DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TERM 1</td>
<td>28.01.15</td>
<td>First Day back for students. Best Start Testing begins for Kindergarten</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.02.15</td>
<td>Kindergarten students start</td>
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<td>4.02.15</td>
<td>Summer PSSA trials at school – preference 1</td>
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<td>6.02.15</td>
<td>Summer PSSA trials at school – preference 2</td>
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<td>9.02.15</td>
<td>9am-11am Playtime Sessions start – Lidbury Hall 12.30pm - Bulldogs Bully Talk Stage 2 &amp; 3 in the Hall P&amp;C meeting – 7pm (Staffroom)</td>
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<td>12.02.15</td>
<td>Parent Information Night Stage 1 &amp; Special Education – 3.15 – 4.00pm Stage 3 – 4.00 – 4.45pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13.02.15</td>
<td>Summer PSSA Sport training Granville Primary Principals meeting – 10.30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18.02.15</td>
<td>3.30pm – Our Spectacular meeting at Berala PS</td>
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<td>19.02.15</td>
<td>Parent Information Night Early Stage 1 – 3.15 – 4.00pm Stage 2 – 4.00 – 4.45pm</td>
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<td>20.02.15</td>
<td>Summer PSSA Round 1</td>
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<td>25.02.15</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival – Water Sports Day - Auburn Swimming Pool</td>
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<td>27.02.15</td>
<td>Summer PSSA Sport Round 2 Clean Up Australia afternoon</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to another school year at Lidcombe PS. I am delighted to see so many smiling faces in the playground, on assembly and in the classrooms so far this year. Also, so many fresh uniforms, shiny black shoes and lots of smiling faces on the parents as well. The staff are really looking forward to a very successful year for your children.

“A dynamic innovative school always moving forward”
All students in Years 1 to 6 were placed in their new classes on the first day back, Wednesday. Kindergarten have also been ushered into their new classes, their first day was Tuesday after our teachers had completed most of the Best Start testing with them. The staff and school Executive have worked very hard in placing the students into classes for 2015. A lot of professional time, effort and thought goes into trying to ensure students will be happy in their new class, but also in a class that will be a challenging environment for them as well as matching the student’s personalities with that of the teachers, so that we can get the best out of them. All students went to their new classes happily. I need to say that the classes have been finalised as our numbers are healthy and have been submitted to the Department.

On occasion, some students can feel a little upset in their new surroundings, usually because they feel they are not with any of their friends, or they have heard some unfounded gossip about a teacher. I ask you to support your child by talking positively about the new situation, reassuring them and encouraging them to be strong and resilient in dealing with the change. As students move through the years of primary schooling, new challenges face them every day and the best way to cope with change is to make the most of it, embrace and enjoy the challenge. Most of the time, the upset feelings can pass quickly and sometimes, very rarely, the feelings can take a little longer to pass. It is important as parents to keep being positive. Children read their parents very well, if they feel you are worried about them, this will reinforce to them that there is something for them to be worried about too.

The fact is that we have amazing teachers here at Lidcombe PS and every single one of them are very rigorous with their analysis of data and are keen to remedy the weaknesses the students have to raise their results. That is why so many families seek enrolment at our school - it is a high performing school with a great school culture and atmosphere. I feel blessed to be working here, and no doubt as parents, you are also proud of what our school achieves. Our class names have changed this year to suit our new student management system. Kindergarten retain their colour names, Stage 1 have Australian Native Flora names, Stage 2 Early Australian Explorers and Stage 3 Famous Aboriginal Identities.

Our class teachers for 2015 are:
K Blue = Miss D. Sage
K Red = Mrs P. Gowing
K Yellow = Mrs K. Aitken / Mrs L. Smith
K Purple = Ms H. Robinson
K Orange = Ms Morgan
1Acacia = Miss S. An
1Eucalyptus = Miss J. Yang
1Grevillea = Mrs J. Smith / Mrs B. Swan
1Waratah = Miss S. Mo
1/2Banksia = Mrs M. Butler
2Bottlebrush = Miss M. Chen / Mrs K. Gow
2Firewheel = Mrs A. Pant
2Lilli Pilli = Mrs A. Colley
2Melaleuca = Ms R. Scott
S2Bass = Mrs K. Gordon
S2Cook = Miss R. Hendy / Mrs J. Murray
S2Flinders = Mr T. Cleary
S2Lawson = Miss N. Clift
S2Sturt = Mrs A. Rovere
4/5Goolagong = Miss Y. Kim
S3Bennelong = Mr B. Gatwood
S3Freeman = Mr C. Windle
S3Namatjira = Mrs L. Willis
S3Truganini = Mr G. Hulley
S3Yunupingu = Mrs S. Scillitani
3/6Ruby = Miss Sarah Polman
K-6Sapphire = Mrs N. John (M,Tu) / Mrs C. Pisano (W,Th,F)
K-6Emerald = Mrs R. Carlier (M,Tu,W) / Mrs L. Dodson (Th,F)

See below for a location map of these classes.
We had quite a few staff changes from last year. Final goodbyes were made late last year to some fantastic teachers, whilst others should come back this year.

Mr. M. Duffy (Relieving Principal at Kingsgrove PS for at least Term 1)
Ms Y. Ibrahim (PBIS consultant for 2015)
Mrs L. Larwood (on maternity Leave but has accepted a permanent teaching job at Horsley School)
Ms C. Brebner (Maternity Leave 2015)
Mrs C. Wells (Term 1) and Mrs J. Murray (first 7 weeks) are currently on Long Service Leave.

You will notice that there are few new names besides some of the classes. We welcome to our school Mrs Colley, Miss Mo, Miss Chen, Miss Hendy, Miss Clift, Mrs Black, Mrs Delli-Pizzi, Miss Libro, Mr Su, Mrs El Asmar, Mrs Cullen and Mrs Corkery to our staff.

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See below for a location map of these classes.
and our school. These staff come highly recommended to our school and we are most confident that they will do an outstanding job with your children. Mrs Harvey, Mrs Choo and Mrs Ortado will all be back from Maternity Leave sometime during the year as well. It’s a very strong team indeed.

Later in this newsletter, the roles of the other teachers in our school are explained. I ask you to please support the decisions we have made about placing the children into classes for this year, but as always, if you feel there may be a problem, come and have a chat with me.

We encourage you to keep an eye on our school website [www.lidcombe-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.lidcombe-p.schools.nsw.edu.au) and to become involved in our school and work with us in the interests of your child’s education. We have also purchased a “School App”. All you need is an iPhone, iPod Touch, any smartphone android device (e.g., Samsung) or an iPad, and then download the free “School App” to your device. Having a school app will revolutionise our communications with our community. It will be a notification type service, that will allow you to get updates, reminders and even our school newsletter!

Get into the App store on your phone or device, put into the search engine “Lidcombe Public School”. Our school logo will come up straight away, so press the button to install.

Once it is installed, you will need the username and password to get into the information provided on our school app.

User Web Portal, iPhone App and Android App
username: community
cpassword: lidcombesps

We have also launched a Facebook page called “Lidcombe Public School”. Many of you have already liked our page which means of course, you will get all of our messages and updates. If you haven’t liked our page yet, just put into the search engine “Lidcombe Public School” and it should be the first item that comes up, select it and you be on the Facebook page to like it.

Considering the many challenges and opportunities being experienced at the school and our relentless pursuit of school improvement it’s going to be another interesting and rewarding year at Lidcombe PS. Details of our 2015 priorities and School Management Plan will be communicated to you through the school website, newsletters and special bulletins as the year progresses. Our initial priorities are to establish our classes and to confirm our staffing entitlements.

**Support Roles in 2015**

Schools can be quite complex environments and quite often all you see is the interventions made with our students via the classroom teachers, but there are several other support personnel who assist the teachers with raising the standards of our students.

They are:-

**Librarian** Miss M. Cole & Mrs J Chant (Fridays)

**L&ST (Learning and Support Teacher)**

Mrs J. Ramsay (Stage 1, Reading Recovery)
Mrs L. James (ES1, Reading Recovery)
Mrs J. Cullen (Reading Recovery)
Mr. N. Su (Stage 2 – 1 day a week)
Ms J. Ellis (Stage 2 & Stage 3 – 2 days a week)
ESL
Mrs M. Whittaker (ES1 - 5 days)
Miss N. Callan (Stage 1 – 5 days)
Mrs R. Ranasinghe (Stage 2 – 5 days)
Mrs Black (Stage 3 – 5 days)

RFF
Mrs J. Corkery (3 days)
Miss R. Libro (3 days)
Mr. N. Su (2 days)
Mrs L. Delli-Pizzi (5 days)

Community Languages
Mrs D. Qui (Chinese – 5 days)
Mr S. Fil (Turkish – 3 days)
Mrs S. El Asmar (Arabic – 3 days)
Miss S. An (Korean – 3 days)
Mrs J. Ji (Chinese – 1 day)

School Counsellor
Mr. James Watkins
(Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays)

These support teachers are tremendously hard working and add greatly to our school’s culture.

Administration Staff for 2015
We have all of our hard working and very friendly administration staff back on deck this year as well. No problem is too great for these lovely ladies and like everyone else at our school, they work extremely hard to ensure the service you receive as parents is first class. Our office hours are 8.30am to 3.15pm. Despite the National Partnership ending, we have been able to secure funding from Dooleys (and we thank them so much), to continue the Community Engagement Officer’s role, which has proved to be so valuable within our school’s culture.

SAM
Mrs J. Wilmott

SAO
Mrs B. Persson

SAO
Mrs A. Carter

Community Engagement Officer
Mrs J. Rush

General Assistant
Mr. L. Truong

We also have 7 incredible Student Learning Support Officers – SLSO’s who do an amazing job in assisting our teachers with some of our students who have a disability.

SLSO’s
Mrs S. Johnson, Mrs J. Teasel, Mr P. Sage, Mrs J. Ebelt, Mrs V. Lesic, Mrs S. Pinto & Miss R. Tunali.

Executive Roles in 2015
Our school executive team comprises seven (7) teachers in school leadership positions. Our school executive team members are as follows:

Mr Matt Lewis  Principal
Ms Lisa Shortland  Rel.Deputy Principal

There are five Assistant Principals with delegated leadership and management of different teachers and students within the school.

Mr. Ben Gatwood - Special Education
Ms Debbie Sage - Early Stage One (Kindergarten)
Miss Natalie Callan - Stage One (Year 1 and Year 2)
Mrs Kylie Gordon - Stage 2 (Year 3 and Year 4)
Mrs Lee Willis - Stage 3 (Year 5 and Year 6)

Even though we will be without Mr. Duffy for at least a term, the ethos amongst our leadership team continues:
“Building the capacity of teachers and leaders through engagement in quality professional learning is the key to improving student learning outcomes.”

The combined teaching experience and expertise of our school leadership team exceeds 100+ years. Throughout 2015 we will be using that combined experience and expertise to focus on the further enhancement of our own leadership capacity and the professional practice of our colleagues with particular emphasis on successful classroom organisation and effective reading strategies and techniques. In 2015 the school’s academic priorities will focus on improving student engagement in literacy and numeracy through whole school understanding of ESL teaching strategies and increased student use of interactive technology.

How do your children get to and from school?
The start of school term signals the start of the Mills Street, John Street and Doodson Avenue traffic chaos. To ease traffic congestion, improve child safety and lessen parental stress, perhaps your child could walk or catch the bus to school?

While younger kids need to be accompanied, older children are often both willing and able to make their own way to school. Yet many Year 5 and 6 students aren't given the opportunity until high school, when greater distances make it an extremely daunting experience for the uninitiated. Obviously we don't all have the time to walk our kids to school, but perhaps a car-pooling or "walk-pooling" arrangement could be made with parents that live nearby. Whatever works for you, you'll be doing everyone a favour (including the ozone layer) by leaving the car at home.

Some good reasons to walk to school:

- the weather is with us - make the most of it!
- younger kids benefit from the one-on-one time with their parents
- older kids enjoy the independence that walking to or from school fosters, not to mention the time to chat and unwind with their friends
- all kids (and their parents) benefit from the exercise and the chance to take stock of their surroundings
- parents can surreptitiously check out what's going on in their neighbourhood. Perhaps you might get some renovating or gardening ideas along the way
- if nothing else, you're bound to be rewarded with a friendly "Good morning" and smile, making your community that much nicer (and safer) for your child to grow up in.

Too far to walk?
Perhaps your child can catch the bus:
The School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) provides free travel between home and school Monday to Friday on school days.

To be eligible for the scheme an applicant must be a resident of NSW, 4 years 6 months of age or older and enrolled as one of the following:

- an infant student (K-2), the distance between their home and school being irrelevant
- a primary student (Years 3-6) who lives more than 1.6 kms (radial distance) from school, or 2.3 kms or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school
- a secondary student (Year 7-12) who lives more than 2 kms (radial distance) from school, or 2.9 kms or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school

Application forms are available from the school. Forms must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian and returned to the school, which will verify that the student is enrolled. The school will forward the application form(s) to the transport operator, who will assess whether the student meets the distance eligibility criteria. If eligible, the operator will issue the student with a pass, which indicates that it is solely for travel under the scheme. Note that a new application must be completed when a student progresses from Year 2 to Year 3; changes name, school and/or address; or applies for an additional travel pass in a joint/dual custody situation.
Medical Issues
As a reminder, we have a few children who have an extreme allergic reaction (which can be life threatening) to peanuts and other nuts. This means that this child cannot come into contact with other people who have eaten nut products (e.g., Nutella, peanut butter, any types of nuts or any foods that contain nuts or nut products.) I realise that the school can never really be nut free, but I’m sure that all parents can be very vigilant about this problem and not send their children to school with anything that contains nuts, including home made birthday cakes etc. This way, we will become nut-aware. It is a challenge for us at school as well as our community, but I am confident that everyone will pull together to make our school a safe place for every child.

As a rule anyway, if your child does present as ill before they come to school, it is better that you keep them at home, so as not to spread the disease throughout the school. We respectfully request that all children and parents of Lidcombe PS follow these guidelines over 2015 and beyond. If you have any enquiries regarding this, please contact me at the school office.

School Uniforms
The parent community of Lidcombe Public School has determined that all students attending Lidcombe PS should wear school uniform. The principal and school staff fully support and endorse this decision and encourage all students to comply with this expectation. All students are expected to exhibit good grooming and personal cleanliness. Offensive slogans on clothing or belongings will not be permitted. At the end of 2011, we officially took over control of the Uniform Shop from Lowes and now parents can buy the uniform from our school. It is located at Lidbury Hall (near Blocks A and C) and you can visit the Uniform Shop on Wednesdays 8.30 to 9.15am or on Friday afternoons 2.30 – 3.15pm.

This year I would like to focus on the wearing of our school hat and black school shoes. There seems to be a lot of students who tend to wear any hat to school, and when I look out over the school population at a morning assembly, it doesn’t look good. The wearing of a hat is especially important during hot weather and we are definitely insisting that our students are wearing their hats outside. As a school, we bought school hats for everyone 2 years ago, there should be no excuse for not wearing one. With the wearing of black school shoes, these can be black sneakers also, whichever of the two they are more comfortable in, but they must be black.

Whilst on the uniform shop, I need to thank two very hard working, friendly and very supportive parents who run the uniform shop – Mrs Melissa Pene and Ms Kelly Livingston. They spend countless hours voluntarily, chasing up or filling orders and providing a wonderful service to our parents. They are also assisted at times by Mrs Sonia Lopes and Mrs Raelene Harris. It greatly upsets me when their roles are taken for granted by rude parents who don’t like to wait their turn, who display a lack of manners towards these volunteers or who don’t supervise their children appropriately whilst at the uniform shop. We are very lucky to have the two ladies working for free to provide this service for the parents and our students and of course, having the Uniform Shop back under our control allows us to keep the prices much lower than what the stores used to charge. Now our uniforms are cheaper and on-site, this is obviously easier for our parents.

On the issue of supervision, please ensure you have your small children with you. They are not allowed on the equipment outside the uniform shop – we are not covered for any accidents that happen on this equipment without direct supervision and of course, when they are on the equipment, it is mostly during class time which serves as an unnecessary distraction to our students. Also, please don’t leave your child alone in Lidbury Hall as accidents can happen there too. Your children must be kept with you, safe and sound at all times. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Excursions and School Performances
During the year the students will be provided with opportunities to participate in excursions, visiting
performances and other activities that cost money. These activities are very important to the overall education of your child(ren) and therefore it is expected that all children involved will attend. If parents require assistance with payment for any of these activities, please speak to Mr. Lewis.

Closing the main school gate
If you are visiting the school during school hours and coming through the main school gate, please make sure the gate is closed behind you when you enter and when you leave to avoid a quick and easy exit for some of our younger students.

Mobile Phones
While it is accepted that mobile phones play an important part in modern life and communications, it is important that all staff, students and parents accept that their use during class time and on various other occasions at school is inappropriate.

If mobile phones are to be brought to school by students, they need to be switched off and left in their bags until 3pm or better still, left at the office. Parents and carers must give written permission for students to bring mobile phones to school. The school will not accept any responsibility for a mobile phone being lost or damaged.

Fruit Breaks – Crunch and Sip
Like last year, our staff decided they would follow the new program “Crunch and Sip” in their classrooms, to improve the way our students think at crucial periods during our school day.

As our morning session is 2 hours long, and physically, some children have not eaten for 4 hours between breakfast and recess, we are now asking that you provide a small portion of fruit (you determine the size depending on the age of your child(ren)), so they can spend 2 minutes at around 10am having a quick bite of something healthy to recharge them for the rest of the morning. Also we are encouraging the use of a water bottle filled with chilled water only, to sip on at this time. The rules are, however, that it must be a small piece of fruit and water only to take advantage of this break. If you would like more information about this program, see Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Rush or visit www.crunchandsip.com.au. I am sure that this will lead to even more success in the classrooms.

For our Kindergarten parents…..
Our new Kindergarten students have settled in well and have begun their great journey for learning in the primary years with great enthusiasm. Just a couple of reminders are below to help you make your child as successful as possible:

*All students need to wear closed in shoes – no sandals or thongs!
*All students must be wearing a school hat outside as part of our Sun Safe policy. They are only $10 at our uniform shop. PLEASE make sure you label all hats with your child’s name.
*It is summer at the moment, so jumpers are probably not a wise thing to dress your children in. Put the jumper in your child’s bag if you are worried.
*We have a program called “Crunch and Sip” happening at 10am in the classrooms. Your child needs a small portion of fruit (bite-sized) and water to drink every day for this activity. Please see further information regards Crunch and Sip in this newsletter.
*Please ensure that you pack an appropriate amount of lunch to eat each day. We have witnessed some Kindergarten students take almost the whole of their lunch break to consume what they have for lunch. Play time is important too.

School Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival will follow the tremendously successful model from the last 3 years, the Water Sports Day.

All children in Years 3-6 will be attending our swimming carnival down at Ruth Everuss Pool. The morning session will focus on the races needed for
representatives to go on to our Auburn Zone carnival and then for the rest of the day, focus will shift to students placed in groups to learn aspects of water safety in the pool. We feel this will be of most benefit to all students. Our carnival will take place on Wednesday 25 February 2015 with a note (translated in four major languages) coming out very soon.

When this note comes out, it will be very important that you read all of the information and place your child in the most applicable group that applies to their swimming ability – beginners, intermediate and advanced. Beginner and intermediate groups will still be able to touch the bottom of the pool without going under, but the advanced groups will be learning in the deep water – we will be testing their ability to take part in the advanced group as well as highlighting what group each student is in with a very brightly coloured wristband. Of course, you are more than welcome to attend, even help out on the day.

Should you misplace your note please go to our school website and download a replacement note.

**Car Parks / Parking**

Unfortunately, I must stress this particular point again, but in any case our new Kindergarten mums and dads might not be aware of this either. The car parking facilities (the Staff car park at end of Mills Street and the two located off Doodson Ave) must **not** be used by parents or carers to **park in or walk through**. One parent on our first day of school, in a maroon car, parked inside our grounds, let out their children and then proceeded to drive over our Basketball court to leave via Mills Street. Quite a few parents have been seen parking in our grounds or behaving in an unsafe manner outside the school, *(mostly parents that know the rules!)* but the fact is that if everyone started parking in our grounds, we would be seriously compromising the safety of the students. Please ensure you drop your child(ren) off outside the school in a safe manner or walk you children to and from school using the pedestrian access points, **not** through the car park.

Other parents have now complained about our parents double parking in Doodson Ave and Mills St. What is happening is extremely dangerous and stupid, with students getting out of cars from the wrong side of the car into oncoming traffic. We almost had 3 children run over the other day! Please do not double park to let your children out. It is against the law and I have no problem contacting the authorities and giving them your license plate number if you are doing the wrong thing out there. I would really appreciate your assistance in this matter.

**Summer PSSA Sport**

We are also entering into Summer PSSA sport this year. The sports on offer are:

* Junior and Senior Cricket
* Junior and Senior AFL *(Aussie Rules)*
* Senior Boys and Girls Softball
* Junior Boys and Girls T-ball

Trials have started yesterday and will conclude on Friday morning, given your child in years 3 to 6 two chances of trying out for PSSA Summer Sport teams. If successful, your child will need a permission note signed by you to participate, they will need to sign a code of conduct sheet and pay the PSSA sport fee (one off payment for the term) before the season commences. Summer PSSA sport will commence on Friday 20 February 2015.

**School Leaders 2015**

With great pleasure I re-introduce to you in this newsletter the school leaders for 2015 who will do an outstanding job in leading our school. They are:

**School Captains:**
Kapeliele Fusi & Sarah Steel

**Vice Captains:**
Baris Eskin & Aleyna Oner

**Prefects:**
Maysem Zalfa, Emma Song, Peter Bae, Monalisa Soliola, Danny Graham *(absent)*, Emily Li, Daniel Aaron.

![School Leaders](image)

Our school will be led by a group of students who are full of enthusiasm, reliability and pride in our school. They will not let anyone down and I look forward to seeing how they will work within these roles throughout the year.

**P&C Meeting**

Our next meeting is the Annual General meeting and will be held on **Monday 9 February, starting at 7.00pm in the staffroom**, we would love to see you there.

**Scripture**

Scripture lessons won’t start until **Tuesday 3 March**, but in the meantime, I have been contacted by the Islamic Scripture Council asking if we could advertise
for someone to volunteer as an Muslim Scripture teacher. If you are interested, please contact the office.

Toilets
The toilets at the end of our school buildings are for the use of the students only. If you are on site and are in desperate need to go to the toilet, please go to the office and use the toilets there. As I’m sure you can appreciate, having adults and school students access the student toilets (someone even used the inside Kindergarten toilets!) at the same time can create a child protection issue.

Playground Equipment
The playground equipment near Block G (Kindergarten rooms) is a popular afternoon destination after school, but there are rules. Our rule at the school is that no child can play on the equipment unless they are directly supervised by one of their parents after school. Also, all students and parents must leave the equipment area at 3.30pm.

We don’t want any accidents to happen out there at all, and students will be told to move away from the equipment if we can’t see a parent close by, watching their children on the equipment. A few parents observe these rules, but others haven’t and it would be a shame if I had to make a blanket rule that no-one was allowed to use the equipment at any stage because too many people were being unsafe out there. Please consider this of an afternoon.

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**
**NEWSLETTER**
I would like to have the newsletter emailed to me each fortnight.

Name of Child: _________________________

Class: _________________________

Name of Parents: _________________________

Email address: _________________________

Please hand in to Mrs Rush in the office as soon as possible.

**Newsletter**
If parents wish to have the newsletter emailed to them directly please fill out the form below. Electronic distribution is a much better method of communication with families as it allows the school community to enjoy great images of students in full colour without the environmental impact of substantial paper usage. We hope many of our families take up this option in the future. Thank you for taking up this option and saving just that little bit more of our environment.

Principal
**SCHOOL TIMES**

**Students MUST NOT arrive at school before 8:30 am and must leave promptly at 3:00 pm**

Parents are reminded that school supervision exists between 8:30 am and 3:00 pm. A Before and After School Care facility is provided on the school site for parents needing child minding. Contact 9749 2817 after school hours for further details.

Leaving students unsupervised on school grounds has legal implications for both the school and parents.

Access to the school is only possible via the pedestrian gate near the sandpit (Mills Street) during school hours. All visitors must report to the school office. Unauthorised persons on school premises are considered to be trespassing and will be reported to the police.

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**ATTENTION: PARENTS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS OR DRIVERS OF ANY CARS**

We need to draw your attention to the following safety issues:

- **Parking:** Park only in the designated zones, parking in the “No Stopping” area will result in a large fine. Vehicles incorrectly parked obstruct the view of people waiting to cross at the zebra crossing. **IF WE CAN’T SEE THE DRIVER, HE/SHE CAN’T SEE US EITHER.**

- **Parking:** Park your vehicles within 30 cm of the kerb. There are too many vehicles parked further from the kerb which is a big hazard for road traffic, making it difficult for other drivers to pass safely in our high peak times.

- **Vehicles on the crossing:** Drivers approaching the crossing please allow 5 metres space between the front of your bumper and the first white lines of the crossing. RTA recommends this distance for a safe crossing. There are several drivers coming to a stop too close to (or on top of) the zebra crossing lines.

- **Unless you have a disabled card that gives you authority to park in a disabled parking spot, under no circumstances can you park in the disabled car park spot directly opposite the main schools gate on Mills St. Please leave this space clear for those who need it.**

- **Children in vehicles:** Parents please help your children enter and exit from your vehicles from the kerb side passenger doors at **ALL** times if possible. It is very dangerous to allow them to get in/out on the road side.

Given that a child was seriously injured just last year at a neighbouring school, it is probably about time that everybody took safety on the roads around our school very seriously! I know that a large majority of you do and you are to be applauded for your positive role modelling of how to take care of all pedestrians when in your cars, but unfortunately, there is a very small minority who still think they can do whatever they want, whenever they want, and this includes breaking the law. This attitude has to stop – **will it take something serious to happen in our school community for people to wake up? – I hope not!**

Thank you to everyone who is being a patient and considerate driver or pedestrian around the school zone and crossing, our children will remain safe and happy with everyone’s continuing efforts.

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*Mr Lewis – Principal*
CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Lidcombe Public School
List of materials for classroom use 2015

Kindergarten – Early Stage 1
2 family size box tissues each semester
1 old shirt

Years 1 and 2 – Stage 1
2 glue sticks (solid type) per term
2 family size box tissues each semester
Homework book (A4 size book)
Pencil case
Sharpener
Ruler (30cm length)
Eraser
Scissors
I roll of paper towels or wet wipes
1 old shirt
Whiteboard markers
* Library bag

Years 3 and 4 – Stage 2
Pencil case
Coloured pencils or twist top crayons
6 HB lead pencils per term
Pencil sharpener (with room for shavings)
2 glue sticks (solid type) per term
30cm Ruler (showing millimetres)
Eraser and scissors
Highlighters
2 family size box of tissues each semester
Homework book (A4 size book)
Painting shirt
Whiteboard markers
* Library bag

Years 5 and 6 – Stage 3
Pencil case
Coloured pencils
6 HB lead pencils per term
3 blue & 2 red biro pens (bic brand or similar)
Highlighters
30cm Ruler (showing millimetres)
Pencil sharpener (with room for shavings)
2 glue sticks (solid type) per term
Eraser and scissors
2 family size box tissues each semester
A4 Homework book
Painting shirt
Geometry Set
* Library bag
Optional:
Textas
Calculator
Oxford Dictionary/Thesaurus
USB drive / flash disk

* NB: Library bags are available from the Uniform Shop ($10-00 each)

SMOKING IS PROHIBITED ON SCHOOL PREMISES

For our Kindergarten families, you have received the first edition of our school newsletter in hard copy but from the second edition the newsletter will be emailed to you.
LOST PROPERTY

Lost property presents a large problem for us because so many articles of clothing in particular, hats, jumpers and jackets do not have your child's name on the article.

PLEASE NAME EACH AND EVERY ARTICLE OF YOUR CHILD’S CLOTHING WITH THEIR FIRST AND SURNAME PLEASE.

All items of lost property are placed in the Lost Property Bins situated near the notice boards on Blocks D and G. All items remain there until the end of each term. They are then sorted, named items are returned, unmarked uniform items are given to the Uniform Shop to be sold as second hand clothing and anything that is not school uniform is donated to charity.

Please remember to check your child’s hats/jackets etc occasionally to make sure they have not picked up someone else's by mistake. They are expensive to replace and frustrating for parents who do put names in and not have things returned.

P & C MEETING

The Parents & Citizens Association (P & C) at Lidcombe Public School is a friendly group of parents/caregivers and community members who meet on a regular basis to find out what's happening in the school. It is your opportunity to be part of discussions and decision making that can influence your child's education. It's also a great way to meet other parents and make new friends as well. Our first meeting for the year will be held on Monday evening, 9 February in the Staffroom in the office block starting at 7pm. We invite all interested parents to join us. Children welcome.

Dates for P & C Meetings for the year are as follows:

Monday 9 February 7pm in the staffroom Tuesday 10 March 9.15am in Lidbury Hall (AGM)
Monday 11 May 7pm in the staffroom Tuesday 9 June 9.15am in Lidbury Hall
Monday 10 August 7pm in the staffroom Tuesday 8 September 9.15am in Lidbury Hall
Monday 9 November 7pm in the staffroom Tuesday 8 December 9.15am in Lidbury Hall

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniforms are only available for purchase from our Uniform Shop situated on the school premises in Lidbury Hall (John Street end of the school). The Uniform Shop is open on Wednesday mornings, 8.30am to 9.15am and Friday afternoons 2.30pm to 3.15pm and is staffed by volunteer parents. If you are unable to get to the shop during opening hours you can collect an order form from the office or download one from the school website http://www.lidcombe-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/parent-activities/uniform-shop/uniform-shop. These orders will be filled and sent home with your child. Please note that the Uniform Shop only accepts cash or cheques (made payable to Lidcombe Public School P & C Association).

For those that have been at Lidcombe for a while you will be aware that we were having problems with one of our suppliers last year who made our dresses – broken zippers everywhere! It was decided to change suppliers to a company at Auburn who were very helpful and quick to respond to our requests. Unfortunately, only yesterday we discovered that the person we had been dealing with no longer works for the company and never placed any stock orders for us. This was only revealed to us because we needed more stock and they finally informed us that they had nothing on their shelves. To say we were very unimpressed is putting it mildly. We are working with the company to see how quickly we can get some dresses in stock (particularly size 6) but at this stage we estimate that it will quite possibly be late April early May before this happens due to production time and Chinese new year. We apologise for any inconvenience but we have very little control over the situation at this stage. We will keep you updated when more information is to hand. In the meantime, we should still be able to supply culottes (supposedly a stock item for this company) and polo shirts without a problem.
Legionnaire hats are out of stock but are on order. The first supply should hopefully be available in about 10 days and our usual microfiber legionnaires will be back in stock at the end of April.

The Uniform Shop offers 3 styles of hat for our students:
Kindergarten, Stage 1 and Stage 2 children can choose from

- Legionnaires Cap
- Bucket Hat

Stage 3 children also have the option of choosing the cap.

Good quality proper fitting shoes are important for growing feet. At Lidcombe PS children are expected to wear **black school shoes or black runners**.

The above shoes are examples of the correct style of shoe for school. These shoes give your child’s feet protection and support while they are growing.

**Canvas and sandal style shoes are not suitable for school.**

### ON SITE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- **Turkish School** – teaching Turkish language and culture – 9am-12.30pm, Saturday mornings during school terms – Contact Fatma Yucel 0414 094 496 (Before & After School Care Rooms)

- **Chinese School** – teaching Chinese language and culture - 9am-12 noon, Saturday mornings during school terms – contact Olivia Thieu 0415 147 402

- **Dinka Literacy** – teaching Dinka language and culture – 6.15pm-8pm Mondays and Tuesdays and 11am-2pm Saturdays – contact Santino Yout 0431 165 225

- **Kang’s Tae Kwon Do** – Instruction of Tae Kwon Do – 4.30pm-5.30-pm Mondays and Wednesdays – contact Hyung Kook Kang 0414 491 078 (School Hall)

- **Before & After School Care** – Before & After School Care – 6.30am-9.00am / 3.00pm-6.00pm and Vacation Care/Pupil Free Days 7.00am – 6.00pm – for more information call 0296431666 or pick up a form from the office.
School Banking restarted yesterday, if you would like your child to take part in banking please collect a form from the office.

Banking day at Lidcombe Public School is every Wednesday.

Bank books must be left at the office before 9am on Wednesday mornings.
CHOIR & DANCE GROUPS

The school will again have junior and senior choirs this year as well as a dance troupe.

The Junior Choir is open to children in Years 1 and 2 and will be led by Mrs Pant and Ms Butler. They will meet on Tuesdays at Break 1 in Ms Pant’s classroom. There will be opportunities throughout the year for the children to perform including the Granville School Spectacular at the Sydney Opera House. Participation in the Granville Schools Spectacular will require weekly attendance at all rehearsals. More information will come home about the Spectacular in the coming weeks.

The Senior Choir will be led by Miss Kim this year and will be part of the combined schools choir for the Granville Schools Spectacular as well as take part in other school performances during the year. More information about this choir will be sent home shortly.

Miss Clift will be holding auditions for the Stage 2 / Stage 3 Dance Troupe which will be part of the Granville Schools Spectacular in upcoming weeks.

Please remind your children to listen for announcements about all of the above if they are interested in taking part.

SchoolAtoz – What will my child learn in the new curriculum?

"What will my child learn this year?" seems like a simple enough question. After all, isn't there a big book of lessons somewhere that all teachers refer to? As parents we tend to expect that all Australian kids in Year 3, for example, would be learning pretty much the same things each week - wouldn't they?

The short answer is, "Not really".

Although all Australian states and territories have joined with the Australian government to create a new national curriculum with agreed content, teachers can still individually create lesson programs to suit the needs of their students.


HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION DAYS

The year may have only just started but the high school process for students going to high school in 2015 is about to start. Many high schools have an open morning/afternoon for parents and students to visit and see what the schools have to offer. The dates we have so far are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homebush Boys High School</td>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>9.30am-11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birrong Girls High School</td>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>10.30am-12.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concord High School</td>
<td>3 March</td>
<td>starting at 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As more dates come to hand I will put them in the newsletter and on the notice board on the end of G Block. It is a great idea to attend as many as possible to give you and your child an idea of what is out there. We will have a parent information evening to hand out high school forms on 9 March; a note about this will come out closer to the date.
A big welcome to all our families old and new for 2015. Once again this year we will be offering many different opportunities for our parents to be involved in their child’s schooling. Keep an eye on the newsletter and notice boards for lots of exciting things coming up.

If you have any enquiries about any of our parent groups or you have ideas for parent workshops please come and see Julie in the office or give me a call on 96497576. I look forward to working with and getting to know many of our parents this year.

Julie Rush
Community Engagement Officer

On Tuesday mornings starting 10 February, parents are invited to come and help us make resources to be used in the classrooms. Cutting, laminating, pasting etc. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to join us for a cup of coffee, a chat and help out at the same time, meet us in Lidbury Hall after assembly. No experience necessary!
Also starting back on Wednesday 11 February we would love to see parents come along and help out the library by getting books ready to go on the shelves, covering them etc.

PLAYTIME

Our Preschool Playtime Sessions will be starting next on Monday, 9 February from 9am-11am in Lidbury Hall. These sessions are for all siblings of students already attending our school or children starting in Kindergarten in 2015. Come along and join us for free play, craft, stories, songs and more.

Our first craft for the term will be a ‘name’ craft.

In line with being a “Crunch & Sip” school please bring a drink (preferably water) and a piece of fruit to share for your child’s morning tea.

There is a small fee to join up and then $2 each week you attend. All moneys go towards craft items and new toys. New families are welcome to come and try their first week for free.

PARENT CRAFT GROUP

Our fabulous Art Group that has been running for the last 4 years thanks to parent Gloria Hwang will be having a break this year. I would personally like to thank Gloria for all her efforts with this group over the years, she has done a great job and they ladies who attended have created some amazing artworks which were very successfully auctioned at our Family Fun Night at the end of the year and raised quite a few hundred dollars for the school. I have some ideas for our end of year art auction for this year but more on that later!

In place of the Art Group I would like to offer a Parent Craft Group that meets every second Monday afternoon 1pm – 3pm during the term starting Monday 16 February. I will let you know what our first craft will be next week. No previous handiwork skills are required, just enthusiasm!

If you have a craft that you are good at and would like to teach others how to do please contact me, we have so many different cultures in our school I am sure there are some fabulous craft ideas out there.

All materials and tools will be supplied but there will be a small charge to cover these costs. This is a good opportunity to meet other parents, chat, and learn how to create some beautiful craft items.
Each term parents are invited to come on an excursion to places of interest around Sydney. Previous excursions have taken us to the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge, the Rocks and even a harbour cruise on the Hawkesbury River.

Our first excursion for the year on Wednesday 18 March will be a Food Tour of Bankstown but there’s no need for a passport for this trip around the world! Our food trek through Bankstown will take us to Europe, Asia and the Middle East. We will explore a spice emporium that will stimulate your senses, journey through China and Vietnam, travel to Lebanon for lunch then finish in Greece for delicious desserts. (Food and transport costs at own expense.)

PARENT EXCURSION EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Please return to Julie Rush in the office by Monday 9 March

I would love to come along on the Parent Excursion “Food Tour of Bankstown” to be held on Wednesday 18 March. I will be bringing …………. additional people along. (Children welcome.)

Parent Name  Child Name/Class  Phone No.

NEW LIDCOMBE PUBLIC SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE

Did you know we now have a Lidcombe Public School Facebook page. Don’t forget to like us and keep up with what’s happening at school.

https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Lidcombe-Public-School/851349074924545
While doing some playdough activities in K Red, Alexander was singing a song about crocodiles in Korean to himself while creating this fabulous playdough crocodile. The rest of the class thought it was pretty special as did we.

Please also let Julie Rush in the office know if you are interested in these keyboard lessons.
NOTES, PERMISSION SLIPS and MONEY

Notes are important and care should be taken with them but we understand that notes do get lost. All notes are placed on the school website weekly.


When your child brings home a note that requires payment you will also receive a payment envelope.

Here is an example:

Please fill in your child’s name and class.

LIDCOMBE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Child’s Full Name ........................................ Class ...............  

Stage 2 Dance2bfit

PAYMENT OPTIONS (please tick one)

☐ I enclose cash payment of $22.50

☐ I enclose cheque payment of $22.50  

(made payable to Lidcombe Public School)

ALL MONEYS FOR THIS EVENT MUST BE PAID TO THE CLASS TEACHER

This tells you whether the money should be returned to the class teacher or the office

There are silver letterboxes outside the office. If money envelopes are to be sent to these it will appear on the bottom of your payment envelope and the letterboxes will be marked appropriately as shown below. These boxes are emptied daily.

* Please make sure the correct money is placed in the envelope – we DO NOT hold change at the office.

* If you are paying by cheque please make payable to Lidcombe Public School. It would also be appreciated if your child’s name could be written on the back of the cheque as surnames often differ.

* Money is accepted in the mornings only to ensure that appropriate banking procedures can be followed. Payments to be deposited in the letterboxes should be done before the end of Break 1. Payments to the class teacher should be handed in by the child when they get to class after assembly.
BERALA UNITED PHYSICAL CULTURE CLUB
MONDAYS - St. Peter Chanel Hall, Kingsland Road, BERALA
FRIDAYS - Berala Public School Hall, Harrow Road, BERALA

COME DANCING TO:-
KEEP FIT - HAVE FUN - MEET NEW FRIENDS

2015 CLASSES
Fun, upbeat, pop music is the soundtrack to a sport that fuses dance styles such as Jazz, Ballet, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Aerobic dance and even Yoga! Our innovative choreography changes annually and is designed for maximum variety and fun!

Physie (also known as Physical Culture) is the perfect combination of movements designed to increase strength, fitness and flexibility. The benefits for your daughter include increased co-ordination, brain development and confidence.

INSTRUCTRESSES
NICOLE BAKER & REBECCA WHITE
Bjelke Petersen Syllabus taught.

ENQUIRIES - Denise Baker 9649 6218
Karen White 9793 2422 / 0408 263170
Email:beralaphysie@hotmail.com
Or check our website: www.beralaphysie.com.au

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME - FIRST LESSON FREE!
Betty Elaine Kindergarten is committed to providing quality care and education for your children.

The Centre helps children realize their full potential academically, creatively, emotionally, physically and socially, we provide a welcoming space and we set avenues for cultural diversity and respect for the families of our children.

Besides English, our staff speak 10 languages such as Cantonese, Fujian, German, Hindi, Maltese, Mandarin, Tamil, Taiwanese, Telugu, and Sinhala as you know your children will feel comfort and secure when they hear a mother language. This strength of our service will enable the children to settle comfortably in child care.

Currently we have existing vacancies in our centre, we welcome all families for enrolments.
FOCUS, CONFIDENCE, RESPECT, SELF DEFENCE, DISCIPLINE & FUN!

KANG’S TAEKWONDO

LIDCOMBE
Lidcombe Public School
Mills Street, Lidcombe
Mon & Wed 4:30 – 5:30pm

Contact us at: 0411 150 305 | www.kangstaekwondo.com.au | Facebook.com/kangstkd.au

SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Increased penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2014

Maximum Penalty

$415

+ 4 Demerit Points

$173

+ 2 Demerit Points

$311

+ 2 Demerit Points

$311

+ 2 Demerit Points

NO STOPPING

BUS ZONE

STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: $311 + 2 Demerit Points, or STOP on or near a Children’s or Pedestrian Crossing: $415 + 4 Demerit Points

STOP on path/trip or in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit: $519

Please note: These prices apply to enforceable school zones during school hours.
The NSW Government has provided funding for the placement of school zone signs with flashing lights at all schools by the end of next year to alert motorists of the 40km speed limit required during school drop off and pick up times.

Installing these flashing lights in schools zones has been shown to improve driver awareness of the need to drive at a lower speed to ensure the safety of children and others coming and going from the school area.

Roads and Maritime Services is delivering this safety initiative and plan to install signs outside Lidcombe Public School on John St the week beginning Monday 16 February 2015 outside of 40km school zone hours. Work will take up to two hours to complete, weather permitting.

Lights are installed on pre-existing poles or new poles are put in place if needed. Partial lane closures may be in place while work is carried out to ensure safety of road users and workers. There will be some noise associated with this work, but every effort will be made to minimise these impacts.

For more information about the flashing lights program please visit the Centre for Road Safety website at [www.roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe](http://www.roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe) (go to the schools section) or you can contact our team on 1800 726 958 or [flashinglights@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:flashinglights@rms.nsw.gov.au).