thank her team of helpers who created the ‘poppies’ for our students to wear on the day. I would also like to thank Mrs McCredie who prepared a very appropriate school service which unfortunately (due our ‘non-operational’ status) was unable to be held. Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank again Amelia C, one of our Student Leaders, who read “The Ode” at the local service. She delivered this important part of the ANZAC service in a beautiful and respectful manner.

2014 Annual School Report
The 2014 Annual School Report has been uploaded to the school website and is now available for you to read. This report summarises the school’s successes and achievements from over the 2014 school year.

Mothers’ Day
I would like to thank and acknowledge our P&C and our Kindergarten staff for the efforts they have gone to in recognising this Sunday’s Mothers’ Day celebrations. Our P&C held a successful Mothers’ Day Stall today and on Friday, our kindergarten team has prepared a ‘Mothers’ Day’ concert for your enjoyment and entertainment. My best wishes go to all of ‘our mums’ – you’re all very important to us as you do so many wonderful things for our students and for our school, we’d be lost without your support! I hope all have a lovely day on Sunday and that you are all suitably spoilt throughout the day.

From My Inbox
“Hi Brad I thought I would let you know that we just found out that Sanjay has been selected in the Under 11’s Central Coast Junior Representative Cricket side for season 2015/16. We are so proud of him he has worked really hard.”
Congratulations Sanjay – we are also very proud of your sporting success!

CHANGES IN TIMETABLE
As of next week, Monday, 4th May, KS will now have library on Monday and KA will now have library on Tuesday. Please remind your children to pack their library bags for school on these days.
REMINDER - KINDERGARTEN MOTHER’S DAY PERFORMANCE

Don’t forget our special Mother’s Day performance on Friday, 8th May in the school hall. Please arrive at 1.45 for a cuppa and biscuit. Bring along your tissues!!!

K – 2 Workers of the Week

Term 2 Week 2

KMC Emily S, Connor U
K/1M Kobi D, Charl T
1W Jarvis W, Oscar B
2C Leia W, Lily C
2T Raj S, Amelia D
2SB Ruby A, Lily E

3-6 Workers of the Week

3L Misty M
3/4J Tekaya J
4M Riley W
5/6L Cameron S
6D Aliesha P

3H Marlen W
4/5H Toby S
5K Lily A
6M Joshua S

From the Canteen

Welcome back everyone! It has been a terrible start to the term, the canteen lost all stock but we now have everything replaced and there should be no more disruptions to orders. A new menu will be sent home by next week and there will be price increases and price reductions to the menu.

NOTE: Pizza Rounda’s and Vege Burgers have been taken off the menu.

NEW ITEM: Chicken Tender & Salad Wrap $3.50. Please take care when placing orders and check to see if the prices have changed.

Flexischools will be adjusted accordingly and the new Menu will be uploaded to the School Website.

ATTENTION:

To all those wonderful parents who baked goodies for the Cake Stall on Election Day please drop into the canteen to collect your plates and containers if you haven’t already done so. Thank you.

Looking for a quick and easy way to order School Lunches - why not check out ON-LINE ORDERING AT FLEXISCHOOLS. It will take the hassle out of lunch orders and that school morning rush! Don’t forget to let us know if your child is away and has an on-line order and we can organise it for another day!

VOLUNTEERS: If you would like to go back onto the roster this term please drop in and see Gaye or Michelle to let us know. Thank you.

Work Health & Safety requires anyone working in the canteen to wear closed in shoes so your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

Uniform Shop and Canteen – Flexischools

Save Time………Order Online

Online ordering saves you time and helps us too

It’s Easy

- Go to www.flexischools.com.au
- Click to “Register Now”
- Enter your email and follow prompts
- You can then charge up your online account and place orders from home.

Online orders are already paid for, so you do not need to bring money to school.

Become an Ethics Coordinator at Empire Bay Public School

We currently have ethics classes for K-6. Ethics classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgment, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives. Dhttp://www.primaryethics.com.au or contact Jenni Bouchier, Regional Manager - Gosford Region, Primary Ethics for more information: gosford-region@primaryethics.com.au or call her on 0411 198 483. Due to the size of the Stage 2 class, we need an additional volunteer Ethics Teacher to teach Stage 2. We also need a new volunteer to be the Ethics Coordinator at the school. Ethics Coordinators and Ethics Teachers are provided with training and support by Primary Ethics. Coordinating can mostly be done by email in your
spare time and would take no more than an hour per week. Members of the school community are encouraged to apply. To find out more about becoming our next Ethics Coordinator or an Ethics Teacher, please visit:

We will also be taking orders for royal blue older style chinooks (no zippers) up until Wednesday 27th May 2015. The chinooks will be available on an ORDER ONLY basis and will not be available to purchase from the uniform shop. They will be $37-00 each.
I would like to order

......... (No of chinooks)  ........... Size(s)
Name:___________________________________________
Phone:___________________________________________
Child’s Name:____________________________________
Class:_____________________ Size:
Amount Enclosed ……………………………….. $37-00 each
Signed ………………………………………………………

Uniform Shop

- Opening Hours
  - Tuesday 8.30am – 9.00am
  - Thursday 2.30pm – 3.00 pm
- Uniform Shop is behind the hall

If you would like a hard copy of the newsletter sent home please fill out the slip below and return to the office. Newsletters are available in the school office and can be obtained on the school website or School App each week.

Thank you

Child’s Name:…………………………………………………..
Class:……………………………

WE’RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 22 MAY 2015

Well it’s that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn’t realistic for many of us, it’s quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family’s daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:
- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 22 May 2015!

Ways to Get More Veggies in your Family Meals

- Make veggie chips by chopping potatoes, parsnips, or carrots into thick sticks, brush with olive oil and oven bake.
- Add veggies like corn kernels, capucium, peas, potatoes and broccoli to soups, pasta sauces, and rice or noodle dishes.
- Grate carrot or zucchini and add to homemade hamburger patties or pasta sauces.
- Add some salad to rolls, sandwiches or wraps for lunch.
- Put out a platter of different veggies & let everyone choose which ones they want to eat.
- Try to serve veggies with each meal – don’t worry too much if it is the same ones your child wants each night, as long as they eat them!
For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

Ettalong Beach Arts & Craft Centre Inc. (www.ebacc.com.au)
invites your creative child to attend ceramic artist Annette Pool's
CHILDREN'S POTTERY WORKSHOP
This school holidays
7th, 8th, 9th & 13th of April
(pick-up of completed artworks on the 17th)
Time: 1-4pm
Cost: $120
For more information or to register your interest, please call: 43418344

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2015
FROM 11AM - 2PM
GIRRAKOOL PICNIC AREA, QUARRY RD, SOMERSEY
BRISBANE WATER NATIONAL PARK

- Find out what's happening in Brisbane Water National Park
- Cultural activities and music
- Kids activities
- Visit Aboriginal Site
- Free BBQ lunch and refreshments

RSVP WED 13 MAY to laurie.pasco@environment.nsw.gov.au
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Laurie Pasco Ph 4320 4220

School Banking Rewards now available! Term 2
The School Banking program encourages good saving habits by rewarding students with awesome reward items. New rewards have just been released for Term 2, and are available while stocks last:

- ET DVD (term 1 reward still available while stocks last)
- Planet Handball (term 1 reward still available while stocks last)
- Invisible Ink Martian Pens – released term 2
- Intergalactic Rockets – released term 2

You could win a family trip to Disneyland
In a School Banking first, students who make 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically receive one entry into the competition draw to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights accommodation, transfers and three days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, plus AU$2000 spending money.
For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

NSW Education & Communities

THERE ARE MANY SIMPLE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO LIMIT THE TIME YOUR CHILD SPENDS IN FRONT OF A SCREEN:

- Try a TV or screen free day each week
- Remove TVs and computers from bedrooms and keep in a central location like the family room
- Turn off the TV during dinner and eat together at the table

For more information or screen time, go to www.healthpromotion.com.au