Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome back! 2013 is going to be a very busy and exciting year! I have been really impressed with the way all of our students have come back after a long (and very hot) break. Classes are settled and the students are working hard.

It gives me pleasure to welcome Mr Lloyd Kusa to Barrack Heights PS. Lloyd has been employed as Assistant Principal (Technology) as part of our inclusion in the National Partnerships Program. Mr Kusa comes from Tahmoor Public School and will be teaching 3/4K as well as working with all staff in providing professional development in the area of computer and Smartboard technology use in the classroom.

We also have employed a Deputy Principal, under National Partnerships. Congratulations to Miss Marianne Bunt, who was the successful candidate in a very professional field of applicants. Miss Bunt will work with staff and students, assisting in professional development, as we begin the transition towards a new NSW curriculum in Literacy and Mathematics.

For the first time at Barrack Heights Public School, we have employed a Community Liaison Officer (CLO). Ms Veronica Archibald, who is already known to all students as well as many parents and community members, has been asked to take on this role, and I am very pleased to welcome her back in this position. Veronica has created a Community Room (formally a Kinder room), in which we encourage parents and community members to visit in the near future. We will be holding various parent workshops, P&C meetings, parent/teacher interviews and other events in this room. Veronica will work with parents, teachers and students and is available to help parents with questions or inquiries about life at school.
Staff/Classes for 2013 include:

**Principal**  Ms Sarah Rudling  
**Deputy Principal**  Miss Marianne Bunt

**Front Office**  Mrs Glenda Grimshaw  
Mrs Helen Mullin  
Mrs Ann McDougall

**Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)**  
Stage Supervisor  Miss Marianne Bunt  
KD  Mrs Julie Debnam  
KH  Mrs Rhonda Holloway

**Stage 1**  
Stage Supervisor  Mrs Denise Broomham  
1/2B  Mrs Denise Broomham  
1/2W  Mrs Dimi Wheeler  
1/2K  Mrs Vicky Kater

**Stage 2**  
Supervisor  Mrs Angie Maranesi  
3/4M  Mrs Angie Maranesi  
3/4K  Mr Lloyd Kusa  
3/4E  Mr Mark Elsmore

**Stage 3**  
Supervisor  Ms Elizabeth Scott  
5/6S  Ms Elizabeth Scott  
5/6R  Mr Robert Ryan

**Cross Stage** class (due to odd numbers in Stages 2 and 3)  
4/6 B  Ms Kelly Broomham

**Additional Staff**  
RFF  Mrs Danielle Munro and Ms Natalie Harris  
Library  Mrs Linda Leslie and Mrs Kim Doran  
Reading Recovery  Mrs Merin Korber  
Learning and Support Teachers  Mrs Jenny Miller and Mrs Chris Mangos  
Counsellor  Mr Davis Grose

**Learning and Support Officers**  
Mrs Belinda Kejda  
Mrs Sonia Pasalic  
Mrs Jenny Bedford  
Ms Kathy Grice  
Mrs Sue Chapman

**General Assistant**  
Mr Ed Costello  
**Canteen**  
Mrs Lyn Wenham

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**  
This will be held on Friday 8th February for all students who return their permission note and money by Wednesday 6th February. Unfortunately, we cannot take any students who pay or return notes after this date, as we will have planned staff attendance based on the numbers from Wednesday.
CLASS FORMATION
All classes this year have been formed as Stage groups. This will not disadvantage any student, as all current and future NSW Curriculum documents allow a two year period for students to achieve the appropriate educational Outcomes for their age and years in school. New policy requirements also require teachers to create individualised learning programs for every student in which they teach. I encourage you to speak with your child’s class teacher about their learning, including strengths and areas you feel need to be improved. All class teachers and supervisors are happy to make time during their Release from Face to Face (RFF) during school time, or before and after school. I would ask you to make an appointment, as some mornings and afternoons we have staff meetings or professional learning engagements.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Our students are looking particularly ‘snappy’ in their Barrack Heights school uniforms. We have just received a new order of shirts and hats, which are on sale with other uniform items at the canteen. If you would like assistance with uniform items, please let us know. We have many pre-loved garments in the office, and are happy to see all of our students appropriately attired.

SCHOOL HATS
In consultation with the P&C, and keeping in line with the Department of Education and Communities and Barrack Heights PS Sun Safe Policies, we are introducing school hats as part of our uniform. Students can wear either a cricket style, broad brimmed school hat; a legionnaires cap (with neck and ear protection), or the new bucket style hat. Bucket hats are currently on sale from the canteen for the bargain price of $5 (normally $9). School hats will be compulsory from the beginning of Term 2.

SCHOOL ENTRY/EXIT
This year, we are formalising the entry and exit into Barrack Heights Public School. The double gates near the canteen are now the official school entry for parents, students and community. There will be no cars parked in this space during the day and we ask that you do not use it as a pick up, drop off or turning circle. Parents who are waiting to collect their children are welcome to congregate on the steps outside the hall.

SICK/LEAVE FROM SCHOOL – School Phone number 4296 4222
It is a parent or carer’s responsibility to contact the school if their child is ill or unable to attend school for any length of time. Our Home School Liaison Officer, Allyson James, consistently checks the schools absence data. This includes late arrival and early departure to or from school. If your child is away from school, please write a note to explain this absence, or ring the school to leave a message as soon as they return.

PARENT SKILLS/CONTACTS
As part of our whole school evaluation last year, students and staff agreed, that we need to continue to build upon our Landcare and vegetable gardening projects. This will include upgrading many garden boarders, replanting garden beds, removing old trees and in general making our school a neat and tidy, colourful place to be. If there are any parents who can volunteer time or expertise in these areas, could you please contact the school office and make an appointment to see me. As our allocation for a General Assistant is only 2 days per week, manual labour is always welcome!

Thank you, and I hope you and your children enjoy your first week back as much as I have!

Sarah Rudling
Principal
WOLLONGONG HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS
The Audition Application for Year 6 into Year 7 Enrolment 2014 is now available from our school office. Applications close on 8th March and the auditions will be held over 2 weeks. There is a non-refundable application fee of $38.50 for one area and an additional $22 application fee for each area after that. Areas include dance, drama, music and visual arts.
For all enquiries call Lynne Kerr on 42296844 or email: lynne.kerr1@det.nsw.edu.au

Shellharbour Sharks JRLC will be holding registration days at Warilla Bowling Club on Friday 8th and Friday 15th of February between 5.30pm & 8pm. Registrations are open for all age groups from under 6s through to under 16s. For more information, please call Stacey on 0414 084 983 or visit our website www.shellharboursharks.com.au
So come join the Sharks whether you’re 5 or 35 – have fun, keep fit and make mates for life.

Warilla Junior Football Club are a friendly soccer club, located at Morley Park Lake Illawarra (Trumper Street). Our registration for the 2013 season is on three consecutive Saturdays at the Canteen at Morley Park. The dates for registration are 2 February, 9 February, 16 February (with an Open Day being held on the 16th including a sausage sizzle). The times for registration are 10.00am until 2.00pm.

REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING SOCCER SEASON
2 FEB, 9 FEB, 16 FEB
OPEN DAY ON THE 16 FEB INCLUDING A SAUSAGE SIZZLE

For Further Information go to http://www.warillajuniorfc.com.au