From the Principal...

“To find yourself, think for yourself” ~ Socrates

I have been impressed by the independent thinking and working shown by various children at the school, including some of our youngest—I’ve had some students come to visit me, as they’ve taken the initiative to clean up our playground and help keep it beautiful, without being asked! Upon visiting a classroom earlier in the week, the students were able to work independently, whilst I was speaking with their teacher.

I was certainly impressed with 1 Ruby’s assembly on Tuesday. They were able to present independently, without prompting, including the ‘Acknowledgment of Country’! What a fabulous performance of ‘The Three Little Pigs’ given!

I was beaming with pride as I sat in the audience of the Inner West affirmative debate against Annandale North PS on Wednesday, at ANPS. Not only were our students well-behaved and respectful, but they presented a very strong case and won the debate! They were also gracious in their win, which was pleasing to see…

The safety of our children is very important—you will no doubt remember the tragic day when a child lost their life during school time, as a branch fell on her. That unfortunate event has ensured that arborists have examined every tree in every public school.

We value our trees—the oxygen they give and shade they bring—and we certainly don’t want to lose any, but 2 trees were actually deemed as dangerous and needed to be completely removed.

This was done on Friday, along with other trees that only required some pruning. The good news is that the 2 stumps haven’t been ground out, or poisoned, which means that shoots will reappear and we will have shrubs further down the track.

Maria Lambos
**OC 2015 Applications...**

**Attention: Year 4 Parents**

Online applications for Year 5 opportunity class placement in 2015 opened on Monday 28 April 2014.

The closing date of Friday 16 May 2014 has been extended to **midnight on Sunday 18 May 2014**.

In previous years late applications were accepted subject to selection committee approval.

From this year’s process the closing date will be strictly adhered to.

---

**Signing in at the Office...**

*Please remember to sign in at the Office if you are visiting the school, for example, helping out in your child’s classroom or at the Canteen.*

*Also, please ensure that if your child is running late to class in the morning, he/she will need a slip from the Office.*

---

**Gates...**

*Your assistance in keeping the gates closed at all times is much appreciated.*

---

**PSSA...**

What an excellent start to PSSA!

*It was an exciting Friday afternoon as the Balmain Public School soccer, netball and touch teams went to Tempe for our first games.*

*The netball teams dominated both their games. The touch team had a narrow defeat and the soccer teams managed a win and two draws.*

*Miss. Dufty, Mr. Baumann and Miss Bird all arrived back at school with smiles on their faces.*
Mother’s Day 2014...

I hope all our mums had a lovely Mother’s Day. Whilst I was enjoying the delicious chocolates, Ms Comino was out and about on an early morning walk with her family, partaking in the ‘Mother’s Day Classic’ with thousands of others, raising funds for Breast Cancer research...Ms Comino was sponsored by the staff of Balmain Public School.
K-2 Movie Night...

Make sure you keep Friday 13th June free For K-2 Movie Night!

More details soon...

Year 6 Graduation 2014...

It is time to start planning for the end of year celebration for our current Year 6 intake.

To ensure these students have a memorable graduation we are calling for any interested Yr. 6 parent to form a planning and working committee.

A meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 June at 6pm in the school library.

P&C Meeting...

Our next P&C meeting will be held in the School’s Library on Wednesday 4th June @7pm. All welcome to attend.
Kindergarten Bowenite

Literacy Groups – working on our phonics booklets...

Reading with Mrs. Walker in library...

Interactive games on Time in mathematics...

Making Spot Clocks in mathematics...

Reading Groups...

Interactive games on Time in mathematics...
Painting the very hungry caterpillar, which is our book for the week...

The House for Hermit Crab paintings...

The House for Hermit Crab Recount...

What do humans and pets need to stay alive?

– Science lesson...

Fun activities with our buddies...

Presenting news in the afternoon...
Here we are, Charley, Emmie and Rosie to write another column in this lovely newsletter. This week we will be talking about acts of heroism, rather than introducing you to the column.

Bill in 5/6 Nephrite showed courage by standing up for what he wanted. He is also a very nice person and has a kind heart. He always tries his best.

Cormac in Kindy Lightbrary showed great courage. Somebody else was being blamed for his mistake. He stood up and said, “No, I did it.”

Nicholas in Stage 1 helped get the kids get ready for class. When the teacher came into the classroom, all the children were sitting up straight and ready to learn.

We are so proud of our fellow students. We love writing these columns. Thank you for reading. We will have more acts of bravery next week.

On Wednesday, the Balmain Inner West debating team debated against Annandale North Public School’s affirmative team.

Our topic was ‘Australia needs a new flag’. Our team’s 1st speaker was You Qi, 2nd speaker Hannah, 3rd speaker Jade and team adviser Anne-Marie.

Our team’s main arguments were about the budget situation, our relation to Britain and our soldiers in the World Wars.

We won against Annandale North as a result of our arguments, rebuttals and the fact that they didn’t prove that we needed a new flag. It was a tough debate and the other team spoke very well.

This Wednesday, the Balmain Inner West Debating Affirmative Team, Janette, Janice, William and Ellery, went to Annandale North to debate with the Negative team from their school. It was a great success. Our topic was Australia needs a new flag.

The first speaker, Janette talked about how we are not part of Britain and that the colours of our flag are not in line with our national colours which are green and gold.

The second speaker, Janice talked about how our flag does not have any Aboriginal connections to it, and how our flag is too similar to other flags for example the New Zealand flag. She also talked about how it doesn’t represent our multicultural past.

Our third speaker William rebutted the opposition team’s argument and summed up our team’s case.

Ellery, our Team advisor, helped us write rebuttals.
Balmain Public School Band will be playing at The Ryde East Music Festival on Sunday the 25th of May.

Address: Ryde East Public School, 12 Twin Road, North Ryde, 2113
Arrival time: 9.30am SHARP (to register & rehearse)
Band Uniform: Red Balmain Public School Band T-Shirt (available from the school office); black skirt/trousers, black shoes.
Instruments: Remember to bring them!

Our conductor Freddie Hill & I are looking forward to seeing you all there & hearing our children play!

Thanks,
Biddy
Volunteer Band Coordinator

Changing needs in inner Sydney...

Consultation on strengthening public secondary education in the inner Sydney area

The NSW Department of Education and Communities is looking at how to address changing needs for public secondary education in inner Sydney. They want feedback from the community and have organised a number of ways this can occur. Full details are available at www.dec.nsw.gov.au/sydneyhsconsultation

Consultation is open to parents, teachers, students and the wider community. Comments can be made online, by attending a workshop or by hosting a Kitchen Table Discussion - please go to the website for more information.

The consultation period is from 16 May – 27 June 2014.
Active kids are healthy kids

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Friday 23 May
2014

Take the Challenge

walk.com.au
Download the FREE APP

SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL STATE, TERRITORY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
NORTH SYDNEY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL CENTENARY

FESTIVAL DAY

SATURDAY 17TH MAY 2014
Celebrating a century of excellence and contribution to the wider community

11.00am – 3.00pm
Unveiling of a reproduction of the original school crest
Archival displays
Performances by current students and primary school students
Jumping Castle
Food Stalls
Buskers
Face Painting

PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

12.00 (noon)  Welcome and unveiling of the school emblem
12.15pm  North Sydney Girls High School Concert Band
12.45pm  North Sydney Girls High School Bassoon Quartet
1.00pm  Cammeray Primary School Band
1.30pm  North Sydney Girls High School Senior Jazz
1.45pm  The Swords Club display
2.15pm  North Sydney Girls High School Centenary Ensemble
2.30pm  North Sydney Girls High School Centenary Ensemble
2.45pm  Neutral Bay Primary School Band

AURASMA
Some of the items on display have been tagged with an Augmented Reality app. To experience these please download and install the free app: “AURASMA” before you attend on the day. Simply search for it on your iTunes or Android App store and download. It’s free!

North Sydney Girls High School
Cnr David Street and Pacific Highway
GROVE, NSW 2086
P (02) 0022 8868
F (02) 8867 5088
E northsydgh.schoool@det.nsw.edu.au

CENTENARY CONTACT nsg100.net