

Week 4, Term 2

Friday 24 May 2024

Marvellous Mums!

Warami (Hello),

On Friday 10 May, we held our annual Mother's Day afternoon tea. Unfortunately, a quick venue change to the COLA was needed due to the rain. We were so happy to have so many mums, aunties and nannas join us for some afternoon tea. We also drew our Mother's Day raffle, we raised \$495 and our lucky winners were:

- 1st Prize: Sophia 3/4B
- 2nd Prize: Lily 3/4W
- 3rd Prize: Amanda
- 4th Prize: Lily 3/4W
- 5th Prize: Boyd 3/4W
- 6th Prize: Mrs Searle
- 7th Prize: Mrs Pagett

I would also like to thank our wonderful P&C volunteers for running our Mother's Day stall, there were so many beautiful gifts for our students to choose from. I know our volunteers spent many hours shopping for and preparing the gifts. We really appreciate your hard work and dedication.

I hope that all of our mums had a wonderful Mother's Day, thank you for everything you do to support the education of your children.

“
**Mothers are like
glue. Even when
you can't see them,
they're still holding
the family together.**

“There's no way to
be a perfect mother
and a million ways to
be a good one.”

Coming Soon at Werrington County PS...

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	27 May	28 May Knockout Basketball	29 May	30 May	31 May Knockout Netball Knockout Soccer Boys TBC
6	3 Jun	4 Jun Debating - Round 2	5 Jun K-6 Assembly - 2.15pm	6 Jun	7 Jun Newsletter Day 3-6 Field Events
7	10 Jun King's Birthday Public Holiday <i>Students do not attend school on this day</i>	11 Jun	12 Jun Sydney West Cross County TBC	13 Jun	14 Jun 3-6 Field Events-back up date

Congratulations Mrs English

We would like to congratulate Mrs English and her husband on the safe arrival of their beautiful little boy Edward Alexander who joined their family in the April holidays. Everyone in the family is doing well.



Playground Changes

Throughout Term 1 we had many incidents in the playground that related to inappropriate behaviour during games such as: physical interactions, not following the rules of the game, play that is not age appropriate (older kids play and younger kids play) and misusing equipment. To support the safety and enjoyment of all students we have introduced the following changes to the playground:

- K-2 and 3-6 will play in separate playgrounds and alternate in these spaces from week to week.
- The Backyard Zone will be for all students K-6.
- Passive play spaces will continue to operate in both K-2 and 3-6 areas.
- The Library will continue to open at lunch.
- The only football game will be Oz Tag and students can sign up to play at recess or lunch, sign up happens on morning duty between 8.30 and 9am.
- Soccer will continue to be played as normal in a designated area for soccer games.
- The school will provide all equipment required for games that require larger balls (oz tag, soccer etc).
- The only balls brought to school by students should be handballs, that are clearly labelled with the students' name.
- New rules that have been developed by our students (see below).

 **| CURIOUS | COLLABORATIVE | COMPASSIONATE**

You must sign up to play
(see morning duty teacher
in the court yard)



NO one is in charge
of the game



NO contact allowed
* NO pushing
* NO physical touching



Rules 4 All Team Sports
W.C.P.S.



Only use
school
equipment

Choose teams fairly
(teams can be mixed)



Speak nicely



Use appropriate
language

Make sure everyone
is included



Supervision – Before and After School

I would like to take this opportunity to remind our families that supervision of students does not commence until 8.30am. Our front gates are closed and are not opened until 8.30am, students waiting outside the gate prior to 8.30am are unsupervised.

If you are running late and are unable to collect your child at 3pm, please contact the office to let us know. Teachers attend meetings most afternoons during the week and are unable to provide supervision for students after 3pm.

We encourage families to contact our Out of School Hours Care provider in the school hall if you require care before or after school.



Parking at drop off and pick up times

I would like to remind families that we have a few no stopping zones outside the school, these areas are clearly marked by signage. We have had the rangers out a couple of times this year and they have booked parents who are parked illegally during drop off and pickup times.

Please also be mindful when dropping off and picking up from OOSH, that these no stopping zones still apply outside school hours.



Thank you to those families who are parking in the correct places, keeping our students safe.

Yanu (Goodbye)

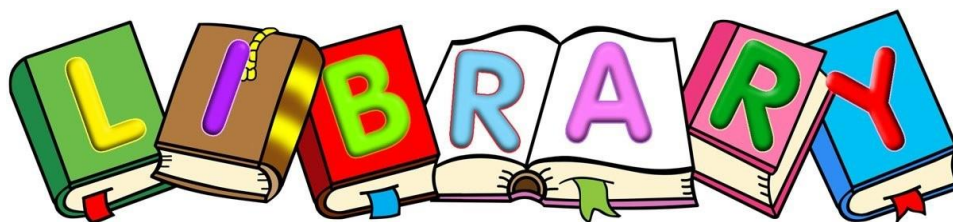
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Belinda Clarke'.

Mrs Belinda Clarke
Principal

Congratulations to our Merit Award Winners from...

Week 4	KL	KT	K-2G
	Ryder Oliver Liam Octavia	Madden Ava Brodie Jai	Viraaj Krish
1F	1/2D	2R	1-5B
Marley Lachlan Liliana Neena	Hunter Teilen Charlotte Lucy	Erfan Matilda Isabelle Liam	Yannis Elizabeth
3/4B	3/4G	3/4W	4/50
Double Awards next assembly because Mrs Burton was away.	Emmrey Emily Dylan Nathaniel	Advay Jack Evie Conor	Olivia Isla Elisha Braxton
4-6G	5/6P	5/6T	5/6ST
Breanna Samuel	Sienna Lexi Koa Rhegan	Mila Ruby-Lee Beau Jade	Eleni Ethan Mia

Students' names are only included if the school has permission to publish, therefore some classes may only have one or no names listed.



Congratulations to our Library Award Winners from...

	Week 3	Week 4
K - 2	2R	KT
3 - 6	5/6ST	5/6T



The 2024 Premier's Reading Challenge is off and running!

Congratulations to:

10 book merit certificate (K-2)

1/2D: Nathaniel

2R: Rylan

20 book merit certificate (K-2)

KT: Liam

2R: Knox

30 book merit certificate (K-2)

KL: Georgia

Your certificate will be presented at a future assembly.

If you would like your child to participate in the PRC at home, simply forward a handwritten permission note to Mrs Baxter.

Congratulations to the following students in Years 3-6 who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge:

5/6P: Nate

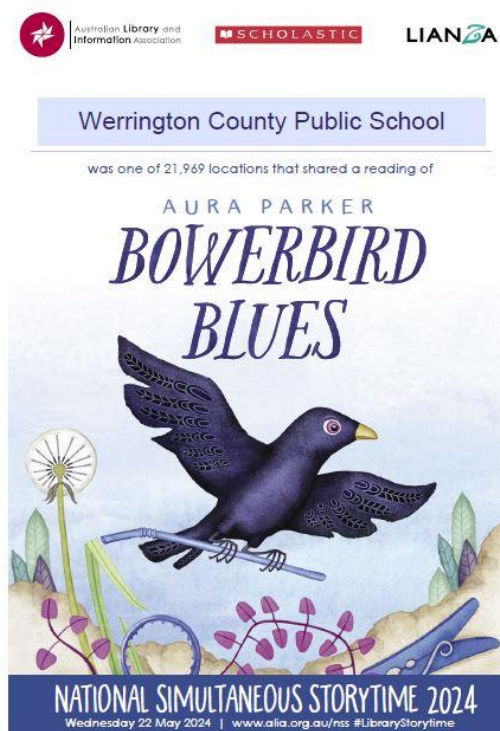
5/6T: Chloe,

Your certificate will arrive at the end of the year.

Students' names are only included if the school has permission to publish, therefore some classes may only have one or no names listed.



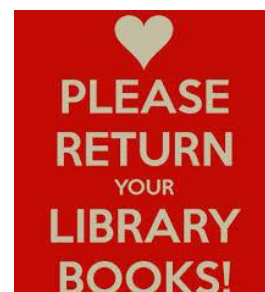
This week our school was one of 20,581 locations across Australia that participated in National Simultaneous Storytime. We learnt a lot about bowerbirds and their nests. One class were fortunate enough to have Mrs Sheridan read the text *Bowerbird Blues* to them. Some classes created their own Bowerbird Blue artworks.



Overdue reminder slips will be issued next week. They will be on bright orange paper. I would greatly appreciate it if you could return the books to the library once they are found. It is an expectation that books that are lost or damaged beyond repair are paid for. The replacement cost is on the overdue slip.

Mrs Baxter

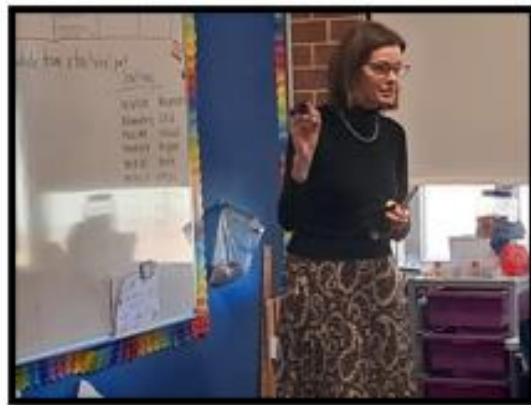
Teacher Librarian
PRC Coordinator
Book Club Coordinator





Our school has been partnering with Real Schools to help us improve our use of restorative practices to accelerate student growth and learning.

This week we were privileged to have Marion Walsh-Gay from Real Schools at our school for the whole day, working in classrooms alongside our teachers and running a Professional Learning afternoon for our staff after school.



Our focus over the last 2 weeks with our students has been using positive affective language. We have been working with our students, thinking about our use of language and what a powerful tool this can be.

Marion has spoken with our staff as part of our Professional Learning about "**Affective Statements**" and how useful these can be. An "**Affective Statement**" is a way that we can explain to our students how we feel about their behaviour and the impact it has had on others.

To help keep Positive Affective Language as a focus in our school we have been running a word of the week challenge. We have been selecting a positive affective word that teachers have been using regularly throughout the school day. When a child correctly guesses the word, they have received a Teachers Award for being Curious. Then we have picked a new word, and the challenge has started again.

So far, our words and our clever curious students have been:

Appreciate – guessed by Jackson in 5/6P.

Grateful – guessed by Lily in 1F.

Admire – guessed by John in 5/6 ST.

Believe – guessed by Hunter in 5/6P.

Congratulations Jade!

**NSW PSSA State
Swimming Championships**

**50m Backstroke
26th Place
Time: 39.36**

**WE ARE SO
PROUD OF YOU!**



Congratulations Raynesh!

**Taekwondo
Back Belt**

Raynesh has
achieved his 1st
Poom Black Belt
One Strip

**WE ARE SO
PROUD OF YOU!**



ZONE CROSS COUNTRY



On Wednesday 15th May, Miss Bransby, Mr McPhillimey and Ms Willick took 46 students to our Zone Cross Country Carnival at the Regatta Centre. We were so proud of all our students who demonstrated great sportsmanship throughout the day! Congratulations to our students who have progressed through to Sydney West.



1/2D'S PIZZA PARTY!



**CONGRATULATIONS
FOR YOUR AMAZING
FUNDRAISING!**



Stage 1 News

This term in Stage 1 we are investigating Science. We are learning to predict and observe the world around us. So far, we have predicted and observed what happens when we mix things like, flour, salt, jelly crystals and water, or even vinegar, bicarb soda and dishwashing liquid.

We have also started to investigate living and non-living things looking at the features and needs of plants.



Experiments you could try at home

- Bouncy egg
- Frozen strawberry in a glass of cold water
- Cold water poured onto an ice cube
- Cloud from an empty water bottle
- Jumping rainbows
- Dancing raisins/sultanas



Art in Stage 1



FEATURE

Teachers



MRS KANDEL

Why did you become an SLSO? I always wanted to be involved in education. When I discovered the position as an SLSO I felt like it was the perfect job for me because I really enjoy supporting people.

What was your dream job as a child? I wanted to be a singer in a band but changed my mind and decided to be a teacher instead.

What is your dream holiday destination

Anywhere with a beach and a place that I can go and fish.

What is your favourite dog breed? Beagles because I love my beagle so much!

If you could name a new planet what would it be?
How about Shellomoon!



MISS BRANSBY

How tall are you, Miss Bransby?

I'm 6 foot tall.

Do you have any pets?

Yes, I have a dog named Cider. He's 11 years old now.

Did you play any sports when you were younger and what did you play?

I played netball and I still like to play.

What is the first thing you would buy with one million dollars?

I would buy a plane ticket!

How did you get so tall?

It's genetics as my mum and dad are both tall too.



MRS MOSS

What would you do with a million dollars?

I would go on lots of holidays, deal with my mortgage, and help a pet charity.

What is your favourite year to teach?

Definitely Year 5 and 6!

Who inspires you in life and why.

Walt Disney because he has a quote saying, "If you can dream it, you can do it." Plus, he made an empire from the idea of a mouse!

Do you have a pet and can you describe it?

I have two dogs. A mini foxy and a golden retriever.

What is your favourite time of year and why?

I love summer and Christmas time because of all the delicious food.

Our Feature Teachers have been interviewed by our Student Leadership Team.

Coming Soon at Werrington County PS...

Term 2 and 3, 2024 Overview

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	17 Jun Spelling Bee – Stage Finals	18 Jun K-6 Athletics Carnival	19 Jun P&C Meeting – 9am K-6 Assembly – 2.15pm	20 Jun	21 Jun K-2 Sydney Zoo Excursion Newsletter Day Last day to hand in 10 awards for this terms Principals Assembly
9	24 Jun	25 Jun Penrith Cup Netball TBC Debating – Round 3	26 Jun K-6 Term 2 Extra Curricular Assembly – 2.15pm	27 Jun	28 Jun
10	1 Jul	2 Jul	3 Jul K-6 Term 2 Principals Assembly – 2.15pm Reports go home today	4 Jul	5 Jul Newsletter Day P&C Pyjama Day Fundraiser Last Day of Term 2
Term 3 1	22 Jul Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school on this day</i>	23 Jul Students return to school for Term 3 State Cross Country TBC	24 Jul	25 Jul	26 Jul Stage 2 Lizard Log Excursion
2	29 Jul K-6 Gymnastics Program TBC	30 Jul 100 Days of Kindergarten Debating – Round 4	31 Jul K-6 Assembly – 2.15pm	1 Aug NAIDOC Day Celebrations OC Placement Test	2 Aug Newsletter Day Primary Principals Day
3	5 Aug PUBLIC EDUCATION WEEK K-6 Gymnastics Program TBC	6 Aug	7 Aug Open Day	8 Aug	9 Aug
4	12 Aug K-6 Gymnastics Program TBC Penrith Valley Performing Arts Festival – Choir TBC	13 Aug Penrith Valley Performing Arts Festival – Choir TBC Penrith Cup - Soccer	14 Aug K-6 Assembly – 2.15pm Penrith Valley Performing Arts Festival – Choir TBC	15 Aug Dentist Visit Penrith Valley Performing Arts Festival – Choir TBC	16 Aug Dentist Visit Newsletter Day
5	19 Aug BOOK WEEK K-6 Gymnastics Program TBC Dentist Visit	20 Aug Dentist Visit Debating – Round 5	21 Aug Dentist Visit	22 Aug Book Parade TBC Zone Athletics Carnival	23 Aug
6	26 Aug K-6 Gymnastics Program TBC	27 Aug	28 Aug K-6 Assembly – 2.15pm	29 Aug P&C Father's Day Stall TBC	30 Aug Newsletter Day Father's Day Afternoon Tea
7	2 Sept K-6 Gymnastics Program TBC	3 Sept	4 Sept	5 Sept	6 Sept Kindergarten 2025 School Tour – Time TBC

Every Day Matters

Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:

Learning



Strengthening friendships



Emotional development



When it comes to attending school,
every day matters.

Scan the
QR code to
learn more





Our School Values and Expectations

We are Curious, Collaborative
and Compassionate

Step 5 Purple Slip				Principal	
Step 4 Red Slip				AP Reflection Time	
Step 3 Orange Slip				AP Reflection Time	
Step 2 Yellow Slip				AP Reflection Time	
Step 1 Name on Chart				AP Reflection Time	
Verbal reminder				AP Reflection Time	
Back on track and Chill Zone				AP Reflection Time	
You can turn this around 😊				Drawing on school or another person's property	
Think it through				Hitting, punching or kicking because you want to hurt someone	
Take some deep breaths				Stealing	
Move on from the mistake				Repeatedly being disrespectful or disruptive	
				Repeatedly not keeping your hands to yourself	
				Bullying	
				Cyber bullying	
				Racist language	
				Repeatedly using rude words	
				Repeatedly in the wrong place at the wrong time	
				If behaviour continues student moves to purple step.	
				Not following instructions after being asked multiple times	
				Not keeping your hands and feet to yourself	
				Hurting others on purpose	
				Using rude or inappropriate language when speaking to someone	
				Wrong place at the wrong time multiple times, on purpose	
				If behaviour is repeated student moves to red step	
				Throwing objects in the classroom	
				Back chat	
				Not following instructions	
				Not completing your work	
				If behaviour is repeated student moves to orange step	
				Talking when someone else is talking	
				Using the furniture in the wrong way	
				Using equipment in the wrong way	
				Not sitting on the floor correctly	
				Distracting yourself or others	
				Leaving rubbish on the floor	
				Implementation of Berry Street/Bill Rogers Strategies to assist in turning behaviour around.	
				If behaviour is repeated student moves to yellow step	



Program	Date/Time	Location	Register
Circle of Security Eight week program that helps parents form secure relationships and stronger bonds with their children.	Every Thursday 8th Aug – 26th Sept 10:00am – 11:30am	Uniting Church Hall 72 Old Bathurst Rd BLAXLAND	Phone 4720 6500 groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
Tuning in to Kids Six week program that teaches parents to help children understand and regulate their emotions.	Every Wednesday 14th Aug – 18th Sept 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Online via ZOOM	Phone 4720 6500 groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
Managing Stress Four week program offering practical, evidence-based methods for lowering stress.	Every Monday 19th Aug – 9th Sept 10:00am – 12:00pm	Gateway FS Office chr Station & Henry St PENRITH	Phone 4720 6500 groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
Cool Little Kids Six week program that gives parents skills to help their 0-6 year old children manage their anxiety.	Every Friday 16th Aug – 20th Sept 10:30am – 12:00pm	Blaxland Public School 5 Baden Place BLAXLAND	Phone 4720 6500 groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
Bush Playgroup Six week interactive outdoor workshop for parents & carers and their children aged 3-5 years.	Every Friday 9th Aug – 13th Sept 9:30am – 11:30am	Lapstone Public School 1/3 Achievement Ave LAPSTONE	Phone 4720 6500 groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au



Circle of Security Parenting

8 week parenting program to develop secure relationships and stronger bonds with children.

Term 3 2024
BLAXLAND

Learn how to support and strengthen the parent-child relationship.

This 8 week program will teach you how to be a bigger, stronger, wiser, and kinder parent. *Circle of Security Parenting* is based on decades of research about how secure relationships can be supported and strengthened.

The program will cover:

- Understanding your child's behaviour
- Help your child feel secure in relationships
- Navigating your role as parent in tough times
- Supporting your child in managing difficult behaviours, tantrums and meltdowns

"This was a great program and eye-opening response to parent different to understand my child's needs. I will certainly take this learning on board. Thank you!"

Program details



Where: Uniting Church Hall, 72 Old Bathurst Rd Blaxland

When: Thursdays
8th Aug – 26th Sept
10:00am – 11:30am

Cost: FREE

Childcare available - must register

For registrations and more information contact:

Phone: 4720 6500

Email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au



Bush Playgroup

6 week interactive outdoor workshop for parents/carers and their children aged 3-5 years.

Term 3 2024
LAPSTONE

Connect, explore and play in a natural learning environment outdoors

Parents/carers and children aged 3-5 years are invited to join us for Bush Playgroup. The unique outdoor setting provides opportunities for children to explore nature, socialise with other children, develop fine and gross motor skills and learn about the world around them. Bush Playgroup is a 6-week interactive playgroup that engages families through exploration.

Bush Playgroup sessions run for 2 hours. Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

More about this program:

- Connect with nature and each other through imaginative, sensory, and messy play
- Socialise and strengthen family relationships
- Learn about local bushland and using natural materials in craft making
- Activities include bushwalks, mud kitchen and campfire cooking



Tuning in to Kids

6 week parenting program that helps you support your child to understand and regulate their emotions.

Term 3 2024
ONLINE

Emotionally intelligent parenting for kids' wellbeing and connection

This program helps parents and carers of children 12 and under to "tune in" and improve communication and connection with their kids.

Discover practical tools that help you build emotional intelligence in your child and support you to manage challenging behaviour.

The program will cover:

- Foundations of emotion coaching
- Regulating and working through emotions
- Identifying and validating emotions
- How to develop emotional intelligence
- Developing resilience and facing challenges

"I really enjoyed the program and felt I gained a lot. I have gained some tools that I hope will assist me in future with my children"

Program details



Where: Online via ZOOM

When: Wednesdays
14th Aug – 18th Sept
6:30pm – 8:00pm

Cost: FREE

For registrations and more information contact:

Phone: 4720 6500

Email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au



Managing Stress

A four week program offering practical, evidence-based methods for lowering stress.

Gateway
FAMILY SERVICES
Relationships Australia
NEW SOUTH WALES

Discover tools to help you manage and reduce stress.

Too much stress can have a big impact on your physical and mental health. This course encourages you to use mindfulness techniques, including paying close attention to the present moment and gratitude practices. Get practical tools to improve your life and relationships.

During this group program you will:

- Gain clarity on the sources of stress and anxiety in your life
- Begin to notice things in life for which to be grateful
- Practice mindfulness and get strategies to create new routines
- Learn to use a mindfulness journal
- Understand how to work through change
- Build on your strengths and set realistic, achievable goals.

"I've been given the skills to enhance self-awareness and use mindfulness to help when the stress gets overwhelming."

Managing Stress participant.

Program Details

Where: Gateway Family Services
Old Council Chambers,
131 Henry Street, Penrith
(Cnr of Station Street)

When: Monday 19/8/24 until 3/9/24

Time: 10am to 12pm

Cost: Free

Contact us for more information or to register.

Phone: 1300 364 277

Email: groups@nsw.org.au

Website: relationshipsnsw.org.au



Term 3
2024
BLAXLAND

Discover strategies to help your child manage and overcome their anxiety.

If you have a 3-6 year old child with excessive shyness, anxiety or fears, this program will equip you with skills to help support them. Learn simple Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) strategies to help your child manage and overcome their anxiety, shyness and fears.

NOTE: This course is for parents only, children are not required to attend.

The program will cover:

- Understanding anxiety and shyness
- Causes and risk factors for anxiety
- How to respond to your child's anxiety
- Skills and strategies to deal with fear
- Dealing with setbacks and difficulties
- Maintaining resilience long term

"Thank you! Very clear information and this course has given me new skills and knowledge to put into my parenting toolbox"

Gateway
FAMILY SERVICES



We acknowledge and respect the Traditional knowledge holders and custodians of the land on which we work, the Gadigal and Gundungurra people.



Program details



Where: Blaxland Public School
5 Baden Place, Blaxland

When: Fridays
16th Aug - 20th Sept
10:30am - 12:00noon

Cost: FREE

Childcare available - must register

For registrations and more information contact:

Phone: 4720 6500

Email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

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To me, there is no greater enrichment in life than knowing you have made a difference in a child's life.

- St Saviours Foster Carer



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BECOMING A FOSTER CARER

Please contact us on **02 9612 3900** or visit www.stsaviours.org.au



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Back side of Cards

Flyers



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