



NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 9

23RD March, 2016

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Bates Drive School,

Now that we have well and truly settled into the school year I would like to introduce the classes and the staff:

Cockatoos -	Victoria and Rebecca
Lorrikeets-	Molly and Linda
Galahs -	Nicole, Shinead and Cassandra
Parrots -	Chris, Natalie and Brook
Rosellas -	Leah and Charmaine
HSV -	Vanessa, Kelly and Jo
HSS -	Sarah and Belinda
HSL -	Lee and Deb
HSM -	Mel, Karen and Carmen
HSK -	Kelti, Petra and Cassie
HSA -	Annemarie, Narelle and Ruth
RFF -	Julia, Kirrily and Shinead
SAM -	Andrea (PT and Karen (PT)
SAO -	Jacqui (PT)
GA -	Terry (PT).

We have a fabulous team here at Bates Drive School. I am very proud to be the Principal of such a wonderful school.

When the school receives information about useful courses or resources we are going to link these in our website for you to access. Some information that is sent to the school is too large to print and it is much more cost effective for us to link them on our website and then you can see what is useful for you and your family.

Easter Friday and Monday fall within the term this year. Good Friday is on 25th March and Easter Monday 28th March, both being public holidays.

School holidays commence on Friday 8th April and students return on Wednesday 27th April. . Hopefully we will all enjoy some lovely autumn sunshine.

Warmest Regards, Robyn Compton, Principal



Bates Drive School community acknowledges the traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander custodians of the Australian land. We celebrate their ongoing Culture and contributions to society and pay our respect their elders, both past and present.



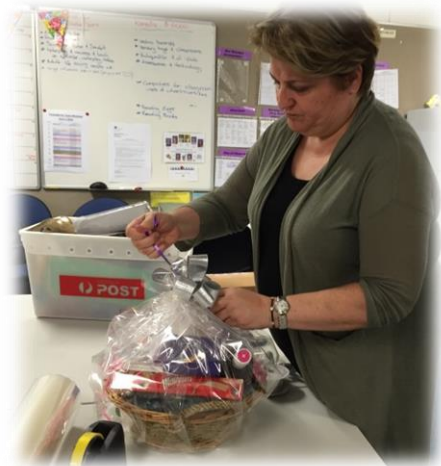
The Maianbar Winter Warmers Festival will be held this year on Sunday, July 10, in the Maianbar community hall, 48 Pacific Crescent, from 10am to 3pm.

Each year a small band of local volunteers craft warm and woolly items for sale to raise funds for a charity benefiting the homeless. This year it is Women and Girls Emergency Centre in Redfern, which is a support service for women with or without children who are at risk or experiencing homelessness in the inner city of Sydney. Last year we raised \$4,500 for Will2Live, a charity that feeds the homeless in central Sydney. We'd like to do something similar this year, and hope your readers will visit Maianbar (in the Royal National Park) to help us.

Our home-baked goods and excellent tea and coffee will help restore you after your trek.

Thankyou to all our wonderful parents who donated Easter goodies for our baskets. Tickets were drawn last Monday night at our P & C meeting and the winners are as follows:

- 1st prize: A Severino
- 2nd prize: J. Fernandez
- 3rd prize: E. Harry
- 4th prize: Steph Barry
- 5th prize: Frances Marciano
- 6th prize: Brady Fletcher
- 7th prize" M. Severino
- 8th prize: Diana
- 9th prize: E. Webber
- 10th prize: J. Biber
- 11th prize: Ava Fletcher
- 12th prize: R. Harapa
- 13th prize: Anthony Milwain
- 14th prize: A. Marlin
- 15th prize: Lisa Evans





Parents and Carers Café Club

Bates Drive School would like to invite you to a Café Club. The aim of the Café Club is for parents and carers to have a time to meet one another and connect with other parents from the school community. Many new families have joined the school community and it is a great way to get to know one another.

The Café Club will be on Thursday and Friday mornings throughout the term. Come to all of them or one, whenever you are available. They will be hosted by our School Chaplain, Nicole Clark. We will meet together in the school meeting room next to the school office. Yummy treats and hot drinks will be available.

Term 1 dates:

Thursday 31st March 9:30-11am

Term 2 dates:

Thursday 5th May 9:30-11am

Friday 10th June 9:30-11am

Please come along to meet other parents and connect together.
Any questions, contact Nicole Clark, through the school office.



BATES DRIVE SCHOOL
EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

17 March 2016

We welcome Nicole Clark serving the Bates Drive School community as a new School Chaplain. Our chaplain works alongside the learning and support team to facilitate the wellbeing of our students and their families.

Our chaplain is a caring and approachable presence in the school, providing a listening ear and a source of comfort and referral for those in a difficult time or in need of a friend.

Nicole is available to meet with students, parents, carers, staff and other members of the school community to provide support and guidance regarding relationships, wellbeing, choices, values and spiritual matters following written permission from a parent or guardian.

What does a School Chaplain do?

- A Chaplain is an additional support for communities to assist with the social, emotional and spiritual well being of their students and families.
- Chaplains are able to run specific programs tailored to the needs of the school.
- Chaplains provide one on one care, mentoring and support for students, parents and staff. Chaplains network with welfare services, local churches, and other agencies in the local community to provide a broad range of support services to the school.
- Support staff at school excursions and other activities as required.

Specifically, Nicole will seek to be in touch with parents regarding the parents café club and help facilitate times when parents can gather together to chat and connect with each other. She is keen to hear your thoughts and what you think would be helpful. Give her a call.

Nicole will also spend some time seeking to provide support and referral to sibling assistance programs and sibling support networks.

All families are able to make an appointment during the school term. Nicole will be available mainly on Thursdays and Fridays, with the odd other day here and there as needed. To find out more please call Nicole on the school number to get in touch with her.

Robyn Compton
Principal:



COCKATOOS

Hello and welcome to week eight of term one! Time is flying by and the students in the Cockatoos class are learning so much!

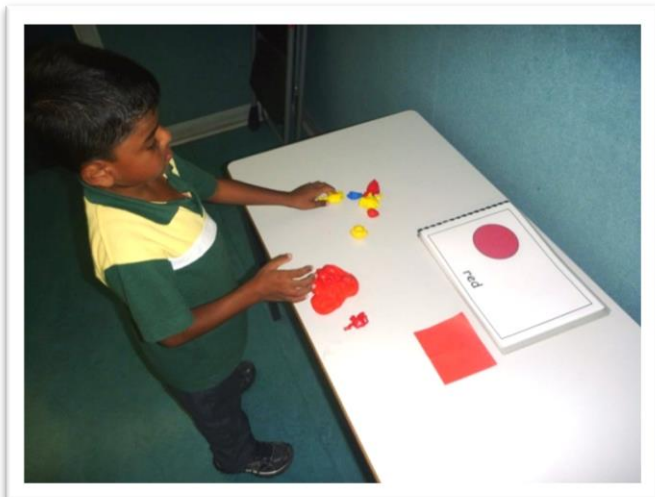
We have commenced a learning program in the Sensory Room each Monday afternoon. In the Sensory Room, we are exploring different lighting, textures and sounds, and we are using gross motor skills to roll balls to each other and access indoor play equipment. We are having a ball! On Tuesdays we continue to enjoy our class swimming program. We all grow a little bit more comfortable and confident in the water each and every week! On Wednesdays we learn about our families - thank you for sending in photos of your families for us to use during these lessons, we are really enjoying getting to know more about each other! On Thursdays we have Science lessons and complete sensory art activities which are always a favourite. During sensory art activities we have spent the past few weeks learning about primary colours! Friday is our busiest day of the week – we attend assembly, venture to Funarama for K-6 sport, and complete calming activities in the afternoon, reflecting on our week of hard work and preparing us all for the big weekend ahead.

Fun fact: Sometimes we are so busy having fun during our learning activities that we don't even realise when it's home time!

Harmony Day was held on Thursday 17th March. We wore orange and completed themed learning activities to learn more about this day and what it means.

Easter is coming! We are beginning to prepare for the egg-citing K-6 Easter Hat Parade that will be held at school on Thursday 24th March. We will also be completing some Easter-themed activities on this day in our classroom. Please check your child's communication book each day as we will be sending home more information.

Victoria, Rebecca and the Cockatoos





LORRIKEETS

Welcome back!

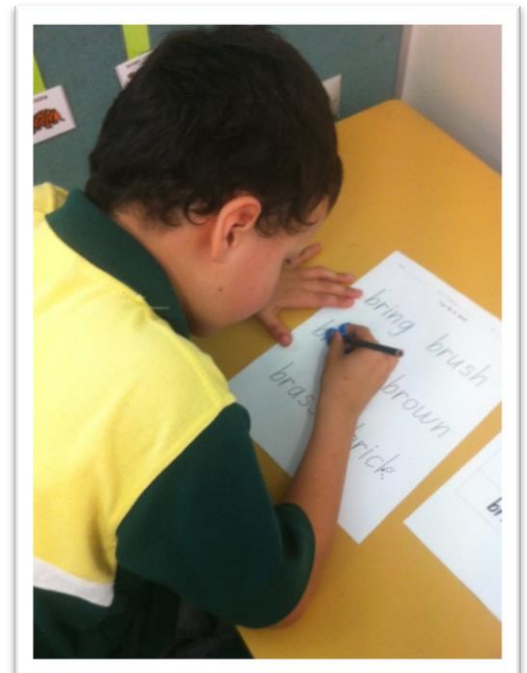
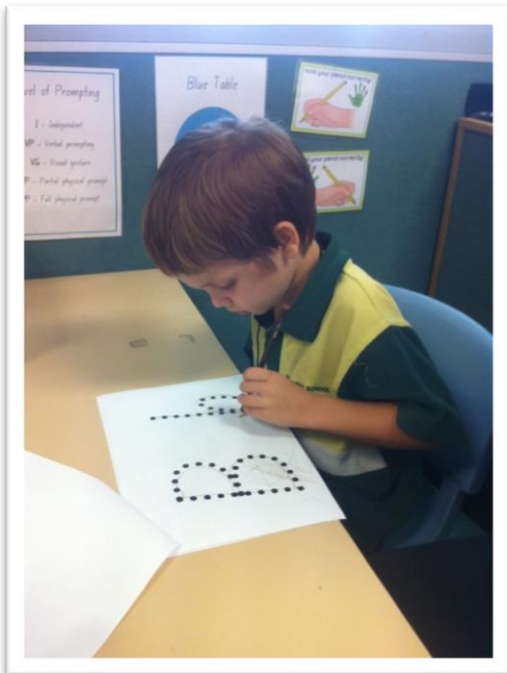
The Lorikeets have been very busy this term with academic work, community access to Coles Kareela and independent work tasks. We have been studying shapes this term for Mathematics and are currently learning about common 3D shapes using interactive notebook programs, hands on activities and doing walks around the school to find 3D shapes in our own school environment. We have also begun our reading groups where some of the students are completing Letter of the Week work while others are working on their phonics skills.

In our COGS unit of work, we are continuing to focus on family history. Each week we focus on one student and learn about their cultural background/traditions that they continue to practice at home. It has been so much fun learning about similarities and differences of the families.

We also celebrated Harmony Day this term! This is where we celebrate the diversity of our students and the inclusion of everyone. There were fun activities in the COLA and everyone was encouraged to wear orange in celebration of the day. We love having special days! 😊

This term we also want to welcome our lovely volunteer, Daniela, who is on class Tuesdays and Thursdays for her university practicum.

Molly, Linda, Daniela and the Lorikeets





GALAHS



The Galahs have had a smashing few weeks, with all students continuing their individual communication and mobility programs. We've had Katelyn and Josh off for a few weeks and the other four students have really excelled – especially Aaron and Jeremy with their walking and Luke and Kitana with their communication! We would like to welcome Emilia to our class – she is a prac student from ACU and is spending 100 hours with us to observe what goes on in a special education school. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day and Harmony Day this term, as well as having our annual Easter Hat Parade! Happy Easter and a safe holiday break to all families!



Shinead, Nicole and Cassandra



PARROTS

The Parrots have been busy with class and leisure activities. We have been doing some wonderful artwork in preparation for our display on the wall in the office. We based our art and class work this week on St. Patrick's Day celebrations. We have read books and watched YouTube clips on the history behind the day and some of the students have been using words such as clover, rainbow and pot in their writing activities.

It's not all hard work though. All the students have the opportunity to choose leisure activities in the afternoon. These activities include puzzles, colouring in, sensory play and music. They are all developing skills to pack away their equipment after each session.

Hope this is happening at home too!!!

Cheers from Chris, Nat and Brooke





ROSELLAS



The students in the Rosellas' class have well and truly settled into class routines now and we are having a busy and productive term. In numeracy lessons, we have been focusing on both number and shape. We have completed lots of hands on shape activities, investigating both 2D and 3D shapes. We are learning about 'Our Families' as part of our COGs theme work. It has been great getting to know our students and their families within this topic.

Each week we look forward to our Coles Kareela community access shopping trip where we purchase our ingredients for our cooking program. We take turns pushing the trolley, selecting items from the shelf and scanning our items.

We still have so much left to look forward to this term, including Harmony Day and the Easter Hat Parade. Wishing all of our families a safe and happy Easter break. Until next time,

Leah, Charmaine and the Rosellas



HSS

What a fantastic start to the year. I can't believe we are almost at the end of term one! HSS have settled into the school year very well and are working hard in class. We have been typing our names and addresses daily and occasionally a recount of the day, which the students are becoming much more familiar with, enjoying swimming and music with Lee every Monday (there a quite a few rock stars in HSS!), cooking every Wednesday - Pizza making seems to be the favourite so far, and have also been enjoying Friday afternoon Karaoke with HSV, just to name a few activities. Our theme work this term is Indigenous Australian History and HSS have focused on dreamtime stories. We have looked at 'How the birds got their colours', 'Tiddalik the frog' and 'The rainbow serpent'. We have read the stories, retold them with a story board and done a fair bit of Indigenous inspired artwork. The 'dreamtime' Kangaroo was created by one of our very own artists in the class, Luke Matthew – Go Luke! It has been a great first term, but I'm sure everyone is looking forward to having a much deserved break over Easter and the holidays! We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday and gets some rest so they are ready to come back and do it all again!! Until next time,



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

HSV

HSV Footy Tipping Program

As you all would be aware the 2016 NRL football season has started! And HSV have started participating in the HSV footy tipping competition as part of our work in Mathematics Life Skills and data collection. Each week we have to make a selection from 2 logos that represent the 2 teams playing each other. We are helped to record our results and after each round we have to count our winning selections. We display that information on a big chart in our classroom. Stay tuned for further updates with the progress of our Footy Tipping program.

Vanessa, Kelly and Jo
and
Jayden, Kwabena, Angelina, Joel and EJ



HSL

The term flies!

HSL have had a very settled first term, our class has found its groove and we have been labouring away with our communication and listening skills, maths, indigenous Australian studies, sensory programs, music, swimming as part of our PDHPE Water skills and our weekly excursion out to Glen Bernie Farm to buy apples as part of our unit of work 'Money' – Mathematics Life Skills.

In addition to our hard work, HSL have acquired gold fish as our class mascots. We are happy to welcome 'Fish and Chip' to our class!

We hope you have a restful and safe Easter and a great holiday. See you in Term 2!

Lee, Deb



HSM

Hello to our HSM families!

Wow! Can you believe the term is almost over?! Everyone in HSM has been working extra hard in all their activities over the last few weeks.

After our cracking start to the year Jessie, Samuel, Jackson, Eamon, Michael and Robbie have continued their hard work throughout the term. Our PE program is in full swing. Each Wednesday morning we fine tune our ball skills of throwing, striking and kicking to score major points in basketball, tee ball and soccer. Rio 2016.....here we come! We continue our weekly gross motor and sensory program in the Sensory Room where each student completes a devised sequence of activities before a brief but blissful meditation session with the aid of the bubble tube. The only issue is.....keeping the teachers awake! Zzzzzz.....

Kirrawee Friends, a high school integration program at Kirrawee High has begun again and this term sees Jackson, Samuel and Michael taking part each Tuesday. So far it is proving to be a fun and interesting time as we get to know our new friends through art and games activities. Don't forget to check out the Kirrawee Friends Board in the office area when you visit the school.

HSM is quite the party class (as I'm sure you've heard....!) and we have already celebrated several birthdays including Jackson's, Sam's and Mel's. We were also very privileged to be invited to our mate, Kent's 18th birthday soiree and, last week we celebrated Karen's...ahem...21st;-)..... birthday. This week saw us getting our party gear on again for Miss Jessie Biber's 15th birthday. There was cake and treats, silly shenanigans and a few parlour games thrown into the mix as we let our hair down to the dulcet tones of Taylor Swift and Katy Perry. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our birthday peeps a very happy and exciting year ahead.

There's plenty more to come guys so stay tuned!

Mel, Karen & Carmen.



HSK

Where on earth has Term 1 gone... With so many activities, time is going very quickly. Here in HSK we have been enjoying swimming twice a week, cooking on Wednesday, music and lunch order Monday. In swimming we all enjoy a game of tip in the water while we splash about. During our cooking program we have been making toasties, banana bread, pizza, popcorn and cookies. We never have too much trouble getting rid of the final creation with 7 hungry boys in the group. Our class has also been studying dreamtime stories and we have created the characters for Tiddalik to practice retelling the story in our own words and actions. March has brought 2 birthday celebrations to our class with Cameron's birthday being on the 10th and Shem's coming up on the 30th. We have all had an enjoyable start to 2016 and are looking forward to the next few weeks and upcoming term.

Keltie, Petra, Cassie and the boys!



HSA

This term HSA have settled well into routines. We have continued to focus on learning all about Indigenous Australians. We have been listening to Aboriginal music as well as dreamtime stories and completing related art activities. We have also been enjoying our drumming sessions with Lee. On Monday the High School will be celebrating Harmony Day, don't forget to wear orange. HSA have started decorating hands and feet to make a class collage.

We have also started working on our lanterns which will be displayed at Taronga Zoo during Vivid. HSA will be celebrating another special birthday. Next week Karl will be turning 18.

Happy 18th Birthday to you Karl! With the holidays fast approaching, we would like to wish all our families a good holiday and Happy Easter.



Kent, Anthea, Karl, Jamie, Maryam and Tassi
Annemarie, Narelle, Ruth and Crystal

TERM 2, 2016 CALENDER OF EVENTS		
WEEK 1	Monday 25 th	ANZAC Day – No school
	Tuesday 26 th April	Staff Professional Learning Day
	Wednesday 27 th April	Students Return to school
WEEK 2	Monday 2 nd May	P&C Meeting 7pm
	Wednesday 4 th May	Mother's Day stall
WEEK 3	Thursday 12 th May	School Clinic - Full
WEEK 4		
WEEK 5	Thursday 26 th May	Transition Clinic- Year 12 students
WEEK 6		
WEEK 7	Monday 6 th June	P&C Meeting 7pm
	Thursday 9 th June	School clinic
WEEK 8	Monday 13 th June	Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday
WEEK 9		
WEEK 10	Friday 1 st July	School holidays commence
WEEK 11	Ten week term only	