NSW GOVERNMENT Education

Blakebrook Public School Bulletin

Term 2 Week 5 – **Thursday 25 May 2023**

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DIARY DATES TERM 2

Week 5

Friday 26 May	P&C Canteen Day – Spaghetti & Garlic bread!
	Last day to hand in Notes & Payments for Lantern Decorating Session

Week 6

Wednesday 31 May	12.30–2.30 Rivers Roadshow for Year 5 students at Lismore South PS
Friday 2 June	Zone Cross Country at Lismore Turf Club
	P&C Canteen Day – Pizza!

Week 7

Tuesday 6 June	World Environment Day Excursion in Lismore 3/4
	Terania Soccer Gala Day

Principal News

Welcome to Week 5!

Over the past week you may have noticed a large number of notes and information coming home with students. School are normally very busy places, however there are a number of events that are currently occurring across our school. These events require a lot of organisation however the benefits for our students are enormous.

Our Multicultural Festival is fast approaching with much hard work underway from many different people. We endeavour to provide timely updates of preparations and requirements as the big day approaches. Please keep an eye out for information that is sent home. Many hands make light work!

Fruit and Vegetable Break

Our school starts the day with a fruit and vegetable break between 9:15 and 9:30 each day. This is a great opportunity for students to eat a nutritious snack to help kick start their day. Students can eat fruit, vegetables, yogurt or cheese. Please keep this in mind when packing lunches so that all of our students can enjoy a healthy start to the day.

Hot water in drink bottles

Last term I mentioned a safety concern that was raised regarding students bringing hot water (close to boiling) in thermoses to prepare hot noodles at school. With the weather cooling, it appears to be occurring again. To help ensure student safety, parents & carers are asked not to send students with a thermos of hot water to add to noodles or the like at lunch time. It poses a risk to the student and those around them when it is being added to food. If students would like

to bring hot food in a thermos, please ensure it is premade at home. Thanks for your assistance with this matter.

Attendance

Strong attendance continues to be a focus across our school. We know when strong attendance occurs, there are significant benefits to the students' academic development as well as their social and emotional development. It also means that students are able to fully participate in all the wonderful activities offered at Blakebrook Public School. Lunch time clubs, environment club, sporting events and much more are all great experiences for our students, and we want our students to see the fullest benefit.

Our staff closely monitor attendance to support students and families to improve attendance and acknowledge and celebrate students who have strong school attendance. I am pleased to share that we have a larger number of students that currently have attendance rates above 90%, with some students nearly 100%. This is an outstanding effort!

Families are reminded that students are to be at school every day unless there is a justifiable reason. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g., attending a funeral.

I thank parents and caregivers for their assistance in this area as we work together to support our students.

Head Lice

We suspect that nits/head lice are present in the hair of some students within the school. Please check your child's hair for nits/lice using the methods recommended in information from NSW Health http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/treatment.aspx If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended. I appreciate your assistance in this regard.

Sam Bowkett
Principal

Save the dates – Athletics Carnivals

You may like to save the dates below in your diary for our upcoming Athletics Carnivals in Term 2 & 3. Parents & Carers will be welcome to spectate these events.

- Term 2 Week 10, Wednesday 28 June 2023 Blakebrook PS Athletics Carnival at BPS
- Term 3 Week 1, Wednesday 19 July 2023 Terania Field Events Carnival at Blakebrook PS
- Term 3 Week 2, Friday 28 July 2023 Terania Track Events & Long Jump at Riverview Park

National Simultaneous Storytime

Yesterday, Blakebrook students celebrated the National Simultaneous Storytime which takes place across all schools throughout Australia and New Zealand. The focus book this year was the Speedy Sloth, written by Rebecca Young and Illustrated by Heath McKenzie. We asked students to dress up as something starting with "S", we saw some interesting and creative costumes! After much deliberation, the winners of the toy rainbow sloths were.....

K-2 Briana who dressed up as a surprise.

3-4 Indie-Rose who was that Statue of Liberty

5-6 Ayla for her use of alliteration and illustration on her costume.

A good time was had by all. We thank you for your ongoing support of these events.

Mrs Kelly
Teacher Librarian

PARENT INFORMATION

KEEPING FRIENDS: RELATIONSHIPS MODULE

Why Teach Relationships?

A child's view of their school experience is inextricably tied to the relationships they were able to establish. These include relationships with their teachers and other adults as well as relationships involving older or younger students. However the most profound relationships existing within the school are the friendship groups.

Friends are a critical component in a successful school experience. Strong friendships provide support and permission to have fun. They are a significant contributor to a child's resilience.As children age they become even more reliant on friends as a source of advice and acknowledgment of who they are.

Children are generally willing to make friends readily with others, however not all children have the necessary skills to maintain those friendships in times of tension and conflict. They can be taught to speak and act in ways that draw others towards them, rather than turning them away.

Many children display a competitive nature during play. How they treat others during the game, or after they have won or lost, can influence the way others see them, either for the better or worse.

Students who are easy to get along with, supportive and encouraging of others and fair in their interactions with their peers are more likely to maintain positive friendships.

Students with good relationship skills can move from one group to another, confidently ask to join in with others and are able to cope with occasional rejection.

About Keeping Friends

This module supports children in developing knowledge, skills and attitudes enabling them to make friends more readily and maintain those friendships.

Keeping Friends provides children with opportunities to discuss different types of friendship, the importance of friendships and how to play well together.

Keeping Friends is underpinned by the premise that resilient children have a broad range of supportive networks as opposed to a single best friend.They are able to move from group to group as the situation arises without relying on the presence of only one other student to influence the quality of their day.

Parents can assist their children by encouraging them to play with many different children, hence strengthening their social capacity and ability to cope. The following is a list of key behaviours parents can encourage in their children to help promote friendship skills:

- talking with others during play
- taking a genuine interest in others
- smiling often
- providing help to others
- offering encouragement
- being willing to share with others
- learning how to move graciously into or out of a group.

For more information visit Michael Grose's website: Parenting Ideas. (http://www.parentingideas.com.au/)

Benefits for my Child

All participating students benefit from the Peer Support Program by

- identifying qualities of friends
- broadening their friendship base
- recognising the importance of friendships
- becoming more welcoming of others
- engaging in positive play

Questions & Answers

What is the Peer Support Program?

The Peer Support Program provides a fun and engaging environment for young people to address issues such as bullying, relationships, and self image. Modules are designed to equip young people with skills to deal proactively with life experiences, develop a sense of self worth and belonging, and to encourage taking responsibility for decisions and actions.

How does the Peer Support Program work?

Trained Peer leaders facilitate activities with small groups of younger students. A teacher supervises each group which includes: two Peer leaders and multi age groups of 8-10 younger students.

How can I support the Peer Support Program in my child's school?

Discuss with your child the activities, concepts and understandings they are developing each week.This helps to foster a positive connection between school and home.

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PeerSupport Australia

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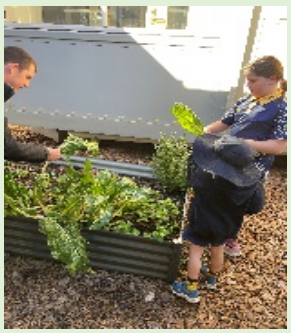
Enviro Corner

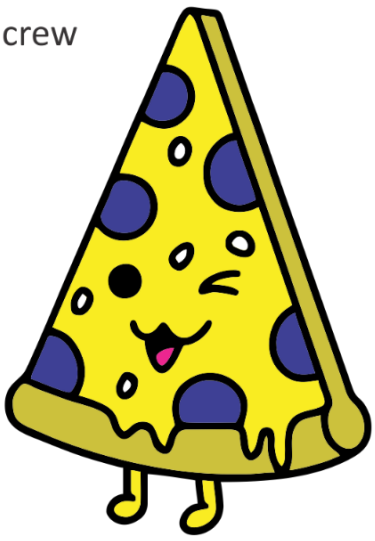
“Hello everyone, yesterday we did some harvesting in the veggie gardens. There were plenty of fresh vegetables including; silver beet, lots of tomatoes, mint and carrots. Of course there had to be one carrot surrounded by about a dozen smaller carrots. I had the pleasure of fixing it. At least we can learn from our mistakes. :) looking forward to keeping you informed next week.”



Lilah Year 6 Environment Leader. 😊😊😊

BLAKEBROOK P&C NEWS

Hello Blakebrook! Thanks to the efforts of our wonderful canteen crew we will be bringing canteen to you two weeks in a row!!
Next Fridays (2nd June) menu is below, please ensure your order is in by Thursday the 1st.



YOUR CHOICE OF THE FOLLOWING PIZZA

Ham & Pineapple, Meatlovers or Supreme.

MEAL DEAL 1 includes a pizza, drink + icy pole - $6.50

MEAL DEAL 2 includes a pizza + drink - $5.50

Pizza - $5.00

Drink - $1.50

Icy Pole - $1.00