From The Principal

Term 2 Week 3

Relieving Principal’s Message
I am honoured to write to you all as the relieving principal of Bass Hill Public School. We have a very busy and exciting term 2 ahead, with many wonderful things taking place. Teaching and learning programs, special events and celebrations will most certainly be going ahead as planned and I look forward to sharing them all with you. As I walked around the school last week, I was impressed with the quality of teaching and learning taking place in all of our classrooms. I had the pleasure of having a few visitors from kindergarten and year 1 to my office who came to show me their writing and discuss the purpose of what they were learning about. I was very impressed at the quality of work the students are involved in and look forward to having conversations about learning with more students throughout the term.

I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated, supportive and professional team of teachers here at Bass Hill PS and am constantly impressed with how settled, happy and motivated the students of our school are. I encourage you to come and introduce yourself to me over the next few weeks and look forward to building on the great partnerships our school has with our community.

Have you heard?
Kindergarten - Language, Learning and Literacy

Language, Learning and Literacy (L3) is a program for Kindergarten students which occurs as part of the daily literacy session. It focuses on providing rich literacy experiences to assist all children to become successful readers and writers. All Kindergarten teachers in our school participate in training to learn how to use this program in their classrooms.
During the literacy session, students are taught in small groups of three to four students. While each group is being given short, explicit lessons in reading and writing, the rest of the class participate in carefully selected activities to extend their literacy learning.

Kindergarten students will also listen to the reading of stories, poems and songs in small groups. This will build their knowledge of sentences, letters and words to help their reading and writing. All students take home reading books that they have read during their literacy lessons at school. These books are familiar to the students and will hopefully sound like they are ‘easy’ for them to read. If so, perfect! The aim of home reading is to practice smooth, fluent reading. Books are selected so that you can provide praise, and encourage all the efforts your child makes when reading and writing.

If you would like to read more about helping your child at home:


Annual School Report
The Annual School Report is an important component of a school’s accountability requirements to its parents and community, to the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) and to the Commonwealth Government’s Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. It is a record of the school’s self-evaluation process and is conducted annually as part of the ongoing cycle of school planning and evaluation.

The Annual School Report provides information to the school community on the performance of the school in national and state testing programs, provides information about the school context, celebrates the successes of our school and informs our direction for future planning.

Our school’s Annual School Report has now been completed and is available to our school community on our website at http://www.basshill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/annual-school-report

Building work update
You will have noticed that construction is still occurring near the Horton Street entrance to our school as we continue the refurbishment of our main office building. The work still has a little way to go and we are hopeful that it will be finished in the not too distant future.

While on the topic of construction and maintenance, you will have also noticed that our lovely shade sail in the main playground was damaged in the storms that hit Sydney two weeks ago. We have had contractors come and take down the old sail and our new one will be up shortly.

Can I thank all members of our school community for their understanding while these works take place and congratulate all of our wonderful students who constantly demonstrate how to stay safe in our playground.

Newsletter – Tom Thumb
Our Tom Thumb currently comes out fortnightly on a Thursday. This is an important communication tool. To keep costs down and to help with the environment we encourage families to receive this via email. You can subscribe online at our Bass Hill website http://www.basshill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/. Throughout term 2 we will be encouraging everyone across the school to subscribe to our newsletter as we gradually phase out paper copies.

Download our Bass Hill PS 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.

Concerns
Schools are places where parents and community members should be welcomed as partners in education, even in circumstances related to student discipline. However, there are circumstances where a parent or community member’s presence on the school site can be problematic. Parents, carers or family members should never, under any circumstances, approach another child to discuss
We value friendship
We value respect of ourselves and others

behaviour or welfare concerns. I have had a number of occasions in the last week where parents or siblings have taken it upon themselves to address an issue of concern directly with the child in question.

I would like to remind all parents that if you have concerns regarding your child’s academic or social progress at school or another student’s behaviour in relation to your child then your child’s teacher is the first person to contact. Should your child’s teacher be unable to assist you should approach the stage supervisor. If you still have concerns please make an appointment to discuss any matter with me.

Stage Supervisors - 2015
Preschool and Early Stage 1 – Miss Danaher
Stage One (Year 1 and 2) – Mrs Tomlin
Stage Two (Years 3 and 4) – Miss Buckland
Stage Three (Years 5 and 6) - Mrs Fowler

Jodie Clark
Relieving Principal

CAPTAINS REPORT

2 weeks ago, 2 ex servicemen from Bass Hill RSL joined us at our ANZAC service to share the history of the ANZAC legend. The prefects, Mrs Noshie and Mrs Fowler helped to make the ANZAC service a great success. We thank all the staff and students for helping us on the day and showing their respect. The ANZAC assembly helps to teach us the true meaning of ANZAC day.
Preschool Yellow and Preschool Blue

What is Eating our Plants in the Garden?

The children's interest in insects developed from our gardening. After planting new carrot seedlings in the garden, the children discovered they had been eaten. The question was then asked 'What ate the plants in the garden?'

The children discussed what could be eating the plants. Bees, ants, spiders, caterpillars, and rabbits (as they like eating carrots) were suggested. The children decided to investigate what insects eat. This formed the basis of our investigation. The children used magnifying glasses to look closely at a range of insect specimens and drew them. They also read stories and watched documentaries about insects. The children learnt that caterpillars eat leaves but couldn’t see any in the garden.

One morning, children found a slimy trail in the playground, leading to the garden. They followed it and found a snail on a leaf of a plant with a hole in the leaf. Could it be a snail eating our plants? The children collected magnifying glasses, clipboards, paper and pencils and began looking closely at the plants and recording their results. The children then searched YouTube and found many videos about snails eating leaves. Did you know snails have hundreds of tiny teeth? The children learnt the slimy trail is from the snails foot which glides along the ground.

The mystery had been solved, snails had eaten the plants in the garden!
WE’RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 22 MAY 2015

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!

For more information visit  www.walk.com.au
P&C NEWS

Thanks to everyone who supported the footy fever day. The amount raised was $659.98. This will be put toward the purchase of new PSSA uniforms.

Mothers Day Stall

We value honesty

CLOTHING POOL
All stock is now available.
Don't forget long sleeve polos are now available for $25.
School hats are $7.
Effective School Partnerships Teachers Students

Guest Speakers:

Dr Tanya Serry
“ORAL LANGUAGE PREDICTORS FOR THE AT-RISK READER.”

Jennifer French & Catherine Argyle
“FLIPPED OUT!”
Casula High School

Katrina Davies & The ESP&TS OT Team
“SENSORY KIDS “- the impact of Sensory processing difficulties in the classroom!”

We value integrity

Chester Hill Neighbourhood Centre Presents:
Bankstown Community Showcase
The best of the community on show
Saturday 16th May 2015 11:00am to 3:00pm

Carnival Rides
FREE Entertainment
FREE Children’s Activities
FOOD (Halal available)
Community Stalls

Chester Hill Primary School
Proctor Parade, Chester Hill
Contact 9645 3700
www.chnc.org.au

Supported by
BANKSTOWN
City of Canterbury
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/](http://www.kugatsujudo.com.au/) or find us on Facebook (look for Kugatsu Judo Sydney) or call David on 0403 861 956