WHAT’S ON

Week 2

Tuesday 2  Best Start Kinder Assessments, P&C Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday 3  Best Start Kinder Assessments
Thursday 4  Kindergarten students formally start (staggered times) Finish at 2.40pm
Friday 5  Kindergarten start 9.10am Finish 3.10pm, Yr 1 & 2 Stationery Packs due $60, Swimming Carnival Permission Note & $15 due

Week 3

Monday 8  Woolooware HS & Cronulla HS Information Talk in Library @ 6pm for Yr 4, 5 and 6 parents, Closing date for Swimming carnival invitational entries
Tuesday 9  Senior Band Rehearsal 8am in hall, Text book sales to parents
Wednesday 10  2016 Swimming Carnival
Friday 12  PSSA Sport – Round 1

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome back everyone. 2016 holds enormous promise for all of our students. I look forward to working with you all as we work together to support our children realize their potential and strive for their personal best. It has been wonderful listening to students write about and describe their learning goals for 2016 as they reflect on new possibilities, new challenges and new adventures.

While visiting classrooms and observing children in the playground it is wonderful to see their enthusiasm, their eagerness to learn and their excitement at being in a new class. We have been able to confirm our enrolments which have allowed us to form our 21 classes for students in Years 1 – 6. Five Kindergarten classes will be formed on Thursday when Kindergarten formally start the primary schooling. How exciting!

Thank you to the staff who have worked hard to make the beginning of the school year as smooth as possible for the children. If you know of anyone wanting to enroll their child at BBPS it is important to understand there are several grades without vacancies.

All the children look fantastic in their school uniforms. I would like to give a special welcome to all of our new children and families starting at Burraneer Bay Public School. Ninety-two Kindergarten children have been attending their Best Start appointment and we are looking forward to them all starting on Thursday 4th February.

Our first Parents & Citizens’ Association Meeting (P&C) for 2016 will be held tonight, Tuesday 2nd February commencing at 7.30pm in the staff room. P&C Meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month.
P&C Meetings are an excellent opportunity to meet other parents in the school community and hear about important aspects of the school. Each meeting includes reports from the P&C President, Treasurer, various Fund Raising committees, Canteen, Uniform Shop and the Principal. I hope you can attend tonight’s meeting.

Welcome back and I look forward to working with you in 2016.
Greg Fitzgerald
Principal

STUDENT ARRIVAL
The school's supervision roster starts from 8.40 am. There are no adult staff available to ensure the safety of children in the playground prior to 8.40am (unless there is an excursion departing early or students are attending band rehearsals or associated tutorials). Children who arrive before 8.40am are not supervised and are not safe. Parents/carers are legally responsible for the care and welfare of their child/ren prior to 8.40am. Teachers are rostered to supervise students from 8.40am for the 30 minutes prior to classes commencing. All classes line up in a designated area each morning when the bell goes at 9.10am. Music is played as a signal to parents it is time to leave the playground. So that the children can hear their teachers’ instructions and commence classes quickly, all parents are requested to vacate the playground when the music starts. The teacher on playground duty wears a flouro jacket so they can be identified by children however this can be difficult when there are a large number of adults in the playground.

SCHOOL SECURITY/SAFETY AND SIGNING IN
All parents, carers and visitors to the school are reminded that between the hours of 9.10 am and 3.10 pm all parents and visitors are required to enter the school through the pedestrian gate on Burraneer Bay Road. Parents/carers and visitors are not permitted to enter the playground between 9.15 am - 3.00 pm (from any of the school entrances) unless they report to the office on arrival and sign in using the book provided in the foyer. Canteen volunteers sign in at the canteen and parents assisting with Reading for Success sign in at the Reading Support Room.

Between the hours of 9.15 am and 3.00 pm the gates will be locked when it is practical to do so. If a parent wishes to speak to their child during the school day they need to go to the office first and speak to one of the office staff, the Deputy Principal or the Principal. If it is necessary, the parent must do so in the office. This also applies to morning tea and lunch times. All parents who are picking up their child/ren early (before 3.10 pm) or bringing them late to school (after 9.10 am) need to inform the office and complete a Partial Attendance Form. Explanations for arriving late or leaving early must be provided by an adult. For safety reason children who arrive after the 9.10am bell must be signed in by an adult. This is a DEC requirement.

The Burraneer Bay Road pedestrian gate will be opened in the afternoon from 3pm.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION & NEWSLETTER
We try to keep parents informed with details of school organisation, events, activities, learning programs and policies within the school. The Newsletter is published every fortnight on the school website. The Newsletter is sent out electronically to anyone who requests it by completing the online subscription form. Follow the ‘Newsletter’ tab on the school website for information on how to subscribe. The newsletter is sent out the first week of each term on a Thursday and then fortnightly in even weeks using E-News

The Skoolbag App is used by over 400 families to receive important information such as alerts, newsletters and other attachments. It can be downloaded and installed on a Smartphone or an iPad, Android users can download via their google account in the ‘Play store’.

In addition, the Skoolbag Communication Centre can be accessed by scrolling down on the BBPS website and following the Skoolbag graphic which allows parents to access all of the content that the school puts in the App. Alternatively navigate to http://www.burraneerb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/our-skoolbag-smartphone-app
2016 SWIMMING CARNIVAL Wednesday 10th February
This year’s Swimming Carnival will take place on Wednesday 10th February at Sans Souci Leisure Centre. Notes were distributed to all primary classes and to those Year 2 students who will be turning 8 this year (born 2008). Please ensure that your child has returned their note and payment, by this Friday (5th Feb) but certainly no later than Tuesday 9th February. No phone calls will be made on the morning of the carnival and if no payment has been received, your child will not be able to attend.

If your child is a very strong swimmer, and wants to enter the 50m Butterfly, 100m All Ages Freestyle or the 200m Individual Medley, they need to see Mr Fisher ASAP to obtain an additional note. This will outline the qualifying times for these events which will need to be verified by your child’s swimming coach. PLEASE NOTE – these are considered invitational events and qualifying times must be strictly adhered to. Time constraints of the carnival do not allow multiple races for each event to be run.

Thank you to the many parents who have volunteered their time to assist at our carnival. If your services are required, I will be in contact to inform you and you will be assisting a teacher on a lane with time keeping duties.

Your child will be representing their sporting house – Bass (Blue), Cook (Red), Flinders (yellow) and Philip (Green). They are encouraged to show house pride by wearing a T-shirt which represents their house. Please ensure all clothing and items taken to the pool are clearly labelled with your child’s name. It will be a fantastic day so if you can, please come along and help support the kids in their races.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
The staff have reviewed this important document since returning to school and it will be discussed in more detail at tonight’s P&C Meeting. At the last P&C Meeting held in December the procedures that were implemented last December in the Lockdown drill were discussed at the meeting. In the event that BBPS had to respond to an emergency the school would contact the community using one of the two Apps (Skoolbag or Enews) to provide updates.

READING FOR SUCCESS
Reading for Success is a Literacy Program which operates Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning From 9.10 am to 10.30 am. This program provides individual students from Year 1, 2 and 3 with an opportunity to improve literacy skills and build self confidence. The success of the program relies on the support of community volunteers. We have vacancies for volunteers to join us in this program. If interested please contact Mrs Veronica Fagan LaST (Mon, Tues, Thurs) or Mrs Jo Carr.
CANTENE NEWS and REMINDERS

Catherine Marshall will be the canteen supervisor Monday to Friday until the end of Term 1. There are still some vacancies throughout the rosters and we would love to see these filled. Throughout 2016 we hope to build more of a ‘community hub’ vibe about the canteen and encourage people to pop in and volunteer wherever they can. Many hands make light work! Even if you only have 15 minutes to spare, pop in for a cuppa, have a chat and a laugh and help get a few jobs done. We’d always love to see you! Price Increases are on the way for 2016. Icy-poles and Ice-cream cups need to increase in keeping with costs of these items.

The Summer Menu is available from the office or can be downloaded from the school website. Follow the P&C link.

Students are encouraged to drop off lunch orders to the canteen as soon as they arrive at school (before 9.10am). All lunch baskets are brought to the canteen from the classrooms by 9.20am.

Lunch orders: Lunch order bags must specify Students name, class, lunch order and drink slip with money enclosed. No IOU’S.

PSSA orders: PSSA orders must specify EARLY LUNCH PSSA, as they are collected at 12pm. If EARLY is not written on the order the student misses out on lunch.

Late Orders: Students who arrive to school late must take their order directly to the canteen.

Students that do not have lunch must have a written letter from their teacher and handed into the canteen.

Lunch orders that are processed after 1pm will only have the option of a cheese or vegemite sandwich with an apple.

The canteen runs on a very tight schedule to be able to function properly, so it would be greatly appreciated if the above could be adhered to. Please feel free to discuss any issue that you may have with the canteen to the canteen supervisors. All parents are encouraged to make themselves available to be a volunteer. The success of the school canteen is dependent on the number of volunteers available to be included on the roster.

The canteen provides morning tea/lunch to our volunteers. Even as little as a few hours in the morning to help process orders would be a great help. If you are able to assist in any way please come and see Catherine in the canteen.

We really hope to see some new faces join our wonderful canteen.

SAFETY

All families will have received a coloured information sheet provided by Sutherland Shire Council titled ‘Taking Care Going to and From School’

At the commencement of the school year Parking officers will visit each and every school throughout the Sutherland Shire, at drop off and pick up times, to assist in answering and queries that people may have about parking around schools and about the road rules that apply.

Further information about school road safety and the Australian Road Rules is also available on the RMS website www.rms.nsw.gov.au

From the December P&C Minutes

“Throughout December the behaviour of parents / carers during school drop-off and more so school pick-up, had unfortunately deteriorated significantly which endangers our children and loved ones.

There have been a few days recently where our crossing supervisor on Gannons Road has been absent and one can see the difference in behaviours in the absence of an RTA official.

We plead with you again, to slow down, follow the road rules and obey street signs. They are there for a reason and we would hate for an accident to occur because people are simply in a hurry. The reality is, we are all busy, with plenty of things to do but please SLOW DOWN and do the right thing.

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Crusade Place also unfortunately requires a mention here. Please do not stop in the turning circle at the top of Crusade Place (closest to the back gate). This creates a traffic jam and people then perform u-turns halfway down the street in peoples driveways. This is unsafe and with so many cars parked on both sides of the street it is near impossible to see children clearly.

We encourage parents of children who ride their bikes to and from school to please remind your children they need to get off the bike and walk it across the crossing. DO NOT ride the bikes across the crossings.”

PERSON WANTED
IS THIS YOU? The grants team is looking for an enthusiastic person to work with Margaret Ball and Mr Fitzgerald on a potential grant application next year. The volunteer support person would help scope a major infrastructure project and collect quotes from suppliers. This is not a grant writing role – rather, a logistical support role to assist the grant writers. No project background is required – just enthusiasm, organisation and an ability to build great relationships. If you are interested in finding out more please email the P&C or see Margaret Ball for details.

P&C Meeting
Tuesday 2nd February
All BBPS parents are invited to the first P&C Meeting for 2016
7.30pm in the staff room

CRONULLA HIGH SCHOOL AND WOOLOOWARE HIGH SCHOOL TALKS
Monday 8th February at 6pm in the School Library
Mr Ibrahim, Principal of Cronulla High School and Ms Marianne Siokos, Principal of Wollooware High School, will be speaking about the quality learning programs that are offered by both of our local public high schools. Each year both Principals give an informative and interesting session followed by questions and answers. All interested Year 4, 5 and 6 parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS AND STATIONERY
A list of class requirements has been sent electronically for all grades K-6. All items need to be clearly labelled with your child’s name. Students from years 1 and 2 need to wash and return their Home Reading Bag and Library Bag. Students in Years 1 and 2 are required to also purchase a Stationery Pack from the school. Order Forms have been sent electronically. Year 1 and 2 Stationery Packs will be sold through the school in Week 2 and cost $60. Class Requirements Lists and Stationery Order Forms (for Years 1 & 2) can be downloaded on the school website by following the School Years link or clicking here: www.burraneerb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/years

BAND NEWS
Junior Band begins Week 3 with tutorials only. If you have ordered your instrument through Directions in Music, it can be picked up from the school hall on Monday 8th February from 8:30 am. First Junior Band rehearsal will be on Monday 15th February at 8 am in the school hall.
Senior Band begins on Week 3, Tuesday 9th February at 8am with a full band rehearsal, followed by tutorials that week.
There will be no tutorials on Wednesday 10th February due to the swimming carnival.
Thanks
Gaylene Millar

YEAR BOOK
The 2016 Year Book is still available for sale for $20. Contact the office if interested. It’s an amazing production full of photos and memories from 2015.
SCHOOL OPAL CARD

From term one 2016, eligible students within the Opal network will be able to travel to and from school with the new School Opal card. Information about which areas are within the Opal network can be found at https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/OpalNetworkByPostcode

Most students who already have a 2015 school student travel pass will have their School Opal card automatically issued and sent to their school.

Some students, including new applicants and students changing school or campuses, updating their personal details, or going from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7 who have already applied or who need to apply, will have their School Opal cards posted to their home address. Most School Opal cards should be received in the first two weeks of term one 2016.

Students who have been approved to travel on more than one operator or to more than one home address, for example where there is shared parental responsibility, will only receive a single Opal card.

Travelling in term one
School students will need to carry their School Opal card and tap on and off when travelling. A grace period applies at the start of each new school year, where school students who have been approved for SSTs travel can travel without a valid pass while new passes are being issued. Students must be in school uniform or be able to provide evidence (such as a school ID or school books) that they are travelling to or from school during this time.

To report a lost, stolen or damaged School Opal card, customers should phone 131 500 or visit transportnsw.info/school-students

Ready for term one travel
- Most School Opal cards will be delivered in the first two weeks of term one 2016 to home or school
- School Opal cards sent to schools will be sorted by grade and surname
- Schools should only issue one School Opal card for each eligible student
- Schools should return any cards not issued to students to Transport for NSW two weeks after they receive their cards
- Students should wait until school starts to update their travel details at transportnsw.info/school-students
- Remember: a grace period applies at the start of the school year to enable time for passes to be issued
- Students will need to tap on and off when travelling with a School Opal card
- Contact 131 500 or concessions@transport.nsw.gov.au if your cards don’t arrive or for more information
Back to School Specials

**Starter Pack** *
5 lessons plus $25 Store Voucher **

Or

**School Term Pack** *
10 lessons plus $50 store voucher: **

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Welcome back to a new school year! Sutherland Shire Council Parking Officers will be out at all schools again this year helping you to ensure that all children get to and from school safely.

**DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN**

Schools are areas where there is a lot of interaction between cars and pedestrians: your children. Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable.

Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. Boys are twice as likely to be involved in pedestrian accidents as girls and children 10-14 years have the highest rate of child pedestrian casualties (RMS).

- Children up to eight years old should hold an adult's hand on the footpath, in the carpark or when crossing the road.
- Children up to ten years old should be actively supervised around traffic and should hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.
- Take the time to make sure your children are aware of, understand and follow traffic safety regulations when they are walking.

**HAVE A PLAN**

Plan with your son or daughter how you will collect them. When and where will you be after school? Where should they wait? Make sure they know not to try and get into your vehicle while it is still in traffic, even if you are stopped; they should wait until you have parked at the side of the road.

Plan to arrive AFTER the school bell goes in the afternoon, so your children are ready and waiting for you and you are not blocking traffic.

**NO PARKING ZONES**

A No Parking zone is a pick up and drop off area: you can stop here for a maximum of two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers and must remain within three metres of the vehicle. When parents park in a No Parking zone for longer than two minutes they prevent other parents from stopping to drop off or pick up their children, creating frustration and dangerous situations. If you arrive before the school bell and block the pickup areas, you risk a fine.

Parking offences in school zones carry heavier fines and loss of demerit points. Sutherland Shire Council makes no apologies for fining drivers who break the law around schools and in school zones.

See the Roads and Maritime Authority website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au for more about Australian Road Rules and other road safety information.

**SOME SIGNS YOU WILL SEE AROUND YOUR SCHOOL**

**NO PARKING**

What does it mean?

You CAN stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.

**NO STOPPING**

What does it mean?

You CANNOT stop in this area FOR ANY REASON.

Why is it there?

To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children so both have more time to avoid crashes.

**BUS ZONE**

What does it mean?

You must NOT stop or park in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up. Cars parking in bus zones put lives at risk by forcing buses out of 'their' safety zone.