Dear parents, carers and students,

This week we begin with a special congratulations and good luck wishes for our talented Barrack Heights Public School swimmers. On Friday the 22nd February, Mr Mark Ellsmore will escort the following students to the District Swimming Carnival: Ryan B, Gabby D, Ruby M, Jett M, Jake N, Jack S, Tia S, Poppi R, Zoe B, Georgie P, Rhiannon T, Josh L, Kobe M, Kye N and Allanah D.

Good luck kids, we are proud of your efforts already!

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

This year marks the beginning of many major changes to Public Education in New South Wales. All schools will begin trialling and implementing new NSW Curriculum documents, particularly in English and Mathematics. Teachers will also be asked to respond to a new policy called “Every Student, Every School”, providing individualised support for all students in their care. In addition to this, our School Administrative Staff will begin the transition to a program that will improve and optimise procedures across finance, human resources/payroll and student administration. I would ask for your patience and understanding when staff are removed from their daily duties to attend professional development. This may be school based, Regional or cross-school. Every attempt will be made to ensure the continuity of both relief staff and lesson delivery for your children. I would also encourage you to attend the various parent workshops we will begin hosting on this new direction and approach to teaching and learning.

PARENTS AND CITIZENS MEETINGS

During 2012, it was suggested that P&C meetings return to an evening timeslot, to allow working parents the opportunity to attend. We begin this trial tomorrow night, with our first P&C meeting of 2013, held in the new Community Room. We welcome ALL parents, carers, family and community members to these meetings, which usually run for an hour. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th March, 2013.

ROAD SAFETY/STRANGER DANGER

Currently, there is a residential redevelopment worksite on the corner of Captain Cook Drive and Lake Entrance Road. This is causing traffic and pedestrian problems, with the safety of our students an increasing concern. This morning I spoke to all of our students about using the pedestrian crossing near the school to walk on the IGA side of the road, instead of past the development site. This does cause problems re-crossing the road at the lights. Please talk to your children about waiting to cross the road, even if the crossing light is green. As you know, some drivers do not readily see pedestrians, even when they have right of way.
There have also been reports of a suspicious “bronze” vehicle, loitering around the area of the school, following children. Again, it is imperative that you know where your children are at all times, and to remind them of not talking to anyone when they are travelling to or from school or their friends’ houses.

Sarah Rudling
Principal

**TERM 1 DIARY DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Wednesday 20th February</th>
<th>Scripture starts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19th February</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6.00 pm in the Community Room</td>
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<td>Friday 22nd February</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Thursday 7th March</td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Friday 29th March</td>
<td>Good Friday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Monday 1st April</td>
<td>Easter Monday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Friday 12th April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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**P&C MEETING REMINDER**
The next meeting of the P&C Association will be held TOMORROW, Tuesday 19th February 2013, at 6.00 p.m. in the Community Room (formerly one of the Kindergarten rooms). If no other arrangements can be made, children are welcome and will be able to play in the room next door. New members are welcome. Please come along. We look forward to seeing you there.

**SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
The School Swimming Carnival was held in beautiful weather last Friday morning. Those children who swam within the qualifying times have been given a District Swimming note and compete against swimmers from the local schools at the District Carnival on Friday 22nd February.
Thanks to the parents who helped out with transporting and timing.
Mr Ellsmore
COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE FUN Afternoon Activities & Homework help.
WHO: for 5 - 12 year olds living in the 2528 postcode.
WHEN: Tuesday afternoons during School Terms at Barrack Heights Public School
TIME: between 3.00pm and 4.30pm
Bring mum or dad, your friends and your homework. Afternoon tea is provided.
This is a fully supervised activity. Call Access Community Group on 4286 5600 for more information and to register.

TAEKIDOKAI MARTIAL ARTS
PRACTICAL TRAINING TO BRING YOU GREATER SELF AWARENESS

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<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Kids</th>
<th>Teens &amp; Adults</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
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<td>TUE</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
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<td>WED</td>
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<td>SAT</td>
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www.tkma.com.au  Phone or SMS 0421566312

Pay as you go!

2013 SHELL COVE SHELLHARBOUR CITY FESTIVAL OF SPORT

The 2013 Shell Cove Shellharbour City Festival of Sport is being held on the weekend of 1 - 3 March 2013.
Highlights of the weekend include:

- Dragon Boat Challenge on Saturday 2 March at Skiway Park, The Boulevarde, Oak Flats where teams of 20 business and community groups contest for the winner's trophy. An exciting day that everyone can enjoy – participants and spectators. 9am to 3pm. Individuals over the age of 12 can also register as an individual in a community team.

- On Sunday 3 March from 9am - 11am, the Shell Cove Walk or Run for Fun will be held at The Reserve off Cove Boulevarde, Shell Cove. This 5 or 9 km walk or run through Shell Cove is open to all ages and proceeds go to the Cancer Council and Shellharbour Hospital Ladies Auxiliary.

Entry forms can be downloaded from the website at www.shellharbourcityfestivalofsport.com.au. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lee Cramer on 0418 113 698.
Illawarra Football Academy – FREE AFTER SCHOOL 5-A-SIDE SOCCER PROGRAM
This program will be held at the King Memorial Oval in The Kingsway, Warilla each Monday between 4.30pm and 5.30pm. Please book your child at www.illawarrafootballacademy.com.au

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A SWAN?
For more information go to www.shellharbourswans.com

Poka Dot Kids is a new Pre-School at 1 Ferntree Place Barrack Heights.
As you turn into Woodlands Drive off Shellharbour Road you will start to see the Bright Purple Roof and Poka Dots stand out in the clouds.
We cater for 2yr to 5yr.
Hours 7.30am to 5.30pm
Provide all meals
Small family friendly centre
Contact Trudy 0407 919 530
or pop in and check us out.
We learn while playing and having fun

LIFT
A therapeutic group for men and women experiencing anxiety and/or depression is being run by CatholicCare on Thursdays from 6.00 p.m. Group meetings are held at 25 Auburn Street, Wollongong. Cost $100.00. For further information please call 42271122.