PIGEON POST

Learn ~ Live ~ Lead

APRIL

- Mon 2 ~ EASTER MONDAY ~ no school
- Wed 4 ~ P&C AGM & General Meeting
- Fri 13 ~ Last day of Term One
- Wed 25 ~ ANZAC Day Dawn Service ~ Loyalty Square 5:45am
- Mon 30 ~ Staff Development Day ~ staff return only

MAY

- Tues 1 May ~ STUDENTS RETURN

Hippetty hop...

here comes the Easter bunny...

LEARN LIVE LEAD

Awards

K Crabs
Vivienne B-N - her respectful and cheerful demeanour
K Dugong
Clancy A - being a hard working and enthusiastic class member
K Pufferfish
Rosie H - enthusiastic participation in every aspect of school life
1/2 Clams
Dante S -taking charge of his own wellbeing and creating his own 'emotions' thermometer using the catastrophe scale
1/2 Galapagos
Zara R - excellent independent work habits
1/2 Megaladon
Luca L - being a great class citizen
1/2 Seahorse
Luka H - working well in mathematics - showing enthusiasm with the 'split strategy'
3/4 Flameback
Marcella C-H - your unshakeable commitment towards every learning task!
3/4 Krill
Luca G-W - showing great dedication and effort to all learning areas. Keep up the wonderful work
3/4 Turtles
Drew K - being on task, dedicated and trying his best across all key learning areas. Well done!
5/6 Coelacanth
Samuel M - showing commitment and hard work to improve his handwriting
5/6 Lasseter's
Pearce T - showing initiative and self-autonomy with his Freedom to Learn project
5/6 Spoggiá
Charlotte W - being respectful in class towards others and towards her teachers
5/6 Wahoo
Brandon L - Working Mathematically in a variety of sub-strands
5/6 Yabby
Frances R - her poem written about a special place, inspired by our class novel

YOU CAN DO IT!

Awards

K Crabs
Thomas M - working well with peers during group work
K Dugong
Lachlan H - working collaboratively with others
K Pufferfish
Aitan M - showing consideration for others every day
1/2 Clams
Lina S - showing kindness and understanding towards her classmates
1/2 Galapagos
Lauren B - being a positive role model who loves helping others
1/2 Megaladon
Hannah O - working peacefully with peers
1/2 Seahorse
Mia B - caring for others and working as a team in investigations
3/4 Flameback
Oscar F - your good natured personality that makes you a wonderful friend to your peers!
3/4 Krill
Mac F - having a positive mindset and always sharing with others
3/4 Turtles
Nia S - her quiet diligence and conscientious spirit to her work and classmates
5/6 Coelacanth
Charlotte P - her bright and positive attitude in all areas
5/6 Lasseter's
Aria P - being a considerate community member and leading by example
5/6 Spoggiá
Ava C - her kindness to others
5/6 Wahoo
Sophie H - Collaborating with a range of students
5/6 Yabby
Thomas G - exploring practical strategies to help him expand his friendship groups

P&C AGM & General Meeting

Wed 4th April ~ 1pm ~ Staffroom

BPS CANTEEN

www.flexischools.com.au

DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR ORDERS IN BY THURSDAY 9AM!

TERM 1 MENU

Feb 9	Dumplings		Mar 9	Pork & Rice	
Feb 16	Butter Chicken & Rice		Mar 16	Penne Napoletana	
Feb 23	Beef & Rice		Mar 23	Butter Chicken	
Mar 2	Spaghetti Meatballs		Apr 6	Dumplings	

2nd Chance Uniform Stall

The second chance uniform stall will be running every **FRIDAY** morning from **8:30-9am**.

BPS CANTEEN

EMAIL
van.hl.allen@gmail.com
for more details

Canteen Coordinating Team Needed!

FACT 1: Did you know BPS's canteen **earns $16,000** (sometimes more!) every year?

FACT 2: All of the canteen's profit goes **straight back into resourcing** our teachers and their classrooms, to improve the learning experience for our children.

FACT 3: The canteen is 100% volunteer based and at the end of 2018, **we're losing our CANTEEN CHAMPION, Van Allen,** who has cultivated a brilliant business and vibrant connection to the school over the past 4.5 years.

FACT 4: We're looking for a **team of 2-3 parents/carers/grandparents,** who are willing to volunteer an hour or so of their time each week to manage the canteen.

What will the canteen do for you? Let's ask Van Allen, our current Canteen Coordinator, who runs the entire process on her own: *"Coordinating the canteen has been one of the most rewarding roles of my life. The joy and excitement you see on the faces of your children, and the other students at the school, are priceless. You get to know all the children and the staff, and being involved serves to strengthen our community and inter-generational bonds."*

What's involved? To spread the time-commitment load across more people, Van's current role will be split into three roles in 2019:

1. **Orders & inventory** – printing out the order labels, preparing the bags for each class, ordering the specials and other ingredients, and managing the inventory. This can be done at home, primarily the day before canteen, but the inventory can be done at your convenience.

2. **Pick-up & delivery** – this involves picking up and delivering the bread and specials on the day of canteen, and prepping the class boxes before the volunteers start. This must be done on the day of canteen. The timing is 8.30-9am and 10.30-11.10am on canteen day.

3. **Communications & Flexischools** – this involves writing a short email at the start of each week confirming the special and parent volunteer roster, which the school sends out via Skoolbag. Before the start of the term, the weekly specials need to be scheduled and updated on the Flexischools site. The suppliers are given a text reminder the week of their turn. This can be done at home at your convenience.

For an indication of the time commitment required, Van spends an average of 4 hours a week doing all three areas. She often does the canteen shop together with her usual grocery run for home.

The canteen has been run on Fridays to date, but that day is by no means locked in. Your time is valuable and if the volunteers would prefer to volunteer their time on a different day, we will change the day.

The P&C's Annual General Meeting is coming up soon, Wednesday 4 April, so we would like the three new roles for 2019 filled that night. Van will stay on until this year is out, preferably transitioning over to the new team in Term 4, 2018.

If you've ever wanted to become a minor celebrity (among children between the ages of 5 and 13), this is the perfect role for you!

Please email Van for further details or to express your interest before Wednesday 4 April – van.hl.allen@gmail.com.

Easter Hat Parade...

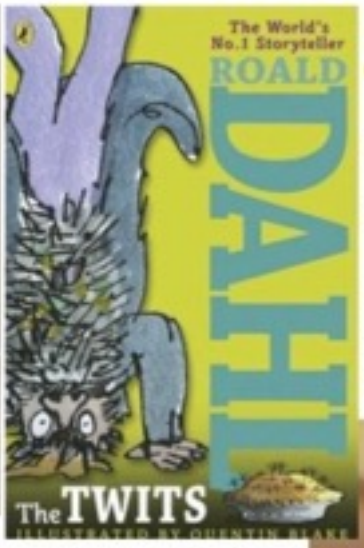
What's been happening in 3/4 Krill?

Geography: What are the similarities and differences between Singapore and Australia?

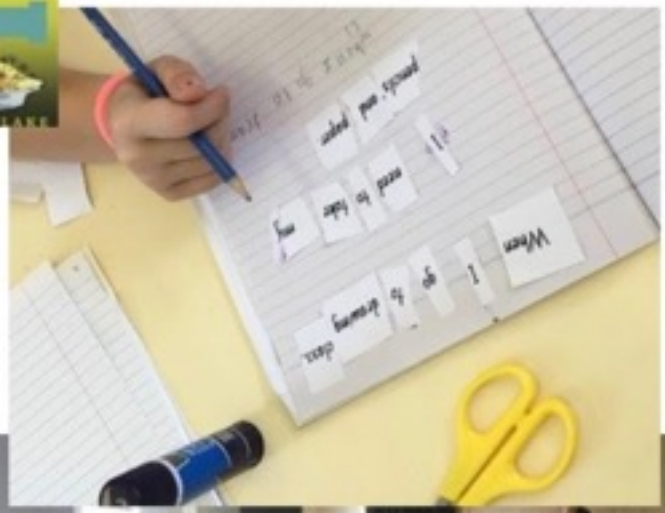
We can always be spotted around school because in true krill fashion we are always in a 'swarm'.

Mathematics:

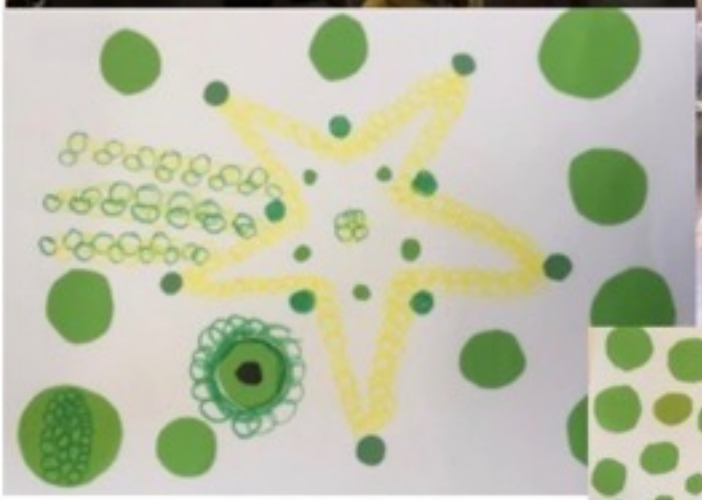
In maths groups we have been looking at multiplication and division. Here are our arrays and fact families.



Literacy Groups: Over the past few weeks we have looked at contractions, sentence construction, played boggle and read 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl.

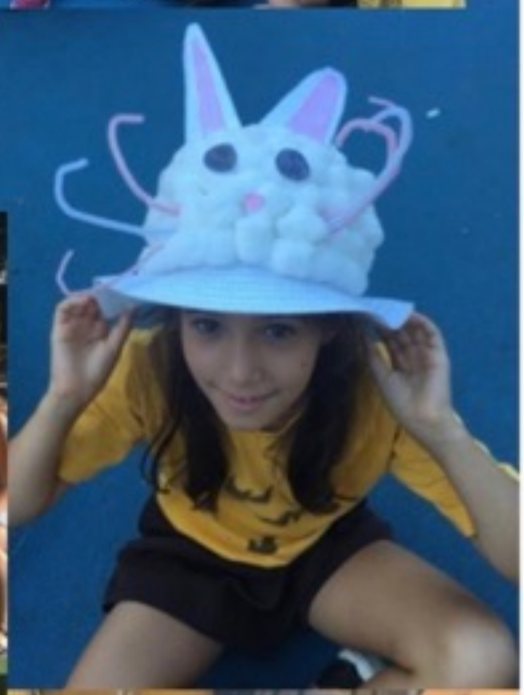


Footsteps: We love to dance!



We read 'The Dot' by Peter Reynolds: We learned about not being afraid of the unknown, always giving things try and to not giving up. Here are some of our 'dot' artworks.

EASTER HAT PARADE: The hats were tall. The hats were big. They were creative, fun and fabulous.



STEM:

Bridge Building

And that is what is going on in 3/4 Krill!

MARCH ARTS @ BALMAIN HOSPITAL

An Afternoon Tea to Celebrate our Talented Artists at BPS

To kick off the Easter long-weekend an Afternoon Tea was held at Balmain Hospital to showcase a range of artworks created by students from Balmain Public School (PS), Birchgrove PS, Nicholson Street PS and Rozelle PS, as part of the March Arts initiative.

March Arts, was a month long celebration to better incorporate the arts into health.

As part of this celebration, all hospitals from across Sydney Local Health District held a series of performances and art events throughout the month of March.

The initiative is about highlighting the valuable role art, music and performance play in facilitating health and wellbeing in the local community. As part of this event, Balmain Hospital invited local schools to participate in the program by taking part in an art competition to create an artwork that represented health, and 'what being healthy means to you'.

Each school was allowed to submit 20 artworks and the top 10 winners from all the schools would then be selected to permanently display their artwork at Balmain Hospital.
Of these 10 winners, the top 4 were then given the extra special prize of art supplies from Tilly's (http://www.tillysart.com.au/).

I was even prouder that of the 10 finalists chosen, 5 of these were from Balmain Public School and they will be having their artworks permanently displayed at Balmain Hospital; and 2 of the top 4 submissions were also from BPS.

I was ever so proud to see many of our selected students attend the afternoon tea along with their parents and each of the 20 artworks we submitted were, in my opinion, incredible.

These finalists included:

Olivia Phillips – 1/2G

Josephine Sarroff – 3/4T

Charlotte Penny – 5/6C

Mahalia Brown – 5/6W (top 4)

Bethan McCracken – 5/6W (top 4)

Congratulations to all the other participants:
Nico Sutton, Isabelle Sin, Keira Lister, Chloe Tay, Johnny Hatzopoulos, Laura Barros Smith, Monika McBride, Maya Grosser, Kylie Lin & Sebastian Shi (joint work), Ingrid Lyford, Bella Talib, Mya Horton, Elora Burn, Ava Rutgers, Maya Sarroff and Connor Corby.

I am hoping to display their artworks in the Art Room for others to come and see.

Thank you to all the parents and students who were able to attend.

Thank you also to Ms MG, Ms Morris and Ms Whelan for attending with me to support our amazingly talented students.

Many thanks, Mrs Smith

...OUR RESEARCH, AND OTHERS', CONFIRMS THAT POOR LIGHT LEVELS, THE WRONG TEMPERATURES, INAPPROPRIATE SOUND VOLUMES AND RHYTHMS, HUMIDITY, AIR POLLUTION, CO2, AND AIR PRESSURE CAN ALL IMPAIR LEARNING.

Learning Environments

making learning better..

Professor Stephen Heppell

http://www.heppell.net

"To learn well is complex. Alongside the hard work, the pedagogy, collegiality, passion, delight, knowledge, joy, and engagement there is the detail of physical learning spaces themselves."

Temperature & Humidity

Many classrooms are either too hot or (less damagingly) too cold for learning. Even though national law (eg UK) does not usually give an upper limit for temperature, research suggests that between 18 and 21 degrees is ideal for learning.

Joshua Graff Zivin, of UCSD, and two colleagues in an NBER Working Paper noted that "we find that math performance declines linearly above 21C"

Light levels

Poor lighting is a significant barrier to learning. Our work is confirmed by recent school environment studies, and detailed research for other working environments. For example recent research confirms evidence that good lighting significantly influences reading vocabulary and Science test scores (*Barrett et al., 2015*).

Our guide would be above 250 lux for engaged conversation, and above 450 lux for close work like writing or computer use.

Sound volume & rhythms

Studies confirm that the classroom sound signature can affect how well students achieve (Picard and Bradley 2001).

As a starting point we suggest that sound above around 72 decibels starts to be disruptive - although what the sound is matters too (for example is is hard to write when background music contains a familiar lyric). A simple guide for beats per minute is to stay below 80 bpm

Air pollution and Co2

Carbon Monoxide and Carbon Dioxide cannot be sensed by humans, both of course have the potential to kill, but at lower levels, Co2 will affect concentration…a correlation between absence / illness levels and high classroom Co2 levels (for staff and students) and we have been horrified by the damaging levels we have observed in examination and test rooms.

A useful guide would be to be aware that above 2,000 parts per million Co2 will begin to induce sleepiness, poor concentration with heart rate and nausea increasing towards 5,000 ppm which is a workplace limit in most countries, but which many learning spaces can exceed.

Shoeless learning..

..a bunch of principals learning about learning, with their shoes off!

'Children who learn with no shoes on are more likely to behave better and obtain good grades than peers with footwear, a decade-long study has revealed.'

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/schools-encouraged-to-adopt-no-shoes-policy-to-improve-pupils-learning-and-behaviour-a7044576.html

KEGWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

AUTUMN F.A.R.E.

SUNDAY 8th APRIL

FOOD ARTS RIDES ENTERTAINMENT

CNR TEBBUTT ST & LORDS RD, LEICHHARDT KEGWORTHAUTUMNFARE.COM

9am - 3pm

- AWESOME RIDES
- LOCAL COFFEE
- GAMES & PRIZES GALORE
- FOOD STALLS
- LOCAL CRAFT
- LIVE MUSIC & PERFORMANCES
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Your Doctors

Are you looking for a fun & educational before-school activity for your children?

The Bonjour Babies 'French Club' will continue at Balmain PS in term 2.

Held on Wednesday mornings from 7:55am-8:50am.

Classes taught by a fully qualified French teacher.

Make 2018 the year to expose your children to a second language.

You will not regret it!

Register interest at info@bonjourbabies.com.au

Or book online at www.bonjourbabies.com.au

Merci beaucoup!

bonjour babies

THE BALMAIN BALL afloat

FRIDAY 4TH MAY, 2018

7.15PM SHARP FOR 7.30PM BOAT DEPARTURE:
BALMAIN EAST WHARF (END OF DARLING STREET)

COCKTAIL PARTY AND DANCING, BLACK TIE

TICKETS: $190 PP | balmainball.com

In support of Balmain Hospital

RayWhite BALMAIN

autosports group

ALL OCCASION CRUISES

Creative Writing and Storytelling

HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

For ages 5-12 ★ 16th – 24th April

GET KIDS OFF SCREENS AND INTO THEIR IMAGINATIONS!

Mysteries to solve ★ Gadgets to invent
Puppets to master ★ Spells to conjure ★ Stories to share
Games to play ★ Craft to create ★ Friends to make
And much, much more!

JOIN THE SQUAD

ph: **0414 414 268**
e: **tiffany@storysquad.com.au**
w: **storysquad.com.au**

ATYP

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16.04.18–27.04.18

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DATES:

April 16-20 and 23, 24, 26 & 27

April 23, 24, 26 & 27

LOCATIONS:

Redfern Balmain

TIME:

9AM - 3PM Each Day

AGES:

5 - 14

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