Principal’s Message

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the school is growing at an unprecedented rate. Currently we have an enrolment of 810 students which places us 2 enrolments away from a restructure and forming another class. This is quite incredible when you consider we do not take in any of The Ponds development, in fact our boundaries stop at the very back fence of the first row of houses in The Ponds. We need to appreciate that this growth will probably continue for a while and that changes to classes and school structure will need to happen in the future. We will communicate these changes to you when and where necessary in a sensitive fashion, to keep you informed and apprised of future developments.

We are currently involved in many DEC projects and we have just commenced our participation in the Connected Communities 21 Project. This seeks to develop the connection between teaching, the Australian Curriculum and technology. It is an ideal initiative for us to involve ourselves with and we have decided to focus our effort on assessment procedures and devolving some responsibility for assessment to students. We are looking at developing this project across the community of schools who have been included in this initiative.

I look forward to our 21st Birthday Celebrations centred around the School Fete. This has taken an enormous amount of work from our school P&C and staff. It is going to be a wonderful day and I would encourage you, your relatives and friends to support the school on this day. It is much a celebration of the last 21 years as a fund raiser, and it is a really important milestone in the school's history. I commend the wonderful work of all those involved.

It is important to reflect upon how fortunate this school is in terms of technology resourcing. Currently we have 35 Interactive Whiteboards, 500 computers and 150 iPads. This is not taking into consideration the many technology peripherals that we have in the school. As I have said before, the students of Barnier are presented with a unique educational setting, unknown in other schools. There are times when we lose track of this fact but it needs to be acknowledged, that to maintain this environment requires an incredible amount of work behind the scenes. There is a large team that drive this process in the school but my special thanks go to Miss Brown and Mr Whitney who lead this dimension of Barnier.

Rod Gibbs
White Award Recipients

Congratulations to:
Ben S 3D
Matthew T 2S
Lachlan J 2M
Jordan D 2P
Sienna A 1J
Jasleen S 3V
Nasren D 2J
Dominic H 1K
Chloe O 1K
Olivia Braddock 1K
Jacob P 2S
Isla 3D
Amelia 3B

Kindergarten News

Who can believe it is Week 6 already? Kindergarten students are growing and maturing before our very eyes! The Kindergarten program has officially begun and we are busy learning letters of the alphabet, sight words, all about the weather, counting and parts of the computer.

Homework is not given out in Term One but there will be some wonderful ideas on different English and Maths activities you can do at home with your child. Please keep visiting our school website for these links.

Our Meet the Teacher Interviews are this week, and as you can understand, Kindergarten teachers must stick to the timetable which only allows each family a ten minute time allocation. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents, teacher and child to discuss strengths and goals for our upcoming year. If you would like more time, please organise another meeting with your child’s teacher.

We look forward to our wonderful programs and exciting lesson activities coming up in the next fortnight.

Early Stage 1 Teachers.

Early Departures for Students

If you wish to take your child home early from school, please do the following:

1. Report to the front office to collect an early pass before collecting your child from their classroom (students will not be permitted to leave school without this pass).

2. You may be asked for ID (drivers licence etc) if you are not known to office staff. This is to ensure the correct and authorised persons are taking your child home early.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Anaphylaxis and Asthma

We have a number of students at Barnier who are anaphylactic. Please avoid sending products to school that contain nuts.

If your child is anaphylactic or asthmatic, please ensure you send a copy of your child’s health care plan from the doctor to school ASAP so we can ensure the safety of your child. Notes came home last week requesting this information from students who have been flagged on our system. If you did not get this note and your child has a plan, please contact Miss Sampson ASAP.

Infectious Diseases

We have number of students with medically diagnosed low immune systems. If your child comes down with any infectious disease, such as chicken pox or other such diseases, PLEASE contact your child’s class teacher as soon as possible so the parents of these children can be contacted and the necessary action can be taken. Contracting these diseases can be life threatening for these children.
School Matters (Newsletter)

The newsletter is uploaded to the school website every fortnight. Please keep an eye out for this to remain informed about events and policies @ Barnier.

The Walking Bus Program needs YOU!

The walking bus has had a great start, however we need more dedicated volunteers, can you help?

What is the Walking Bus?
It is a wonderful initiative that provides a safe, healthy and environmentally friendly way for your children to get to school.
A Walking Bus is a group of people who are the “bus” that walk along a set route. Each Walking Bus has at least one parent “driver” who picks up children at designated stops and walks them to and from school in a safe and supervised manner.
All routes are safety checked by the Council or Police Department and the volunteers and children who join the Walking Bus participate in a road safety support session prior to commencement.

The Walking Bus has many benefits for everyone involved, as it:
1. Encourages regular exercise
2. Provides a safe and secure way for your children to get to school
3. Reduces traffic congestion around the school
4. Is environmentally friendly and promotes awareness of the environment to children
5. Is community minded
6. Is Free!!!!

How can your children get on board the Walking Bus?
You can obtain an enrolment form from the school office or it can be completed online at our website (walkingbus.com.au)

How can you help?

Parent volunteers are the backbone of the Walking Bus - without you the program will not be a success. An Expression of interest form can be found at the office - you can volunteer for as many days (morning and/or afternoon) that suit.

Routes maps and timetables are available on our website and at the school office

For more information on the Walking Bus visit walkingbus.com.au or contact Julie on 8824-8967 or via email at info@walkingbus.com.au, or why not LIKE us on Facebook/walkingbus & stay up to date with all of our news!

Volunteers Needed!

Can you spare some time to assist on Fete day? Do you have some things that could be used as prizes? Can you help in other ways?
If you can assist in any way at all, please contact your class teacher ASAP to see how you can volunteer on Fete day, Saturday 23 March.
Road Safety

It has been brought to our attention that there are a number of parents acting in an unsafe way during drop off and pick up time (especially down on Farnham Road near the bus bay). U-Turns across double yellow lines, parking in a bus bay, double parking and not using the crossing to cross the road have all been serious concerns. Below is a list of penalties for committing an offence in a school zone. Please be aware that police will be patrolling these areas both before and after school, however, most importantly PLEASE CONSIDER THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>Minimum Fine</th>
<th>Minimum loss of demerit points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you stop or park on or near:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A pedestrian crossing</td>
<td>$344</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A children’s crossing</td>
<td>$344</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Any marked foot crossing</td>
<td>$344</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you double park</td>
<td>$258</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you park on a footpath</td>
<td>$143</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you park illegally in a:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NO STOPPING ZONE</td>
<td>$258</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NO PARKING ZONE</td>
<td>$143</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• BUS ZONE</td>
<td>$258</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you make an illegal U-turn</td>
<td>$258</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you exceed 40km/h in an operating school zone in a light vehicle by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 10 km/h and under</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More than 10km/h but less than 20 km/h</td>
<td>$271</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More than 20km/h but less than 30 km/h</td>
<td>$451</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More than 30km/h but less than 45 km/h</td>
<td>$872</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More than 45 km/h</td>
<td>$1,987</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you use a mobile phone</td>
<td>$344</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you fail to give way to a pedestrian</td>
<td>$344</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you reverse unsafely</td>
<td>$201</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These values are higher for provisional drivers and are doubled during designated holiday/long weekend periods.

Parking unsafely can put children’s lives at risk. Increased fines and loss of demerit points apply when certain offences are committed in an operating school zone.

For more information on this topic please visit:
Canteen Catch Up

Hello & welcome back to all our students & families. A very big welcome to all our Kindy students & new students.

We have put together some simple steps to make using the canteen easy for you and your child.

- For busy parents we have a lunch order box on the counter. Bags may be taken home if you wish and it may be popped into the box in the morning. If change is needed it will be taped to the bag.
- Please include the following on your order:
  - Name
  - Class
  - Order

- Any ice blocks ordered with lunch -- bags must be brought to the canteen and your child will receive their ice block.
- Recess may be ordered and this is to be picked up from the canteen at eating time
- We have a separate line for recess and ice block orders so the children don’t have to wait in line with children who are buying
- The new canteen menu is out so please check as there are a couple of price increases
- Meal Deals will be coming soon so watch this space – they will also be advertised at the canteen
- We do encourage recess ordering, especially for hot food and ice block ordering especially in summer. This saves the children spending their play time waiting in line.
- Online ordering - don’t forget our online system. No fumbling for change for lunch orders and you can place your orders anytime from home or work a great time saver.
- Our menu is on the website. Please check there for foods and prices.

Thanks you
The Neat Eats Team

Please refer to the school website for the canteen menu and price list.
Next P&C meeting will be on Monday 18 March @ 7:30pm in the staffroom. All welcome!

(a) Sponsorship

Sponsorship offers a great way to support out Fete. It is also a wonderful way of gaining valuable exposure for your business. For more information email the Fete Committee.

(b) Donations

Donations of goods or services are another great way to support out Fete and gaining valuable exposure for your business. Donations of all sizes and value are required for the Chocolate Wheel, Raffles and other games to be played on the day. Contact the Fete Committee for details.

Games

We have started to collect items to be used on stalls in sideshow alley as prizes for games.

Please refer to the note that went home for ideas. If you have any other items you would like to donate that we can use please send it in to the class teacher or bring to the Fete Committee members on Friday mornings/afternoons in the COLA.

Rides

Discounted All Day Rides Passes are being sold Fete Friday. Join the many families who have already started to pay off their rides passes. We have an instalment plan available or you can pay the total amount. Fete Committee members will be in the COLA every Friday morning between 8:15 and 9:00am and Friday afternoons between 2:15 and 3:00pm to take your orders or answer any questions you might have.

(c) Stalls

If you are interested in holding a private stall contact the fete committee for more information.

More Fete Information:

Email: barnier1fete@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Barnier-Public-School-21st-Birthday-Fete/135785833164519 or leave a message on 0402315100 and a Fete committee member will call you.