From The Principal

Term 4 Week 6 2014

Have you heard?
Our Year 5 students have been visiting Condell Park and Bass High over the past few weeks to give them a small taste of what high school is like.

Kinder orientation
Our second Kinder orientation was a great success last week. Our 2015 Kindergarten students went on a treasure hunt, discovering and finding out about all the places around Bass Hill PS. They will visit us again next Thursday for their 3rd session.

Values
The value we have been focusing on this week and last week is:

RESPECT
Assistant Principal Position 2015
The merit selection process for a 4th assistant principal is now complete. I am pleased to announce that Amy Buckland was offered the position Tuesday afternoon and accepted, subject to a 10 day cooling off period. Amy is currently a teacher and relieving assistant principal at Condell Park PS and will be a fantastic addition to our Bass Hill PS community. She is thrilled to be joining our team.
Thank you to Jo Lui and Mr Habib for being community representatives and Mrs O’Connor and Miss Danaher for being the Department of Education representatives on the panel.

Social media
Social networking is on the rise and as parents we need to ensure we are aware of what our children are posting and saying online. The level of engagement online increases the risks of cyberbullying, “Facebook depression” (a new phenomenon where “de-friending” and online bullying lead to symptoms of depression) and exposure to inappropriate content.
This takes place at home and can often flow over into the school day. Just as we prepare our kids for life in the real world, we should prepare them for life in the online world. There are a number of things we can do to ensure we are taking precautions and keeping our children safe online.

Check Privacy Settings
Check that your privacy settings for the Internet and Facebook are set to the strictest levels. Depending on which browser you are using, you can adjust the settings directly from the options tab and adjust levels around cookies, third party sites and more. This not only protects the computer user, but also the computer from the threat of viruses.

Create Ground Rules
If your kids are old enough to be using the computer on their own, they are old enough to understand that there are rules they need to abide by. Breaking them should not have a lesser consequence than if they broke a rule in the offline world.

Get To Know What Your Child’s Habits Are
It is important to be aware of the kinds of sites your child is frequenting and the people they are associating with. You get to know the friends they spend time with at school, and their online friends shouldn’t be any different. One of the rules you establish should be that you have full access to his Facebook friends and can take a look whenever you wish.

Keep the Computer in a Central Location
It’s much easier to keep tabs on any online activity when the computer is located in a high-traffic zone than if your child is using a computer in the privacy of her own room. Place the computer in a central location like your kitchen or family room so that everything is out in the open.

Urge Your Kids to Avoid Questionnaires, Free Giveaways and Contests
A pop-up ad appears and tells kids they can win a free iPad by simply clicking the link. Anyone would be tempted by this kind of offer, but kids are particularly susceptible, so it’s important to warn kids against falling for this kind of Internet trick. Many of these ruses are attempts to glean personal information. Inform kids that even if they are forwarded a fun questionnaire from a friend, it’s best to close the window and not participate.

Monitor the Pictures Your Child Posts Online
In an ideal world, your child would never post a photo of themselves online, but that might not be entirely realistic. If they want to share photos with friends via email or a social networking site, be sure you know exactly which pictures are being posted. Make sure the content of the photo is completely innocuous and that no identifiable places in the background are noticeable.

Teach Kids about an Online Reputation
Many kids don’t seem to understand the permanence of the online world. Make sure to stress to your kids what a digital footprint is and the impact inappropriate messages or images could have if a future college administrator or employer were to stumble upon them.

Talk to Kids about Online Dangers
You may feel like you’re scaring your kids when talking to them about the dangers of being online, but it’s better for them to be scared than to be unaware. Having an open line of communication is crucial the minute your kids start using the Internet more independently.
Kindergarten 2015
If your child is starting Kindergarten with us next year can you please visit the office and fill out an enrolment form as soon as possible. Children born between 1st August 2009 and 31st July 2010 are eligible to enrol.
Please bring;
- Child’s birth certificate for proof of age
- Passports and visas for families born overseas
- Proof of residence (e.g. Council rate notice, gas, electricity account or bank account).
Our Kindergarten orientation sessions will commence early next term and once you have enrolled you will go on a list that will ensure you receive any important information.
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Kugatsu Judo –
Now training at Bass Hill Public
Kugatsu judo club is one of the oldest judo clubs in Sydney and Australia and has been involved in the Bankstown community for over 15 years.
Kugatsu Judo Club welcomes general public and caters for boys and girls from the ages of 8 and up. Our training is conducted by qualified coaches with experience at national and international level with some of our members regularly qualifying for the national championships.
Training is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Bass Hill Public School Hall (entrance through Clarke St, Bass Hill) Minimum age is 8 years old.
For more info go to http://www.kugatsujudo.com.au/
or find us on Facebook (look for Kugatsu Judo Sydney)
or call David on 0403 861 956

We value friendship

PRIVATE PIANO AND KEYBOARD LESSONS
FOR BEGINNERS

Children aged 6+ years and adults who wish to learn for pleasure
Flexible times for parents - No hassles

(Musc) M. Craine, A Mus A.
9707 1318 Georges Hall
(off Marion Street, near Bankstown Airport)