Banksmeadow Public School Newsletter

PSSA Sport Starts this week!
PSSA sport starts this Friday and Banksmeadow has students involved in AFL, softball and cricket. Each week the PSSA teams are transported by bus to play against other school teams at venues dedicated to the sport. We are privileged to be part of the competition and wish all our teams well. Please be sure to sign permission notes for your child to travel to PSSA venues otherwise they will not be able to participate.

Life Education Visits
The Life Education mobile van and educators will visit Banksmeadow in Week 5. The Preschool to Year 4 students will visit the service to learn about healthy eating, healthy bodies and making good choices. The van will be parked between the infants building and band room from Monday to Thursday. On Tuesday afternoon there will be an opportunity for parents to purchase Healthy Harold merchandise to assist in fundraising for Life Education. Signed permission notes and money for the program are due Monday.

Flip Gymnastics
A reminder to all parents that payment for Flip Gymnastics and Sports in School is due next week. The day for Flip Gym has changed to Thursday. If families are experiencing difficulty paying for the programs, please contact the Principal. The cost for Sports in School is $36 and Flip Gymnastics is $45 for Term 1.

Matraville Sports High School Open Night
Matraville Sports High School will be holding an Open Night on Wednesday 29th February at 6pm. This is an opportunity for parents and students to go along to the school and look at the facilities and hear about the programs that they run.

Kindergarten News
Kindergarten will be going to their first Monday morning assembly next Monday. Please place your school bags outside the classroom as usual however you will need to take your water bottle and hat out of the bag and keep it with you in the playground. We need the water bottles and hats after assembly for sport. The children can then meet the teachers under the COLA area down in the playground when the bell goes. This will be the routine for Mondays only.

Asthmatic Students
Could all parents of asthmatic students please send a copy of their asthma plan to the school office. This is very important information which the school should have about your child.

Congratulations to the following students on their awards at Assembly this week!

KT: Isabella C, Nathan, Zoe
K/1B: Jackson, Tate, Kosta
1S: Chanelle, Larna, Ky
1/2J: Katie, Bill, Hayley
2/3F: Sophie, Kane J, Dylan
3M: Eden, Bill Noah
4L: Jessica, Gavin, Matthew
5M: Anastasia, Tristen, Adriana
6H: Daniel, Caitlin, Rhys
K- 6W: Ben, Joanna
P&C News
The first P&C meeting will take place next Monday 20th February at 7pm in the school library. This meeting will be the AGM and new positions will be filled. The P&C is a great way to meet other parents in your child’s class and to find out what is happening at the school. New members are always very welcome.

Dance News
Thank you to the many boys and girls who auditioned this week and congratulations to the children who were successful. All children in the groups will start their lessons next Monday 20th February. Dance clothes must be worn to lessons as school tunics are not suitable for lifts and floor work. Year 2 children can stay in sports uniform as long as they are not wearing a skirt. The school office will invoice parents for lesson and costume contribution costs. Both the Junior and Senior groups will be working towards getting an audition video ready for the Sydney Schools Regional Dance Festival at the Seymour Centre which needs to be completed by the end of Term 1.

Band News
The band started this week and will continue to have lessons every Wednesday. The children need to remember to bring their instrument to the room at the start of the lesson. It is a good idea to have a display folder as well to keep your music in. The school will invoice parents for instrument hire. Parents will be contacted by Directions in Music for lesson payments.

Guitar News
Cathy and Molly will be starting guitar lessons next Thursday 23rd February for interested students in Years 3 to 6. There will be a beginner and an experienced group. Students should bring their guitar to school on Thursdays and leave it in the band room before school. The cost of the lessons is $10 and should be paid directly to the teacher at the beginning of the lesson. Please have a display type folder for your music. Parents who need further information can contact Cathy directly on her mobile 0402 026875.

Parents can get advice or equipment through Cathy. A price list is below
Full size classical guitars + bags: $155.00 ea
3/4 size classical guitars + bags: $125.00 ea (recommended)
1/2 size classical guitars + bags: $120.00 ea
Picks: from $0.50c - $1.50
Straps and Pins: $17.00
Capos: from $10.00 each
Strings: individual and full sets available (price dependent on String(s) needed.)

Uniform Shop
The PSW uniform shop on Anzac Parade at Kingsford will no longer be open on Saturdays until the peak Winter period during the Easter school holidays. They are still open Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm. If parents cannot get to the shop during these times, they are reminded that uniform items can be ordered online at anytime at www.psw.com.au and delivered straight to your door for a small fee.

Principals Message
It was pleasing to see so many parents take the opportunity to attend the parent/ teacher conferences during the week. These conferences allow teachers and parents to have an open discussion about students. Your child’s education is a partnership between the school and home and open communication is an important part of this.
We have been lucky enough to receive a set of AFL goal posts from AFL NSW. They were installed this week and they can be used by the students to practice kicking goals and could also act as modified goals for other games. There was no cost to the school so we greatly appreciate this donation to the school.
As you are aware many sporting programs have started or are starting this week. We cannot allow students to participate in these programs without a permission slip signed by parents or carers. Also the school is not in the position to subsidize the cost of these programs for some students. If paying the lump sum is a problem for families the cost can be paid over the term or each week in the case of PSSA sport. Students will not be able to participate if payments aren’t made and alternative arrangements will be organized. As stated in notes sent home, any families facing financial difficulties that require assistance should contact me via the school office. It is essential that parents check all notes sent home and meet deadlines set out in these notes.
SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- 32 Band 6 in the Higher School Certificate
- 86 Band 6 in the School Certificate
- Highest ATAR – 96.5
- 1 student selected for State Band Camp
- 1 student in State Drama Ensemble
- 1 student in Sydney Regional Choir
- Girls Open Touch 3rd in Regional Knockout
- 30 students representing SSHS at regional level or higher for athletics, swimming and cross-country
- 2 students competing at national level in swimming and athletics
- Close community links with the Beacon Foundation and United Way

Care, opportunity, success

OPEN NIGHT 2012
TUESDAY 28th FEBRUARY
6PM – 7.30PM
PARENTS WITH CHILDREN CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN YEARS 5 AND 6 ARE INVITED

- Information session in the School Hall
- Interactive school tour with opportunity to meet staff and view school facilities
- Light refreshments will be provided
Botany Family and Children’s Centre
Tuning in to Kids
Emotionally Intelligent parenting
A six session parenting program for parents of Children aged 3-10 years

- Talk with your child about emotions
- Understand your child’s emotions
- Help your child to improve and manage their emotions
- Help to prevent behaviour problems in your child
- Teach your child to deal with conflict

This program will provide you with ideas and techniques that are useful for children of all ages, and will help you to guide children’s behaviour with appropriate limits.

Where: Botany Family and Children’s Centre
13 Banksia Street, Botany

When: Commencing Wednesday 7th March 2012 for 6 weeks
(14/3, 21/3, 28/3, 4/4, 11/4)
(Afternoon course will be run in October 2012 if these dates are unsuitable)

Time: 12 noon- 2 p.m

Contact: Kristy or Evellen
9666 5047

Cost: Free (afternoon tea provided)

Limited Childcare is available with Qualified Staff on Site
- Bookings Essential -