



## NEWSLETTER

Term 1    Week 5

23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2015

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Bates Drive School,  
Welcome to the new school year. I would like to extend a very special welcome to our new students and their families.

Welcome to our new students:

Akif – Sunshines  
Marley – Sunshines  
Brady – Rainbows  
Emily – Rainbows  
Ahnaf – Rainbows  
Andrew- Rainbows  
Blake – Cosmics  
Toby- Cosmics

I would also like to welcome new members of staff:

Victoria Novak, teacher – Sparkles  
Cassandra Saba, SLSO – HSV  
Rebecca Stiller, SLSO – Cosmics

It was lovely to see so many parents and caregivers at our “meet and greet” evening. I know that it is always good to put a face to a name and it is important that you know the staff at the school and their roles.

Personalised Learning Plan meetings have commenced and will continue over the next week or so. Your attendance and input is vital to the success of each program and outcomes for your child/children.

The P&C Association have provided financial support for the school to install shade sails over the playground. Not only do they look fabulous but provide much needed shade during play periods. This is a great example of where your fundraising dollars go, as this structure cost more than \$20,000.

A carport has been erected to protect the school buses from the elements and bat faeces. The funding for this was obtained through the Community Building Partnership Grant 2014. The school and P&C Assoc apply for many grants throughout the year to support the great work of the teachers and SLSOs. Some are successful and some not. This is the only way that we can keep the facilities and resources up to date and of a high quality.

Warmest Regards, Robyn Compton, Principal

## **STOP THE PRESS.**

Mrs Patricia Cutcliffe, one of our scripture teachers was nominated by myself for a 2015 NSW Seniors Local Achievement Award. I am very pleased to announce that the nomination was successful and we will be celebrating her achievements with Mr Barry Collier on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015.

Patricia has been associated with the school for more than 25 years and has been a very valued member of the Bates Drive School Community during this time. She is very passionate about her commitment to the church, her own family, our students and the community.

Congratulations Patricia.



**COMEDY  
FEST FRIDAY  
13 MAR**

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

**Featuring comedians  
from Sydney and Melbourne  
International Comedy Festival**

**In support of:  
Bates Drive Public School**

**Kareela Golf Club**  
Corner of the Princes Hwy and Bates Drive, Kareela  
Time: 7pm **Tickets: [www.trybooking.com/GUNZ](http://www.trybooking.com/GUNZ)**

## **EXPO of services for students with higher support needs**

FOR “TRANSITION TO WORK” (TTW) and “COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION” (CP) APPLICANTS  
living in the  
Sutherland, St George and surrounding Local Government Areas (LGAs).

- **WHEN:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2015.
- **TIME:** *Come anytime between* **9.30am and 2pm.**
- **WHERE:** **Endeavour Sports High School in the Hall**  
*Cnr The Boulevard and Taren Point Roads Caringbah (parking entrance off The Boulevard)*
- **COST:** Free admission.
- **ACCESS:** Wheelchair accessible *(free onsite parking is available).*

*Service Providers offering Post School ADHC approved services in the St George, Sutherland and surrounding areas, are invited to attend this EXPO. It will give parents and carers the opportunity to research the appropriate services which may be available for students who are leaving school after completion of year 12 in 2015. It is also an ideal opportunity to begin research for students who may need these services in the future.*

### **AIMS:**

- To provide information about the appropriate services available for school leavers and young adults with disabilities, in accordance with their needs.
- To provide a chance to extend networks and arrange further visits to the relevant services.

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

- Students who are intending to leave school in 2015 and are likely to be registering for TTW or CP, ADHC Post School programs and their families/carers.
- Appropriate students who are approaching year 12 and their families/carers.
- Staff members needing to update information.

### **SERVICES:**

Several service providers will be available to outline a range of post school programs which will meet the needs of students with disabilities, who are leaving school this year. *They have been invited to speak on their service and the NDIS.*

### **FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

- Parent Information Session – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015. 12 – 2pm, with a focus on Mental Health in Room E17 Endeavour Sports High School.
- ‘Transition Careers EXPO’ – 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2015. 9am – 2pm in the Sutherland Basketball Stadium.

*For Further information contact your Support Teacher Transition:*

Lilian Barter: ph. 9524 0615 ext 140.

Relieving STT St George and surrounding LGAs: ph. 9567 1338 (Cairnsfoot School).



## SUNSHINE

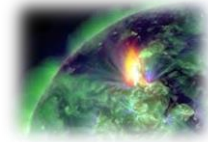
Hello 2015! What a wonderful and settled start to the year we've had. I would like to start by welcoming our new Kindergarten students Marley and Akif, and their families, to our school. Both Marley and Akif are growing in confidence each day as they become familiar with their new class and school. They are lucky to have Kitana, Aaron and Jeremy (Year 1) and Katelyn (Year 2) in their class to show them the ropes! We have been busy introducing Marley and Akif to all of Bates Drive's fabulous facilities including the sensory room, Liberty Swing, playground equipment, and of course the swimming pool with swim school taking place during the past two weeks. Everyone loves the water and the weather has been perfect. We have kicked off Term 1 with a bang in the Sunshine class, celebrating Aaron and Jeremy's 6<sup>th</sup> birthday as well as Akif's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday at the beginning of the month. Happy Birthday boys!

We are looking forward to an exciting year full of growing and learning.

Until next time,  
Leah, Cheryl and the Sunshine Class







## SOLARS

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The Solars have had a great start to the new school year and are settling in well to their new school routines. The Solars class consists of five boys, Kwabena, Cristian, Joseph, EJ and Jayden.

The primary aged students all enjoyed swimming over the past 2 weeks. We were very fortunate that the weather was so warm and great for swimming. This week we have our PLP meetings on Thursday and we are looking forward to seeing you at this time.

Nicole, Kirrily, Gabby and Joanne



## RAINBOWS

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For four of our students, this is their first year at Bates Drive School. We want to welcome all of our newbies and returning Year 1 students for a bright year as a Rainbow. It has been very exciting exploring the new environment and settling into the routine. The past four weeks have been packed full of fun activities and programs. This week we are wrapping up swim school, but have had a great two weeks in the pool while enjoying the beautiful weather. We will continue to swim on Thursday mornings during Term 1, which we are all looking forward to.

This year we are focusing on our communication skills and, specifically for the first semester, learning all about ourselves in our "All About Me" COGS unit of work. We have already begun studies on our birthdays, age and body parts!

The Rainbows have had a wonderful start to the year.

Molly, Karen and the Rainbows



## HS A

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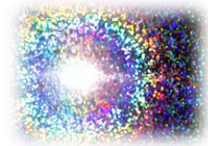
HSA has quickly settled into class routines and the new school year. In HSA we have Alex, Michael, Jackson, Samuel, Eamon and Maryam.

We look forward to a productive exciting new year in high school.

HSA have been enjoying their lovely spacious new classroom and kitchen. This term Maryam celebrated her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. Happy 15<sup>th</sup> birthday to you, from HSA and your school friends. This term in Science we have started learning all about Energy. We will also be exploring Ancient Greece. For Valentine's Day we made chocolate cupcakes and heart shaped handprints.

Samuel, Maryam, Alex, Eamon, Jackson, Michael

Annemarie and Linda



## SPARKLES

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The Sparkles class consists of five students in year five: Josh, Joel, James, Amna and Harrison, and one student in year four: Riley. Every student in the Sparkles class has settled into class and whole school routines so far this term, and we are all learning a range of new things every day!

The Sparkles have been busy completing HSIE, Science, PDHPE, Music, Visual Arts, swimming, sensory activities and more. We have accessed many areas of the school already, and the Sparkles are ready to take on the rest of term one.

We will soon be commencing the completion of diary entries, which will be sent home each afternoon with the communication book to show you some of the activities we will have completed on that day. We hope to start these next week, so please keep an eye out!

Victoria and Charmaine





## RAYS

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Well what a start to the year it has been. The Rays have been very busy. We are already two birthdays down, Happy Birthday to our two Rays, Angelina and Hayden who both turned 10 years old! Wow – double digits already. We had a great time celebrating both birthdays and of course eating lots of cake. I think all of the Rays (including the teachers) have a bit of a sweet tooth, however luckily for us we have a lot of other things happening to help work it off. Swim school is a big part of our day at the moment and our students love it. We have been lucky with the weather and have a great time in the water. I am looking forward to continuing our own class swimming in the weeks to come after seeing the Rays work so well in the pool.

In class the students are engaging in a variety of sensory and cognitive activities as part of our literacy, numeracy and COGs units of work. We have also enjoyed utilising various learning areas the school has to offer, such as the sensory room, trampoline, bike track, liberty swing (always a favourite) and hospitality kitchen - where we cooked up a storm with our 'shake and bake' pancakes. Our days seem to go very quickly but we are certainly enjoying ourselves and eagerly anticipate the year ahead.

Until next time,

Sarah, Cassie and the Rays (Braden, Angelina, Hayden, Lucy, Magnus and Victoria)





## COSMICS

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Well 2015 is off and racing and so are the 7 fabulous boys from the Cosmics. The first few days were filled with exploring our new classroom as we are lucky enough to have one of the purpose built classrooms up in the "Heights" right next door to the Sensory Room. Blayden, Byron, Elliott, Luke and Yann settled quickly back into school routine and our 2 new boys Blake and Toby have been warmly welcomed by their classmates. All the boys participate in class activities such as morning circle and whiteboard activities and are learning to wait their turn as it tends to take some time for all 7 to have a turn! As the days pass we add extra activities into the daily routine including math and writing activities, art work, sensory activities, daily diary, science with Shinead and the ever popular-drumming with Lee. The boys have participated in swim school during the morning session which is fabulous fun however this does tend to exhaust them for the day. Bec and I are looking forward to a great year with our lively bunch and are looking forward to meeting all the parents at our PLP meetings.

Cheers - Chris and Bec





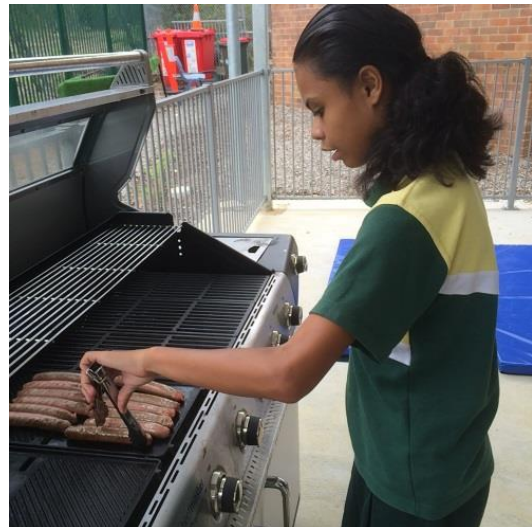
## HS V

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Welcome to HSV 2015. Our 6 Year 9 students have been very busy working on the first of many Units of Work linked to the KLA of History Life Skills Syllabus. For Australia Day we completed posters of Australian icons and images, we viewed a range of Aussie music clips through the Interactive Whiteboard and we decorated the classroom with flags and maps of Australia. We also enjoyed a good old Aussie Sausage Sizzle/BBQ during our weekly cooking lunch program.

We would also like to welcome Cassandra Saba, our SLSO who transferred to Bates Drive School this year. Everyone in HSV has made her feel very welcome. Looking forward to an exciting year ahead!

Vanessa and James, Julian, Egypt, Jess, Reece and Rick



## HS CK

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Welcome back to school for 2015. We are excited about the new school year with lots of exciting plans for HSKC. In our class, we have 6 fabulous students who have all settled in well, Blair, Luke, Lachlan, Theodore, Yawkra and Rayne.

We have been busy with teen talk, numeracy, literacy and science activities, learning about Chinese New Year for our artwork display in the front office in week 4, starting on our cooking program and participating in one of their favourite activities, the music program run by Lee. HSKC are looking forward to commencing our swimming program in week 5 and learning about Ancient Greece later in the term. HSKC also created a card for Keltie to welcome the arrival of her beautiful baby girl, Greta, in January. Stay tuned for more updates from HSKC.

Clare and Natalie



## HS L

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We are off to a cracking start this term. All the boys have settled in wonderfully to our new classroom and we have been working away diligently at our communication and money skills as well as our cooking and Community Access program.

We may not have a new classroom but we definitely have the best smelling classroom as all the boys have been participating in our daily hygiene and grooming program. Looking sharp Gentleman!

Besides our studies we have been enjoying music and the liberty swing and looking forward to the use of the pool in week 6 onwards.

Here is to a great year at school.

Lee and Deb



## HS A

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Samuel, Maryam, Alex. Eamon, Jackson, Michael

Annemarie and Linda



Hello to our HSM families!

Welcome back to a new school year. After getting over the initial shock of coming back to school after the Christmas holidays, the staff and students in HSM have made a cracking start to 2015! This year I am very lucky to have already worked with each of our students and their families and we have Narelle and Carmen on class with us, both of whom have worked with some, if not all of our guys at some stage. We are having a great time getting reacquainted and everyone is settling in nicely. Narelle, Carmen and I would like to shout out a HUGE thankyou to our families and carers for being so patient while we are busy getting our new routines sorted and our programs underway!

Plans are already in place for some very exciting activities throughout the year and we are all eager to get stuck in. In fact....we already have! We celebrated Valentine's Day by giving chocolates and flowers to our secret valentine's and made some very cute 'handprint flamingos' during art. We have also been learning about Chinese New Year through interactive whiteboard activities and created peg dragons for display in the classroom. We are also having a total blast each Wednesday morning when we 'jam' with Lee during our weekly music session in the COLA. Everyone is having a great time exploring the drums, guitar, keyboards and other percussion instruments, although I'm not sure who's having more fun.....the students or the teachers!

We can't wait to see the wonderful progress that will be made by Kent, Anthea, Jamie, Phillip, Karl and Tassi over the course of the year. 2015 is shaping up to be a big one so stay tuned.

Mel, Narelle & Carmen

## TERM PLANNER 2015

<b>Term 1</b>		
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>PL Meetings K-6</b>	
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Meeting re Bats at Mikarie Preschool</b> <b>Café Club</b>	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b> <b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Clinic (Full)</b> <b>Comedy Fest</b>	<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>School Photos</b> <b>Easter Parade</b> <b>School Holidays Commence</b>	<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b> <b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April ( no fooling)</b> <b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>

<b>Term 2</b>		
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Staff return to school- Professional Learning</b> <b>Students return to school</b>	<b>Monday 20<sup>h</sup> April.</b> <b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April.</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>P&amp; C Meeting</b>	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 7pm</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Clinic</b>	<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Vaccinations</b>	<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>P&amp;C meeting</b> <b>K-6 Maths Day</b>	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b> <b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Public Holiday</b> <b>Clinic</b>	<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> <b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Mid Year Week Parent/Caregivers Meetings</b>	<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>School Holidays commence</b>	<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>