Dear parents, carers, students and community members,

**MEET THE TEACHER AFTERNOONS**

Creating a well-educated child takes an entire team of people who are all working together. Today we begin Meet the Teacher afternoons, where parents have the opportunity to visit their children’s classroom and hear about the learning intentions and goals of their child’s class teacher during 2015. This is a fantastic opportunity for parents and teachers to come together. The following times have been scheduled for these classes:

- **KB, KP, 1/2M, 1G, 2H** – Monday 16th February, 2-3pm in the library and then classrooms.
- **5/6W, 5/6S** – Wednesday 25th February, 3.15-4pm in classrooms.

**NRL VISIT**

The NRL will be visiting the school on Wednesday afternoon to talk to students about the upcoming season and to run a skill session for our Stage 3 classes. There is no cost involved.

**VISIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET**

Last week I hosted a school visit from Mr Matt Cahill, the newly appointed National Director of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Regional Network in the Indigenous Affairs Group. He was joined by Leon Donovan, the Regional Manager, Eastern NSW & ACT for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and has responsibility for Indigenous policies, programs and service delivery that have been transferred to PM&C from across Australian Government agencies. These visitors took a tour of our school and met with some of our 2015 Ngargin Doctor graduates who spoke with pride about their work and our school. It is our hope that the school will attract some federal funding to continue to expand the great programs we run as part of our whole school plan.

**OAK FLATS HIGH SCHOOL – Year 6 Expo**

Tomorrow afternoon, 17th February Oak Flats High School will hold an expo for Year 6 students to have an opportunity to visit the school and find out about the programs that are on offer. As Barrack Heights Public School draws students from Warilla, Lake South and Oak Flats High School areas, we will promote all High School open days for those students moving into Year 7 in 2016. Students and their parents are asked to meet in the hall at 4pm.
WORLD HARMONY DAY
Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Our school will celebrate Harmony Day this Friday, with an invitation for all students to come dressed in orange. The theme of the day is “A Taste of Harmony”, so we will be selling ice creams covered in orange sprinkles for $2 as well. Bring your money on the day!

DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Congratulations to the students who competed at the District Swimming Carnival last Friday. Your behaviour was exemplary, matched only by your determination in the pool. Congratulations to Jett M who swept all before him to become the Snr Boy Champion, qualifying to swim at the Area carnival at Dapto Pool in March. Further results will be posted as they become available.
Mr Ellsmore

2015 SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION
The students of Barrack Heights Public School, benefit directly from the financial contributions made by parents during the year. Every dollar received is used to provide additional resources for our student learning programs. Your contribution is a very important component of our annual funds.
We are encouraging parents to support learning programs during 2015 by sending a family contribution. Please note: The payment of this financial contribution is voluntary. The Education Act 2004 states that your child will not be refused benefits or services if you do not choose to contribute. Individual records of contributions are confidential. Your contribution is a very important component of our annual funds. This will enable the school to purchase materials that enhance the development of skills and knowledge in the Key Learning Areas at ALL year levels. This will mean:

- A wider variety of readers available for your child to choose from.
- Mathematical materials for those important links between concrete and abstract thinking.
- Software for Information Technology to support key learning areas.
- Science and technology equipment for experiments and investigative tasks.
- Musical instruments, dance tapes and drama props to enhance the performing arts.
- Specialised art materials for extending the visual art activities.
- PE equipment to develop a wider variety of sporting skills.

We encourage you to make a financial contribution towards your child's schooling. Payments can be made at the front office, or by sending in an envelope with your child/ren’s names and classes.

Single child payment - $20
Family payment (more than 3 children) - $50

Sarah Rudling
Principal

Kids Helpline  1800 55 1800
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

Barrack Heights Learning Club
The Smith Family’s – Barrack Heights Learning Club will run every Thursday during the school term from 3.00pm -4.00pm, commencing Thursday 12th February in Mrs Harris’ classroom, 3/6H.
Free tutoring is provided as well as activities for students in year K – 6.
Please Contact Richard at The Smith Family on 42970833 if interested as places are limited
Richard Zamora, Program Coordinator, Learning For Life
The Smith Family
#### 2015 House Captains

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<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Vice Captain</th>
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<td>Brisbane</td>
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Free 5 week Parenting Program

This program promotes positive, respectful parent and child relationships. Limited FREE child minding is also available; please enquire through Family Services Illawarra.

After this program you will be better equipped to:

- Understand the origin and nature of your parenting style
- Understand the messages you give and receive from your child
- Identify and respond to the needs of your child
- Build a positive, respectful relationship with your child
- Source information and support in your parenting

Date: Wed 4th Mar to 1st April
Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm
Location: Illawarra Women’s Centre
Bookings: 42555333 or www.fsi.org.au

Looking for first-class childcare?

Whether you’re a parent and need childcare assistance while you study, or a member of the community looking for first class childcare, we can help!

TAFE Illawarra – Shellharbour TAFE Children’s Centre currently has vacancies for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years.

The centre is a high-quality long day care service/preschool and operates in new, purpose built facilities. It is rated as ‘exceeding’ the National Standard for an early education and care service in all areas under the National Quality Framework.

Qualified teachers and educators plan education programs which provide challenging activities for children of all ages using the National Early Years Learning Framework as a basis.

To find out more or to enrol your child please phone 4295 2286 or email iitstcc@tafensw.edu.au
SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 9AM - 2PM

Sausage Sizzle, Drinks, Ice Cream, Jumping Castle, Farm Animals and Entertainment will all be available on the day.

Oak Flats High School - The Esplanade, Oak Flats.
Car boot sales available for $20 and take all profits.
To book contact Kim Nguyen on 42601888

Are you a young parent - 25 or younger?

Interested in FREE accredited work skills training?

Talking Realities is offering the following training opportunity:

- BSBWHS201A: Contribute to health and safety of self and others
- BSBCUS201B: Deliver a service to customers
- BSBWOR202A: Organise and complete daily work activities
- BSBITU201A: Create simple word processed documents
- BSBITU202A: Create and use spreadsheets
- BSBITU203A: Communicate electronically
- FSKOCM006: Use oral communication skills to participate in workplace teams
- FSKORM05: Use oral communication skills for effective workplace presentations
- FSKNUM07: Locate specific information in highly familiar tables, graphs and charts for work
- FSKNUM12: Identify and interpret information in familiar tables, graphs and charts for work

- Lunch and morning tea provided
- Assistance with childcare and transport

**Poka Dot Kids**

1 Ferntree Place
Barrack Heights.
Providing Quality Child Care and Learning Experiences
2yr to 5yr
Hours 7.30 to 5.30.
Provide all meals
Unique school readiness program.
Small family friendly centre
Contact Trudy 0407 919530
pop in and check us out.

We learn while playing and having fun.