Term 1 Week 2

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome

A special welcome to all our new students and families.

Have you heard?

We welcome Miss Amy Buckland to Bass Hill PS. Amy takes up the position of Assistant Principal. This year Miss Buckland will be teaching 3/4B. Miss Buckland comes to us from Condell Park PS where she has been relieving as an Assistant Principal for the last 3 years. We are thrilled to have her as part of our community.

We also welcome Mr Luke Harris. Luke will be teaching 3/4H and did a number of casual days at our school last year. It is wonderful to welcome him to our school and community this year.

Principal’s Message

Welcome back to the new school year! It was wonderful to see students happy and enthusiastic on their return to school last week. We have had a great start to the term and I am looking forward to the learning and opportunities students will experience across the year.

Staffing

This year class teachers are as follows;

- Preschool: Joanne Jurgeit
- KD: Brianna Danaher (AP)
- KW: Jessica Westren
- K/1S: Hayley Sellen
1/2T                Louise Tate
1/2H               Jessica Hall
1/2S                Kristen Sellen
1/2J                Deborah Jones
3/4M             Katherine McMaster
3/4A              Narelle Akkawy
3/4H              Luke Harris
3/4N              Melissa Newman
3/4B              Amy Buckland (AP)
5/6G             Leanne Gray
5/6F              Kim Fowler (AP)
5/6N            Sevda Noshie
5/6T             Amber Taouk

Our special programs and support staff include:

Release from Face to Face: Rosemary Adamson, Michelle Adams, Gavin Kennedy
English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD): Shayne O’Connor, Lisa Collins, Ashley Vokes
Early Action for Success: Yasmin Coghlan, Ashley Vokes, Claire Tomlin (AP)
Special Program and Support Staff: Coralie Ford – Teacher Librarian, Gavin Kennedy – Reading Recovery, Patty Kalavritinos - School Counsellor, Josephine Lombardo – Learning and Support Teacher
Administration Staff: Carolyn Cuddy – Relieving School Administrative Manager; Rhonda Semmler, Jennifer Comito, Afrah Haddad – School Administrative Officers; June Baldwin, Patricia May and Patricia Martin – SLSO’s; John Govey – General Assistant; Allan Helmers – Gardner; Ann, Emanuel – Cleaning staff
Instructional Leader – Jodie Clark
Principal – Melissa Proctor

We value integrity

Stage Classes
Our classes across the school this year are stage based. The class formations are based on enrolments and the guidelines for the numbers of students in each grade as set by the DEC. Curriculum content is at a stage level and within that each student in every class sits along a literacy and numeracy continuum at different places. Part of a teacher’s role is to differentiate the curriculum for every student to ensure their needs are catered for and their learning is personalised. Even classes that are straight classes, for example a Year 1 class has a range of abilities and ages within it. Much time and care is taken when forming classes to ensure students are set up for success.

Playground procedures
For 2015 we have K-6 playgrounds as opposed to separate K-2 and 3-6. No go zones have now been identified with students and will be marked across the playground as soon as possible. Students will be taught these areas in class. All areas will be K-6 apart from the oval and basketball courts.

Oval
Students will be separated on the oval and have set days allocated to them.
Mondays – Stage 3
Tuesdays – Stage 2
Wednesdays – Stage 1
Thursdays – Stage 3
Fridays – ES1

Basketball courts
Separate 3-6 and K-2 courts marked out and labelled

Playground Expectations and Areas
Balls
- Handballs or tennis balls only in playground area A (closest to the office)
- Basketballs, handballs and tennis balls only allowed in playground area B (basketball courts).
- Soccer balls and footballs only allowed on the oval.
Areas

- Passive areas – under COLA, near big tree at the top of playground B, soft fall area outside Stage 2 rooms, covered area where at the end of the Stage 1 classrooms, anywhere with silver seats.
- Active areas – basketball courts, ovals, hand ball courts
- Quiet area – library

Playground Equipment

- No go zone. Only to be used for fitness and sport with direct teacher supervision. **Students are not permitted on this equipment before or after school**
- No Hat Play in shade

Playground Equipment

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No Hat Play in shade

- Any student without a school hat needs to be directed to the COLA area in playground area A. This is a passive area where students are to sit, play cards etc. No running or chasing is allowed in this area.

2015 Resource Contribution

We are asking parents to contribute $20 per child this year 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. 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, we are able to allocate other funds towards school improvement projects. The note for the resource contribution is included in this week’s Tom Thumb. I thank all the parents that have already sent in their resource contribution.

Office Refurbishment

Those that have visited the school this year will have noticed our new office and administration area. Builders worked through January to refurbish our front entry and office area. Our new office is now open and much more spacious. The building work is now almost complete; however some electrical work along with furniture orders still need to be completed before everything is back to normal. I cannot thank everyone enough for the understanding and flexibility staff, students and parents have shown in regards to the office renovations and the flow on effect it has had to other areas. Whilst it is not an ideal start to the year it is looking fabulous and will definitely be worth the inconvenience.

Cyber safety talks

To help support children to stay safe online, we are hosting an Internet Safety Awareness presentation for parents on Wednesday 18 February at 6.00pm in the school hall. **This is an adult only presentation** and will cover a range of issues around cyber safety. I strongly encourage parents to attend. If you have not returned your note yet to say you would like to take part, there is still time. A copy of the letter has been included in this week’s Tom Thumb for you.

Facebook

It has come to my attention in the past week that there have been comments posted on Facebook pages regarding things happening in our school. Whilst I acknowledge the value of social media in our community and the immediacy of the communication, I do ask that like we do with students, we as adults think before we write. Positive school culture at Bass Hill is something the staff and school leaders are focussing on. We are striving for excellence in programs and opportunities that will support your children’s learning. I also acknowledge that when things go wrong and we are upset, that there are times things are written in haste. If you have concerns, or are at any time upset about an incident at the school or an event or an experience then please contact...
one of the Assistant Principals or myself. I would much rather hear about it personally than hear of it via a Facebook posting.

**Student Essentials List**
Please find a copy of the student essentials list for this year in this week’s Tom Thumb.

**Bass Hill PS App**
If you haven’t yet got our Bass Hill PS app please go onto the Apple app store or Google Play store and download it. 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 will be updated with events for 2015
- 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).

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.

**Tom Thumb**
The school’s newsletter, The Tom Thumb, 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-p.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.
Best Start Kindergarten Assessment

Children come to school with different levels of literacy and numeracy. Some are familiar with books, can recognise some letters, even write their name or count to ten, while others have not yet learned these skills.

Our Kindergarten teachers have always observed their new students and used different methods to find out what each child knows and can do so that they can plan and teach what their students need to learn next.

Our school takes part in Best Start, developed by early learning experts in the Department of Education and Communities. The purpose of the assessment is to help the teacher gather information to guide the teaching of your child.

The teacher will observe each child and use tasks, such as talking about a book that has been read, and record what their students know and can do. The teaching of your child will be based on the information gathered in these ways.

You will be given feedback about what your child’s teacher has learned about your child, which you are welcome to discuss if you wish, in keeping with our usual practice.

At Bass Hill Public School, we will conduct the Best Start assessment on Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 February in the Kindergarten block.

We believe that Best Start will build on the strengths of our teachers and give your child an even better start to school.

Jodie Clark
Instructional Leader

We value friendship
Welcome to Kindergarten 2015

There have been so many smiles of students coming to big school for their first week. All students have been very settled and eager to learn school routine.

From next week, Kindergarten will line up with the rest of the school for the morning assemblies on Monday’s and Tuesday’s. Students have been practicing where to line up and they are looking forward to joining the rest of the school.

Please make sure that you collect your child from the silver seats in the afternoon. It is essential that you see the teacher before taking your child so that we can ensure that all students are safe.

Please don’t forget to label all of your child’s belongings, especially their hat!

Teachers have handed out a note outlining what your child is required to contribute to the classroom. Please bring these items in as soon as possible.

Students are required to bring in a photo or a copy of a family photo. This will be used to build relationships between students and utilised for learning experiences. A 6x4 photo would be preferable.

Students will be able to buy from the canteen next during fruit break and lunch. They will be taken out a couple of minutes before the start of these breaks so that they can buy.

We are looking forward to watching your child grow and learn this year.

Thank you for your continued support.

B.Danaher

Assistant Principal
Student Essentials 2015

Welcome back to the 2015 school year. To ensure your child(ren) are prepared for learning this year each student will be required to bring a variety of supplies. Please ensure all items are clearly labelled with your child’s name. All students require a library bag and a school hat.

Early Stage 1 – Kindergarten
- 2 Glue sticks
- A packet of whiteboard markers
- Box of tissues (for classroom use)
- Liquid soap (for classroom use)
- Packet of baby wipes
- Paint shirt

Stage 3 – Years 5 and 6
- 2 blue pens
- 2 red pens
- 2 black pens
- 2 HB lead pencils
- Pencil eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- 1 pencil case

Stage 1 - Years 1 and 2
- A box of tissues
- Liquid soap (for classroom use)
- A packet of baby wipes
- 2 large glue sticks
- A packet of white board markers
- A large scrap book for homework
  (this book needs to be covered and clearly labelled with your child’s name)

Stage 2 – Years 3 and 4
- One pencil case
- 4 x lead pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Crayons (Zoos)
- Textas
- A sharpener with a container
- 2 x large, dry glue sticks
- An eraser
- A packet of highlighters (4)
- 4 A4 paper
- A ruler
- A packet of white board markers
- Personal wipes such as Dettol wipes
- 2 boxes of tissues (for classroom use)
- One liquid pump soap (for classroom use)

Please ensure your child(ren) bring in the necessary items as soon as possible. You may be required to purchase additional sets of disposable items throughout the year.

If you have any questions regarding these items, please contact your class teacher or stage leader.

Brianna Danaher, Claire Tornblin, Amy Buckland, Kim Fowler

Stage Leaders
Resource Contribution for 2015

To the principal

Resource Contribution

Name ___________________________ Class __________________

Enclosed is $20 for the resource contribution.

Parent/Career Signature ____________________________

We value friendship
Cybersmart Parent Night

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the internet and mobile phones to socialise, study, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your children stay safe online, Bass Hill Public School is hosting a Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation. Designed for parents, teachers and students, this presentation is provided by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) as part of a national program of cybersmart initiatives.

The Cybersmart covers a range of issues including:

- the ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- potential risks for children online, such as cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure to inappropriate content
- tips to help children stay safe online.

The presentation is conducted by an ACMA Cybersmart trainer and is free of charge.

Bass Hill Public School is committed to helping students develop appropriate behaviours when using digital technologies, both at school and home.

The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation will be held on:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Wednesday 18th of February 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>School Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Parent presentation</td>
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To register your attendance at the parent presentation, please fill out the note below and send it to the office by Friday 13th February 2015.

Kind Regards,
ICT Coordinator

[Note for registration]

I________________will be attending the Cybersmart parent presentation on Wednesday the 18th of February 2015 in the school hall. I understand that this program is free of charge.

Number of people attending:__________________________ Date__________________

Sign:__________________________
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

We value friendship