2013 Swimming Carnival

Our Biddabah Annual Swimming Carnival was held last Friday at the Speers Point Pool. The weather was perfect. Primary and infants students arrived at the pool a little after eight ready to enjoy their day. Both the infants and primary carnivals went very well with thanks to Mr Cox, our primary carnival organizer and to Mrs Filipcevic, Mrs Bell and Mrs Butler who organized the infants events. A special thanks to all teachers and parents who helped on the day.
Dear Parents,

Many thanks to our two Biddabah School families, Donna & Steve Bruce (Jack 2Mc) and Scott & Louise New (Riley 2Mc) who have volunteered to host our two overseas interns. The interns, Brigid Crane and Maria Probasco will be at Biddabah from the last week of this term until week 5 next term. They both are in training at the Pennsylvania State University in the United States.

To All New Roundabout Osers

Council Rangers have warned drivers waiting to enter the school roundabout about parking in Ruswell Avenue. School does not finish until 3.00pm and the children are unlikely to be available to be picked up for about five minutes after that. Arriving before say, 3.05pm will result in the queues up Ruswell that the rangers object to. While waiting in a queue at traffic lights is neither standing nor parking, establishing a queue before 3.05pm might need explaining especially when challenged by a council ranger. The safety of children is paramount and our roundabout is envied by many schools as a safe, efficient way to collect children in the afternoon.

Keep Your Kids Safe Online

Remember: children must be 13 years of age or older to create a Facebook account.

No Strawberries

We have enrolled a little boy who is anaphylactic to strawberries

No Nuts

We say no to peanuts, and all nut products at Biddabah School

Welcome back to OOSH!
YMCA Biddabah Before and After School Care
Now Open

YMCA Lake Macquarie is a community based organisation.

After School Care provides children with opportunities to learn and develop new skills and interests, and participate in a caring and supportive environment. Programs include physical activities that develop fitness and coordination, creative art projects, music and drama experiences, and enjoyable play activities. Detailed programs are displayed at the service. A light, healthy afternoon snack is provided.

Before and After School Care is offered Monday to Friday during school terms.

Qualified Staff will ensure your children always have a wonderful time and give you the peace of mind that while you are at work your children are in the best hands.

Family Assistance YMCA of Lake Macquarie is an approved childcare provider, for information regarding your entitlement for Childcare Benefit (CCB) and Childcare Rebate (CCR) visit www.familyassist.gov.au or please phone 136 150. The YMCA is now under the new Child Care Management System (CCMS).

Enrol Now as places are filling fast
Download your Enrolment Form from www.lake.macquarie@ymca.org.au
Contact Amanda on Biddabah OOSH Mobile 0401 189 553
or come and visit Amanda and Suzanne at the Service between 3:00-pm and 4:00pm if you have any questions

Phone 0401 189 553

Broad Brimmed Hat for Sun Protection

Biddabah School Uniform
If you see trespassers in the school out of school hours we would appreciate a call to school security.

1300 880 021
24 Hours

Students would have brought home a gold coloured 2010 Home Reading Log for the Principal’s Reading Challenge on Monday. Again this year I am seeking parent’s support of the challenge because there is no better way of supporting your child’s literacy skills at home than by reading to or with children.

As well as being Valentine’s Day, today is also World Library Support Day so why not start a program of support for reading? Passively watching television puts the brain to sleep but actively reading has the brain creating images and developing concepts in an active way. There is room and time for both.

The awards this year are still BRONZE SILVER and GOLD but children have to read for a certain number of nights to get an award.

100 nights = BRONZE
150 nights = SILVER
200 nights = GOLD
250 nights = DIAMOND

This year’s Principal’s Reading Challenge has already started (Wednesday 30th January) In 2012 I could hardly keep up with the K-6 students who had read above DIAMOND. I am hoping to have an even better list of readers in 2013.

Congratulations on holiday of reading
Jaime Frith
Alexandra Nash
Mia Hyslop
Laura Hyslop
Jeremy Russell
Aleisha Sinclair
Sean Melia

Library News

Only week 3 and our library is open for lessons and lunchtime activities.

Our new monitors are showing their capabilities, managing a large and eager lunchtime crowd. (Library is open Mon—Wed at lunch).

New books have been ordered to replace many “worn out” books. There is also a “wishing box” (just inside the library) where students can suggest titles of books they would like to have in the library.

No promises, but students know what they enjoy reading and should have an input.

If any parents are able to cover books I would love to meet you (I am here Mon—Thur). Also if you have any concerns with library please contact me.

Thanks
Thelma Keogh

Congratulations to the following students for achieving a Silver Certificate in the School Banking Program:

Ella Dabelstein

Congratulations to the following students for achieving an Outstanding Certificate in the School Banking Program:

Levi Creely
Abbey Hindmarch
Ruby Davis
WANTED: Students to take up an instrument in our fantastic school band.

Mr Ward, is especially, looking for anyone interested in playing the drums, but all instruments are available on excellent terms. Research into a musical education has shown positive outcomes for student’s learning in all areas.
If anyone is interested please see Mr Ward on Tuesday mornings or Mrs Broxom for details.

Thank you.

In their own Write

Today's featured class is 4/5W
4/5W Newsletter Work
The best thing about having two grades in the one class is:
Year 5
We all still do the same thing and we help the others because we are older than them.
(Sarah Filip)

If the Year 4 people are stuck on a question (and by the way, just to let you know they're not glued to it) I can give them help.
(Alexandra Nash)

I can make many more friends.
(Jeremy Russell)

We can have some fun.
(Samuel Stewart)

I can have friends from Year 4 and Year 5 in the same class.
(Connor Pinkerton)

The best things are making more friends as there are only 6 other Year 5 boys and also helping Year 4.
(Lachlan McRae)

You can help the Year 4s if needed and do something nice for them.
(Tayla Conway)

The best thing is we all learn more.
(Teesha Beuzeville)

I can make new friends and join in lots of classroom activities.
(Aidan Creer)

Having Year 4s makes me young and I can make more friends.
(Jack Garside)

The best thing is that they are pretty cool and sort of helpful.
(Emilie Courtois)

It's great because we do the same work and also we can help Year 4 and treat them like Year 5.
(Emma Bagnall)

We do the same work and they have great personalities.
(Abigail Gooch)

Year 4
I know I can get help if I need it.
(Samuel Brown)

If you are having trouble with a question, Year 5s can help.
(Hamish Alexander)

The Year 5s like to help me.
(Brendan Dulai)

They can help me when I'm stuck on a question.
(Jameese Browne)

They can help you if the other Year 4s can't.
(Corey Winiarczyk)

If you need help, a Year 5 can help you.
(Cooper Waddingham)

If I'm stuck on a question they can help me.
(Matthew Wingeat)

The best thing is making friends with them.
(Kyle Munns)

You can make new friends that you didn't know before.
(Damien Boersma)
2013 Swimming Carnival Results

Boys
Snr Medley: L Gearing B Curtis B Jupp
Jnr Breast: B Connelly A Hile J lane
11yr Breast: D Grine W Donaldson S Law
12/13 Breast: L Gearing N Andriessen C Maguire
Jnr Back: B Connolly D Williams R Suba
11yr Back: B Curtis S Stewart W Bagnall
12/13 Back: R Crew L Gearing C Maguire
Jnr Bu/fly B: Connolly M Wingeat A Hile
11yr Bu/fly: B Curtis W Donaldson T Park-Cromie
12/13Bu/fly: L Gearing A McGrath N Andriessen
Open 100m: L Gearing B Curtis B Connolly
8yr 50m: J Lole O Watson L Crew
9yr 50m: D Williams T Balckman C Winiarczyk
10yr 50m: B Connolly J Lane K Munns
11yr 50m: D Grine T Swain B Curtis
12/13 50m: C Maguire A McGrath T Chock
Jnr Relay: Saturn Jupiter Venus Mercury
Snr Relay: Venus Saturn Jupiter Mercury
Jnr Champion: F Gearing
11yr Champion: P Roddom
Snr Champion: M Hain

Girls
Jnr Medley: F Gearing H Keeble
Snr Medley: M Hain S Keeble
Jnr Breast: F gearing H Keeble A Hickson
11yr breast: P Roddom S Keeble S Filip
12/13Breast: M Hain I Alexander A Brewster
Jnr Back: H Keeble F Gearing M Curtis
11yr Back S Keeble P Roddom S Law

Swimming Carnival
For our carnival we had fantastic weather. The water was warm. The sun was shining. Perfect.

It was great to see we had a lot more competitors this year. Being involved is the best way to enjoy a carnival. Well done children!

The carnival ran, as usual, very smoothly. That’s in no small way due to the wonderful help from parents. Seven teachers cannot run a carnival by themselves. Fortunately there were plenty of willing helpers. Thank you!

Thanks also to Lee James and her Swimming Club crew who set up and cleared away the gear for the day!

Congratulations to Venus who won the day! The points score was:

Venus 391
Jupiter 377
Saturn 268
Mercury 176

It is good to see Jupiter make a big improvement this year. Maybe next year they’ll topple Venus!

The first two places, on times, in each race will go to the zone carnival.

The relay teams are:
Jnr Boys: D Williams, B Connolly, J Lane, K Munns
**ABSENCES, LATE or EARLY LEAVERS**

At Biddabah we now use computer roll marking. This means the system will generate a note to you for any unexplained absences. Late children should be accompanied and signed in by a parent otherwise an explanation request will be sent home.

**TOMORROW**

Friday
School Assembly, 10.10am
Presentation by 1W, Parents Welcome

**NEXT WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Information Night 3.30pm KB Classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Zone Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>School Council/P&amp;C (Wed)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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| Friday    | School Assembly, 10.10am
Presentation by 6D, Parents Welcome |

**SCHOOL DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Assembly 5G (Fri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Regional Swimming (Thur) Assembly 1D (Fri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>School Photos (Tue) Assembly 2/3K (Fri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>School Council/P&amp;C (Wed) Assembly 3M (Fri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Scripture Assembly (Tue) GOOD FRIDAY (Fri)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>EASTER MONDAY (Mon) Cross Country (Fri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Assembly 4/5W (Fri)</td>
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**P&C News**

The next meeting of the Biddabah P&C and School Council will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 20th February

**Fundraisers News**

**Easter Raffle**

This year the Easter raffle will be drawn on Monday 25th March.

As Easter eggs and products are already on display we are asking our families for donations of Easter eggs, Easter products and gift bags and baskets which will be put together to form the prizes on offer in our Easter raffle.

These items can be left at the school office.

Raffle tickets will be sent home with your eldest child 2 weeks prior to the raffle being drawn.

If you are able to assist with bundling raffle tickets or wrapping hampers please give me a call on the number below.

If you have any questions feel free to give me a call on 0432310741.

Many Thanks
Mandy Swan
Fundraising Coordinator
**Important Changes to the Uniform Shop**

Biddabah PS P&C wish to advise all students and families of some major changes which are being implemented in the Uniform Shop. These changes are essential to ensure greater overall efficiency with stock and ordering, to continue to keep all uniforms affordable to our families and to alleviate the increasing demands on our hard working volunteers.

From Monday 18th February, all payment for uniforms will be made at the school’s office.

The Uniform Shop will be open Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs 2.30pm - 3.00pm and Wed 8.30am - 9.00am for sizing, ordering and enquiries but no stock will be available for same day purchasing.

Orders are to be placed with our volunteers in the Uniform Shop during opening hours, when a sales quote will be issued to you, which is to be taken to the School’s Office Ladies who will process your payment. Orders (pending availability from suppliers) will be filled and delivered to classrooms on Friday afternoons.

Uniform Price Lists are available online at [http://www.biddabah-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/parents/uniform-shop](http://www.biddabah-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/parents/uniform-shop) as well as credit card payment forms should you wish to simply drop an order into the office (via the ‘mail box’). Exact cash payments and orders can also be made this way if you are short on time.

We do anticipate a reduction in the products we currently sell over the next few months and these changes will be communicated in the weekly newsletter as they happen.

2nd hand items will still be available, at a cost of $5 per item.

To continue to support Biddabah’s Sun Safe Policy, school hats will be available for immediate purchase from the canteen between 8.30 - 9.30am everyday for $15 each (cash only for canteen purchases).

Biddabah P&C runs the Uniform Shop as a service to our school’s families. We do not run the shop for profit as we wish to have the school uniform affordable to all families.

We ask that our families have a little patience whilst the new system is implemented and fine-tuned as necessary. We also ask that we all have patience whilst waiting to make payments at the school office as our Office Ladies will have a greater number of people due to these changes and are accepting payments to help the P&C and ultimately, help our families.

Mr Stuart Glover (President)
Sporting Team News

**Warners Bay Football Club** Registrations are now open. You must register online before coming down to the clubhouse.

All the information and instructions you require to register are on our Warners Bay FC sporting pulse website, see link below.

http://www.sportingpulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=0-8218-110088-0-0

If you require any further information please don’t hesitate to contact the Club Registrar Jeff on 0418272835.

**Warners Bay Netball Club registrations.**
For details contact Susan Rynberk on 0421944802.

**Cardiff Netball Club Registrations**
Saturday 2 February 10am – 1pm and Thursday 7 February 4pm – 7pm at Cardiff Netball Clubhouse, cnr Newcastle & Myall Roads Cardiff
Contact: Katie 49674806 or 0412781739

**South Cardiff Junior Football Club Registrations**
At the grounds on Sunday February 10th (10am to 2pm), and Wed 13th (6pm to 8pm) to provide assistance and receive registration payments
Contact 0411399129

**Valentine Football Club Registration**
Saturday 9th February, 2013 - 10am - 2pm
For more information, please visit our website www.vafc.com.au

**LAKE MACQUARIE FOOTBALL CLUB**
2013 Registration
We cater for Juniors Aged 5 to 18 and Seniors 19 to 99. Come and play Football (Soccer) in 2013 with LMFC.
Payment days at Tredinnick Oval, Boolaroo on the following days:
Monday 11th February 5-6PM (Payments ONLY)
Tuesday 12th February 5-6PM (Full registrations & Payments)
Saturday 16th February 10AM – 4PM (Full registrations & Payments)

For more information, please contact:
Katie Hastings, LMFC Registrar on 0416 473 350, email: registrar@lmfc.com.au
Greg (Bob) Willis, LMFC Secretary on 0421 573 074, email: secretary@lmfc.com.au

**Lake Macquarie BMX Club** is located at Mary Street, Argenton. We are having a Come and Try Day on 23 February 2013 10am - 2.30pm. This is an opportunity for anyone to have a go at the Olympic sport of BMX Racing. On the day participants will be given a showbag, be involved in a coaching session, and have the opportunity to ride on the track to see if they would be interested in joining a club. This is a rare opportunity as it is the only day BMX Australia allows unlicensed riders to ride on an official track, however, parents will need to sign a recognition of risk form. So come along on Saturday 23 February and see if you would like to join.

This newsletter is produced each Thursday by the students and staff of Biddabah Public School. For further information phone 4954 6058

**Subscriptions** can be mailed each week for $12/term or $25/year. Contact Christine or Michelle for details.

**Advertisers** please contact Christine or Michelle to negotiate special rates. Parents are reminded that paid advertisements are not necessarily endorsed by the school, but they do assist with the costs of publication.

Graeme Mason
Principal

Kindergarten Information Night 3.30pm KB Classroom
Biddabah Public School

**KARATE**

*Engage, Encourage & Empower!*

✓ **FREE karate uniform**
✓ **Includes 10 classes**
✓ **Just $99**

**Kids ages 5-7 @ 5pm**
**Kids ages 8-12 @ 5:45pm**
**Adults @ 6:30pm - 8pm**
**Mondays & Thursdays**

Phone: 0411 669 669  
[www.newcastlekarate.com](http://www.newcastlekarate.com)

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**Breakaway Dancers**

**STAR STREET STYLEZ**

*AGES 7 — 12YRS*

*‘Hip Hop ‘Funky Jazz ‘Street Tap*

*ALL 3 classes for $16.00 TOTAL!*

*Be a DANCE STAR!*

*Have FUN and learn the coolest dance moves to the latest dance grooves!*

**JUNIOR JAMZ**

*AGES 3 — 6YRS*

*‘Baby Ballerinas® ‘Jumpin Jazz ‘Tiny Tappers*

*ALL 3 classes for $13.00 TOTAL*

*FRENCH, creative and energetic!

*Perfect class for your little princess!*

**VALENTINE**
**TORONTO**
**WARNER'S BAY**
**CHARESTOWN**
**SPEERS POINT**

**ENROL NOW! PH: 4959 5754**

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**Speech and Drama Classes**

*Enrol now for 2013*

- Have fun
- Build confidence
- Learn drama and theatrical skills
- Improve public speaking
- Private tuition available.

Contact Michelle Clipsham, A.T.C.L. 4959 3506  
0419 493 249  macdrama@optusnet.com.au

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Biddabah School does not necessarily endorse paid advertising in this Newsletter
P&C Meet and Greet
7.30pm - Wednesday 20th February - School Library

Our first meeting for 2013 is on Wednesday 20th February. Everybody is most welcome to come along, meet the existing committee members and see how the P&C work with the school to help make our great school even better.

We would love to see both new and existing families on the night – the P&C are always looking for fresh ideas and welcome input and suggestions on projects, events and activities we could hold during the year to help fund resources for the students.

All parents are very busy these days and not everyone is able to volunteer their time during the school day. There are other ways, however, that parents can still have a say and help - simply attending meetings and offering fresh ideas is a great start. It also gives you, as a parent, the opportunity to have a say in P&C run activities and the projects in which these activities fund.

Last year alone, Biddabah P&C raised over $40 000 thanks to the generosity of the school community and our hard working parents and teachers.

Over the last few years, the money the P&C has raised has gone towards Smart Boards – every class has one; literacy resources – $14 000 was given to the school to purchase new readers across all stages; air conditioning in all classrooms; a Ride-On Lawn Mower to help maintain the fields for our students to play on and committed to contributing to the Covered Walkway leading to the Hall. This was in addition to our annual donations for academic and sporting achievements, ambulance, Newcastle Herald School Leader Advertisement and pest control.

We still have funds that are yet to be allocated from last year and are after input from the school community on how best to spend this money to further support our students. Please come along, this is a great opportunity to have your say and be heard!

Looking forward to a great 2013.

Stuart Glover
President Biddabah Public School P&C
pandc@biddabah.com.au