“How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it!” ~ George Elliston

How thankful am I to be at a school where kindness and generosity is the norm? As you would recall, at the end of last term, a mufti day was held, to help raise funds for the Sydney Children’s Hospital Foundation.

An amazing $600 was raised at presented as a cheque, by Freya, to the Foundation. They are very grateful for your generosity!

Last Thursday, another mufti day was held, to raise some money, to assist a mother and her four children from Mortdale, who tragically lost everything in a house fire. Luckily for the family, they were spending the evening with their grandmother for Mother’s Day and are fortunate to have their lives!

Again, thanks to the kindness and generosity of our community, we will be sending $286.35 to assist this family regain control of their lives.

I thank you all for your support.

Maria Lambos
Principal
The rain held out for an awesome week for Round 3 at PSSA. Balmain Netball A and B played outstandingly, with 2 wins displaying excellent sportsmanship and support for their team members.

The touch football team continued their winning streak with two wins this week. Ben showed his skills and great sportsmanship on the field and it was a great team effort all round. The soccer teams had mixed result. Balmain A, are currently undefeated, winning both games. Balmain B had a close loss first round, but came back to dominate in their second game. Balmain mixed team only played 1 game due to a no show and unfortunately lost.

All teams played well and are really growing as a team, displaying teamwork and effective communication.

Pigeon Post
**K-2 Movie Night...**

Make sure you keep **Friday 13th June** free  
For **K-2 Movie Night**!  
6-8:30pm  
See attached flyer for details...

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**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.*

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**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.
When we do something that hurts other people we know that if we are honest and say sorry and mean it, then we can all start to feel better about ourselves and, if we are forgiven, then we can start to build trust and heal the relationship.

Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Island people – the first peoples of Australia - and who have the longest continuous culture and languages in the world, have had a history of bad things happening to them and being hurt by Australian and state governments and territories ever since European arrivals.

Leaders of our governments have said Sorry for the *bad things that the governments have done and the hurt and pain that has been caused to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Island people over generations.

Some of those bad things are children being taken away from their families never to see them again, growing up with a different identity (The Stolen Generations). Aboriginal people were kept separate from non Aboriginal people, being made to work hard for no money, and not being allowed to travel or work without permission and passes, being taken away from their homes and made to live closely with people who they didn’t like or weren’t allowed to live with under Aboriginal law, on other Aboriginal people’s land without their permission. Not being allowed to speak their language, practice their religion or culture. Further, as soldiers when they fought for Australia they were not given the same rights, payments and recognition as non-Aboriginal people. Aboriginal people were not being allowed to eat their food or use their medicine. They were ignorantly judged and misunderstood. They were not being allowed to look after their Great Mother - the land and the animals for whose care they were responsible).

Aboriginal people have been standing up to the governments and bad laws from the beginning. They are saying that their forgiveness starts with governments saying sorry that they hurt Aboriginal people.

The government leaders have said sorry because these bad laws have made Aboriginal people sick and made it very hard for them and their children to stay strong, be proud and keep their culture.

Healing starts with telling the truth about the bad things. After saying sorry it is important that governments don’t keep doing bad things to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Island people.

Aboriginal people and non Aboriginal people wanting reconciliation are asking all Australians to recognise in the Australian Constitution the fact that they are the first peoples of Australia as a next step in Reconciliation.

All of us, together as Australians share the identity of being citizens of the only country in the world to have the oldest continuous living culture. Reconciliation means we are able to share all of our history, build our future together with respect, learning from each other and growing something new - and wonderful - and unique on this land that always was and always will be traditional Aboriginal land.

*government policies, laws and regulations

Ms Comino
Students from 5/6N produced a very moving video clip, which was screened at our ‘Reconciliation Week’ Assembly. It was their own idea, using a part of Kevin Rudd’s Sorry Speech in 2008...Students read lines from his speech...

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, indigenous and non-indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia.

There comes a time in the history of nations when their peoples must become fully reconciled to their past if they are to go forward with confidence to embrace their future.

It is for the nation to bring the first two centuries of our settled history to a close, as we begin a new chapter. We embrace with pride, admiration and awe these great and ancient cultures we are truly blessed to have among us cultures that provide a unique, uninterrupted human thread linking our Australian continent to the most ancient prehistory of our planet.

Growing from this new respect, we see our indigenous brothers and sisters with fresh eyes, with new eyes, and we have our minds wide open as to how we might tackle, together, the great practical challenges that Indigenous Australia faces in the future.

Let us turn this page together: indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, government and opposition, Commonwealth and state, and write this new chapter in our nation's story together.

First Australians, First Fleeters, and those who first took the oath of allegiance just a few weeks ago. Let's grasp this opportunity to craft a new future for this great land: Australia. I commend the motion to the House.
We read about building Toy houses. Then we made them.
A big thankyou to Theresa Rutherford from Compost Happens, contracted by Leichhardt Council, for conducting a recycling workshop with 2-3 representatives from each class on Tuesday 27 May. In this workshop, the students learnt about what can be recycled and what goes to landfill. They were divided into 3 teams to test their recycling knowledge by quickly having to decide if a piece of waste was to go in the comingle bin (clean paper, cardboard, plastics with a triangle, aluminium, glass) or in the landfill bin. The results were encouraging.

Landfill or Comingle BIN?

The next activity involved packing a non-plastic wrapped lunch. Using grease proof paper, students practiced wrapping and then tying up a sandwich and putting it into a paper bag ready to take to school. Theresa calculated that if the 270 students were given plastic wrap around their lunch each day for a year it would cover 28,000 metres. That is the approximate distance from here to Campbelltown!

A plastic free wrapped lunch...

They also took home a reused cardboard toilet roll, covered in newspaper containing a lettuce seedling.

A lettuce seedling in a reused cardboard toilet roll.
Hello Band Members,

Congratulations to all the band members who performed at the East Ryde Musical Festival on the weekend, you sounded amazing!

We understand that families have busy weekends so we really appreciate everyone's commitment. It was wonderful for us parents to get a chance to see and hear how hard you've all worked and how well you now play together after only 3 months.

A special congratulations to all our new members who performed publicly for the first time, some of you told me you were nervous but it certainly didn't show in your playing.

Lastly, on behalf of all the students and their families, I would like to thank our conductor, Freddie Hill, who has done such an excellent job with both bands whilst Elisabeth has been away. Thanks again Freddie, it's been a joy working with you.

Freddie’s last day at the helm is this Thursday and Elisabeth is due back next week.

Thanks,

Biddy, Volunteer Band Coordinator.
This is a repeat from last week’s newsletter. A parent from our school actually discovered their child had a particular illness after clicking on the link.

I have included the pages that the link takes you to...

Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, **if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.**

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser [www.bit.ly/1hytn2E](http://www.bit.ly/1hytn2E)
### Too sick for school?

Generally if your child feels unwell, keep them home from school and consult your doctor. This chart and the information it contains is not intended to take the place of a consultation with your doctor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Prevention/Advice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bronchitis</td>
<td>Slight fever, runny nose, sore throat and mild fever. The cough is often dry at first, becoming moist after a couple of days. There may be a slight wheeze and shortness of breath. A higher fever (typically above 39°C) may indicate pneumonia.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... until they are feeling better. Antibiotics may be needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickenpox (Varicella)</td>
<td>Slight fever, runny nose, and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... for 5 days from the onset of the rash and the blisters have dried.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conjunctivitis</td>
<td>The eye feels ‘scratchy’, is red and may water. Lids may stick together on waking.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... while there is discharge from the eye unless a doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious cause.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhoea (no organism identified)</td>
<td>Two or more consecutive bowel motions that are looser and more frequent than normal and possibly stomach cramps.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... for at least 24 hours after diarrhoea stops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>A temperature of 38.5°C or more in older infants and children.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... until temperature is normal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastroenteritis</td>
<td>A combination of frequent loose or watery stools [diarrhoea], vomiting, fever, stomach cramps, headaches.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... for at least 24 hours after diarrhoea and/or vomiting stops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German measles (Rubella)</td>
<td>Often mild or no symptoms: mild fever, runny nose, swollen nodes, pink blotchy rash that lasts a short time.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... for at least 4 days after the rash appears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glandular Fever (Mononucleosis, EBV infection)</td>
<td>Symptoms include fever, headache, sore throat, tiredness, swollen nodes.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... unless they’re feeling unwell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)</td>
<td>Generally a mild illness caused by a virus, perhaps with a fever, blisters around the mouth, on the hands and feet, and perhaps the nappy area in babies.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... until all blisters have dried.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayfever (Allergic rhinitis caused by allergy to pollen (from grasses, flowers and trees), dust mites, animal fur or hair, mould spores, cigarette smoke)</td>
<td>Sneezing, a blocked or runny nose (rhinitis), itchy eyes, nose and throat, headaches.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... unless they feel unwell or are taking a medication which makes them sleepy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head lice or nits* (Pediculosis)</td>
<td>Itchy scalp, white specks stuck near the base of the hairs; lice may be found on the scalp.</td>
<td>![Boy] ... while continuing to treat head lice each night. Tell the school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Duration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hepatitis A</strong></td>
<td>Often none in young children; sudden onset of fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine, pale stools.</td>
<td>... for 2 weeks after first symptoms (or 1 week after onset of jaundice). Contact your doctor before returning to school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hepatitis B</strong></td>
<td>Often no symptoms in young children. When they do occur, they can include fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine.</td>
<td>... if they have symptoms. Contact your doctor before returning to school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impetigo</strong> (School sores)</td>
<td>Small red spots change into blisters that fill up with pus and become crusted; usually on the face, hands or scalp.</td>
<td>... until antibiotic treatment starts. Sores should be covered with watertight dressings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza</strong></td>
<td>Sudden onset fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches.</td>
<td>... until well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measles</strong></td>
<td>Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days followed by a red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts 4 to 7 days.</td>
<td>... for at least 4 days after the rash appears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meningococcal Disease</strong></td>
<td>Sudden onset of fever and a combination of headache, neck stiffness, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness or rash.</td>
<td>Seek medical attention immediately. Patient will need hospital treatment. Close contacts receive antibiotics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Molluscum Contagiosum</strong></td>
<td>Multiple small lumps [2-5mm] on the skin that are smooth, firm and round, with dimples in the middle. In children, occur mostly on the face, trunk, upper arms and legs. Symptoms can last 6 months to 2 years.</td>
<td>... for 9 days after onset of swelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mumps</strong></td>
<td>Fever, swollen and tender glands around the jaw.</td>
<td>... for 9 days after onset of swelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ringworm</strong> (tinea corporis)</td>
<td>Small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring.</td>
<td>... for 24 hours after fungal treatment has begun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Runny nose or common cold</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>... unless there are other symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough, rash or headache. Check with school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scabies</strong></td>
<td>Itchy skin, worse at night. Worse around wrists, armpits, buttocks, groin and between fingers and toes.</td>
<td>... until 24 hours after treatment has begun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shigella</strong></td>
<td>Diarrhoea (which may contain blood, mucus and pus), fever, stomach cramps, nausea and vomiting.</td>
<td>... until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours. Antibiotics may be needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slapped Cheek Syndrome</strong> (Parvovirus B19 infection, fifth disease, erythema infectiosum)</td>
<td>Mild fever, red cheeks, itchy lace-like rash, and possibly cough, sore throat or runny nose.</td>
<td>... as it is most infectious before the rash appears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Whooping Cough</strong> (Pertussis)</td>
<td>Starts with a running nose, followed by persistent cough that comes in bouts. Bouts maybe followed by vomiting and a whooping sound as the child gasps for air.</td>
<td>... until the first 5 days of an antibiotic course has been completed. Unimmunised siblings may need to stay home too until treated with an antibiotic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worms</strong> (Threadworms, pinworms)</td>
<td>The main sign of threadworms is an itchy bottom. Sometimes children feel 'out of sorts' and do not want to eat much. They may also have trouble sleeping, due to itching at night.</td>
<td>... and tell the school as other parents will need to know to check their kids.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*It is important that the rest of the family is checked for head lice, scabies and ringworm*
BALMAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL MOVIE NIGHT PRESENTS

Disney·PIXAR
MONSTERS UNIVERSITY

BALMAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL CINEMA
Friday 13th June, 6-8.30pm
Tickets include popcorn & cordial
Meal deals = pizza & ice cream
This is a P&C Event. All children need to be supervised by an adult.

CHILD’S NAME: ......................
CLASS: .............................
No. TICKETS $5 EACH: ...........
No. MEAL DEALS $5 EACH: .......
TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED: $......
Cash or cheques to: Balmain Public School P+C

MEAL DEALS AND TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT
Dear Parents & Carers,

Every year, the Balmain Public School P&C Association asks every family in the school community to make a voluntary financial contribution so that we can purchase essential items and services directly for the school; in general, these are things that are important for the school but are not paid for by the NSW Department of Education & Communities.

The money raised in 2013 was used to update the computers at school and we successfully raised $18,000 for 32 new laptops.

This year the P&C have chosen to raise money for another specific target: the school is in need of guided-reading tables and we are trying to raise $18,000 for 11 of them [one for each class from K to Yr6]. Any money raised over and above our target will be used to purchase new library books, new class readers, subsidising the recorder & band programs and other projects.

Guided-reading tables allow the teacher to sit with a small group of students and place equal focus on each individual child. The semi-circular shape and whiteboard surface of the tables ensure that each child is engaged in the lesson with equal focus. The tables serve a multitude of purposes and can be used for any type of focused-learning activity - not just reading.

For example, 1R currently do their reading groups and focused-learning on the floor.

With guided-reading tables, the teacher can focus more on individualised learning.

Like last year, a minimum voluntary contribution from every family/household of $150 will very easily help the P&C achieve their financial target. Payments will be accepted by cash, cheque, and electronic funds transfer.

For cash/cheque payments, print out and complete the coupon below along with your payment of $150, or more if you can.

P&C VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

Name of Oldest Child: ___________________________ Class of Oldest Child: ___________________________ Total Payment: $______

Please place your payment in the box by the office. Cheques can be made out to Balmain School P+C.

For electronic funds transfers, your payment of $150 (or more if you are able) can be made to:

Account Name: Balmain School P+C
BSB/Branch & Account Number: 062110-00900412

In order for us to keep track of payments please ensure that you write the following in the Description Line of your payment: PCVC-Family Surname-Class of Oldest Child.

For example, the Jones family with kids in KL, 1/2E & 5/6N would write: PCVC-Jones-S/5/6N

Every week, we will show how the fundraising is tracking against target in the school newsletter. The P&C and school staff thank you for making this vital financial contribution and helping us to achieve our goals.
Kindergarten Information Evening
Tuesday 3rd June 2014
6pm in the school library

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting time for both children and their families. Balmain Public School’s Information Evening will provide you with an insight into the educational programs available as well as opportunities to:

Meet and listen to our teachers, students and parents
Meet our P & C President and Eaton St Centre representatives
Become involved
Ask questions

Contact: Maria Lambos
Principal

balmain-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Ph: 98181177
BLACK MARKETS
Bare Island, La Perouse

Sunday June 1st and runs 1st Sunday of every month for 2014

Markets and workshops opens 9.30am till 4pm. Aboriginal dancers and entertainment all day.

Stallholders include Esme Timbery, Marilyn Russell and the Jungah weavers. There will be Aboriginal designed clothes, artwork, bush-tucker food and spices, dream-catchers and jewellery just to name a few.

First Hand Solutions Aboriginal Corporation
www.firsthandsolutions.org

BOOK NOW!
at www.firsthandsolutions.org/#/markets/c176a

Aboriginal tours & workshops

Shell workshop
$70 per person 10am and 1pm (includes materials)
Make your own shell work art with celebrated La Perouse traditional shell workers Marilyn Russell and Esme Timbery. Their work has won the NSW Parliament Indigenous Art Prize and more recently purchased by and exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney.

Spearhead Cultural Connections
$50 per person 9.30 till 12:00 (includes materials)
Spear making is a traditional Aboriginal skill and important cultural activity linked to survival. Deon Kelly of Kanda Kinship will share his knowledge and skills with workshop participants about the manufacturing and creation of this ancient tool/weapon. He will also explain where the spear came from and how it has evolved and continues to be used in traditional society. Direction for Iro's journey and how the form can be used to continually set and achieve your intended goals.

Aboriginal Weaving Workshop:
$100 per person 9:30 till 3:00 (includes materials)
Join talented master weaver, Stephen Russell of Jungah weavers from La Perouse but now living on the South Coast of NSW as he teaches you how to weave your own basket in the traditional style from traditional grasses. Stephen has been weaving for thirty years as well as making Aboriginal tools, artworks, paintings and porcelain designs. Using a range of materials found locally along the east coast of NSW, he does contemporary and traditional weaving.

First Hand plant and artefact talk
$10 for half an hour talk: 10.30, 11.30, 1.30, 2.30
CEO of First Hand Solutions Aboriginal Corporation, Peter Cooley, takes you through a half an hour talk about the many uses Aboriginal people make of plants, and the standards that they must follow. Get to buy your own bulldozer plants afterwards to take home with you.

Catch N Cook kids fishing tour
9:30am / 11:00am - $20 per person
Learn about growing up by the ocean as an Aboriginal child and the lessons about sustainability passed from elder to child through a catch and release fishing program.

All profits will go towards First Hand Solutions culture and recreation programs for Aboriginal youth.
www.firsthandsolutions.org
YRS 5 & 6
Auditioning for NHSPA?

DSP Inc. (non profit) runs workshops to PRACTISE & PREPARE
Successful participants from our previous workshops who are now NHSPA Students will act with you and be there to answer your questions about the audition process.

Monday 9 June, 1.30pm - 5:00pm

As we have been running these workshops successfully for 10 years, we know the drama exercises students may encounter. Practise counteracts nerves!
Experience drama group warm-up activities, improvisation games and scenes, stimulus scene work, playscripts and scripts of given circumstances.
Perform scenes and scripts in pairs and teams in a group workshop environment, just like the audition. Participate in a mock interview. Ask NSHPA questions.

LOCATION: PETERHSAM - Taverners Hill Infants School, Queen St
Cost: $80.00 Booking: Contact STEPHANIE WAITES Mobile: 0407 235 914

www.dramascene.com.au (ENROLMENT FORM PAGE)
WAVELL STATE HIGH
Brisbane

IN CONCERT

With a 45 piece Showband
Electric Strings and Vocalists
playing Hits from the War Years, memories of the 80's and 90's
and a touch of country.

Wednesday 25th June
Balmain Public School