



NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 5

25th February, 2016

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Bates Drive School,

It is great to be back and settling into the new school year. I must thank all of the staff for their dedication, hard work and commitment to the students and school when I was on leave, especially Chris Mealey who was in the relieving Principal chair for that time.

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers at our Meet and Greet evening. Thank you for your support.

I am sure you are aware that the P&C Assoc. is off to a flying start, raising funds for resources and materials for programs that will benefit all of the students. These events and opportunities include:

- Easter Raffle
- Buy a Brick
- Comedy Fest (August) Just to name a few!!

Please support the P&C Assoc. where you can, as the group works very hard to ensure the best outcomes for our students, your children.

PLP meetings have begun and will continue over the next week or two. It is very important that we work as a team with families to create the most appropriate and worthwhile teaching and learning programs for each individual child. Your participation and continued support is very much appreciated and valued.

Over the coming weeks and terms you will receive permission notes for your child to participate in various programs. If you would like to discuss any of these programs with the class teacher or myself, please do not hesitate. If you are experiencing financial hardship please call me for a confidential meeting or conversation.

Warmest Regards, Robyn Compton, Principal

Save the Dates:-

Comedy Fest
Carols in the Park
School Leaver's Function
(for Year 12 students and their families)
Celebration Assembly

Friday 20th August
Friday 18th November
Tuesday 22nd November
Friday 2nd December

SPONSORSHIP INVITATIONS NOW OPEN



KAREELA GOLF CLUB'S ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY FRIDAY, 13th MAY, 2016

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP

\$600

Sponsorship on your preferred hole on the day
Personal signage advertising your business in your choice of location on the course
Four (4) places in the day's Ambrose Competition – 11am Shot Gun Start

GOLD SPONSORSHIP

\$300

Personal signage advertising your business on the course
Two (2) places in the day's Ambrose Competition – 11am Shot Gun Start

SILVER SPONSORSHIP

\$150

One place in the day's Ambrose Competition – 11am Shot Gun Start

All sponsorships include: Arrival BBQ at The Fairway Café , Refreshments at selected holes on the course, BBQ Spit Roast served in the Main Bar, and lots of Prizes. Advertising of your business around the Club and also on the LED Digital Screen on the Highway. **Wet Weather:** In case of bad weather on the day and the course is closed, we will still run all the other Activities inside the Club House and you can play your game of golf on another day.

ALL FUNDS RAISED THIS YEAR WILL HELP SUPPORT BATES DRIVE SCHOOL

Help support the students who have complex disabilities and function in the moderate to severe range of intellectual disability, often coupled with autism and /or physical disability.



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Parents not Partners

This is a six-session program for separated parents in conflict over their children. It is designed to improve emotional and developmental outcomes for children in separated families by:

- raising parents' awareness of the impact on their children of the ongoing conflict in their family
- providing them with knowledge, tips and strategies to be able to focus on their children rather than on their issues or conflicts with the other parent

Parents will learn:

- ways to better regulate their emotions and to self-care
- ways to help their children manage their emotions
- to recognise the effects of ongoing, mismanaged conflict on children
- skills to better manage conflict with the other parent
- to reorient interactions with their child's other parent to be respectful and cooperative
- to recognise and differentiate between their own and their children's individual needs
- skills to communicate effectively with the other parent
- to reflect on their behaviour and make changes where needed

Monday, 6:30pm to 9:00pm

8 Feb | 15 Feb | 22 Feb

29 Feb | 7 Mar | 14 Mar

Cost: \$150

Venue: Caringbah Interrelate

Address: 383 – 385 Port Hacking Rd, Caringbah

Bookings Essential – Phone 8522 4400

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A big thankyou to everyone who has sent in easter goodies for our hampers. If you would like some tickets for the raffle please let us know through your child's communication book.

Easter raffle to be drawn on Monday 14th March, 2016 at the P & C Meeting.

glitz N glamour photography

The wonderful people from glitz N glamour have donated two very generous vouchers for their photography services. These will be raffled during the year.



Go to the link for information regarding National Disability Insurance Scheme.
[.https://www.carersnsw.org.au/NDIS](https://www.carersnsw.org.au/NDIS)

NSW kids back to school after Turnbull quietly dumps Gonski funding during holidays

Kids return to public schools today without hope of proper funding for their education, after the Federal Coalition during the holidays quietly dropped its promise to provide it, parents said today.

The Federal Coalition before the last election promised to fund the Gonski reforms, which guaranteed all Australian students a world-class education, Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales (P&C Federation) said.

"It is unfortunate that this special time of year is being marred by the decision of the federal government to break its promise to properly fund education in Australia," P&C Federation President Jason Vials said in a media release.

"The Gonski reforms were independently recommended and supported by all major political parties at the last federal election."

"Yet new Federal Education Minister Simon Birmingham has just walked away from the promises made to the electorate, and to the students of Australia."

Gonski funding commenced in 2014 after an independent review found too many Australian children were unable to access a high quality education due to a lack of government funding.

The system allocated funds to schools based on individual students' needs. It was designed to ensure all Australian children would receive a world-class education irrespective of their background and parents' resources.

Mr Vials said education funding is not a cost – it is an investment in the future of our country.

"Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull talks about the need for an agile and innovative workforce, and the importance of students excelling in Science and Maths," he said.

"But Mr Turnbull refuses to provide the funding our education system needs to achieve those outcomes."

"We need a Federal Government genuinely committed to a bright future for our country and its people."

The initial implementation of the Gonski reforms have been enthusiastically embraced in NSW by the State Government, by principals, teachers and parents, he said.

"We have seen the difference the extra funding is already making to our schools and

FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Locked Bag 40, GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Telephone: 1300 885 982

Website: www.pandc.org.au

Fax: 1800 655 866

ABN: 37 439 975 796



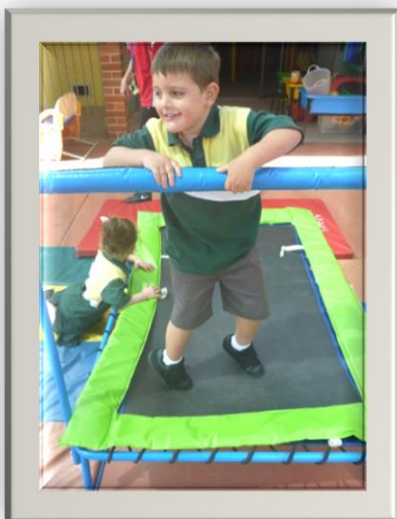
COCKATOOS

Hello and welcome to week five, term one. We are the Cockatoos and we have six students: Akif, Connor, Marley, Oscar, Robbie and Sharnae. Students range from four to six years of age in this class. The teacher of this class is Victoria, and the SLSO is Rebecca. So far this term we have been getting to know each other. While this is a standard part of beginning a school year with new students, it also covers some content of our HSIE program for term one – ‘Our Families’. Students have also been completing a ‘Swim School’ program for which they have been swimming each morning for two weeks. Students are learning to float on their fronts and backs, paddle with their arms and kick with their legs. Other learning programs that have begun include: ‘Music’ with Lee, ‘Letter of the Week’, ‘Reading’, ‘Sensory Exploration’, and ‘Numeracy (Numbers 0-10 and Shapes)’.

On Tuesday 2nd February, we celebrated Akif’s 6th Birthday! We had a class party, a bit of a dance, and smiles and laughter were contagious! Birthdays are an important occasion that will be celebrated throughout the school year, and will also contribute to our HSIE learning. We would also like to say Happy Birthday to Connor, who celebrated his 5th Birthday on Saturday 2nd January. We hope you both had fun!

Another important occasion that is fast approaching this term is the Easter Hat Parade – Please stay tuned for more information soon!

Victoria, Rebecca and the Cockatoos





LORRIKEETS

Welcome to 2016!

The Lorikeets class has been off to a great start! We have Andrew, Brady, Emily, Jasmine, Phillip and Ryan in our class this year. Everyone has settled in nicely and getting into class routines. Already this year we have utilised the pool with our swim school and regular class swimming sessions. We absolutely love when the swim instructors come to teach us water skills and the weather has been beautiful! We also jumped into our COGS unit of work for the term and our focus is 'Our Families'. The Lorikeets have created house glyphs depicting who lives in their house and are focusing on each student's cultural history later in the term where we will explore recipes, traditions, celebrations and history.

Also, each week the students go out on the bus to Coles Kareela to shop for our lunch preparation ingredients and anything their parents may need at home. We had a successful first shop and everyone loved purchasing their items. We cannot wait until next week! ☺

Hope everyone has been enjoying a great start to the year!

Molly, Linda and the Lorikeets



GALAHS

The Galahs would like to welcome everyone back to school! We hope everyone had a safe holiday break! The whole class has settled into their new room, and are getting to know the staff on class. We've had a great start to 2016, jumping straight into Swim School every morning. We're getting stuck into our unit of work for this term 'Our Families'. We are also starting some craft to decorate our room. We will start our Letter of the Week work in Week 5, and also begin a new program called 'Write Dance' to get our hands ready for writing. We have our PLP meetings in Week 4 and are excited to meet all the parents and discuss each student's learning goals for the year.

Shinead, Nicole and Cassandra



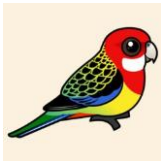
PARROTS

2016 has hit us head on and the Parrots are up and running! The **Sensational Sixes** consist of Amna, Byron, Harry, Hayden, James and Magnus. We have all settled into the class and school routines really well – which is often difficult after such a long Christmas break.

It was a busy start to the school year with Swim School in the middle session-and you can only imagine the fun involved in changing 6 students!! Thankyou Natalie for keeping that all together. Scripture also started this week and we are joining the Galahs for our program with Pat as well as our class swim program on Wednesday.

We have had a few technical problems in the classroom and this has meant that not all of our Notebook programs are working - but the Parrots have coped brilliantly. Looking forward to a wonderful - yet busy year ahead.

Cheers Chris, Nat, Kirrily and Brooke



ROSELLAS

Welcome to a brand new school year! I am teaching the Rosella's class this year, with the help of our fantastic SLSO Charmaine. Our students are Blayden, Blake, Elliott, Riley, Toby and Yann. The boys have already settled in really well to their new class and classroom and we are all enjoying getting to know each other.

We've already had a busy start to the year with daily swim school, and we've been so lucky with the beautiful weather! Everyone has been enjoying the water. Aside from swimming, we have plenty planned for the year ahead. We

will be focusing on communication, building independence, and community access within our academic programs. It's going to be a great year, so stay tuned!

Until next time,
Leah, Charmaine and the Rosellas



HSV

Welcome to HSV 2016. A huge congratulations to our 5 students who have settled into the High School. Each has been busy participating in a range of new life skills programs that include a daily Teen Talk/Literacy Notebook program, ordering lunch every Monday and preparing a pizza for lunch in Cooking every Friday. In History Life Skills HSV students have started a unit of work on Indigenous Australia and in Visual Arts they made their mums a pretty hand-made Valentines' Day card!

I would also like to welcome Kelly and Jo to the HSV Team, as our 2 super SLSO's! And Julia our RFF teacher.

Looking forward to an exciting year ahead!

Vanessa (Kelly and Jo)

and

Jayden, Kwabena, Angelina, Joel and EJ

HSS

Welcome back to the school year for 2016. HSS has had a fantastic start to the term. The class has already celebrated a birthday, Miss Egypt Webber who turned 15 over the Christmas holidays – Happy Birthday! We also combined with HSK for Keltie's birthday and enjoyed a party out in the garden! Everyone is happy when there is party food and cake! So far the class has engaged in various programs utilising the schools facilities on offer such as the sensory room, the hospitality kitchen for cooking, the swimming pool, the liberty swing and the trampoline. We will also soon start going out on the school bus for community access which will be an excellent class learning experience.

In class we are busy as well working on our life skills, Indigenous studies, Mathematics and English. Some of the students were already familiar with our classroom and each other from the previous year, however the rest have settled in beautifully and HSS are having a great time. I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents for their support so far and assistance while getting to know our new class. It was great to meet some of you already at the meet and greet night. Belinda and I have since sorted out our wardrobe issues – I assure you it wasn't planned! It is hard though having the most fashionable teachers at Bates Drive in the same class....☺☺ If you missed it there is a photo below. At least we could make everyone laugh! We are very happy with how the year has started off and are looking forward to the year ahead.

Until next time,



Sarah, Belinda, Connor, Yawkra, Theodore, Egypt, Luke and Julian.



HSL

Hello and Welcome to the first newsletter of 2016!

Deb and I are thrilled to have Joseph, Braden, Victoria, Cristian and Rayne in HSL this year! The students have had a very productive and settled return to school so far and have been familiarising themselves with school routines, workstations and day to day activities.

This year we will be focusing on developing our communication skills, personal hygiene, independent life skills as well as participating in Community Access programs. So far HSL have been engaged in receptive and communication skills, sensory programs, maths, music and learning about the human body. This term will see HSL visit the Glenburnie Orchard at Darkes Forest to pick up fruit orders for the school every Wednesday. HSL will also participate in a weekly swimming program while the weather is warm.

Here's to a very happy and productive year at school!

Till next time

Lee and Deb

HSM

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 2016! In our class we have Jessie, Samuel, Jackson, Eamon, Michael and Robbie, who is new to our school and settling in very nicely! Karen and Carmen are sharing the SLSO duties. We have all been having a great time getting to know everyone and welcoming our new friend Robbie to our group. Karen, 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 valentines and decorated some very cute and sparkly love-hearts during art. We have also learned about Chinese New Year through interactive whiteboard activities and created Chinese dragons for display in the classroom. We are also having a total blast each Thursday morning when we visit the Sensory Room for gross motor and sensory activities. Everyone is having a great time exploring the bubble tube, sound effects board, as well as the tunnels and physio balls, although I'm not sure who's having more fun.....the students or the teachers!!!

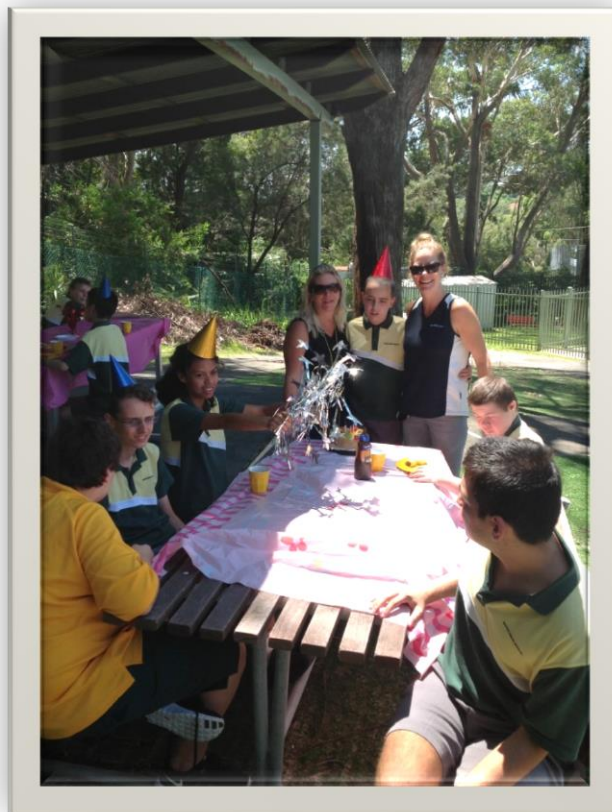
We can't wait to see the wonderful progress that will be made by Jessie, Samuel, Jackson, Eamon, Michael and Robbie over the course of the year. 2016 is shaping up to be a big one so stay tuned!

Mel, Karen & Carmen.

HSK

Welcome 2016! We are off to a great start in HSK and have had a lovely first few weeks back at school. We have Reece, Alki, Cameron, James, Lachlan, Shem and Rick in our class. The boys have settled in to our class routine well and are enjoying each other's company. We have our morning circle and break off into work stations where there are a variety of numeracy, literacy and life skills activities to complete. This term we are focusing on stacking, washing and drying dishes and laying out place settings at the table. We will begin swimming next week and look forward to a cooking program. Our HSIE theme is Indigenous Australian History where we have been listening to dreamtime stories, watching some dances and copying some aboriginal art symbols of our own. Looking forward to the next few weeks.

Keltie, Petra and Cassie



HSA

HSA have had a great start to the new Term. We have settled into class and school routines. This year In HSA we have all our Year 12 school leavers Kent, Jamie and Karl. We also have Maryam, Tassi and Anthea. HSA have started work on Indigenous Australians. We have been doing dot craft, painting bark and looking at Aboriginal art works. HSA have also been working on their mobility and communication skills. We have been having fun stretching and exercising, during our Teen Talk program.

We are looking forward to a good year.

HSA

Kent, Jamie, Karl, Maryam, Tassi and Anthea

Annemarie, Narelle, Ruth an

TERM 1, 2016 CALENDER OF EVENTS		
WEEK 5		
WEEK 6		
WEEK 7	Thursday 10 th March	Clinic
WEEK 8	Monday 14 th March	P&C meeting 7pm
	Thursday 17 th March	Harmony Day
WEEK 9	Thursday 24 th March	Easter Parade (K-6)
	Friday 25 th March	Good Friday – No School
WEEK 10	Monday 28 th March	Easter Monday- No School
WEEK 11	Friday 8 th April	School Holidays Commence