From The Principal

Term 4 Week 10

Have you heard?

Another well deserving group of students participated in our final principal morning tea for the year this week. Although I was not able to be there due to being off sick, it is a pleasure to have so many students being rewarded for such positive behaviour.

Congratulations to;

Layla k        Ali Y        Ioane S        Julius B        Ihab K
Daniella A     Charlotte O  Carmen T        Finau S        Atelaite T
Amar K         Sarah T      Iesha J        Alia C        Chahad K
Tasos B        Elaah D      Justin L        Zeinab B       Sarah A
Aya S          Declan N     Basma M        Zein S        Amira A
Adna H         Abdul M      Laila S        Tricelle L     Antone K
Patrick F      Lina H       Ahmad H        Alae A      Brentson L
Mariam S       Jessica V    Jennifer V      Nader S

Our Preschool Blue group graduated this week. There were lots of smiles and happy families celebrating the wonderful achievements of our very clever preschool children.
11 very deserving Year 6 students enjoyed a special luncheon this week. Stage 3 teachers and support staff were asked to nominate Year 6 students they felt continually demonstrated the behaviours and expectations we expect to see from our most senior students and leaders of the school. The following students were chosen:

*Caitlin, Shakira, Lina, Jordan, Jenny, Andy, Jamal, Alicia, Jennifer, Roslyn, Laila*

These students joined Stage 3 teachers, support staff and executive in a sit down lunch where staff had the opportunity to thank them and acknowledge their contribution to our school. Each one of these students repeatedly exhibits a dedication to learning, positive behaviour and social responsibility we would like all students at Bass Hill PS to aspire to.

**Principal’s Message**

We are coming to the end of another great year at Bass Hill PS. This week we celebrated and acknowledged the academic, cultural and sporting success of students at our presentation day and also showcased the creative and practical arts in our item day.

Bass Hill is a very special school and one that I am thrilled to be a part of. I thank parents, students and staff for making me feel so welcome in my first year as principal. I commend the dedication the teaching, administrative and support staff offer to the students and appreciate the generosity of our families and community.

I have really enjoyed getting to know everyone and look forward to a bigger and better year of learning in 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a safe and relaxing Christmas.

**Staffing**

After 25 years at Bass Hill PS Mrs Jannette Hansen, our School Administrative Manager, has retired. Jannette has made an incredible contribution to our school and community and it is sad to see her go. As a new principal to the school this year I haven’t known Jannette as long as others in our community but the support she has given me this year is very much appreciated. I wish Jannette all the best as she starts the next chapter of her life.

We have a number of temporary teachers at our school. These teachers are often with us for long periods of time but unfortunately are not permanent members of staff. At the end of this year we say good bye to two of our temporary teachers. Miss Camelia Handel has decided to go back and do further study at university and Mrs Elizabeth Wulf will be moving to a preschool closer to home. Both ladies are amazing young teachers and will be greatly missed at our school. They have each made a terrific contribution and I wish them all the best in their future careers.

**School Leaders**

I feel very fortunate that I have had the opportunity to get to know our 2014 school leaders quite well this year. Each one of them is an amazing and talented student that I have no doubt will go on to be highly successful in whatever they choose to do. As 2014 is coming to an end, we are having to farewell these wonderful leaders as they leave us and move onto high school. Whilst it is sad to be seeing them go, it is exciting to have a new group of school leaders that will follow on in their place and create their own treasured memories. Our 2015 school leaders were officially announced at presentation day and on behalf of the school community we congratulate these students - School Captains – Nur and Jack

School Vice Captains – Alexandra and Jaiden

Prefects – Suzanne, Elora, Tevita and Abdul

Thank you too to Mrs Amber Taouk and Miss Brianna Danaher for coordinating and hosting the captain and prefects speeches and process.

**P&C Meeting**

Thank you to all the parents who attended the last P&C Meeting for 2014! It was fabulous to chat with you and to share with you some of our plans for the upcoming year. We value your input and enjoy the partnership we share in your child’s learning.
Presentation Day
I am very disappointed that I was unable to attend our presentation day on Monday. Thank you to all the family and friends that attended the day. It was wonderful to hear that so many people were there to acknowledge the hard work and effort students have put into their learning this year. I would like to thank teachers and support staff for their contribution to the day and a special thankyou to Mrs Rosemary Adamson for the countless hours she spent organising the event. There is an enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to make award day happen and to everyone that contributed in some way, I thank you.

2015 Resource Contribution
Next year we will be asking parents to contribute $20 per child towards classroom resources for learning. This contribution will go towards purchasing work books, paper and stationary supplies for each class. There are many areas in need of repair or improvement across the school. I would like to start to work on improving the condition of our classrooms, installing a whole school PA system, increasing classroom technology and painting and upgrading our buildings. The department of education does provide some money towards these costs but we would like to provide our students with excellent resources and the funding does not stretch as far as we would like. By asking parents to pay a small resource fee next year, we are able to allocate other funds towards school improvement projects. The note for the resource contribution has been sent home with the newsletter. Payment can be made this year or by the end of week 2, 2015.
Bass Hill PS App

In line with the school’s goal of keeping students informed in a changing world, we would also like to keep parents informed using the latest technology. It is with this that we would like to announce the official launch of the free Bass Hill Public School app. The will allow parents, carers and students to access information about the school in an easy to navigate app available to download for both iPhone and Android smartphones. On the app, you will have access to:

- Calendar - which has been updated for the final events of 2014
- Photos
- Notifications - you can allow your phone to remind you of upcoming events using the push notifications function
- Newsletter – download the latest newsletter on your smartphone
- Documents - download school permission notes directly to your phone (still to come).

As the year is coming to a close, we will be adding items incrementally and asking for feedback on what parents would like to see to improve the functionality of the app.

The app can be downloaded from Apple app store for iPhones and Google Play store for android devices. You can also jump onto the school website to learn how to download the app and subscribe to the Tom Thumb.

School Newsletter

The school’s newsletter is published each fortnight and is a valuable part of our home/school communication. The newsletter includes important dates, activities and school events. It is also a forum to celebrate and acknowledge student learning and performance.

You can now subscribe to the newsletter via our school website http://www.basshill-ps.schools.nsw.edu.au/ We encourage you to use this facility if you have internet access at home or at work. By subscribing, the Tom Thumb will be emailed to you each fortnight.
Kindergarten 2015
It is not too late to enrol your child for next year. 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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN ONLINE
Many students at our school use the app known as Kik messenger. Students use this to message friends as it is simple and free. As a parent you need to be aware of the dangers that are linked to this app.

Unfortunately police and teachers are reporting increased incidents of kids being approached by adults, being sent photos and videos of porn and increasing incidents of bullying through Kik.

**Kik Messenger Is One Of THE Most Dangerous Apps For Kids:**
Previously Kik Messenger was rated 13+ on the app stores. In November 2012, Kik introduced what are known as “cards” or apps within the app, and the age requirement was increased to 17+.

As a result of these “cards” it is no longer JUST a messaging app. These “cards” are hidden in the left hand side of the app chat window. Furthermore, the privacy settings in Kik Messenger do not stop your child from being approached by someone they do not know. Even if they don’t advertise their account name on other social media, if they follow the prompts and sync their account with their address book, which they all do, the app will scan their address book and not only suggest other Kik users they know but will also suggest anyone else related to that person to them, including adults, friends of friends etc. This is how many kids are getting connected with adults on Kik. Anyone who does find you on Kik can send you messages and photos without your approval, and many kids are getting sent pornographic images from adults without even approving friendship. The “Ignore New Contacts” privacy setting does not block approaches, it only puts them in a separate message tab, and Kik Messenger then send you a reminder about those “ignored messages” with the full content of the message in an email every now and then. Remember how social media works, any online post can potentially be misinterpreted, changed, or made fun of, and can then be shared on to others outside your child’s original network. Screen shots or recording, copy and paste can all be used to share, even if a share button isn’t present. You can’t “follow” your child on Kik. You can’t supervise their interactions. Logging into your child’s Kik account will delete all the messages. Parents, no matter how vigilant, cannot control what other people’s children do with their own children’s posts.

If your child has the Kik messenger app on their phone, my recommendation would be to delete it and find another more suitable app for messaging.
Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- School, free push notification alerts
- School events
- School newsletters
- School documents
- School RSS feeds
- School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

**How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone**

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Don’t forget to like us on Facebook! [Like]

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au
We value respect of ourselves and others.

We value friendship.

**SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARTS WORKSHOPS**

12-23 January 2015

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**PAINT LIKE KAHLO**

Monday 12 Jan, Noon-3pm
Learn how to paint like a master! Frida Kahlo creates vivid, dreamy and surreal paintings, balancing symmetrical and skewed elements. Paint a portrait of yourself, your family and friends, with symbols and objects that inspired your own painting.

Studio 1
Cost $20

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**WOVEN WORDS**

Monday 12 - Tuesday 13 Jan, 10am-noon
Participate in a dynamic workshop led by Vesna Ognjenovic and learn to weave words on fabric. Create your own woven words, inspired by famous poets and your own thoughts. 

Studio 2
Cost $25

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**PAINT LIKE NOLAN**

Monday 19 Jan, Noon-3pm
Inspired by Sidney Nolan's iconic Ned Kelly series, learn to create your own special Australian landscape.

Studio 4
Cost $20

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**DRAWING PRICKLY Pears**

Friday 16 Jan, Noon-3pm
From a prickly pear cactus, create a watercolour painting of the Australian landscape. Learn prickly pear colouring techniques.

Cost $25

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**FROM PAPER TO PETALS**

Tuesday 20 Jan, 10am-1pm
Create your own summer flowers, using petals from real flowers, paper and wire that you can keep forever. 

Studio 3
Cost $30

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**SEASCAPE SPLASH**

Thursday 22 Jan, 10am-1pm
Paint with different water effects to create the illusion of waves. 

Studio 4
Cost $25

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**STARSTRUCK**

Tuesday 19 - Thursday 15 Jan, 10am-1pm
Do you love singing and performing? Join this three-day workshop to develop your inner performer's talent.

Cost $50 for three-day workshop

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**SHADOW PUPPETS**

Wednesday 14 Jan, 10am-1pm
Shadow puppetry is an ancient form of storytelling. Make your very own puppet to tell a story.

Cost $20

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**STAMP AND PRINT**

Tuesday 13 and Friday 23 Jan, 10am-1pm
Create one of a kind ceramic tiles with mark making techniques and screen printing techniques.

Cost $30 for two-day workshop

**KIDS 6-10 years**

**FROM SUPERHERO TO VILLAIN**

Wednesday 21 Jan, 10am-1pm
Are you a Superhero or a villain? Create your own adventures at this craft day where you can create battle ready weapons and gear.

Rehearsal 2
Cost $20

Bass Hill Public School
Encouraging excellence and creating confident, creative, lifelong learners

Term 4, Week 10, 2014
Bass Hill Public School
Encouraging excellence and creating confident, creative, lifelong learners

Bankstown's Free
BUS TO BEACH

Bankstown City Council is providing free buses to Cronulla Beach for young people and their parents/guardians on the following days:

Tuesday 13 January 2015
Tuesday 20 January 2015
Thursday 15 January 2015
Thursday 22 January 2015

Bus 1 and 2 will depart from the following pick up points
9am - The Roundabout Youth Centre, Melon Street car Garlington Road, Sefton
9.15am - Greenacre Area Community Centre, 171a Waterloo Road, Greenacre
9.30am - 69 The Mall, Bankstown (on Paul Keating Park side, opposite Linecraft)

Bus 3 and 4 will depart from the following pick up points
9am - Panania Railway Station. Panania on Weston Street side
9.15am - Revesby Railway Station. Revesby on Blamey Street side
9.30am - Padstow Railway Station. Padstow on Howard Road side

All buses depart Cronulla Beach at 3pm SHARP and return to the pick up points as above.
Bookings are not required; the program operates on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Conditions and warnings
Attention parents and carers: Council does not provide supervision.
Inappropriate conduct or behaviour on the bus will not be tolerated. The Bus Operator may use its sole discretion in determining the applicable action taken against offenders;
Council will not incur any responsibility or liability whatsoever for injury suffered to persons or damage/loss to property;
Council is not responsible for persons who miss the bus and will not make provisions for transport for these persons under any circumstances.

For details visit www.bankstown.nsw.gov.au or contact 9707 9605.

Bankstown's Free Bus to Beach Service is on again these summer holidays.
The bus service is available for children, young people and their parents/guardians. Council will not provide supervision and cannot be held responsible for any injuries or damage/loss of property.
I have enclosed several posters for you to post up on notice boards, in classes or distribute to your students. Thank you for your assistance in spreading the word.

Dates:
- Tuesday 13 January
- Thursday 15 January
- Tuesday 20 January
- Thursday 22 January

Pick up times:
9am from Sefton and Panania
9.15am from Greenacre and Revesby
9.30am from Bankstown and Padstow

Return: Buses will depart Cronulla Beach at 3:00pm sharp and return to the above pick up points.

Contact: For more details visit www.bankstown.nsw.gov.au or call 9707 9605.

Enclosed are flyers with more detailed information about the program.

Kind regards,

Justine Foo | Community Development Officer Youth | Community Development & Services | City Services | Bankstown City Council
171a Waterloo Road, Greenacre | 9797 7255 | 0414 725554 | justine.foo@bankstown.nsw.gov.au
www.bankstown.nsw.gov.au
ZUMBA
For Women only
In the School hall Mondays and Wednesdays 6.30 -7.30pm
$8.00 per class
Contact Heather: 0451 975 868

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