CALENDAR

TERM 1 2015

Week 5  February

Monday 23rd  Homework Club Commences
Tuesday 24th  Meet the Teacher Evening
Wednesday 25th  Playgroup
Friday 27th  PSSA Round 2

Week 6  March

Monday 2nd  Homework Club
Bankstown PSSA District Swimming Carnival
International Women’s Day
Tuesday 3rd  Life Education Commences
(Healthy Harold)
Wednesday 4th  Playgroup
Friday 6th  PSSA Round 3

Week 7  March

Monday 9th  Homework Club
Life Education Ends
Wednesday 11th  Playgroup
Friday 13th  PSSA Round 4

Week 8  March

Monday 16th  Homework Club
Annual General Meeting P&C
Wednesday 18th  Playgroup
Friday 20th  PSSA Round 5

Reminder:  Meet the Teacher Evening Tuesday 24/2/15
2:15pm Early Stage 1 Kindergarten
3:15pm Stage 1 Years 1 & 2
4:00pm Stage 2 Years 3 & 4
4:45pm Stage 3 Years 5 & 6

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

A TIME OF SADNESS

It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Sarah Salem. Sarah brought inspiration and joy to everyone she met. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. & Mrs Salem and Sarah’s brother and sister.

Sarah Salem

Parents and Citizens Association (P & C)

It was great to have two new members at our P & C meeting last Tuesday. Our Annual General meeting will be on Monday 16th March from 7pm. The P & C are inviting all new parents to an afternoon tea on Thursday 12th March from 2pm. More information to come.
**Student Safety**

Three of my main priorities as a school Principal are keeping the children safe, keeping the children happy and ensuring that all children continue to learn. Safety is a prime concern, and I’d like to discuss a couple of safety issues in this week’s newsletter.

Firstly, some students continue to walk through the staff car park. There have been a number of near misses. We will continue to remind students to enter via the pathway and never walk through the car park, I would appreciate if you could re-enforce this message. Secondly, a number of students like to play on the equipment in the afternoons. This is out of bounds unless being supervised by the child’s parent. Each class has an opportunity to play on the equipment at different times throughout the week; this is supervised by the class teacher.

**School Routines**

As the school has grown in student numbers, we have decided to have Infants (K-2) and Primary (3-6) play in separate areas in the mornings from 8:45am. We found the primary cola was getting too congested. On Monday mornings we have a K-6 assembly so the K-2 students leave their bag outside their classroom and come up to the primary cola for a short 5 minute assembly.

**ATTENDANCE**

There have been significant changes to applications for exemption from school. Previously, parents could apply for an approved exemption from school for travel and holidays.

- Travel and Family Holidays are no longer given an exemption from school attendance.

- The Principal cannot accept a reason for travel during the school term if it is not in the best interest of the student. Reasons must be specified on the application form and travel documentation such as an eticket or itinerary attached to the application.

- If the Principal approves the leave it will be recorded as Approved Leave and will be recorded against the child’s leave record. This type of leave is no longer an exemption from school attendance.

- If the Principal does not approve the leave it will be recorded as Unjustified Leave and will be recorded against the child’s leave record. A poor record of unjustified absences may result in referral to the Home School Liaison Officer.

Late arrivals are now also counted and included in absence data.

Hamish Woudsma
Principal

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**PSSA Round 2, 27th FEBRUARY 2015**

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<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Girls Cricket</td>
<td>Skills Development</td>
<td>Graf Park George St. Yagoona</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys Cricket</td>
<td>Chester Hill</td>
<td>Allum Park Maiden St. Greenacre</td>
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<td>Junior Boys/Girls Basketball</td>
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<td>Boys T-Ball/Softball</td>
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<td>Middleton Park Smith Rd. Yagoona Diamond 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls T-Ball/Softball</td>
<td>Chullora</td>
<td>O’Neill Park Cooper Rd. Yagoona Diamond 2</td>
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**PLAYGROUP**

Playgroup is held in the School Hall at 9.30-11.30 every Wednesday morning for all preschoolers. Everybody is welcome to attend. Come and bring your children and share in the fun.

*Morning tea break is proudly sponsored by:*

ABOU SALIM Fruit Shop

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**Greenacre Officeworks**

Office Equipment Supplier

Address: 1/51 Roberts Road, Greenacre NSW 2190
Phone: (02) 8732 2300

Banksia Road Primary School would like to acknowledge and thank Greenacre Officeworks for their generous donation of stationery and craft supplies. These resources will support our playgroup and The Banksia STAR program that is held in our school hall every Wednesday morning from 9.30 – 11.
Come along and familiarise yourself with BRPS community hub a place to connect, share and learn. This year, we are running a variety of programs that you can benefit from. Have a look at what’s happening at the hub now:

**Cooking Classes**

Banksia Rd Public School Community Hub would like to thank Darwich Meat (Greenacre) for their donations of fresh halal meat to the Cooking Classes!

**Free Cooking Class**

Please note the Cooking Class starting time has changed to **12:30pm** and finishes at **2:30pm**. Classes are held on Mondays in the Community Hub Room at Banksia Road Public School.

Join us in the Community hub Room for some cooking fun. Last week, Lama from the Arab Council showed us how to make her special vegetarian lasagne. It’s a clever way to get the kids to eat more vegies. This week, AnneMaree from the Benevolent Society showed us her home-made special hamburgers.

Come along to the next cooking class on Monday 9 Feb at 12:30pm for some more creative ideas you can use in your kitchen. Don’t forget Monday 2 March is International Women’s Day in the school Hall!

Enquiries: Marina 0422 122 410

**Circle of Security**

The third session of the Circle of Security was held today Tuesday 24 Feb at 9:30am at Banksia Rd Public School. The session continues to engage parents who have indicated that they are benefiting and enjoying these sessions. We look forward to more productive times at the school hub with you next week.

**Circle of Security**

**Our Babies, Our Toddlers, Our Future**

Improving Family Experiences

An internationally recognised, relationship based, early intervention program designed to enhance attachment security between parents and children.

This 5-week Circle of Security Parenting Program will provide opportunities:

- To increase your understanding of your child’s emotions and needs.
- To develop skills that will enhance your relationship with your child to increase their confidence and self-esteem.

**Where:** Banksia Road Public School – Community Hub Room

**When:** Five Tuesdays, Starting Tuesday 10/2/15

**Time:** From 9:30 am – 11.30 am

**Cost:** Free of Charge – Child care Included

**Contact:** Ebony / Lan on 8713 7700 Or Marina on 0422 122 410.

**HEALTHY LUNCHBOX SESSION**

The healthy Lunch box session took place at the school hall on Monday 23 Feb at 9:30am. The Cancer Council shared some information which parents found helpful and gave out some clever healthy lunch box planners and kits. Thank you to all parents who attended this session. We hope you found the session informative and went home with some good ideas and tips for your family.