**Dates for your diary**

27 Feb  
2 Mar  
4 Mar  
6 Mar  
9 Mar  
12 Mar  
13 Mar  
16 Mar  
16-20 Mar  
17 Mar  
17 Mar  
17 Mar  
18 Mar  
20 Mar  
20 Mar  
24 Mar  

**Staffing**

After only 5 weeks at Beresfield, we have to wave Ms Tara Smith goodbye. Tara was a pre-service teacher on KS last year. She displayed such wonderful skills that we asked her to work 4 days per week on K/6Y this year. However, other schools heard how good she was, and she has secured a permanent job after her first interview in Boronia Park in Sydney. We wish her all the best in her move to the big city. Rechelle Glasson will take on the role in K/6Y from next week.

**K-6 Assembly**

The first whole school assembly will be in the hall next Friday 6th Mar starting at 2:05pm. Parents welcome.

**Student Health Care Plans**

At the beginning of each school year, we ask parents to update the school with the latest information about any individual health care plans that your child may need. If the school is already aware of students with allergies or intolerances, asthma or eczema, or any other health concern, a proforma will be sent home for you to update and return. If your child has a health issue that we don’t yet know about, please contact the school so that we can add them to our list of students to be aware of.

**Reg Kelly Shield Cricket Competition**

We will soon be calling for expressions of interest from students in Years 5 and 6 to become members of our cricket team. We are part of the Reg Kelly Shield competition where we play 5 games against local schools over Terms 1 and 4 of this year. If we top our pool (of 6 schools) we go into the semifinals at the end of Term 4. Our first game will be against Tenambit Public School on Tuesday 17th March. Our second game is the following day, Wed 18th March vs St John’s Catholic School. Both games will be at Tarro Reserve. Mr Ridgway is our cricket coach this year. Notes will be sent home to those interested.

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**PrINCIPAL TALK**

**Clean Up Australia Day**

Our student leaders are organising Clean Up Australia Day tomorrow. Infants 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 walk the route of the upcoming Cross Country. Don’t forget hats, gloves and infants can bring gardening tools.
**Year 5 and 6 Parent Information Evening at FGHS**
On Wed 4th March there will be a parent information evening at Francis Greenway High School to explain the transition to high school. It is on between 5:30pm and 7:00pm and is in the school MPC at the high school.

**Facebook Page**
Have you 'liked' our facebook page yet? To find our page, you can search ‘Beresfield Public School’ or you can scan the QR code below to be taken directly to the page. We have also placed a link on the school webpage to allow you to access the facebook page directly.

If you would like to get notifications each time an update is posted on our page you will need to access our facebook page via a computer. Once on the page, click the like button again and a drop down menu will appear. Select ‘Get Notifications’ from the drop down menu. Unfortunately, there does not appear to be a way to enable get notifications for a specific page when accessing via a mobile.

**School Packs**
School packs are required by all students at Beresfield Public School. Please pay for these packs promptly at the office. The packs are $50 per student. Thank you for your quick attention.

**Last Week’s Quiz**
How many days are there in February this year? 28 days.
Congratulations to Jessica, Charlie, Kaleah and Riley who submitted correct entries.

Mr Jonathan Ridgway

**NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY**
- Francis Greenway High School Information Evening - Year 5 & 6
- Aussie Bush Camp - Year 4
- Tell Them From Me Survey
- Clean up day

**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 2016. On Monday 9th 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 20th March 2015** as we need to process them and have them ready for the high school to collect.

Leanne Davison

**Star Struck**
Miss Dooner and I held Star Struck auditions last week. We appreciate the effort everyone has put in to learning the dance and getting up and having a go. 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:

- Emily
- Hayley
- Chelsea
- Isabelle
- Kiara
- Sienna
- Alice
- Maddison
- Alyssa
- Taliyah
- Emily
- Jemma
- Kaleah
- Tennikah
- Charlee
- Illinyah

Stefani Hainsworth

**Speak Appropriately**
Congratulations to
1. Alyssa
2. Brianna
3. Ben
4. Patrick
5. Thanu

Who were caught speaking appropriately last week and were lucky enough to have their name drawn out of the box. Be sure to be listening actively so that you may be lucky enough to have your name drawn next week.

Leanne Davison
Visiting Performance by New Zealand Playhouse $4.50

On Thursday 12th March, 2015 the New Zealand Playhouse will be visiting Beresfield Public School to perform their show ‘Jack Flash and the Jumping Beanstalk’. Jack Flash and the Jumping Beanstalk is an interactive adaptation of Jack and the Beanstalk that will have students on the edge of their seats from start to finish, as they join Jack in his quest to save the environment. This educational show will allow students to experience the wonderful world of live theatre at a great price. The cost for each student is $4.50. Please enclose this amount in a clearly labelled zip-lock bag and return to class teacher by 10am on Wednesday 11th March.

This educational live theatre show should not be missed!

Please note that there will be no separate note about this performance. The performance is for the whole school, Kindergarten to Year 6 and is $4.50 per student. Correct change is appreciated.

Leanne Davison

Last Minute Messages

If you have a message that you were unable to give to your child before they left for school, can you please call before 1.30pm. Schools are hectic after lunch and we will try and pass your message before 3pm but the earlier the better.

Paying for things at school

When paying for things at school the correct change is appreciated as we usually do not carry change. Payments over $10 may also be made by EFTPOS at the office or credit card over the phone.

Thanks

Stephanie Bagnall
Office Manager

Zone Rugby League Trials

Last Friday Maitland PSSA held trials to select a Zone Rugby League team. Jeremiah was successful in gaining a place in the Zone team. Congratulations Jeremiah. He will now play in a series of games on the 20th March 2015 to try and gain a place in the Hunter Squad.

Stefani Hainsworth

Road Safety

At Beresfield School we want all our students and their parents to travel safely to and from school. With this in mind I would like to remind you of the following procedures:

1. The back double gate is for drop off and let down of students with a disability. Most of these students travel to and from school in taxis but we do have a family who also access the school via this gate. Please be aware this is not a drop off zone for other children. It is also not a pedestrian access area. Please do not walk through this area at any time.

2. If your child rides a bike to school they must be accompanied by an adult unless they are over 10 years of age. All bikes enter and exit the school via the Hawthorn Street gate. Bikes must be walked in school grounds.

3. Remember our “Kiss and Go” zones are for drop off or pick up only—please do not park in these areas.

4. Please do not use the teacher’s car park to collect your child as this is an out of bounds area for our students unless you have permission from the principal.

Reminders

◆ The early morning session is the most valuable learning time for all students at school. Parents are asked to please ensure that children arrive at school before 9am so that their learning and the learning of other children is not disrupted.

◆ Parents wishing to talk to teachers are welcome but please catch the teacher at the end of the school day or arrange an appointment through the office for a private interview. Morning messages should only be provided in written form.

◆ Medication can only be administered at school if it is prescribed by a doctor and following completion of the necessary forms at the school office. If children use asthma puffers or any other self-administered medication at school this also needs to be discussed with the school administration to ensure the safest and most effective plan is implemented.

◆ The driveways of some neighbours of the school have been blocked by parents picking children up at the end of the day. All parents are asked to avoid blocking any driveways or other access points when picking children up from school.
In October last year, every third family in the Beresfield Public School community was phoned and asked the following questions.

1. The atmosphere at the school is positive and friendly
2. The children interact well and look after each other
3. My child enjoys going to school
4. I'm kept well informed about what is occurring at the school
5. I would like more information about what my child is doing in class
6. When I want to talk to the teacher about my child, I find that the teacher is available.
7. Generally, staff are helpful in sorting out problems my child is having at school
8. The school teaches the basics well, such as reading and maths.
9. The school does enough to promote fitness amongst its students
10. My child has learnt about other cultures and customs at school.
11. The school caters well for gifted and talented students.
12. The school caters well for those who have learning difficulties
13. The school manages student behaviour well, promoting co-operation and dealing well with poor behaviour.
14. The homework is appropriate to my child’s age and grade.
15. The programs run through the school are relevant and affordable.

Here are the results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question No.</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
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</table>

It seems in the majority of responses, parents mostly agree that the school is performing well.

In Question 5, the wording of the question makes the answer ambiguous.

In Question 11, those who were unsure of the answer responded as ‘disagree’.
Beresfield P.S. Parent Telephone Survey
October, 2014

Additional questions were asked. The general feedback is provided below…

The school is considering using an additional method to keep in touch with parents. What application would work for you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>No of responses</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An app designed for school info</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone / text</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What things do the school do particularly well? What improvements could be made?

General Comment: Most parents are happy with the school! Positive comments about our public speaking program, sporting options, and the welcoming feel of the school. A couple of respondents would like improvements in homework.

What direction would you like the school to take in the next 3 years?

General Comment: Most respondents believe the school is going in the right direction and are happy to continue on the same path. Five respondents wanted further strengthening of anti-bullying strategies. Three respondents believed it important for the school to keep abreast of technology.

Your time starts now! Lyn Stilgoe – Grandparent of Zac 3/4H

My earliest memory is… going to Warwick Farm races.
My most treasured possession is… my grandchildren.
My mother/father always tells me… to use your manners. They get you everywhere and they cost nothing.
I wish I had… a million dollars.
I wish I hadn’t… left school so early.
I am happiest when… I’m playing Lego with my grandkids.
When I was a child I wanted to… be like the other kids.
The book that changed my life is… the Bible.
If I could live anywhere, I’d choose… Beresfield. I love it here!
I relax by… playing Lego and doing jigsaw puzzles.
My worst trait is… losing my temper.
My best trait is… my humour.
If only I could… be healthy.
I’m always being asked… to do things…..constantly!
If I wasn’t me I’d like to be… Julianne Moore (with the Oscar!)
My worst job was… working as a kitchen hand.
I often wonder… what life would be like if I had chosen a different path.
I love Beresfield because… of the people.
You know you are in Beresfield when… people just speak to you on the street.
**P & C News**

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

**Canteen News**
If you would like to help in the canteen in 2015 please call me on 0418 739 045.
Lisa Woods
Canteen Co-Ordinator

**2015 - Week 5 $4.50 Meal Deal is:**
- Summer Pizza
- Drink of your choice
- Fairy Floss Fandangle

**Zone Swimming Carnival**
14 swimmers represented Beresfield Public School at the Zone Swimming Carnival on Tuesday.
Everyone had a fantastic day, with some great times being achieved. Thankyou to all the parents who helped out on the day.
Stefani Hainsworth

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**Canteen Roster 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 2 Mar</th>
<th>Tuesday 3 Mar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jodie Payne</td>
<td>Canteen Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Woods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bec Woodbridge</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Bettley</td>
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**Wed 4 Mar**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thur 5 Mar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Woods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassie McDonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Verrender</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanessa Tomkins</td>
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**Fri 6 Mar**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassie McDonald</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joley Jones</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Burrough</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Kathleen Gabriel</td>
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If you are unable to attend on your rostered day, or if you would like to help in the canteen, contact Lisa Woods on 0418 739045
Great Aussie Bush Camp - Year 4

The Year 4 camp will be held at the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Port Stephens from Monday 14th September to Wednesday 16th September.

Last year’s Year 4 students had a great time. Look at the photos! Looks like fun!

A **non-refundable deposit** of $50 per child needs to be paid on or before **Friday 20th March**. The remaining $200 can be paid in four instalments on the following dates: $50 by Friday 1st May, $50 by Friday 29th May, $50 by Friday 24th July and the final instalment of $50 by Friday 21st August 2015. The excursion can be paid in instalments as shown above or paid in full on or before Friday 21st August.

This Week’s Quiz

What is ‘brunch’?

Remember to write your name and class with the answer on a piece of paper, and post it into the Quiz Box near the office.

Book Fair

Our school library will be hosting a Book Fair from the **16th to the 19th 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 in the library

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>
<th>3.00pm-3.30pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16th March</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17th March</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th March</td>
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</table>
Some budding artists in 3/4G have produced some amazing sketches of our oldest school building. Well done Chelsea, Emily, Sarah and Josie!