Our great new EXPECTATIONS mural!

This Monday students returned to school after the weekend to be greeted by a brand new mural along the wall outside the basement. It is a fabulous underwater scene which has turned the area into a bright and colourful play space. The underwater scene includes some beautiful corals and fish but the main stars of the mural are our four coloured stingrays which each represent a Banksmeadow Public School Expectation. The expectations were introduced earlier this year and students have been focussing on being safe, respectful, resilient and active learners at Banksmeadow. Many thanks to Tina Neill and Phil Zalami who volunteered to create this masterpiece for our students and gave up their entire weekend to complete it! We really appreciate all their hard work. If you know anyone who may be interested in these artists creating similar murals, please email pzalami@gmail.com for further details.

Congratulations to these students this week!

KT  Zak, Isabella, Kianoa
K1/B Zara, Tahlia, Jeremiah
1/2J Jem, Tess.N, Charlotte
1S Rory, Richard, Bundy
2/3F Georgina, Jackson, Erin
3M Robbie, Piper, Baylee
4L Rolly, Katarina, Jessica, Adam
K/6W Joanna, Nicole

Class of the week

2/3F
Swimming Scheme Term 4—starts next week
Swimming Scheme is on this term at Botany Pool. All permission notes and money should be received by the office this Friday. Our first lesson is next Monday 22nd October. Please send your child to school dressed in school uniform with their swimming costume underneath. Please be sure to pack underwear, school hat, brush/comb, towel, school jumper/jacket, swim cap and goggles (if preferred) in a waterproof bag. Extra plastic bags are suggested for wet swimming costumes and towels at the end of the session. Sunscreen should be applied before school. The bus leaves promptly at 9.10am so please arrive at school on time. If you have any queries please speak to Miss Fahey.

Cards and Calendars
The P&C are organising their annual card and calendar fundraiser for the end of the year. Every child in the school will be creating a personalised artwork that will be scanned and made into a calendar or a set of cards. This year we are also offering the opportunity for families to order mobile phone covers. Details of the prices will be sent home later this week with an order form. Families can order multiple sets of each item if they wish as your child's artwork is scanned and can be used more than once. These make great Christmas gifts and are all personally made by your child. The artwork will be completed at school in the next 2 weeks and orders and money should be sent to the office no later than Friday 2nd November to ensure that all orders will be delivered back to the school before Christmas.

Interrelate Sessions
Notes have been sent home to Years 3-6 students inviting parents and their children to attend Interrelate sessions at Banksmeadow School on Monday 29th October. Please return attendance slip and payment to the office by Friday 26th October.

Applications for Selective High School Placements 2014 (Current Year 5 students)
The online application process for selective high school placement in Year 7 in 2014, will be open from 9 am on 16 October 2012, a week before paper application forms become available. Application forms will be sent to all government primary schools for limited distribution from 23 October 2012 (but not before) to students whose parents do not have internet access. Parents are encouraged to apply online. All students seeking placement in a selective high school will be required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test on Thursday 14 March 2013. Parents who apply using paper application forms will need to lodge their applications by Friday 16 November 2012. Online applicants have until Monday 19 November 2012 to submit their applications. All Year 5 families will receive a letter regarding the application process next week following the Stage 3 Canberra excursion.

Principals Message
It was great to arrive at school on Monday morning to our fabulous new mural under the COLA. It has certainly brightened up an area in the school that required a “facelift”. It was also pleasing to see that the students recognised our 4 expectations in the mural and the stingray “mascot”. Not only is the mural an eye pleasing addition to the playground but it also helps to reinforce the school expectations. A big thanks to Miss Low who organised the painting of mural.

Congratulations to Hannah Jones in Year 5 who was selected to represent the Sydney East Region in the girls’ Cricket team to compete at the NSW PSSA Carnival to held in Lismore from the 5 to 8 November. Hannah was chosen as an all rounder and her selection is a credit to her natural talent and, I believe, some backyard cricket with her dad and brother.

Stage 3 are currently enjoying the sights of Canberra. This three day trip is a great opportunity for our older students to not only learn more about our national capital but also to take greater responsibility for themselves and their belongings. I’m sure there will be lots of stories to tell when they return.

Cathy Lucantonio