Dates for your diary
28 Feb Schools Clean Up Day
28 Feb Primary assembly 2.05pm
4 Mar Reward Day!
7 Mar Primary Cross Country practice
7 Mar School Assembly 2.05pm.
10 Mar Reg Kelly Shield Cricket
11 Mar Parent info evening at Francis Greenway High regarding Year 7 -2015
12 Mar Primary Cross Country practice
13 Mar Infants Assembly 12.30pm. Run by 1/2E
14 Mar All Year 6 to have returned High School expression of interest forms
17-20 Mar Book Fair. Helpers needed!
18 Mar Harmony Day celebrated at our school
19 Mar Primary Cross Country Carnival
19 Mar Parent Information re OOSH 6.30pm
21 Mar Hunter Rugby League Trials

PRINCIPAL TALK

Gonski Report
Wouldn’t it be nice if Beresfield PS received an extra $1,703,414 in the next six years?! Imagine what we could have done with this sort of money! Imagine the extra programs and support we could be offering to your children!
Well, this was the commitment that the Gillard Government made before last year’s election. As you will be aware however, the Abbott Government has only committed to providing Gonski funding to public schools for the first 4 years. This represents less than one third of the total funding.
A Senate inquiry has been established into the Gonski school funding arrangements. The inquiry will look at whether or not the promised money has started getting to schools in all states and territories, and how it will be used. It will also look at whether schools have the long term security of funding they need. The inquiry is a critical opportunity for schools and their communities to tell the Senate committee exactly what we would do with the full 6 years of additional resources – how the funding would assist us to better meet the learning needs of students, to lift achievement levels and improve the skills and knowledge of teachers. Please support our school, and public education in general, by visiting the ‘I give a Gonski’ website, and telling your local MP, or the senate inquiry what you think! www.igiveagonski.com.au

Disco
Our first Disco for the year occurs this evening in the school hall.
Infants 5:30 – 6:45pm. Primary 7:00 – 8:30pm
$6 entry fee covers admission, a drink and a bag of lollies. Thank you to the P&C and staff who stay to make this event possible. Parents, please remember to enter the hall and collect your child at the end of the event, instead of calling your child to the door. It helps us to keep a track of who has gone! Thanks.

Clean Up Australia Day
Tomorrow is Clean Up Australia Day. Infants and Support students will be making sure the school grounds look wonderful. Primary students will be walking down to Tarro Reserve to clean up. While there, the primary students will stay for their weekly sporting session. Students please bring gloves, a small gardening spade or fork, and a hat. Those going to Tarro might like to apply some insect repellent before they leave home.

OOSH
The school is pleased to announce that it will once again have an Out of School Hours Care facility on its premises. The successful tenderer is a not-for-profit organisation called Camp Australia. Camp Australia intend to start operating their service from the first day of Term 2. This will be dependent upon their successful recruitment of local, quality staff, and the completion of a refurbishment being undertaken to their room. The service will operate in the same room as previously, with freshly painted walls, and a dedicated kitchenette adjoining the room for food.
Please come and meet with Camp Australia staff at an information night being held on Wednesday 19th March at 6.30pm in the school library.

**Playground Changes**
As from next Monday, there will be changes to our playground routines, making them simpler for students to understand, and in the process we hope it will create a safer and happier environment.

We will trial the opening of areas that were previously ‘out-of-bounds’, creating more room, and allowing students to spread out.

We are also allowing students at recess and lunch to walk immediately to the area of their choice as soon as they are dismissed from class. Previously they had to assemble in our Quad and wait for a teacher before being allowed onto the grassed area. This change will mean students are able to utilise their playtime more fully to partake in the activities they enjoy.

These changes make sense for the wellbeing of students, but mean a greater workload for teachers. Twenty extra playground duties a week now need to be covered by our teachers to allow the extra areas to be open. We will evaluate these changes at the end of the term.

**Reward Day**
Our first Reward Day will be next Tuesday 4th March. The invited students will be given a water iceblock and an extra 10 mins play. Reward Days occur in the middle and at the end of each term – that is, every 5 weeks. Any student who has not attended the Reflection Room during the 5 week period will be invited to take part in Reward Day. Every student starts the following 5-week period with a clean slate.

Reward Day will normally be a small treat and an extra play. This initiative ensures that all those students who always are beautifully behaved and compliant are recognised for their continual self-regulation.

**Harmony Day**
We have moved the date of Harmony Day to Tuesday 18th March. This allows us to utilise the canteen on the day it is closed, to cook up a wonderful treat for the students to celebrate the diversity of cultures in our school community. “What is it?” you ask? All will be revealed next week!

**Assemblies**
Tomorrow will be a primary assembly, with certificates from the school’s swimming carnival being presented. Next Friday will be a whole school assembly beginning at 2:05pm. Parents welcome at all assemblies.

**Year 6 Expression of Interest Forms**
These will be handed out to all Year 6 students on Monday 3rd March and will need to be filled out and returned to Beresfield Public School by Friday 14th March. Please see further details on page 5 of this newsletter.

**Year 5 and 6 Parent Information Evening at FGHS**
On Tuesday 11th March there will be a parent info evening at Francis Greenway High School to explain about the transition to high school.
It is on between 6pm and 7:30pm and is in the Multi Purpose Centre at the high school.

**E Program for Year 6 Students**
Six Year 6 students have been selected to attend an enrichment program called the “E Program” at Francis Greenway High School. This starts on Friday 7th March. An information note has been sent home and needs to be returned by Friday 28th February.

**PPP Program**
Do you ever wish that kids came with a user manual? The Positive Parenting Program is being run at our school on three consecutive Fridays – 7th, 14th and 21st March. This is a terrific course which is friendly, non-judgmental and gives lots of good ideas about being an even better parent. Contact the school office if you are interested in participating.

**Staffing**
Mrs Lynne Connell has had shoulder surgery this week. We wish her all the best for a full recovery. Mrs Julie Folpp is relieving on 3/4C this week, with Mrs Carol Cusick taking the class from next Monday until Lynne’s return.

**Carpenter’s Workbench for sale!**
Old, but good! $100 ono.

**Last Week’s Quiz**
How much are School Packs this year? $50
Congratulations to Tyson Nevin, Hugh Andrews, Jacob Folpp, Taneisha Twitchin and Tyla Tanner Sullivan who submitted correct entries.

**This Week’s Quiz**
‘Canine’ refers to dogs. ‘Bovine’ refers to cows. What does ‘feline’ refer to?
Write your name and class with the answer on a piece of paper, and post it into the Quiz Box near the office by Wednesday.

Jonathan Ridgway
Principal
**Book Fair**

Our school library will be hosting a Book Fair from the 17th to the 20th of March. This is our major fundraiser for our library. There will be many fantastic books, novelties and posters for sale. Book Fair hours are 8.30am-9.00am and 3.00pm-3.30pm from Monday until Thursday.

However, it is impossible to run these special events without the help of parent volunteers. Please indicate on the note below if you are able to assist for half an hour, before or after school.

Please return your note as soon as possible.

Thank you Karen Meyer, Teacher Librarian

Please return to Mrs Meyer

**Book Fair Volunteer**

Name:__________________________________________

Child’s Name:__________________________________________ Class:____________

Day and time available—please tick the appropriate box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>8.30am-9.00am</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 17th March</td>
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<td>Tuesday 18th March</td>
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<td>Wednesday 19th March</td>
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<td>Thursday 20th March</td>
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STAR STRUCK
Miss Dooner and I held Star Struck auditions last week. We watched over 30 students try out for a place in our team of 16. We appreciate the effort everyone has put in to learning the dance and getting up and having a go. It was extremely difficult choosing just 16 dancers and we would have loved to have taken everyone. Thank you to everyone who came along on the day, you all did a GREAT job! We hope to see you all there again next year. Happy Dancing!

The final 16 students are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jasmyne Woodard</th>
<th>Sophie Murray</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tia O’Brien</td>
<td>Sierra Folpp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ella Shelton</td>
<td>Bailey Carroll</td>
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<td>Kimberly McNamara</td>
<td>Emily Bevan</td>
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<td>MJ Werner</td>
<td>Georgia Hadfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lily Roadley-Brooker</td>
<td>Isabelle Rowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice Mathews</td>
<td>Kaleah Picton</td>
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<td>Ruby Dyson</td>
<td>Kelsy Blair</td>
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STOCKLAND GREENHILLS COMPETITION

Please Vote for Our School!
1/2B have entered Beresfield Public School into the Stockland Greenhills Stockland Star competition. We chose the theme "Family and Belonging" as we are currently investigating these concepts in class. We need your help to earn votes for our Star!

When shopping at Stockland Greenhills between 3rd and 30th March, register your details at the Customer Care Centre. Registration forms are being sent home with this newsletter. For every $1 a customer spends 1 star vote will be allocated to their nominated star. There will also be bonus points periods allocated throughout the program. The winning school receives $3000 so this is a fantastic opportunity to support the school.

Jennifer Bissett

Primary Sport - Cross Country Running
On Friday, 7 March and Wednesday, 12 March, Stage 2 and 3 will walk to Tarro Reserve for sport. It will be during the morning session and will be cross country running practice in preparation for the Cross Country Running Carnival on Wednesday, 19 March, 2014. Please ensure your child has suitable running/walking shoes, hat, sunscreen and a water bottle as well as an asthma puffer if needed. All students must have returned the Local Excursion Permission Note prior to the first session. Contact your child’s teacher if you are unsure whether you have.

More information concerning the Cross Country Carnival will be provided closer to the event.

Helen Wiedermann

ZONe RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS
At the beginning of this week Maitland PSSA held trials to select a Zone Rugby League team. Three boys were successful in gaining a place in the Zone team. Congratulations Dylan Evans, Noah Mather and Cooper Taylor. Now the boys have been selected, they play in a series of games on the 21st March 2014 to try and gain a place in the Hunter Squad.

Stefani Hainsworth and Kellie Dooner

Primary Sport - Cross Country Running
On Friday, 7 March and Wednesday, 12 March, Stage 2 and 3 will walk to Tarro Reserve for sport. It will be during the morning session and will be cross country running practice in preparation for the Cross Country Running Carnival on Wednesday, 19 March, 2014. Please ensure your child has suitable running/walking shoes, hat, sunscreen and a water bottle as well as an asthma puffer if needed. All students must have returned the Local Excursion Permission Note prior to the first session. Contact your child’s teacher if you are unsure whether you have.

More information concerning the Cross Country Carnival will be provided closer to the event.

Helen Wiedermann
**Year 6 Expression of Interest Forms**
As your Year 6 child’s primary school education is coming to a close at the end of this year, it is now time to think about which secondary school your child will attend in 2015. On Monday 3rd March, an information guide and Expression of Interest form will be sent home to the parents / carers of Year 6 students. The guide will give you information about the different types of government secondary schools to help you decide which school you would like your child to attend. Included will be an Expression of Interest form that you will need to complete with your preferences for placement(s) of your child in Year 7. Please see your child’s class teacher or the office if you require advice about completing the form.

*The Expression of Interest will need to be returned by Friday 14th March 2014 as we need to process them and have them ready for the High School to collect.*

Jan Fanning

**Reg Kelly Shield Cricket Competition**
Our first game is against Seaham Public School on the 10th March at 10am at Brandon Park Seaham. Notes will be handed out tomorrow, Friday 28th February and training will commence next week.

Timothy Senkalski

**Working With Children Check**
If you volunteer in the school, assist at school events, or drive students to extra-curricular activities, you will need to fill out a new, more robust Working With Children Check. This is a new requirement issued by the Department of Education. The new form needs to be accompanied by a 100 point system similar to when applying for a new bank account.

* Please complete and sign the Declaration for Volunteers available at the school office.
* Present this to the school office with the 100 point ‘Proof of Identity’ documents (for example, Birth Certificate / Passport and Drivers Licence) preferably before the day of excursion.

The one advantage is that this check will stay valid for any other volunteer work at school till January 2017.

Parents who have already assisted us this year have had to bring in this documentation in a limited timeframe. We appreciate all parents and community who volunteer their valuable time for us. By notifying you about this change through this newsletter, we are giving prospective volunteers the opportunity to bring in the forms in a timeframe that suits you. Thanks.

Jonathan Ridgway

**Swimming Carnival**
All children whose names appeared in the newsletter last week were those whose times placed them first, second or third in their race. These children will receive a certificate at tomorrow’s Primary Assembly starting at 2.05pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

Thank you to all the parents who helped out at the zone swimming carnival on Tuesday 25th February. Everyone did a great job! I have included some photos from the zone carnival below.

Stefani Hainsworth
**Camp Quality Puppet Show**

Years K – 2 were fascinated by the puppet show last Wednesday. In a light-hearted way, they were made aware of some issues faced by children fighting cancer, and learnt how to treat people who appear to be different from themselves.

Here are some comments.

Today we saw a puppet show. I liked it. I laughed and laughed so much that my shoes almost came off. Dean made me laugh the most. I learnt it is not cool to be cruel.

Sam Fox, 1/2E

Today we saw a puppet show. I liked it. Kylie and Dean were funny. Dean is Kylie’s friend. Kylie had no hair, but Dean did not care.

Sarah Shelton, 1/2E

Today we saw a puppet show. I loved it so much because it made me laugh. When Dean went “Boo!”, I jumped and Kylie jumped as well. We all pinky promised we would not make fun of Kylie because she had no hair.

Mekenzi Brown, 1/2E

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**When kids ask “the” questions . . .**

**Interrelate has the answers!**

Interrelate’s high quality sexuality and relationship education program is coming to our school! With more than 85 years’ experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today over 35,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate school and family programs each year.

We have had sufficient expression of interest to enable this program to go ahead. The program is for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and will be held on Wed 9th April. A note with more information including when payment is due will be sent home shortly.

Jan Fanning
P & C NEWS

Position Vacant
The P & C are looking for a canteen treasurer. If you are interested, please contact Angela Waters through the school office. Thank you.

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop is open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 8.30am til 9am. Order forms are available at the school office if you cannot make it to the uniform shop at these times. Please note that the Uniform Shop is run by parent volunteers.
If your child has grown out of their uniform we would appreciate your donation of clean second hand uniforms. Thank you.

P & C Meeting
Our next P & C meeting will be held in the school staff room at 5.30pm on Monday 10th March. All welcome.

Shopping Trip to Sydney
It’s that time of year again where we start organising the shopping tour to raise funds for our school. It is on the 25th and 26th October 2014. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Darling Harbour, and the cost is $240. This includes: overnight accommodation, Luxury coach (pick up points are Tarro Hotel and Wallsend), Light Breakfast (day 1), Full Buffet Breakfast (day 2), wine and cheese to relax on the way home. Lunch Day 1 will be at The Intersection Tavern at the cost of $15.50.
A deposit of $50 is required by Friday 2nd May 2014, with full payment due by 25th August 2014, which can be dropped off in an envelope with name and contact details at the school office or canteen.
For further details you can contact Jodie Payne on 0425 26 16 36.

NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY
♦ Clean Up Australia Day
♦ Notes to participating students of Reading Recovery
♦ E Program notes to participating Year 6 students.

Canteen Roster 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 3 March</th>
<th>Tuesday 4 March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jodie Payne</td>
<td>Canteen Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dani Newton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Woods</td>
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<td>Lyn Stilgoe</td>
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<th>Wed 5 March</th>
<th>Thur 6 March</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Woods</td>
<td>Cassie McDonald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Woods</td>
<td>Kelly Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Shelton</td>
<td>Karen Grainger</td>
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<td>Sam Shepherd</td>
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<th>Fri 7 March</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cassie McDonald</td>
<td>If you are unable to</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Budden</td>
<td>attend on your rostered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Woods</td>
<td>day, or if you would</td>
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<td>like to help in the</td>
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<td></td>
<td>canteen, contact Lisa</td>
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<td>Woods on 0418 739045.</td>
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CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE- It has gone mobile!
Hint- save it as a favourite!
www.beresfield-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
⇒ Newsletters
⇒ Calendar of upcoming events
⇒ Photos of activities the students have been involved in.
⇒ An absentee note you can use.
⇒ Permission notes for upcoming events.
⇒ Announcements in case of cancellation of events due to wet weather etc.
⇒ It is now easier to view our website on your mobile phone or tablet. A mobile version of the site has been created with a range of features fine tuned for when you are on the move.
⇒ Just visit from a smart phone or tablet device and follow the prompts.
Café Works
Food Services and Hospitality

(02) 4936 0382
patrick.murphy@tafe.nsw.edu.au
huntertafensw.edu.au

Details
This 6 week course will help you consider pathways to further training and employment

Course starts:
Monday 3 March 2014
9:30am to 12:30pm
Venue: Kurri Kurri TAFE Campus

This free course covers

- Hygiene practice in a range of service industry operations
- Preparation and serving of a range of teas and non-alcoholic beverages
- Extraction and serving of espresso coffee using commercial machines
- Providing customer service and advising customers on espresso coffee
- Storage of coffee and related ingredients
- Cleaning, care and maintenance of coffee machines

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Maitland Neighbourhood Centre is having a GARAGE SALE!

At 10am next Wednesday at the NOEL Unicombe Hall (cnr Lawson Ave & Kookaburra St, Woodberry) there will be a huge range of stuff for sale. Clothes, books, household, electrical, bedding, outdoor furniture, toys and lots of other bits and pieces will be at garage sale prices...

These sales will happen on the first Wednesday of each month

Our first sale is March 5th – come and grab a bargain

We’re always looking for donations and people to help so if you have any questions call in at the hall on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday or give Nicole a call on 40236750/49320950