Biddabah School Newsletter

Thursday, March 12, 2015

Stage Three Students ‘Bring Your Own Device’ (Laptop) Initiative

Biddabah Public School values the rich learning experiences that integrated interactions with technology brings. Our school is committed to create a 21st century learning environment that will help our students in becoming self-directed learners, collaborative team players, critical and creative thinkers, wise information consumers and intelligent information producers.

By implementing the BYOD program in Stage Three we are:

• supporting skills embedded in the Australian Curriculum
• delivering engaging and relevant 21st century teaching and learning
• personalising learning experiences
• encouraging independent learning

Our students and their parents have embraced the BYOD initiative and the structure of our classroom practice is undergoing change. Our students are enjoying their new found independence and are taking a greater ownership of the tasks set for them.
The establishment of Technology Groups within Stage Three will expose our students to rich learning experiences and develop their technology skills.

A huge thank you to Louis Koutelas, Keith Harris and Michelle Freund for the initial set up of each student's device.

Dear Parents,

The You Can Do It program is now in its sixth year and goes from strength to strength. YCDI influences the social emotional well-being of children. With YCDI operating in the school we have seen all these positive things happening:

- A positive change in school culture
- Changes in the morale and attitudes of parents, teachers and students
- Improvement in student effort and the quality of homework
- Improvement in student achievement
- Reductions in bullying
- Improved student mental health and
- Happier parents, teachers and students.

The objectives of the You Can Do It program relate strongly to success, building positive relationships and feelings of well-being associated with the five keys.

Getting Along means working well with my classmates and solving problems with them without getting angry and following the rules of my classroom.

Organisation means setting a goal to do my best in my schoolwork, planning my time so that I'm not rushed and having all my supplies ready.

Persistence means trying hard and not giving up when something feels like it’s too hard to do.

Confidence means feeling “I can do it”. Confidence also means not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new. Confidence also means standing up tall and speaking with a clear voice.

Resilience means not getting extremely angry, worried or down. When I do get very upset, not fighting or staying away from people when I am upset, rather bounding back to work or play.

Through YCDI parents, teachers and students are working together to make our good school better.

Congratulations

To Kelly Lothian who has been selected as the new Assistant Principal at Niagara Park Public School.

Kelly's class is currently being taught by Katrina Gardoll who we were lucky to be able to welcome back this year.

Good for Kids good for

Reminder about Crunch&Sip®

Our school is part of the Crunch&Sip® program. To ensure that your child takes part in Crunch&Sip® you need to pack a piece of fruit or vegetables and a bottle of water every day.

Allowed for Crunch&Sip®

- All fresh fruit and vegetables
- Tinned fruit in water or juice
- Dried fruit in small amounts and on limited occasions
- Plain water

Not allowed for Crunch&Sip®

- Fruit products (e.g. fruit leathers, fruit roll-ups, fruit straps)
- Fruit jams or jellies, fruit pies or cakes
- Tinned fruit in syrup
- Vegetable or potato chips, hot potato chips
- Olives
- Vegetable pastries (pies, pasties)
- Baked vegetable breads
- Vegetable cakes, fritter, quiches or similar
- Popcorn
- Flavoured/carbonated water, cordial, Fruit or vegetable juices
- Any drink other than plain water

If your family is having difficulties providing a piece of fruit or vegetable every day please let
Don’t forget to download our new Skoolbag App, available for both iPhone and Android devices. Once downloaded onto your device please feel free to explore this new tool, however, we will only be using the App for notifications, calendar updates and newsletters at this stage, with a view to expand to include online absences etc. in the future. It is an excellent tool for information so please download as soon as possible.

Moving forward in 2015, the use of the App will grow and will form the basis, with our website, for our communications with our school community.

Don’t forget to visit our website for regular updates and additions:


Coordinating Teachers
Jenny Dutch & Technology Team

WE SAY NO TO PEANUTS, AND ALL NUT PRODUCTS AT BIDDABAH SCHOOL

All parents, teachers and students should understand that peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, cashews etc) or nut products must not be introduced to Biddabah School in any way. Even so, we do not claim to be nut free because this may lead to a false sense of security for students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis.

Zoe Price
Tayla McIntosh
Matilda-Jade Hughson
Kristian Majurovski
Cooper Freund

Will receive a certificate at the next Friday school assembly.

WEAR GREEN NEXT FRIDAY for Gabby Getalong
Congratulations to the following students for achieving a **Gold Certificate** in the School Banking Program:

Emily Gesovski
Claire Ashley-Brown

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

Lara Gooch
Kyan Priestley
Maya Maddison
Cameron Price
Chelsea Stanbury
Conner West
Daniel Sponneck
Kye Parsons

**WANTED:** Students to take up an instrument in our fantastic school band.

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.

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**In their own Write**

**Today’s featured class is KS.**

This week as part of our Speaking and Listening program, the children in Kindergarten are speaking about their families. The children in KS have enjoyed telling their friends about their families. They were asked to share their favourite way to spend time with their family. We hope you enjoy their responses!

Sonny Allen - going roller blading together.
Charli Alley - going to the park to play on the swings.
Jamie Blake - building sandcastles at the beach.
Tahlia Dimovski - riding our bikes at the lake.
Gabriella Dunn - playing games outside.
Zac Funnell - watching my brother Ethan play the Playstation.
James Gray - going to the swimming pool.
Aaliyah Greaves - playing games together.
Shiloh Haynes - cuddling them!
Charlotte Hirneth - going on holidays to Queensland.
Zoe Keeble - going on the lake in a boat with my cousins.
Noah Kenny - having a date with my mum at the park.
Angus Lim - playing Superheroes with them.
Layla MacLeod - riding our bikes down to the lake.
Taien Mistry - playing soccer with my Dad.
Hamish Murphy - playing with the building blocks.
Lauren O’Farrell - going swimming at the beach.
Blake Poole - playing soccer with my family.
Tara Robinson - going to the pool with them.
Josh Stevens - playing Monopoly.
Maia Tihema - going to Megamania.
Please plan your Family Holidays in the School Holidays

The school cross country will be run next week, i.e., Term 1 Week 8.

Due to a clash with zone netball the 12 year girls event will be run on Thursday morning.

The rest of the school will have their cross country event on Friday morning.

8 years to 13 years will run first thing in the morning.

Michael Cox

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.

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<tr>
<th>EXCURSIONS &amp; PAYMENTS</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
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<td>Getting Alone Pizza Day Friday 20th March</td>
<td>Please return order by Monday 16 March</td>
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Parents are advised that no payment will be accepted after the due date unless approved by the organising teacher.

TOMORROW

Friday | School Assembly, 10.10am
Presentation by 2/3W, Parents Welcome

NEXT WEEK

Monday | K-2 Assembly 12.30
Tuesday |
Wednesday | P & C AGM
Thursday |
Friday | National Anti-Bullying Day
Getting Along (wear Gabby Getalong Green)
Cross Country + Pizza Day

SCHOOL DIARY

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<th>Wk</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 8  | March 16 | K-2 Assembly 12.30
P&C AGM 18th
Cross Country 20th
Getting along & Pizza Day |
| 9  | March 23 | Maths Fact, Class Playoff |
| 10 | March 30 | Maths Facts, Grade Playoff,
K-2 Assembly 12.30
Scripture Assembly 10.00
Easter Hat Parade
GOOD FRIDAY |

Biddabah boys with Paul Harragon after they won 4 games out of four played at Windale today. WELL DONE

WEAR GREEN NEXT FRIDAY for Gabby Getalong
**OOOSH News**

This week we have had several messy play activities development of social skills turn taking and textural awareness with mixtures being made out of different resources, also lots of connect a straw items being made over the last two weeks lots of creativity and imagination used with it being made into robots, cat mansions and pirate ships.

**Fundraisers Easter Raffle**

We are holding our annual Easter Raffle this term which is a great fundraiser for our P&C and the kids love it.

All donations of Easter Eggs, bunnies, baskets etc for prizes will be gratefully accepted and can be left at the office.

Tickets are on sale now at $1.00 each and all tickets (sold or unsold) should be returned to the office ASAP and no later than 27th March.

Raffle will be drawn and prizes distributed the last week of term.

Thank you for your support.

**Canteen News**

All families will have received messages that our canteen has been forced to close regularly this term due to a severe lack of volunteers. The primary fundraiser for our school and therefore, our students, this is extremely disappointing for a school of our size.

We are urgently requesting any help at all on our canteen, even for a few hours - the outlook is bleak if we cannot get more people helping our kids. Everyone is welcome to volunteer - parents, grandparents, aunts & uncles and friends. We value and appreciate all help offered. A HUGE thank you to our wonderful volunteers who are continuously giving up their time now to help but these generous people cannot continue to be the only volunteers on our canteen.

To assist those people who have not volunteered before and are a little concerned about what to do - the P&C will be placing procedures around the canteen, which will detail what to do, how to do it, and when in an effort to have everyone feel at ease.

Canteen is a fun experience and a great chance to meet new people. All children love seeing their loved ones at recess and lunch so please, help us to help our children.

If you have any queries and feedback, please email: biddabahcanteen@gmail.com

To place your name on the roster, please contact Mel Aurisch ph. 0419 294 046.

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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, 18 March

**2015 P&C AGM**

The AGM and March meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th March, commencing at 7pm in the school library - all welcome!

For the latest P&C News email pandc@biddabah.com.au
We require help in the canteen on, Thursday 19 March. Also, Tuesday 24, Thursday 26 and Friday 27 March. If you can help at all, either for a half or full day, please contact Mel Aurisch on 0419 294 046.

Friday 20 March is Pizza Day. There will be no lunch orders taken for this day.

Every effort is made to keep the canteen open five days a week. This can only be achieved with the assistance of the parents/carers of children that attend Biddabah. If there are not enough volunteers for the canteen to open then, as a last resort it will be closed. The formal channel of notification for canteen closure is via the Skoolbag app.

NB Changes made to the canteen roster after Tuesday will not be reflected in the current newsletter.

Biddabah P&C
Lake Macquarie Service

$129

Minor Club Evolution Vehicle Service Includes:

* Up to 5.5Lts of semi synthetic oil & filter
* Top up all fluid levels under the bonnet
* Wynns Engine Flush & Inject-A-Clean
* Full vehicle inspection & 21 Point safety check, with a written report
* 24/7 Australia Wide Roadside assistance

Conditions: 4WD, European, Commercial & Diesels may incur an extra charge. Will not void new car warranty.

Free PICK UP & DROP OFF within 10km of workshop for service or repairs

38 Medcalf St, WARNERS BAY 2282

Bookings Essential 02-49046020
Where: Biddabah Public School

When: Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly, Once a term

Hours: Anytime between 8.30am to 3.00pm. If you cannot do a full day, then perhaps you could do a half day. We have a number of volunteers that do this.

Experience: Not required. Everything you need to know will be learnt within a short space of time.

Salary: ‘A la carte’ lunch and drink endless tea and coffee and best of all, friendship.

Bonus: Your children are happy to see you in their favourite place – school. You’ll meet new people and make great friends within our school community.

Applications close: NEVER
Please complete the form and send it back to the canteen as soon as possible.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you to our volunteers, your help is invaluable.

Please contact Melissa Aurisch 0419 294 046

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Name: ........................................................................................................

Landline: ............................ Mobile: ............................

Please circle the day/s and frequency you would prefer to work:

Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday

Weekly  Fortnightly  Monthly  Once a term  Emergency Contact

If you would like to be placed on the emergency contact list where you will be called if there are not enough volunteers on a required day, please indicate.
The newly formed Biddabah Environmental Care Group consists of interested parents, teachers and community members who share a common vision for our students, their families and our local community. Our collective vision is the education of our students to support a sustainable and healthy environment both now and in the future. The ways in which we plan to achieve this is unfolding at each meeting, as people contribute ideas, make offers and volunteer time. Our group is growing each week and if you would like to be involved you are welcome to come along. We meet in 2M classroom each Wednesday morning at 8.30.

Current initiatives are
1. Utilising local expertise and funding grants to support projects
2. Embedding environmental awareness and responsibility in our school culture
3. Promoting an understanding of sustainability through student engagement
4. Garden planting and maintenance in the school grounds
5. Establishment and planting of veggie gardens in K and Stage 1 playgrounds
6. The reduction of green waste with cost saving alternatives
7. Responsibility for the reduction of material sent to landfill
8. Recycling plastics, batteries, printer cartridges and mobile phones
9. Forging partnerships with local businesses in the pursuit of environmental responsibility

Mr Anderson and Mr Roffey have been helped by Year 2 students Eli, Willis and Xavier in the setting up of garden beds purchased with an Environmental Grant from Lake Macquarie Council.