BENNETT ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL
Land of the Darug People
100-114 Bennett Road, Colyton 2760.
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Safe, Respectful Learners

BLACKBOARD NEWS 2012
Providing Quality Public Education Since 1961

Term 1
Week 8
15th March, 2012

WHAT’S HAPPENING

WEEK 9
19th March, 2012
School Assembly at 12:35.
21st March, 2012
Life Education NSW and Healthy Harold commences until 29th March.
22nd March, 2012
Close the Gap Day, mufti.
23rd March, 2012
Stage 3 Assembly at 11:30am.

WEEK 10
26th March, 2012
School Assembly at 12:35pm.
27th March, 2012
School photos.
29th March
Stage 3 Excursion – Justice and Police Museum
30th March, 2012
Stage 2 Assembly at 11:30am and K-2 Assembly at 12:30pm.

WEEK 11
3rd April, 2012
K-2 Easter Hat Parade and 3-6 Craft Competition.
5th April, 2012
Last day for term 1.

TERM 2
WEEK 1
24th April, 2012
Students return to school.
25th April, 2012
ANZAC Day – Public Holiday.

WEEK 2
30th April, 2012
School Assembly at 12:35pm.
1st May, 2012
P & C meeting in AV room at 9am, all welcome.
3rd May, 2012
School Cross Country
4th May, 2012
Stage 2 Assembly at 11:30am and K-2 Assembly at 12:30pm.

WEEK 3
7th May, 2012
School Assembly at 12:35pm.
11th May, 2012
Stage 3 Assembly at 11:30am.

WEEK 4
14th May, 2012
School Assembly at 12:35pm.
15th May, 2012
NAP begins years 3 and 5
Thursday 17th May
Stage 2 Excursion – James and the Giant Peach.
18th May, 2012
Stage 2 Assembly at 11:30am and K-2 Assembly at 12:30pm.

FINAL DATES FOR PAYMENTS

Monday 19th March - Year 6 Polo Shirt deposit of $15.
Friday 23rd March - Stage 3 Excursion to the Justice and Police Museum $18.
Monday 26th March – School Photographs.
Friday 30th March – Stage 3 Flexi Kids Gymnastics program $29.
Thursday 5th April – Stage 3 Canberra Excursion deposit $50.

Money will not be accepted after these dates.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

PSP SURVEY

Thank you to every family who returned the PSP survey. Only four remain outstanding. They have been sent to Canberra and we will hopefully hear about the extra funding results in May this year.
I know that at least 4 000 schools in Australia are also trying out for the funding. Keep your fingers crossed for a good successful outcome.

SCHOOL CROSSING

To the parents who drive their children to and from school, please obey the road rules around our school. There have been some near misses between cars, drivers parking in driveways and making illegal turns near our crossings.

I would not like to see any of our students injured. The police are going to be making extra patrols over the coming weeks.

VISIT BY REGIONAL DIRECTOR

On Thursday, 29th March 2012 the Regional Director for Western Sydney Mr David Phipps will be visiting our school. I hope to be taking him to visit some of our classrooms and see our children learning in class.

Matthew Plummer,
Principal

CANCER COUNCIL AND SUN PROTECTION

In line with the school’s Uniform policy, the Cancer Council’s strongest advice and our goal to Be Safe (in the sun) the school is promoting the wearing of the school hat at all times when outside. This includes coming to and from school, going to the playground, going to sport and on excursions. Hats are available from the school uniform shop. We seek your assistance to remind your child
to bring their hat to school.

The school's practice and policy is “no hat – play in the shade” / under the COLA. Teachers are enforcing this policy every day. **Wearing the school’s blue wide-brimmed hat is to be encouraged.**

**REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

When looking at the attendance rolls it is wonderful to see so many students attend school punctually and regularly. These students are preparing themselves with the support of their family to have the best start for their learning. Students who start their school day in the classroom at the beginning of the day and are there right to the end are building strong foundations to build upon until their formal school life is completed. Congratulations to all these students.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child(ren) and their learning, please contact the school through the office and someone will follow up. Please remember the best person to speak to first is your child’s teacher.

**ACCESS TO SCHOOL GROUNDS AND ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR**

Parents, caregivers and other persons entering the school site must follow the directions of the principal and staff. All persons entering the grounds other than at school start and finishing times must report to the school office. It is not acceptable for any person to approach another child, use offensive behaviour or disrupt the school's efforts to provide a safe and secure learning environment. Students, staff and visitors to the school are entitled to a quiet, safe and respectful learning environment. Breaches of these expectations will invoke the Inclosed Lands Act and police involvement.

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

High school students have no right or reason to enter these school grounds. Unfortunately a few cause difficulties by entering buildings, being rude or abusive to our students and teachers and on occasions making threats. Often these few are our ex-students voicing their anger about some incident that has nothing to do with our school. **It is in everyone’s best interests if all high school students stay out of our school grounds.** Both Colyton and St Clair High Schools are aware of this and have told their students on numerous occasions in 2011 and again this year.

If parents are meeting high school students at our school they need to meet outside the school grounds.

**FACEBOOK AND YOUR CHILD’S PRIVACY.**

Some tips

- Google your child’s name, then search for them on Facebook. See who has access to what information.
- Make sure your child sets their **privacy options** so only genuine friends can find them on Facebook. The new privacy settings aren’t as complicated as before.

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*Security Services: Please report all incidents of Trespass and other Suspicious Activity on school Grounds to the Police – 000 (they will respond the quickest if needed); St Marys Police 9677-7499, or Crimestoppers – 1800 333 000, School Security – 1300 880 021 and Bez Corp Security 9835 6627*
• Having hundreds of Facebook friends isn't proof of popularity,
• What goes on Facebook can become public and permanent – the good, the bad, and the soul-destroyingly embarrassing.
• Future employers will probably look for your child's name on Google and Facebook.

CONTINUATION OF LEAVE

Mrs Palmer of 1P is currently on leave and to date will not be returning to school before 22nd March, 2012.

KINDERGARTEN MERIT BADGE

Kindergarten students have settled well into their classes. The students have been learning about the school's 'Positive Behaviours for Learning' program. They have started learning and are working towards earning their Merit Badge. The criteria for earning this school achievement can be found in the parent handbook.

Merit Badges will be awarded to Kindergarten students from Semester 2 (Term 3) of each year. This gives them an opportunity to show that they have developed the ability to maintain the skills and attitudes that are needed to achieve and keep this special award.

Students in Kindergarten are able to earn their Citizenship Award from Term 2, if their behaviours meet the school criteria consistently in the classroom and the playground.

We congratulate all the Bennett Road Kindergarten students for working so hard during their first few weeks of primary school.

Mrs Logan, Mrs Cassidy, Mrs Pirotta, Mrs Edgington, Mrs Moss & Ms Doyle

K – 2 ASSEMBLY AWARDS

K – 2 Assembly for Term 1 Week 6 was held on 2nd March, 2012 and the following children received assembly awards:

• KE – Carolyn and Jayden.
• KC – Elijah and Hannah.
• KM – Logan and John.
• K/1L – Bryce, Zac and Izaack.
• 1/2G – Lachlan and Alison.
• 2S – Chelsea, Jackie and McCoy.
• 2B – Riley, Rossaly, Hailey and Jayden.

The Mystery Teacher Award was won by class 2S. Congratulations to all students receiving awards.

CLOSING THE GAP ON HARMONY DAY.

On Thursday 22nd March, we invite all students and join in on 'Closing the Gap Harmony Day' (Mufti Day).

If possible we would encourage the children to come dressed in orange clothes or hair.
The cost is a gold coin donation. Hair spraying will be available before school under the 3-6 COLA at a cost of $1.

Debbie Lewis.

Paint the Town REaD

Ruby’s Corner:

Ruby’s Tip: Letting your child choose their favourite book to read and spending extra time reading with them can often be used as a reward for good behaviour. Children love spending time with you!

Donations of good used toys are needed for the infant’s playground. If you have any that you would like to donate please drop them off to the office or room 1. Our students like to have lots of things to play with at recess and lunch.

PBL NEWS

At Bennett Road Public school our expectation is that we are a Safe, Respectful Learner. When we follow these expectations we are moving to success.

The PBL team is currently trying to move PBL into the classrooms.

We have a competition currently going where students have been asked to design a mascot so it can be placed on our signage.

Bullying is a big problem and the PBL team would like to remind everyone that On March 16th is the National day of action against bullying.

3/4/5P Joint Exposition on School Friends

I think it is good to have a friend in the same class because in the classroom you can sit with your friend. You can also read to your friend and your friend can also help you with your work if you are having trouble. At lunch time you can play games with a friend. You can play tricks on them and make them laugh. I think a good friend makes you feel happy.

National Year of Reading 2012

The National Year of Reading is about everyone enjoying reading, and for keen readers to find new sources of inspiration. It’s about supporting reading initiatives while respecting the oral tradition of storytelling. It’s about helping people discover and rediscover the magic of books and stories anywhere, anytime. And most of all, it’s about Australians becoming a nation of readers.

Mrs. Marr.

P&C NEWS

MUFTI DAY

On Monday 26th March, 2012 the P & C will be holding a Mufti Day. The cost of this mufti day we will an Easter egg donation.

Security Services: Please report all incidents of Trespass and other Suspicious Activity on school Grounds to the Police – 000 (they will respond the quickest if needed); St Marys Police 9677-7499, or Crimestoppers – 1800 333 000, School Security – 1300 880 021 and Bez Corp Security 9835 6627
Please bring your eggs to room 19 before school starts, or give them to the class teacher.

Also if anyone has any baskets at home that they no longer need and would like to donate for the Easter raffle please take them to the office.

K-2 EASTER HAT PARADE & 3-6 CRAFT COMPETITION

On Tuesday 3rd April, 2012 the whole school will be involved in our Easter activities.

The K-2 will have an Easter Hat Parade as usual which will be held between recess and lunch. We will also have a toddler hat parade for the young children so they can also participate.

The 3-6 children are also encouraged to get involved in our craft competition. They may like to do a hat, poster or collage, it will be their choice as to whatever they would like to create. All entries will be displayed on the day. There are great prizes to be won so we would love everyone to get involved.

There will be a cake and drink stall on the day and we will be selling raffle tickets.

We are also looking for volunteers to help out on the day. If you can spare some time or could donate a cake or slice for the stall please contact myself or a member of the P&C.

The next P&C Meeting will be Tuesday 1st May at 9am in the AV Room.

Thank you,
Michelle Lyons
P&C President

FRIENDSHIPS HELP LEARNING
Research shows that if children are happy socially, they are more likely to be more engaged in their learning. Check out School A to Z (www.schoolatoz.com.au) and read about how this works and what you can do to help your child make friends: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning

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25th Annual Penrith Working Truck Show
Sunday 25th March 2012 - 8am-5 pm
Australia’s Best Value Family Day
• Direct access from Penrith Station
• Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (18 rides)
• Concert sound & full stage
Security Services: Please report all incidents of Trespass and other Suspicious Activity on school Grounds to the Police – 000 (they will respond the quickest if needed); St Marys Police 9677-7499, or Crimestoppers – 1800 333 000, School Security – 1300 880 021 and Bez Corp Security 9835 6627

- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum
- Adults $25, up to 3 Children FREE with paying Adult
  (Children under 16, Student ID required if over 13 years)

Head to Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith. Phone 4731 3000
www.museumoffire.com.au

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(coming soon)