“No man is an island, entire of itself: every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.” ~ John Donne

When we think of school, we immediately think of the kids and the teachers in the classrooms…

The school community is made up of a lot of different people, all of whom play a part in the running of schools and the provision of quality education to students.

School Administrative & Support Staff, whether they work in the office, like Jenni and Pam, on the school grounds, like Steve, our General Assistant, or in a classroom setting, like Andrei and Ally, are very important contributors to the success of the school and children’s education.

September 1-5 is SASS (School Administrative & Support Staff) Recognition Week, a week where we take the opportunity for the school community to acknowledge the vital role that SAS staff play in education.

Read about the Year 6 Fun Fair on page 2...
Over the past few weeks, our Year 6 students have been plotting and planning a day of joy and merriment for our Fun Fair. With their lucrative business skills and creative flair combined, the students set to work on a series of stalls to raise money for their end of year celebrations.

While it took a lot of effort, they feverishly laboured beneath the foreboding gloom of a rainy forecast, to organise a successful event. No doubt we also have a lot to thank our parents for, who helped with a lot of the preparations behind the scenes.

Please enjoy the photos that may illuminate the wonders of the donut eating, sponge throwing, salon going, dart shooting, obstacle running, cake baking, flappy birding, spider mixing, candy crushing day we shared.

We raised over $1100.00!
BALMAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL P+C

2014

SPRING BREAKFAST

COME AND ENJOY BREAKFAST COFFEE, BBQ, JUICE, CROISSANTS and THE BPS BAND..!

8.00AM-9.00AM
Just a gold coin donation

Friday 5th Sept
3/4 Bronzite have had an interesting term. I just want to personally thank them for their maturity, kindness, understanding, flexibility and their ability to adapt in extenuating circumstances. They truly demonstrated the high quality of students that we have in our school here at Balmain Public. I would also like to thank the community for all the love and concern I have received. It makes me feel special and proud to be here at such a great school, with so many caring and loving people.

Our class has been busy though, looking into creating our own newspapers, assuming the role of George Howe, a convict who was the first newspaper publisher in Australia. I’m looking forward to the end results and what was making headlines back then.

In addition, 3/4 B have also been studying the life cycles of different animals and plants. Sounds like they have been busy in my absence!

Mr Baumann

3 / 4 B have been lucky enough to trial some new furniture in the classroom, that with the help of the P&C, we are aiming to purchase in the future.

3 / 4 B enjoying the new and exciting trial furniture!
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-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.
FOR LESS THAN THE COST OF 1 COFFEE PER WEEK, YOU CAN HELP THE P&C TO REACH THEIR TARGET

Thanks to the generous donations from the school parent body, $10,600 of the $18K needed to buy new guided-reading tables has been collected.

Any money raised over & above what we need will be used for our next major project: 30 iPads used specifically for enriching the learning of our kids.

WE ARE 60% OF THE WAY THERE!

It is not too late to make your $150 P&C Voluntary Contribution; if you are able to donate more then it would be greatly appreciated. Please refer to the next page for more details.

The school staff, our kids & the P&C would like to thank you for your valued financial support in helping us to reach our goals.
The Undesirables: Inside Nauru

Speakers: Thomas Keneally, Mark Isaacs, Fr Aloysious Mowe SJ

You are invited to attend a special evening to learn from the inside what is really happening to asylum seekers under Australian policy. Thomas Keneally (our Australian National Living Treasure); Mark Isaacs (author of The Undesirables) and Fr Aloysious Mowe SJ (Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service) will share their personal experiences and knowledge of Australia’s policy on asylum seekers and hopes for a more compassionate Australia.

Wednesday 3rd September 7pm

Fr John Therry Catholic Primary School
Jane St Campus – Stage 3 Classrooms
16 Jane St Balmain 2041

Please RSVP and for more info: Angela Mills (info@fjtbalmain.catholic.edu.au)
Primarily Fun Workshops

Monday 8 September 2014
SSC Balmain Campus
9am - 2.30pm

Come and learn to play a new repertoire with SYDNEY SECONDARY COLLEGE as part of our Primarily Fun Band and perform these new pieces at:

Music in the Park Festival
Saturday 13 September
Pioneers Park, Leichhardt
12-3 pm

For more information contact Barry Adamson 9810 9743 or email sscimp@det.nsw.edu.au

Halloween Disco...

Friday 31st October 6-8.30pm

Entry to disco: $5 per child or adult
Entry to disco and meal deal (pizza + mini ice scream + cordial): $10

Tickets will be available on the night but book ahead so you don’t miss out!

This is a P+C event. All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.
OPEN MORNING
Wednesday, 10 September 2014
9.30am – 11.30am
Address by Principal and performances by students 9.30 – 10.30am
Tours of the school 10.30 – 11.30am
Leading Girls Education in NSW
• Outstanding academic achievement
• Broad development of each child

Debating
Leadership
Music
Technology
Drama
Duke of Edinburgh
Creativity
Sport

• RESILIENT • CONNECTED • INNOVATIVE

Please note – there is no parking in the school grounds
Enquiries: Mrs Jenni Cooper, Telephone 9922 6666 ext 104
Sydney Secondary College
Instrumental Music Program
presents:

Music in the Park
IT’S FREE

Join us for a relaxing afternoon in the park, 
 enjoying the musical talents of some of 
Sydney’s finest young musician’s

- Jazz & Music ensembles from SSC with local 
  primary school musicians from over 15 schools 
  performing music from film.
- Bacon & Egg rolls from 11am, Sausage sizzle, 
  Gelato and Cakes.
- Fun for the whole family.
- Raffles and great prizes.

Where:
Pioneers Memorial Park,
Norton Street Leichhardt

When:
Saturday 13 September ‘14
11am-3pm

BYO picnic rug, family & dog and 
 enjoy the talent of your local college.