Welcome A huge warm welcome to all our new Kindergarten students and their families. We also welcome the Campbell, Crossett, Lowry, Johnston, Schimpf and Stratakis families to our Bonnet Bay Community. We also welcome Mrs Leanne Dever as our new Support Learning Officer to assist students with specific needs. What a fantastic start all of our Kindergarten students have had, big smiles and with great excitement all Kindergarten have settled so well for their first week of school. We just hope they realise they will have to come back next week too!

What an amazing start to Term 1, 173 students now enrolled in our fabulous school. A few more students will see another class, more staff and support in the office and classrooms. Our great school is growing!

Week 3 sees the establishment of our permanent classes, the new learning journey begins. All staff have been working collegially and collaboratively in preparation for a fabulous start to 2016. They have been working on plans, programming and ensuring we have solid scope & sequence plans to ensure the building of content knowledge and meeting stage and student outcomes. We are proactive in presenting best practice in our classrooms and be innovative in meeting the needs of our students. We look forward to a great partnership in your child’s education.

School Notes Over the next week there will be various notes re information for Term 1. Please be vigilant in checking your child’s bag for notes or checking the newsletter, schoolbag app and website to keep up to date with communications. This will allow your child not to miss out on opportunities or permission to participate in activities. For us to maintain a high level of service for your children we require some financial support in the form of school fees. A note detailing these went home yesterday for your attention. I realise there are a few financial demands at the beginning of a school year but your support in this regard would ensure that your child will be supplied with all learning equipment required to engage fully in class activities. It would be appreciated if all permission notes and costs required are returned as soon as practical. If you have issues with fees please do not hesitate to contact me.

Next week sees the beginning of some of our school and extra curricular activities, Yoga, Scripture, Ethics Classes and Dance.

Yoga Program In supporting the well being of students our school Yoga program commences on Wednesday 10th Feb in our school hall. Students are asked to wear their sports uniform for comfort. The program focuses on developing physical, social, emotional skills and self regulating strategies to cultivate well being, resilience and life long learning. It will assist students to be responsible, foster mindfulness and empower them with techniques to thrive
in their personal and academic lives. Class teachers will be present to learn the strategies also to utilise them back in the classroom.

**Dance Groups** Miss Hayley will be teaching Dance again this year. This wonderful opportunity for students to learn dance skills and have fun for a low cost compared to outside school dance school fees. A trial dance lesson for boys and girls will occur on Wednesday morning, at 8.30am for all students.

**School Choir** Choir groups will begin Week 5 on Thursday 25th February as teachers need to attend Choir Training days the week prior. Both these groups will give students an opportunity to represent our school at special assemblies, Sutherland Shire Schools Music Festival and other exciting opportunities.

**PSSA Sport** Teams for PSSA are being finalised over the next week and notes will be sent home as soon as practical regarding teams and costs. Any students not involved in PSSA will be participating in school sport activities at school.

**P&C AGM & Meeting** Our Annual AGM for our P&C is set down for next Wednesday 10th at 7.30pm followed by a P&C meeting. All parents are welcome to attend. This forum is a great way to meet new parents and an opportunity for you to share ideas and show your support for our school. All positions on the P&C will open for nomination, we thank the out going committee for their tremendous job supporting our school.

**Big Rock Fest Family Picnic** - please join us in a welcome back picnic near the BIG ROCK this Friday from 5-7pm. This is a great opportunity for all families to reconnect or meet new families at our school.

We are looking forward to creating positive partnerships within our community. If you have any concerns re issues please don’t hesitate to come and discuss it, so we can continue our strong school culture of support for all families, students and staff in our learning community. Looking forward to a great year of learning and continuing to deliver the best outcomes for our students in education at Bonnet Bay.

Karen Deacon
Principal

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**A Message from the P&C**

Welcome back to all our school families! I hope everyone enjoyed a nice relaxing summer break!! And a big welcome to all the new families that have joined the school in 2016!! It is so nice to see so many new faces around the playground!!

**BIG ROCK FEST**
We invite all families to come along on Friday night to the “Big Rock” for a casual picnic between 5pm and 7pm. This is a great opportunity for all families, new and old, to meet and have a catch up. We will have some games set up for the children. BYO picnic blanket and food. Looking forward to seeing you all there!!

**AGM AND P&C MEETING**
I also wanted to let everyone know that the P&C’s Annual General Meeting and our first P&C meeting for the year will be held next Wednesday 10th Feb at 7.15pm in the school library. We encourage all families to attend to have your say and to keep informed about our school. These meetings are especially great for all the new kindy families who are still “learning the ropes” and figuring out what goes on at school!! Many of the committee members will be stepping down or moving into other roles this year, so this is a great time to consider how you think you may be able to contribute. Any assistance you can give will help!! Please feel free to have a chat to me if you want any info about any of the P&C roles. Once again, I look forward to seeing many of you there next week.

**CANTEEN**
We are still in the process of finalising the canteen roster for 2016 so the canteen will re-open on Monday 15th Feb. If you can spare 4hrs once a month, please consider volunteering for canteen duty. Notes were sent home last week, please return to the office ASAP.

Eleisha Legg
P&C President

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**School Banking**

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program will re-commence next week, Tuesday 9th February. Banking day is every Tuesday and each time your child banks they receive a token towards a reward, a great way to teach them about saving. To participate in school banking you need a Commonwealth Bank account. Students bring their yellow bank book with the money you would like to bank to school on Tuesdays, the books will be collected in the classroom in the morning and returned at the end of the day once the deposits have been processed. Information about the reward program for 2016 will be sent home with bank books next week. We are also looking for an additional volunteer to assist with school banking. The com-
mitment is approximately one hour a week to complete the online banking process which can be done from home. Please contact Shanan Green via s_m_green@iinet.net.au if you are able to assist.

Happy Banking
Shanan Green and Jo Rogers - Coordinators

School Newsletter Subscription
Please subscribe via our school website to receive the newsletter by email each Thursday. You will need to:
- go to our website at www.bonnetbay-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
- click on the ‘Newsletters & Notes’ tab
- on this page you can ‘subscribe’ to receive the newsletter by email.
- after subscribing, you will receive a confirmation email.
- you need to reply to this confirmation email.

You only need to complete this process once. You will then receive the newsletter each week unless you unsubscribe yourself.

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop will be open Tuesday 9th February 9.30am for general sales.

Bonnet Bay BASC News
Welcome Back!
A huge welcome to all families re-turning to Bonnet Bay Before & After School Care.

Reminders
Labels – Please remember to label all belongings. (e.g Hat, Drink bottle & clothes)
Ezidebit -Please note that Ezidebit has increased their dishonour fee to $11.90.
Kinds Regards
Nancy Bassiuoni
Teacher / Director
Ph: (02) 95288797- 95285009
Email: nancy@kirraweechildcare.com.au

Bonnet Bay Pharmacy Opening
Bonnet Bay Pharmacy will be opening at the Bonnet Bay shops on Monday 8th February. Please show your support for this valuable local business. The business owner also owns Como West Pharmacy.

Student Travel
The School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days. To be eligible for a School Opal card, students need to be NSW residents and may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:
- Years K-2 - there’s no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 - 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking or further.

How to Apply
- Complete the application at http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students
- Print, sign and submit the form to the school for endorsement
- The school will then forward the application to Transport NSW for processing. Once approved, Transport NSW sends the School Opal card to the home address given on the application. This may take several weeks.

Students who don’t qualify for free travel may be eligible for a Term Bus Pass which offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole school term. Apply at http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students.

Bus Timetables - The latest school bus timetables are available on Transdev website for viewing at www.transdevnsw.com.au.

Bonnet Bay Public School Merit Award System
At Bonnet Bay Public School, student achievement is recognised in many different ways both informally and formally.

Each week in assembly, deserving students are awarded Assembly and Values Awards for academic achievement, displaying school values and excellent behaviour. These awards are special and can be accumulated to attain higher awards. It is important that you keep your child’s awards in a safe place as we do not re-issue awards.

Award Structure
5 Assembly/Values Awards = Principal Patch
3 Principal Patches = Bronze Medallion
3 more Principal Patches = Silver Medallion
3 more Principal Patches = Gold Medallion
3 more Principal Patches = Platinum Award
1 more Principal Patch = iTunes Voucher
Welcome back to a new school year! Sutherland Shire Council Parking Officers will be out at all schools again this year helping you to ensure that all children get to and from school safely.

**DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN**

Schools are areas where there is a lot of interaction between cars and pedestrians: your children. Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable.

Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. Boys are twice as likely to be involved in pedestrian accidents as girls and children 10-14 years have the highest rate of child pedestrian casualties (RMS).

- Children up to eight years old should hold an adult’s hand on the footpath, in the carpark or when crossing the road.
- Children up to ten years old should be actively supervised around traffic and should hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road.
- Take the time to make sure your children are aware of, understand and follow traffic safety regulations when they are walking.

**HAVE A PLAN**

Plan with your son or daughter how you will collect them. When and where will you be after school? Where should they wait? Make sure they know not to try and get into your vehicle while it is still in traffic, even if you are stopped; they should wait until you have parked at the side of the road.

Plan to arrive AFTER the school bell goes in the afternoon, so your children are ready and waiting for you and you are not blocking traffic.

**NO PARKING ZONES**

A No Parking zone is a pick up and drop off area: you can stop here for a maximum of two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers and must remain within three metres of the vehicle. When parents park in a No Parking zone for longer than two minutes they prevent other parents from stopping to drop off or pick up their children, creating frustration and dangerous situations. If you arrive before the school bell and block the pickup areas, you risk a fine.

Parking offences in school zones carry heavier fines and loss of demerit points. Sutherland Shire Council makes no apologies for fining drivers who break the law around schools and in school zones.

See the Roads and Maritime Authority website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au for more about Australian Road Rules and other road safety information.

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**SOME SIGNS YOU WILL SEE AROUND YOUR SCHOOL**

**NO PARKING**

*What does it mean?*

You CAN stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

*Why is it there?*

To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.

**NO STOPPING**

*What does it mean?*

You CANNOT stop in this area FOR ANY REASON.

*Why is it there?*

To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children so both have more time to avoid crashes.

**BUSD ZONE**

*What does it mean?*

You must NOT stop or park in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

*Why is it there?*

To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up. Cars parking in bus zones put lives at risk by forcing buses out of their safety zone.
Check out this fantastic resource for our BBPS school community.

Lost Property - Please Check!

Please ensure that lost property is checked regularly for any of your child’s missing items. Our lost property is often overflowing with jumpers, hats, jackets, drink bottles and lunchboxes.

Please check your child’s uniform items, to ensure it has their name on it. It’s very easy for a child to pack another child’s jacket, jumper or hat into their bag by mistake.

We would be grateful to receive back any items which belong to another child.