FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Glee Club and Junior Dance Performers

Parents should have received invitations to tomorrow’s Glee Club and Junior Dance Performances at 1:45pm in the hall. We are all looking forward to seeing our talented boys and girls on stage.

My thanks to Miss Taylor (Glee Club) and the Junior Dance teachers.

Bikes 4 Life – Thank you!

Many thanks to all the parents who donated bikes for this most worthwhile charity. More than 60 bikes were donated.

Thanks to Christopher Finnegan and his parents who organised this initiative and who donated the $300.00 bike store voucher which was won by Oliver Connor-Brent (1M).

Christopher did a wonderful job explaining to the children the need for bicycles in third world countries.

A fantastic initiative!

Well done everyone!

World Festival of Magic

We have a number of free tickets to these performances to be held at the Hordern Pavilion – Saturday 15th November 11:00am, 1:30pm and 4:00pm. Please collect from the school office.

Outstanding School Fees 2014

School fees for 2014 are now outstanding. Could parents please check their child’s school bag for school reminder notices. All accounts must be settled as soon as possible.
Selective High School Entry for 2016

Parents of Year 5 students who wish to apply for placement in a Selective High School in 2016 must do so from 14th October to 17th November. Please note – late applications will not be accepted.

The Selective High School Placement test will be held on Thursday 12th March, 2015.

The application information booklet is available on the High Performing Student Unit’s Website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Parents may wish to discuss their application and their child’s suitability for selective school placement with class teachers.

Joining the Band Program – Year 2

Year 2 parents will have received information via pupil post last week about joining the band program. Children in Years 3-6 are also able to join the program. Children usually join in Year 3, however, we welcome children in Years 4, 5 and 6. No previous experience is required. Most children who join the program are unable to read music and have never played a musical instrument.

Ear tests and blow tests on instruments will be held in the next few weeks.

Learning to play an instrument is a great life-long skill for children and playing in a band is a wonderful experience. However, parents should carefully read the Band Handbook and consider the costs involved – hire of instrument, band fees, private tuition etc. There are no subsidies available. There is also a requirement that parents supervise morning or lunchtimes band rehearsals.

There will be a parent information meeting on 24th November at 8:15am in the Hall to fully outline all the costs, requirements, parental involvement etc and opportunities to ask questions of the band master and parent coordinators.

I would urge all interested parents to attend this information session.

Kindergarten 2015 Parents Morning Tea

Yesterday we welcomed our new Kindergarten 2015 children to school for their first Orientation Session. They all looked so smart in their new school uniforms!

Thanks to Melinda Hayes and the team of this year’s Kinder parents who prepared and served the delicious morning tea provided by the Kinder parents. This is a lovely occasion for our new parents – a warm friendly introduction to our school.
REMINDER - Children Not Returning to NBPS in 2015
If your child is not returning to Neutral Bay next year could you please inform the office or your child’s class teacher.

This term I will be finalising enrolments, engaging staff, allocating teachers to classes and forming classes. It is important that I have accurate student numbers.

Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Retirement!
Thank you parents for your kind words, emails and letters after the announcement of my retirement at the end of the year. I have been touched by your thoughtfulness and sentiments and do appreciate your support. I have been so impressed with the parents at NBPS over the years – your generous support of the school and willingness to assist in classrooms, canteen, uniform shop, with band, orchestra and excursions, on the P & C etc etc is amazing. I have enjoyed getting to know so many of you and sharing your joys and challenges over the years. I have met so many interesting and inspirational parents and have gained so much from their dedication and commitment to our children.

I do hope to have the opportunity to have a chat and a farewell drink at the P & C End of Year Drinks on Tuesday 16th December. My thanks to P & C for their organisation of what will be a fun night.

Calendar Dates

November
6th - Glee Club and Junior Dance Performance - 1:45pm
13th - Years 5 and 6 Performance – 9.30am – 10.45am
17th to 19th - Year 6 Camp
21st - P & C School Picnic – 5:00pm
25th - School Chess Competition
28th & 29th - Schools Spectacular

December
1st - Drama Club Performance – 2:00pm
3rd - Year 6 Interrelate – 6:30pm
7th - Bands Concert – 4:00pm
9th - Years 1 and 2 Final Assembly – 9:30am
10th - Years 3 and 4 Final Assembly – 9:30am
11th - Years 5 and 6 Presentation Day – 9.30am
12th - Kinder Graduation & Year 6 Mini Fete
15th - Year 6 Farewell 6:00pm
16th - P&C End of Year Drinks
17th - Picnic and Party Day

Gai Collett
Principal

STARS OF THE WEEK

All the Kindy parents who assisted with the morning tea on Tuesday. It was delicious and much appreciated.

Congratulations to Ruaraidh Kennedy (4P) who took part on 2nd November in the Gymnastics NSW Acrobatic Competition. He and his partner did extremely well and will be competing in the State Championships later this month. Well done!

Sharmilla Soorian, P & C Secretary, who organised the GirlPower presentation last night. Thanks to Ms Cooper (4C), Ms Gassman (2G) and Ms Grimshaw (1G) for their support. From all accounts it was a most informative and worthwhile presentation.
OZ TAG GALA DAY - 28th October

On Tuesday of week 4 the school took part in the area NRL Oz Tag gala at Blackman’s Park. We sent 5 teams, 3 boy and 2 girl teams, to represent our school.

It was a fabulous day for all and everyone played their part to make the day and competition a success. We had mixed success in the competitive pool section of the competition. All the teams played 4 games in their pools before the winners played off in the semi-final. Neutral Bay Senior Boys’ team 1 and the Girls’ team managed to qualify for the semi-finals stage by winning their respective pools with a 100 percent win ratios. The Year 5 boys’ team just missed out on a semi-final slot by 1 point after negotiating a very tough group.

In the semis the girls sadly were defeated in a close game.

The boy’s teams coasted through the semis with a convincing win against the team from Willoughby. In the final they came up against a very skilful and strong team in Willoughby Ones. Neutral Bay went 2 up early on but could not hold on to the lead, conceding 3 tries in the second half of the game. They showed admirable sportsmanship by accepting a close defeat to the hands of their adversaries.

All the participants should be extremely proud of their efforts on the day. Great job Neutral Bay as always!

Rob Kessler Oz Tag Teacher
PSSA T-BALL REPORT WEEK 4

For the first time this term, we finally achieved 4 out 4 wins. Congratulations to all the teams for this magnificent achievement!
The Year 6 Competitive team had a big win over the Cammeray Red team, with the final score ending up 37-20. The Year 5's from Cammeray tried very hard, but our Year 6 team was just too strong in both fielding and batting. Amelia Heffernan (6J) was nominated best player for her outstanding fielding skills, catching numerous players out.

The Year 6 Social team had a close game against their opposition, winning by just 3 runs, 25-22. This game ran to a 5th innings as the teams were drawn, and they are to be congratulated on their teamwork and perseverance. Alex MacGill (6A) excelled in both fielding and batting and was nominated player of the match.

The Year 5 Competitive team had a substantial win over a less experienced opposition. The final score after 4 innings was 31-12. Riley Landfear (5C) played a brilliant game, spear-heading several double and triple plays. Our last match of the afternoon was a nail biter, with the Year 5 Social team winning by just 1 run, 25-24. In this fantastic match, two students were nominated for players of the match. The first was Elise Rudan (5T) for her amazing sportsmanship, volunteering to sit out, so that other players in her team could have equal time on the field. The second student was Ela Parkinson (5T), who took 3 spectacular catches to get the opposition team out.

Remember, all Competitive team players need to attend training next Monday!

Miss Taylor and Mr Brown
(T-Ball Coaches)

1W ART WORK

Year one have been looking at different artists this term. 1W have been inspired by Andy Warhol, Vincent Van Gough and Claude Monet and have recreated some of their most famous works.

Miss Wondracz 1W Class Teacher

POP Art by Andy Warhol

Sam, Natalia, Emily, Lachlan, Vanessa

Noah, Zac, Lamar

‘Water Lilies’ by Claude Monet

Vanessa, Tanja, Scarlett, Victoria, Molly

Marie, Claire, Nik, Charlie, Ava

‘The Starry Night’ by Vincent Van Gough

Zavi, Brooke, Kayla, Nick

Jacob, Jiana, Megan, Ethan
2I News
Our topic this term is All Mixed Up. We created Crazy Hair artworks by mixing ink of primary colours.

Miss Irvine
2I Class Teacher

5C News
Three students from 5C spoke recently at the OC Orientation Day, welcoming our new Opportunity Class students with wonderful, heartfelt and moving speeches written to reassure students who will move schools to attend Neutral Bay Public School next year. Written independently, without supervision or teacher assistance, they are remarkably wise, mature and reflective insights into the way children think. We thought you’d like to read them.

OC Orientation Speech by Sophie Hobson, 5C
Dr Seuss once said, “Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter won’t mind.”
Your first days feel different. A new class, a new teacher, a new school. You’ll worry that you made a mistake by saying goodbye to your old friends, the life you knew. But then you start quickly making friends and everything changes, and you fit in. Suddenly one day you’ll wake up, and the thought of not going to school is utter flapdoodle. And a new life begins.

It was like that for me. Welcome ladies and gentlemen and to all of our new OC students. My name is Sophie Hobson. Every day, I come home from school at Neutral Bay with a new thing that has surprised us or stunned us all. Here it matters not who you are, for here you’re at the same level. Reflecting back on this year, a wave of memories washes over me. The first day, jokes told in Music class, homework, comprehension, library and band practice. Riley being excited for a spelling test to start. James singing softly out of sheer happiness during a Maths test and a gazillion other memories I don’t have time to mention today.
There comes a time when your light shines above all others. That moment is now. I feel you should make the most of this opportunity you’re given because you may never have this again. Moments like this comes along once in a blue moon.
You are special.

OC Orientation Speech by Riley Landfear, 5C
I can understand that you might be feeling nervous. I can understand that you may be feeling overwhelmed. I can understand that you might be feeling like a stranger. I can understand that.

Good morning students, parents and guests. Welcome to Neutral Bay Public School. My name is Riley Landfear. I remember on my first day, when I walked through those gates, I was scared. This was a foreign place. I did not
know what these new people would be like, or whether I would enjoy the new school. But I can tell you right now: Neutral Bay is the best school I have ever been to. It’s a school like no other.

For one thing, our teacher, Ms Carnegie, is fabulous—challenging, calm and creative. I have had so much fun in her class, it’s hard to believe that I am actually there. All of the other children are welcoming and kind. In my class alone, there are two brilliant authors, three Maths whizzes and almost everything else you could wish for in an OC class.

Not to mention the other extra-curricula activities. Depending on your interests, you can join our school Newspaper, Navigator, or play in our school band. You could sing in the choir, or join our celebrated chess program. Our Science teacher, Mr Mayne, is absolutely hilarious and library has gone, in one year, from an ‘Oh-why-do-we-have-to-do-this-experience’ to a ‘Yes! We’re-doing-library experience’. This is, without a doubt, the best school in Sydney. (For me.)

OC Orientation Speech by Olivia Loukas, 5C

I remember my OC Orientation like it was yesterday. I sat towards the back of the hall, hoping no one would identify me. I clutched my black Middle Harbour stockings and stared at the array of unfamiliar uniforms. Being the only girl coming from my old school, I thought I would struggle to find friends. Boy, was I wrong!

All my fears and worries were put to rest when I saw the OC students were each given an iPad! I saw the great facilities the school had. I saw the fun extra curriculum groups offered to children of all ages, including dance, drama, Glee, Navigator and computer programming. (Just to name a few.) Not only are Maths, English, writing and HSIE taught in a way that leaves you thinking “Wow, I seriously just did that!”, there are endless possibilities for social and competitive sport teams. I left the orientation with a bubbling feeling of joy spreading through my body. I knew I was now a Neutral Bay girl.

While some of you are familiar with what makes an OC classroom different from mainstream, many of you are not. In a mainstream class, everyone is at different levels in terms of ability. In OC, everyone is pretty much the same. That means no more waiting for everyone else to finish the test. No more standing up 15 minutes before anyone else stands up.

Don’t worry! OC is not all work, work, work! Dance, Drama, Glee Club, Choir and School Spectacular are all great examples of fun activities we do. On Thursday last week, 5C performed a dance in front of the Year 5 and 6 classes to the song ‘That Power’ by Will-i-am and Justin Beiber. In a few weeks we will do the same dance again at our annual Stage 3 Concert. 5C believes this song relates to us because this year we learned that we have the power to do anything we set our minds to. If we had all stayed at our old school, no one in 5C would ever have believed that!

When making the move, my main worry was that I wouldn’t find friends. I thought I’d either play with the Year 6 OC students or by myself with a book. But with 12 other girls in my class, I had 12 more friends than I ever had at my old school. You see, in mainstream I would stand out as someone different. Here, I’m treated as if I’m normal and not a freak of nature! And if having 29 other students in a class isn’t enough, the school has over 900 students! Academic and sporting teams provide a great opportunity for children looking to find other children with the same interests and hobbies as them. For example, if you LOVE reading, do what I did: join Navigator, the school newspaper. Not only do you get to write a newspaper, you get a copy to keep and are able to read everyone else's fascinating articles. If you are destined for Broadway, Neutral Bay X Factor is right up your alley. There is a club for the sporty and musically inclined, for authors, dancers or singers… The list goes on!

I know now why OC is the Opportunity Class; we are offered the opportunity to share a class with 29 other children who share the same hobbies and interests as we do. Now I’ve experienced OC, I don’t know how I would have coped at my old school. I was once asked about the best decision I’d ever made. In less than a nanosecond I had responded with two letters: ‘OC’.

To all of you starting OC, you may feel scared now, but trust me. Coming here will be the best decision of your life. Although it might seem scary, although you might be afraid, OC isn’t as scary as people make it out to be. It might seem frightening at first, but that's not what OC is really like. If I could go back to my OC Orientation, I would tell myself: ‘It’s okay, Olivia. Everything will always work out.’

And it will.
Invitation to Junior Dance and Glee Club Showcase

It is our pleasure to invite parents to the Junior Dance and Glee Club Showcase on Thursday 6th November. The performance will begin at 1.45pm in the school hall. There will be a dress rehearsal for school children only on Wednesday 5th November. Please ensure your child brings in their costume on both of these days. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 6th November.

Kind Regards,
Junior Dance and Glee Club Teachers

A lot of girls went to the GirlPower workshop last night. One of them was me. I went with my mum. They told us about the 4 Friendship Facts.

- No relationship or friendship is perfect
- Every friendship is different
- Trust and respect are the 2 most important qualities of a friendship
- Friendship change… and that’s OK!

I will remember those facts for a long time and I have already started telling all my friends! My mum and I have been practising already!

I learnt about The FriendOMeter.

The FriendOMeter told us about Healthy Friendships and Unhealthy Friendships. Thanks GirlPower xoxo from Ruby 4HR

Girl power was helpful for all girls and also our parents. I went with my mum but there were some dads there too. It taught us how to deal with toxic friendships. We learnt how to stand up to our friends and discuss our problems and also if they were mean we could use quick come-backs, by saying things like: not cool or excuse me (you need to say this in a serious way if it’s really bad) or if they’re a good friend and they hurt your feelings accidentally you take them to a quiet place the next day to let them know how you felt about it. Also there was the Friend-O-Meter so that girls could evaluate their friendships with other girls. By Sonia 4P

On the 4th of November we had workshop just for girls at school. We learnt how to deal with friendships and the parents learnt how to support their daughter through the ups and downs of a friendship. We listened to Annika and Sony’s tips as well as role-playing different situations that we might find ourselves in.

I really enjoyed the friend-o-meter there was healthy friendships and toxic friendships and you would think of what type of friend you or your good friend is. We also learnt about we can’t have BFFs because we don’t know what our future is. We had a quick dance at the end to Katy Perry and One Direction we had a great time. By Lila 4C

Girl Power is a friendship program that inspires Tween girls to feel empowered and develop strong sense of self, and love themselves while learning to manage the most important thing to them… their friendships. We learnt how to comfortably put out Friendship Fires (Friendship fires
are when you have negative issues with friends). We learnt about how to deal with these issues using kindness and words.

My favourite part was that we used self-defence but instead of contact we used words. We had a blast listening to songs by Katy Perry. By Gracie 4B

Miss S Cooper
GirlPower Coordinator.

P&C NEWS

P&C End of Year Drinks – Save the Date!

The P&C invites all parents and School staff to the P&C End of Year Drinks in December. The P&C has worked closely, co-operatively and productively with Gai for the 10 years she has been the Principal at the School. Gai has been a tremendous contributor to the progress and development of the School. She has been involved in the approval and construction of several major School buildings, implementation of various Information Technology upgrades including the roll out of iPads, pioneer leadership in the empowering local schools program and has provided great energy and impetus to School life generally. Please come and join us on Tuesday 16 December, 7pm at the School Hall. Invites will be handed out via pupil mail in the next coming weeks.

Many thanks
Sharmila Soorian P & C Secretary

Baking Alert!!!!
Attention Bakers of All Sizes! The Neutral Bay Public School Bake-off is set for the afternoon of Friday the 21st of November, to be celebrated at the same time as the end of year picnic! All bakers will have the opportunity to enter their fabulous cakes in the competition for a very small fee, which will be judged by our very discerning panel. You can enter as an individual or you can team up with a friend! Information will be sent home via pupil post and email closer to the date - but in the meantime get those baking caps on and start putting your ideas together!

P&C Events Team
Hello from the Uniform Shop

First of all - a big thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Secondhand Sale on Tuesday this week. For anyone who missed out, remember you can email Kate nbpssecondhand@gmail.com and she will do her best to find the item(s) you are looking for. As always, donations of secondhand items are always gratefully received - please either bring them to the uniform shop on a Tuesday morning (8.30-9.30am) or leave at the office.

New Kindy Starters - It was so lovely to see our new Kindy starters on Tuesday for their first Orientation Session. I hope they all had fun! If you have a child starting in Kindy next year, remember you can order their uniform items via Flexischools (www.flexischools.com.au) and have them delivered to your older child's classroom. Alternatively, just add your new child's name and put 'NEW' for their class and we will get their order packed up and sent to the office for you to collect. If you have any friends whose first child is starting Kindy, please spread the word about Flexischools. We process the Flexischools orders daily now and for new starters we send an email when the order is ready to be collected from the office. It couldn't be easier!

Thanks,
Elizabeth, Stacey, Kate & the Uniform Shop team

BAND NEWS

Year 2 families should have received a band information pack via pupil post last Friday. If you did not, and are interested in joining the band, the Band Handbook and Instrument Selection Forms are on the school website under the Band tab: http://www.neutralbay-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/band. Please note the important dates for Year 2 below and return the Instrument Selection Form either to the office or send it in with your child to the Blow Test on Monday 17 November. Children without signed forms will not be able to attend the Blow Test. We encourage all families new to the band program to attend the Junior Band Open Rehearsal and Information Morning on 24 November at 8.15am - this is a great opportunity to gain an overview of the Band Program and ask questions.

With the end of the year fast approaching, we are looking forward to some fabulous concerts to celebrate how far our young musicians have come in 2014 and to enjoy some wonderful music. Thanks to all our band families for their efforts getting the children to band rehearsals on time and encouraging them to keep practising with so many end of year activities to juggle.

A reminder to all current band members to go through the audition requirements (available under the Band tab of the School Website) with their tutors so that you are well prepared for auditions at the beginning of 2015. Now is the time to start practising those scales for a confident audition in Term 1 of 2015.

Important dates:

Wednesday November 5th: Junior lunch - 2014 Junior Band will perform for the year 2 students (and other interested students from other bands that are looking to join the band program in 2015).
Monday November 10th: 9:30am to 10:30am - Year 2 (and any other interested parties) Ear Test
Monday November 17th: starting at 9:30am - Year 2 (and any other interested parties) Blow Test
Monday November 24 at 8.15am - 9.15am Junior Band Open Rehearsal and Information Morning for Year 2 students (and other students interested in joining the band program) and their parents
Sunday December 7th: 4pm to 6pm - End of year Concert for all Bands and 25th Birthday celebration

Claudia Stephens, Liesel Wightwick and Karen Au - Overall Band Co-ordinators
Canteen Volunteer Monthly Raffle Winner

Congratulations to our volunteer Kellie Clarke who won the monthly raffle draw. Her children are Emma (5K), Zoe (3R), and Jack (KRV). She will receive a Westfield gift voucher worth $30.

Another warm thank-you to the volunteer team in Week 4 and to volunteers who have already filled in the timetable slots in advance.

Next week’s special is Pasta Bolognese.

The roster for next week is below. If you cannot make your rostered spot, it would be enormously helpful if you could find a replacement before phoning 0426 226 235 or emailing nbpscanteenroster@gmail.com

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Michelle Alejo – Canteen Coordinator

Community News

Year 6 Parents
Just a reminder about the photos for the Year 6 Dinner presentation. If you haven’t already please send two photos of your Year 6 child/ren as detailed below to this dedicated email nbpsyear62014@gmail.com by Friday 21 November

a. A Kindergarten (or first year of primary school) aged photo of them – in school uniform or not, whatever school they attended

AND

b. A Current – 2014 – photo of them, in school uniform would be good but not a problem if you can’t get one. Full body or head only, it doesn’t matter. Please save each photo with your child’s name. eg JaneSmith2008 and JaneSmith2014

If you’d rather not have your child’s photo included please email using the same address nbpsyear62014@gmail.com

Thanks,

Fi Hearne
As you are aware we are fast approaching a New Year and have an HUGE waiting list for 2015.

If any of you are certain you will not be needing your permanent booking we would appreciate if you could email us on info@nbcag.com.au to cancel. I know there will be lots of grateful parents!

Current permanent booking with us it will automatically roll over to the New Year.

If you are on our waiting list you will be contacted in early December to inform you of your child’s placement details.

If you DO NOT hear from us your child's name will be kept on the wait list and we will notify you if a spot becomes available.

Single with Children – a great way to meet people in your area.
Single with children provides fun and exciting activities for kids and single parent families every weekend.
www.singlewithchildren.com.au
Phone 1300 300 496

Primary Ethics – Parent volunteers needed.

Primary Ethics sessions are offered during the Scripture/Primary Ethics time slot on Wednesday mornings for half an hour. Primary Ethics is currently offered to children in years 4, 5 and 6 at Neutral Bay.

To offer more children access to Primary Ethics we need more volunteer teachers. Training, support and lesson plans are provided.

Please contact Peta Thomson (Neutral Bay Ethics Co-ordinator) on 0419 626 078 or petathomson74@yahoo.com.au

You can also visit www.primaryethics.com.au to find out more.

Neutral Bay Public School, as a service to parents, will advertise community events that may be of interest. Neutral Bay Public School does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility for the management or organisation of these events.