Dear Parents

Monday was a significant day for Biddabah Community as we wished Mr Cox a long and happy retirement. After 37 years of teaching, as you can imagine, he had some interesting and funny stories to tell.

His final message to the students of Biddabah was that he really enjoyed being at Biddabah as the students were well-behaved, nice and willing to learn. Mr Cox’s contribution over his 37 year career can never really be measured, but the cheers and the well wishes he received are an indication of the mark he has left on the Biddabah Community.

As a tribute to Mr Cox, students and teachers donated a good coin to dress up like him on Monday. Mr Cox has chosen pancreatic cancer as the charity which will receive $400 raised by out of uniform students.

We wish Mr Cox a very happy and long retirement. He will be missed!
IN YOUR OWN WRITE : 1X You Can Do It!

Lily makes her lunch.
Logan gets ready as soon as he is asked.
Zac makes his recess and lunch.
James follows mums rules.
Travis packs his bag.
Bianka gets dressed quickly.
Toby makes his lunch.
Zoe gets her recess ready.
Angus does his jobs as soon as he is asked.
Cooper dresses himself.
Emily N follows mums instructions.
Grace packs her fruit.
Emily Mc does her own hair.
Kloe dresses herself and packs her water bottle.
Jude gets ready quickly.
Lawson packs his school bag.
Maia makes her breakfast.
Tara dresses herself and packs her school bag.
Xavier packs his food.
Harry makes his sandwich.
Jessica gets ready quickly.

1X are really learning how to get organised!
Go 1X!!

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Star Struck
We would like to congratulate our Stage 3 dancers for successfully auditioning and gaining a place in this year’s Star Struck performance.
This is particularly an exciting achievement for us, as it will be the first time Biddabah Public School has ever been involved. Star Struck offers Hunter Public School students the opportunity to come together and showcase the regions singing and dancing talents. This year Star Struck will be held on Friday 17th June and Saturday 18th of June. Tickets will be on sale soon from all Ticketek outlets.

Dance Groups: The Little Gems, The Opals & The Blue Diamonds
This year we have been thrilled to be able to offer our students the opportunity to be involved in being a part of one of our three school dance groups. Year 1 to Year 6 students were given the opportunity to try out for a position in one of these groups. Our vision is that we would like our groups to represent our school by participating in local performances and eisteddfods.
Our three school dance groups are now well underway. Stage 1 dancers (The Little Gems) rehearse each week during Tuesday lunch times. They have been learning a fun routine to “We Like to Party”. Stage 2 dancers (The Opals) have been rehearsing every Thursday lunch time and have been learning a routine to “....”. Our Stage 3 dancers (The Blue Diamonds) have been working hard, before school every Thursday morning, learning their audition piece for Star Struck as well as a dance routine to “....”. We would like to thank our dancers for their dedication, hard work and excellent behaviour during rehearsal times. We would also like to thank Miss Simone for her professional instruction and to Mrs McEwan, Miss Probert and Mrs Osborn for supervising these
SPORT NEWS

JACOB LEHMANN - STATE BASKETBALL

Last Tuesday I tried out for Zone Basketball trials. Only 5 people made it and I was one of them. On Friday I was asked to try out for the State team and was later selected. I have been playing basketball for 3 years and I have been in the Rep team for the last 2 years. I met some new people at Broadmeadow and saw some that I already knew. At first, I didn’t believe that I made it into the State team. I found out that lots of my friends in my team made it as well and we were all very happy!! I made a lot of new friends and I hope we win so we can keep on playing together and become an awesome team.

Jacob Lehman 4/SH

SWIMMING BOYS OFF TO STATE TITLES

Congratulations to our Boys relay team (Daniel Williams, Jacob Marshall, Reuben Suba, and Taj Blackman) who have qualified for the State Titles at Homebush in April. They have represented our school at the Zone carnival, the Regional carnival and now head off to Sydney. Daniel Williams has qualified for all other events including 100m f/s, medley, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly.

That is an amazing achievement.

Good luck in Sydney boys!!

BAND NEWS

Bandlink Update

Time is passing very quickly and the band students are sounding fantastic. Just a reminder for all band members new and old, the bandlink note and payment needs to be in before the end of term. To new members that are unsure if they will be ready... yes you will. The beginning band at the workshop caters for you. If you are not intending to attend, can you bring your note back A.S.A.P. Extra notes are available from the note holder at the front of the office. Please contact Mrs Broxom, if you have any queries.

Mrs Broxom

Parent Information Session Invitation

Gifted and Talented Students

Hunter Primary Gifted and Talented Students (GATS) Committee will be holding a Parent Information session on Wednesday 16th March at 6pm in the School hall at The Junction Public School, Union Street, Merewether NSW 2291. Mrs Christine Rippon (Principal, Merewether High School) and Mrs Lee Saurins (Principal, Wiripaang Public School) will lead a discussion on identifying Gifted and Talented students, Myths around Gifted Students, Respect, Rights and Responsibilities and Geniuses in the Making.

Tea, coffee and a light supper will be provided from 5.30pm. Further information is available from Mrs Dutch.
MATHLETICS

Bronze
James Gray
Logan Cowling
Ava Banks
Riley Neilands
Alex Doherty
Isabella Masterson
Nicholas Sabotkovski
Alexandra Cowling
Jacob Fitchett
Blakes Knight
Blake Robinson
Travis Wright
Jack Bruce
Ethan Cowling
Charlotte Neilands
Callie Morton
Trinity Jackson
Maliq West
Taylah Cowling
Tyler Freund

Silver
Jye Morton
Matilda Hughson
Cooper Ralph
Jessica Gesovski
Mackenzie Curtis

Outstanding
Kirra Priestley
Ryan Brown
Cooper Ralph
Laura Hyslop
Lillie Ralph
Charlotte Neilands
Oliver Antony
Riley McGregor

BANKING NEWS

Silver
Tayla Willis
Isabella Day

Bronze
Tom Maddison

UNIFORM SHOP

OPENING HOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tuesday Mornings</th>
<th>Thursday Mornings</th>
<th>Thursday Afternoon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.30am-9.00am</td>
<td>8.30am-9.00am</td>
<td>2.30pm-3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Newham</td>
<td>Kirsten Rae</td>
<td>Renea Shepherd</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mel Adams</td>
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P&G NEWS

Easter Raffle: Donations Needed
PLEASE!!!

Our annual Easter raffle is again being organised for the end of this term. Any donations of chocolate eggs and baskets are required and will be greatly appreciated. Please drop all donations to the office.

Further information and tickets will be sent home very soon.

PLOVER AWARDS

Green Plover Awards
Congratulations
Will receive a certificate at the next Friday school assembly.

Paige McIntosh
Kuda Hall
Charlie Ratcliffe
Jack Roach

ICAS—INTRODUCTORY SPELLING FOR YEAR 2

As mentioned in the original flyer, Year 2 students are able to do an introductory spelling competition this year, however, we have to have at least 3 students participate for this to go ahead. The cost will be $11 per entry.
**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Louis James, Linda James, Malea Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Kristy Newman, Louis James, Donna Newham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Paula Boersma, Louis James, Linda James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Karen Hirschausen, Alessandra Nolan, Tiz Berrtaglia, Kerri Cornally, Jess Majurovski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Louis James, Linda James, Malea Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Kristy Newman, Louis James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Cheryl Brown, Louis James, Linda James, Sue McLeod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Canteen News**

Just a reminder, that the canteen does not sell fairy bread, LOL or half hot dogs. If your child orders any of these items then they will be refunded their money unless they choose something else.

We would really appreciate that if you are not able to do your scheduled canteen day that you attempt to replace yourself. This does not include illness, being called into work or any emergency.

**Thursday 24 March** will be cupcake day with an Easter theme. So remember to bring along some money so you can have a delicious cupcake.

If you would like to volunteer in the canteen whether it’s for a half or full day, we would love to hear from you. Get some friends together and make a day of it. Please contact Mel Aurisch on 0419 294 046 or Jo Chock. Alternatively, there’s a roster in the canteen where you can write down your name.

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

How did the soggy Easter Bunny dry himself?
A. With a hare-dryer!

---

**ABSENCE OR LATE LEAVERS OR EARLY LEAVERS**

At Biddabah we use a computer roll marking system. This means the system will generate a note to you for unexplained absences.

Late children should be accompanied and signed in by a parent, otherwise an explanation request will be sent home.

---

**Do we have your correct details?**

*Please return your child's 2016 Care Record to the Office ASAP*

This allows us to send messages, newsletters and critical information to all parents very quickly. We may need to inform you about a cancelled carnival; the late arrival of a bus; there may be a whole school emergency requiring you to collect children etc.

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### SCHOOL DIARY: TERM 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Photos Tues 8th Mar&lt;br&gt;Hunter PSSA AFL 8 Mar&lt;br&gt;K-2 12.40pm Assembly&lt;br&gt;Stage 2 Assembly 2:00pm&lt;br&gt;Stage 3 Assembly 10:30am&lt;br&gt;K-6 Assembly 10:10am 4W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Hunter PSSA AFL 8 Mar&lt;br&gt;K-2 12.40pm Assembly&lt;br&gt;Stage 2 Assembly 2:00pm&lt;br&gt;Stage 3 Assembly 10:30am&lt;br&gt;K-6 Assembly 10:10am 2B&lt;br&gt;P&amp;C Meeting 17 Feb 7:30pm Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>K-2 12.40pm Assembly&lt;br&gt;K-2 Scripture Assembly: Hall 2pm&lt;br&gt;K-2 Easter Hat Parade Thurs 24 Stage 2 Assembly 2:00pm&lt;br&gt;Stage 3 Assembly 10:30am&lt;br&gt;K-6 Assembly 1X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>K-2 12.40pm Assembly&lt;br&gt;Stage 2 Assembly 2:00pm&lt;br&gt;Stage 3 Assembly 10:30am&lt;br&gt;K-6 Assembly 3C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>K-2 12.40pm Assembly&lt;br&gt;Stage 2 Assembly 2:00pm&lt;br&gt;Stage 3 Assembly 10:30am&lt;br&gt;K-6 Assembly 10:10am 4/5H&lt;br&gt;NSS PSSA Swimming 6th-7th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Notes Sent Home This Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>Kindergarten Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade K-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb</td>
<td>Bandlink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Feb</td>
<td>Sydney Aquarium K-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Feb</td>
<td>Blue Mountains Yrs. 3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Feb</td>
<td>Textbook fees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Excursions & Payments Due

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 24 Mar</td>
<td>No payment required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 6 April</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Apr</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Apr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASAP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Check for Individual Class or Activity Notes Sent Home
Easter Hat Parade

Thursday 24th March 2016

Our Easter Hat Parade is fast becoming a much loved K-2 Biddabah school tradition. The parade recognises the efforts made by children in constructing their own unique hats. All students are showcased and there is no competition involved.

The children are asked to make a hat and bring it to school on Thursday 24th March. Hats may be placed in the classroom before school to ensure they remain in one piece for the parade. Children will be required to wear full school uniform on the day.

The parade will begin at 2:10 in the COLA and parents, grandparents and friends are all invited to attend. The children will also be performing some songs, dances and rhymes that they have been learning.

We look forward to your company on the day.

Kindergarten, Year 1 & Year 2 Staff
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