NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 12th March Assembly- Parliament induction, 2pm in the hall
Stage 2 Killalea overnight excursion
Tuesday 17th March P&C AGM - 6pm in the staff room
Friday 20th March International Day of Happiness : )
Saturday 21st March National day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
Wednesday 25th March School Cross-Country
Thursday 26th March School photos
Wednesday 1st April Return raffle tickets
Thursday 2nd April Easter Hat Parade and Easter Raffle drawn - 12.30pm

Dear parents, carers, students and community members,

Congratulations Jett M!
We are so proud, once again, of our “superfish” Jett M who will represent our school at the NSW State Swimming Carnival at Sydney International Aquatic Centre. Jett will compete in the Senior boys 200m Individual Medley and the 12/13 boys 50m Butterfly. Well done, Jett!

New School Plan

The staff at Barrack Heights Public School work incredibly hard providing a well-rounded education for your children. They also spend many hours outside of the classroom preparing lessons, attending professional development courses and meetings and contributing to the vision of our school. The NSW Department of Education and Communities has asked all schools in the state to prepare their new school plan (2015-2017) using a new model. The design of the new school plan was heavily influenced by the key principles underpinning the Melbourne Declaration, which identifies the essential skills and abilities for students. Building on literacy and numeracy as important foundations, it outlines the qualities that will enable our students to be confident and successful global citizens and future leaders.

The new model …

• Links the school vision to an alignment of purpose, people, processes, products and practices to the financial, resourcing and educational improvements of the school.
• It takes into account succession planning for future leadership, staff capabilities and school growth.
• Is informed by the educational landscape and situational analysis of: student needs, student achievements (prior and ongoing), staff professional goals.
• Embeds ongoing data collection and integrated evaluation.

It is an approach which is based on school improvement. It focuses on schools improving in comparison to previous performance and against a quality standard. It introduces a profession led approach – which has an emphasis on elegant simplicity. It supports the school community in directing and enhancing school activity. Our executive team will join me this Tuesday at a Regional Planning Day, where we will build on our strategic directions for the school to be able to produce and publish our goals and visions publically by the end of the term. This will be discussed at next week’s P&C meeting for any parents or community members who are interested in learning more about this process.

Early Action for Success – an update

The State Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan (2012-2016) provides $261 million to lift the literacy and numeracy outcomes K-2 in NSW. Early Action for Success is the Department’s strategy to implement the plan. The Early Action for Success strategy aims to improve students’ performance through a targeted approach in the early years in primary schools.

The strategy involves:
• early identification of the level of attainment in literacy and numeracy of each individual child (K-2) and tailoring a specific program of learning to that child’s needs
• change in teaching practice from a focus on the whole class to a focus on the needs of the individual student
• on-going, close monitoring of individual student progress against the Literacy and Numeracy continuums
• evidence-based use of tiered interventions in literacy or numeracy according to need

Resources schools receive:
• an Instructional Leader, either dedicated to the individual school, or working with a small cluster of schools
• a training grant to support the professional learning needs of staff in differentiating instruction
• a full time equivalent (FTE) allocation to support tiered interventions in literacy and numeracy

The allocation of the funding is to address identified literacy and numeracy needs in Kindergarten to Year 2. Schools are provided with an additional teacher allocation to deliver tailored interventions in literacy and numeracy as well as a training allocation to strengthen personalised learning for K-2 students.

At Barrack Heights Public School, our Instructional Leader is Mrs Jo Collins. Mrs Collins is currently training our K-2 staff in a program called L3 – Language, Literacy and Learning. Our staff attend professional learning (off site) every three weeks and work back at the school with Mrs Collins in between these sessions. Later this year, our staff will also be trained in a program called TEN - Targeted Early Numeracy. We are already seeing the benefits of this professional learning for our staff and students, with reading and writing steadily improving in all classes. Mrs Collins and I also need to attend meetings and provide data to the Department of Education around our progress. Our next meeting is this Wednesday, with schools from all over the state in attendance.

2015 Parliament Induction
This Thursday, we will be joined by Anne Sudmalis (Federal Member for Gilmore), Graeme Sutherland (Director South Coast Schools), John Hambly (Principal, Warilla HS) and Kieran Spillane (Principal, Oak Flats HS) to induct our Front Bench for 2015. This is a great honour, and I have been really impressed by the leadership which has been shown so far by our 2015 school leaders. All parents and family members are invited to attend, with the special assembly beginning promptly at 2.00pm. Front Bench members should be dressed in their best school uniform for the day.

Positive Behaviour – Tips for Parents
Try this tip to encourage the behaviour you want in your child.

Show your child how you feel. Tell them honestly how their behaviour affects you. This will help them see his or her own feelings in yours, like a mirror. This is called empathy. By the age of three, children can show real empathy. So you might say, ‘I’m getting upset because there is so much noise I can’t talk on the phone’. When you start the sentence with ‘I’, it gives your child the chance to see things from your perspective.

Sarah Rudling
Principal

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

P&C News
The P&C are holding an Easter Raffle and funds raised will assist with the purchase of the School Stream App. The App is a valuable resource to make communication between the school and the community so much easier and in real time, wherever you are, whenever you need it.

Raffle tickets are $1 each, and books have been distributed to all students. Additional books are available for collection from the office. Prizes will be drawn at the school on Thursday 2nd April 2015. We ask that all books (whether sold or not) and money be returned to the school by Wednesday 1st April 2015 by placing in the secure collection box inside the Administration block. Please write your family or child’s name and class on the ticket book cover in the space provided, as there is a $30 Smiggle voucher prize for the child who raises the most money.

We are again asking for donations of Easter eggs to contribute to the prize hampers. These can be left with your child’s teacher. All students who bring in an Easter egg will be given a raffle ticket from their teacher.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 at 6pm in the staffroom, commencing with our AGM to elect the P&C Executive Committee for the 2015 year, followed by our usual monthly meeting.
Our meetings are a great way to be involved and informed about our children’s education and welfare, and to hear more about what is happening in & around our school. We would love to see you there!

**Narelle Adams**  
P&C Treasurer

**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 Miller’s room (next to last year’s community room).  
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

**School Stream App**  
Our school P&C has kindly donated and set up a new App available on your Smart Phones called **School Stream**. The App will allow you to access the school newsletter from your phone/device along with class notes, notifications, canteen price lists, our schools’ Information Booklet and much more. The App will make communication between the school and families so much easier and we will also save on our printing costs. Detailed instructions on how to download the App are included in the newsletter.

**A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child’s health**  
We welcome information from parents about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.  
Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing.  
Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.  
We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter’s health needs or as otherwise required by law.

**You Can Do It**  
Barrack Heights Primary School has a focus to optimise all students’ social, emotional, and academic outcomes. All students are encouraged and challenged to work hard to achieve their best with the knowledge of the Five Keys to Success: **Confidence, Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence and Resilience**. This semester the students will be challenged with Organisation, Getting Along and their positive habits of the mind. Organisation means setting a goal to do your best in your schoolwork, planning your time so you’re not rushed, having all your supplies ready, and keeping track of when your assignments are due. Examples of organised behaviours are making sure you understand the teacher’s instructions before you begin work, having all your school supplies ready at a neat desk, recording your assignments and their due dates, and planning when you’re going to do your homework so you have enough time.  
Positive habits of the Mind that help develop a young person’s Organisation include:  
* Setting Goals- thinking that setting a goal can help me be more successful at a task.  
* Planning My Time- thinking about how long it will take me to do my school work and planning enough time to get it done.

Mrs Denise Broomham

**Barrack Heights Easter Raffle**  
Thank you to all parents and students who have sold and purchased our school Easter Raffle Tickets. To promote and support this fund raising activity we are encouraging the teachers and students to join in the fun by donating chocolate eggs or bunnies to school in return for a ticket /tickets in the Easter Raffle. These eggs can be given to the class teacher who will then give the student their raffle tickets. We guarantee no chocolate Easter Rabbit will be harmed or especially eaten by any chocolate loving teacher and all rabbits or eggs will find their Easter home in their Easter Basket.
**Easter Hat Parade**
The Barrack Heights whole school Easter Hat Parade will be held on Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April at 12.30pm. More details about this special event and class participation will be announced in next week’s school newsletter.

Mrs Denise Broomham

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**ENROL NOW FOR 2016**

Come and see what Warilla High School has to offer!

**EDUCATION EXPO & 50\textsuperscript{th} ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Past and prospective students of Warilla High School, are invited to attend our Education Expo on

**Tuesday 10th March from 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm**

- 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm: Visit various faculty displays, open classrooms and 50\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary historical display

- 6.00 pm – 6.30 pm: brief information session in the school auditorium. Meet the 2016 Student Advisor, School Leaders and hear from the Principal, Mr John Hambly

- Light refreshments available

Visit Warilla High School at:

Keross Ave Barrack Heights NSW 2528

[www.warilla-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.warilla-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

or phone 4296 3055 or fax 4297 2817
Our school now has a free app to deliver school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone.

How to get the School Stream app on your mobile device

1. From your mobile device go to the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android), search for School Stream and download the app to your phone.
2. Make sure you agree to push notifications.
3. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search then select your school. For more detailed instructions go to schoolstream.com.au/download.
4. Are your children attending different schools? Tap the school selector, select add a school, type the school name into the search then add. Jump between your children's schools by touching the school name/logo in the top blue bar, or switch schools from the slide-in menu.

*Any additional schools will need to be licensed users of School Stream to appear in the app.

Choose what notifications you receive

1. Open the School Stream app on your mobile device.
2. From the slide-in menu, go to Settings.
3. Under Edit/Alerts select My Schools and select your School to open the Notifications page.
4. Toggle notifications on or off individually (e.g. Alerts, Events, Newsletters, etc.)
5. When you have finished, use the Back button to return to the Settings page, then select Done to return to your School.

Return at any time to change the notifications you receive.

Don't have a smartphone?

If you don’t have access to a smartphone and require information to be delivered via traditional methods (printed notices, email and SMS), please fill out the form below and submit it to the office.

Family name:__________________________________________________________

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Please indicate the reason:

☐ I don't have access to a smartphone (e.g. iPhone, Android, etc.)
☐ I prefer not to receive information from the school on my smartphone
☐ Other (please specify)_______________________________________________
Poka Dot Kids

1 Ferrytree 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 929530
pop in and check us out

AST SURF SCHOOL
PRESENTS
SURF GROMS
6-12 YRS
SURFING AUSTRALIA ACCREDITED WATER
SAFETY AND SURFING PROGRAM

Surf groms school program
Starting from 24th February
Available now online
North Wollongong, Bulli Beach
& The Farm
Come down and join the fun
Learn to surf with us

WWW.SURFGROMS.COM.AU
TO FIND OUT MORE:
1800 711 189
INFO@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU