



PIGEON POST

2019

FEBRUARY

- Weeks 4 & 5 ~ Mon 18
Feb-Fri 1 Mar ~ 'Meet With
the Teacher' Conferences ~
details to follow...

MARCH

- Wed 6 ~ P&C Meeting ~
ConneXion Hub ~ 7pm
- Thurs 21 ~ Harmony Day
- Fri 22 ~ P&C Welcome
Evening

APRIL

- Wed 3 ~ P&C Meeting ~
ConneXion Hub ~ 7pm
- Fri 12 ~ LAST DAY OF
TERM



Who's my buddy?



KINDERGARTEN students met, and spent some time with, their new buddies this week! We are looking forward to getting together again very soon!

Maria Lambos Principal

Order your school uniform items here...

 **Follow us on** Instagram



School Calendar

2019		P&C event	TERM 1			@	BPS	BPS event
WEEK		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN	
1		28 Jan PUBLIC HOLIDAY	29 Jan NO STUDENTS Uniform stall 9:30-11:30am	30 Jan Students Years 1-6 commence Kindy Best Start	31 Jan Kindy Best Start	1 Feb Kindy Best Start		
2		4 Feb Kindy start school today!	5 Feb	6 Feb P&C Meeting ~ ConneXion Hub ~ 7pm	7 Feb	8 Feb Swimming Carnival		
3		11 Feb	12 Feb	13 Feb	14 Feb	15 Feb P&C Welcome Breakfast 8am CANTEEN FOOTSTEPS 1		
4	'MEET WITH THE TEACHER' CONFERENCES	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21 Feb	22 Feb FOOTSTEPS 2		
5	'MEET WITH THE TEACHER' CONFERENCES	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb	1 Mar FOOTSTEPS 3		
6		4 Mar	5 Mar	6 Mar P&C Meeting ~ ConneXion Hub ~ 7pm	7 Mar	8 Mar FOOTSTEPS 4		
7		11 Mar	12 Mar	13 Mar	14 Mar	15 Mar FOOTSTEPS 5		
8		18 Mar	19 Mar	20 Mar	21 Mar HARMONY DAY	22 Mar P&C Welcome Evening FOOTSTEPS 6		
9		25 Mar	26 Mar	27 Mar	28 Mar	29 Mar FOOTSTEPS 7		
10		1 Apr	2 Apr	3 Apr P&C Meeting ~ ConneXion Hub ~ 7pm	4 Apr	5 Apr FOOTSTEPS 8		
11		8 Apr FOOTSTEPS 9	9 Apr FOOTSTEPS 10	10 Apr	11 Apr	12 Apr LAST DAY OF TERM 1		

A HUGE WARM WELCOME to Ms Milly Hammond, who officially started as the teacher of 1/2H on Monday!



THANKS so much, Ms Angela Curry, for teaching 1/2H until Ms Hammond's arrival...it's much appreciated!



CANTEEN FEEDBACK

...My daughter loved it - everything fresh and tasty.

I also thought the menu looked really good - lots of variety and healthy choices.

To visit The School Canteen website, click on logo 



HEALTHY FOOD MADE FUN

info@theschoolcanteen.com.au
www.theschoolcanteen.com.au

To order lunch, click: Flexischools



If you have yet to book your 'Meet With the Teacher' 10-minute conference, please click: MWT booking

Order your child's uniform items, including winter items, here:

UNIFORM ORDERING



Milly Hammond

Hello Balmain parents/carers, staff and students. Thank you so much for the warm welcome I have received. I have been travelling in Asia for the past 5 weeks and feel very blessed to have such a wonderful community to start the year with. I am a Kiwi and have been living in Sydney for the past 8 years. I have been teaching at Harbord Public School for the past three years and was in child care whilst completing my Masters in Teaching before that. My first role was as a library teacher and have spent the past two years teaching Year One. I love yoga, walking, reading, creativity, music of all kinds and unicorns. I value honesty, authenticity, hard work and lighthearted fun in those around me. I am very passionate about helping my students grow into lifelong learners and the very best versions of themselves that they can be. Please come and say hi if you see me around. I am very excited for what 2019 has in store for us!





...and the
AWARD
goes to...



EARLY STAGE ONE & STAGE ONE ~ LEARN LIVE LEAD

K Duruga

Harrison S - reading most of a challenging book

K Potoroo

Cassius S - an excellent attitude to every aspect of school life

K/1 Miima

Lily J - approaching all learning tasks enthusiastically

1/2 Banjarah

Fiona R - amazing work with her recount writing

1/2 Collarenebri

Rosie F - demonstrating enthusiasm and diligence in all learning tasks

1/2 Gidgijirrigaa

Eve O'C - excellent understanding of multiplication facts

1/2 Hielamon

Lucy O - being creative in designing and making her jellyfish

STAGE TWO & STAGE THREE ~ LEARN LIVE LEAD

3/4 Alura

Ryan R - helping to move the class around the school

3/4 Kabi Kabi

Estelle D - her amazing effort when completing a persuasive paragraph

3/4 Malya

Mirabelle F - a fantastic start to the year; being a positive peer role model!

4/5 Ritarnngu

Caleb G - modelling good listening skills and self regulation for his classmates

5/6 Lamalama

Nicholas G - consistently demonstrating the values of the Balmain Way

5/6 Nakkara

Freya P - setting a high standard for her peers

5/6 Waka Waka

Arabella S - her enthusiastic participation in all class activities, and the kindness and empathy she has shown towards her classmates

5/6 Yorta Yorta

Kai H - his keen and enthusiastic energy towards joining the BPS community

ES1 & S1 ~ POSITIVE PETE & YOU CAN DO IT! (Term 1 ~ Getting Along)

ES1 Positive Pete - Henry F KD

S1 Positive Pete - Mason M 1/2G

K Duruga

Zac K - working well with his peers

K Potoroo

Giselle P - excellent work in reading groups

K/1 Miima

Amber Z - making new friends and being a kind classmate

1/2 Banjarah

Finn F - being courageous when making new friends

1/2 Collarenebri

Claudia P - cheerfully making new friends

1/2 Gidgijirrigaa

Oliver D - being a kind and caring friend to others

1/2 Hielamon

Connor T - always participating enthusiastically in class discussions

STAGE TWO & STAGE THREE ~ POSITIVE PETE & YOU CAN DO IT! (Getting Along)

S2 Positive Pete - Max I-F 1/2H

S3 Positive Pete - Rachael H 5/6N

3/4 Alura

Alesha S-D - great listening during reading

3/4 Kabi Kabi

Ian Y - being a positive, smiling and active member of 3/4 Kabi Kabi

3/4 Malya

Josie A - always being inclusive of others

4/5 Ritarnngu

Alex L - his forward thinking on behalf of the group

5/6 Lamalama

Ava R - actively working well in group tasks

5/6 Nakkara

Monique G - actively trying to eliminate exclusion in the classroom

5/6 Waka Waka

Alex P - a confident and positive start to Year 5

5/6 Yorta Yorta

Aiden P - being a positive and inclusive mentor to our new students in Year 5

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

RIBBON PRESENTATIONS

WEEK 4

MONDAY

200m MEDLEY Open
Boys & Girls

100m FREESTYLE Open
Girls & Boys

TUESDAY

50m BUTTERFLY
Boys & Girls

WEDNESDAY

50m BACKSTROKE
Girls

THURSDAY

50m BACKSTROKE
Boys

WEEK 5

MONDAY

50m BREASTSTROKE
Girls

TUESDAY

50m BREASTSTROKE
Boys

WEDNESDAY

50m FREESTYLE
Girls

THURSDAY

50m FREESTYLE
Boys

@ LINES

We will aim to hand out ribbons according to this schedule. However, please note that the schedule is subject to possible change.

Just a reminder: Ribbons will be awarded to students, who place 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in the final, or 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th overall in the heats (where no final has taken place). Place ribbons will not be distributed for individual heats.



What's in a name?



Artwork - <https://www.bronwynbancroft.com> - past parent of Balmain Public School - 'Why are Indigenous Peoples so connected to the environment?'

The International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL)
is a United Nations observance in 2019 that aims to raise awareness of the consequences of the endangerment of Indigenous languages across the world, with an aim to establish a link between language, development, peace, and reconciliation.

K Duruga ~ Ms Ariana **Davis** ~ 'falling star'; from Dharawal language

K Potoroo ~ Ms Sophie **Parsons** ~ 'small nocturnal rat-kangaroo'; thought to be from Dharuk language and now extinct

K/1 Miima ~ Ms Mila **Morris** ~ 'stars'; Wiradjuri language

1/2 Banjorah ~ Mr Sean **Baumann** ~ 'koala'; Australian Aboriginal boy baby name

1/2 Collarenebri ~ Ms Amelia **Cooper** ~ 'place of acacia blossoms', as in the flowers from the Eucalyptus coolabah tree; from Gamilaraay language

1/2 Gidgirrigaa ~ Ms Lauren **Goodridge** ~ 'budgerigar'; Gamilaraay language from the mid-northwest of NSW and is currently the focus of a regeneration project

1/2 Hielamon ~ Ms Milly **Hammond** ~ 'shield'

3/4 Alura ~ Mr Craig **Atkinson** ~ an Indigenous language from the Northern Territory

3/4 Kabi Kabi ~ Ms Brigit **Karstrom** ~ (pronounced Gubbi Gubbi) people are native to southeastern Queensland. Both Noosa and Gympie come from the Kabi Kabi Language, Noosa meaning 'shady place' and Gympie meaning 'stinging tree'

3/4 Malya ~ Ms **Megan** Sweeney ~ 'diamond python'; Dharawal language

4/5 Ritharngu ~ Ms **Rachael** Higgins ~ (pronounced Ritarungo); an Indigenous language from the Northern Territory

5/6 Lamalama ~ Mr James **LaMacchia** ~ an Indigenous tribe from the cape York peninsula of Australia

5/6 Nakkara ~ Ms **Nancy** Ferguson ~ Aboriginal language spoken by the Nagara people of Arnhem Land

5/6 Waka Waka (OC) ~ Ms Sarah **Weston** ~ an Aboriginal language of the Burnett region, in Queensland

5/6 Yorta Yorta (OC) ~ Ms Annabel **Yau** ~ Indigenous Australian people who have traditionally inhabited the area surrounding the junction of the Goulburn and Murray Rivers, in present-day north-eastern Victoria and southern New South Wales

Across-stage classes...

Why does Balmain PS have across-stage classes in 2019?

It is a requirement that each NSW Department of Education (DoE) school, or public school, accept all local enrolments. DoE schools are staffed according to the total number of enrolments per school year, not per year/age group. It is the school's responsibility to form classes in the best interests of all students and the school, taking staffing formula and total enrolments into account.

In 2019, our classes have again been organised into stage groups. This means students are matched with students from different year groups. The NSW syllabus documents sequence learning in stages from K-12. In primary schools, these are: Early Stage One (Kindergarten), Stage One (Years 1 and 2), Stage Two (Years 3 and 4) and Stage Three (Years 5 and 6).

From time to time, across-stage classes - K/1, 2/3 and 4/5 - may be formed, due to an uneven pattern of enrolment in the school. As you are no doubt aware, we have both a K/1 and 4/5 this year. During my time at Balmain PS, we have had a K/1 one year, as well as a 4/5 over 2 separate years. This has occurred, as there are class size restrictions we need to adhere to. With our current enrolment pattern, had we kept purely to stage classes, or even year groups, there would have been overcrowding in a number of classes.

Will my child be disadvantaged being in an across-stage class?

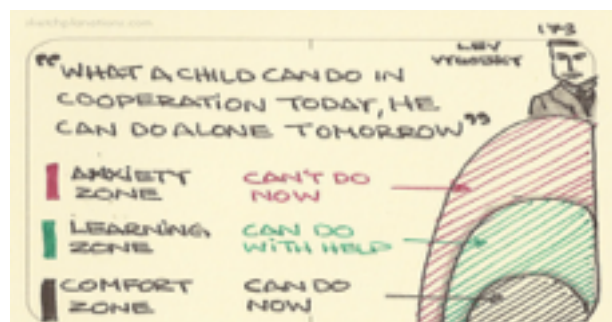
Concern is sometimes expressed regarding across-stage class arrangements due to the perception that students will be given instruction which is not matched to their age or school year. There is also a belief that students have been graded academically and placed in classes based on academic achievement. The reality is that students at Balmain PS are placed in classes to ensure each class has a healthy balance of achievement levels and student needs and personalities.

Effective teaching is about addressing the needs of students through ongoing (formative) assessment. Teachers use the year group as the starting point and move quickly into teaching students in groups at the level they are currently achieving for each aspect of the curriculum. The level they are taught at may be beyond or below their school year. This is a more effective approach than restricting students to the curriculum attached to their school year.

For example it is very common for a Year 4 student to be achieving, (or capable of achieving), at a Year 5 level. Similarly a Year 4 student may struggle doing Year 4 learning and be more suited to mastering Year 3 curriculum in some areas before moving in to Year 4 content. Restricting learning to only Year 4 content would not result in learning growth in both cases because the learning is either too easy or too hard.

Put simply, good teaching places students in the Zone of Proximal Development (see diagram below) throughout the day, using formative assessment and differentiated teaching. When this aspect of teaching is understood, it is easy to see that the across-stage (or stage) classes pose no threat to student outcomes, as teachers are encouraged to teach the students in front of them rather than blindly teaching them as a year group. It takes great skill and commitment over time to successfully implement formative assessment and ensure each student is learning as much as they can for each minute of each day. The complexity required to teach two year groups is virtually identical to the complexity of teaching one year group. Given this, good educators do not pay much attention to stage class structures and are instead obsessed with knowing their students, their achievement levels and what each of them needs to learn next.

There is also a perception that across-stage (or stage) classes might place students in groups with other students who are more or less socially developed. The advice relating to academic achievement also applies here, as all students mature at different rates and have different levels of social competency. On average older children are likely to be more socially capable but this is not a given for each individual. Again it comes down to the teacher and how they value, teach and model social-emotional skills. A well led classroom allows students, who are not as socially developed, to grow through the observation of the behaviours that are modelled to them by older students. This is generally a one way street, as older students are much less likely to regress and be influenced by the social and emotional skills of younger peers.





BPS Parents Welcome Drinks

Friday, March 22nd
7 - 10.45pm
@BPS School Hall

\$45 including two
drinks and food

Tickets available on
flexischools.com.au



**FUNDRAISING IS FOR INSULATION
AND COOLING AT THE SCHOOL**

DRESS THEME: smart casual colour

Parent Reps 2019

Thank you to all the parents listed below, who have put their hand up to assist with communications. We have two parents per class.

If you have yet to email them, please do so to both reps, with your name, child's full name and email details...

K Duruga

Samantha Yetzes - sam@rellekco.com

Sally Oughton - sallyoughton@icloud.com

K Potoroo

Matt Rubinstein - mattrubinstein@me.com

Olga Voronina - olechka_v@yahoo.com

K/1 Miima

Thalia Anthony - thalia.Anthony@uts.edu.au

Jessica Nash - ladyluxbeauty@gmail.com

1/2 Banjarah

Rachel Sharp - rachel@grazia.com.au

Melissa Slavin - melissa.slavin@gmail.com

1/2 Collarenebri

Felicity Kelly - thisisfliss@gmail.com

Rebecca Jouana - becattwood@hotmail.com

1/2 Gidgirrigaa

Joni Henry - joni.henry@pwc.com

Rui Ma - rui.ma@ghd.com

1/2 Hielamon

Van Allen - van.hl.allen@gmail.com

Sarah Linhart - sarah_linhart@yahoo.co.uk

3/4 Alura

Barnaby Jenkins - barnaby.jenkins@hsbc.com.au

Thalia Anthony - thalia.Anthony@uts.edu.au

3/4 Kabi Kabi

Anne Irvine - anneirvine@iinet.net.au

Clare Rumboll - clare.rumboll@gmail.com

3/4 Malya

Cliff Philipiah goodshots@hotmail.com

Arabella Fitcher - talk2arabella@gmail.com

4/5 Ritharngu

Sophie Knox - sophieknnox@gmail.com

Stephanie Sandbrook - stephanie.sandbrook@gmail.com

5/6 Lamalama

Sarah Braund peteandsarah@optusnet.com.au

Trudy Crawford - trudyacrawford@outlook.com

5/6 Nakkara

Nyree Morrison nyree.morrison@gmail.com

Van Allen - van.hl.allen@gmail.com

5/6 Waka Waka

Deborah Shearer - star276@bigpond.com

Karen Harvey - karenandju@gmail.com

5/6 Yorta Yorta

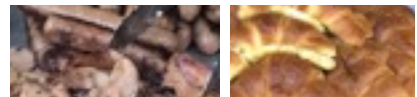
Suzy Small - suzanne.small@gmail.com

Melanie Buffier - mel_buffier@mac.com

THANKS SO MUCH TO
THE PEC FOR OUR
NEW BLINDS FOR
THE BUNGALOW (5/6
LAMALAMA
CLASSROOM)..IT'S
MUCH APPRECIATED!



Welcome Breakfast



On behalf of the P&C, I would like to thank Anne, Van, Nyree, Melissa, Alma, Victoria, Sally, Emma, Jeremy, Jackson (from ESC) and all the other volunteers, who helped with making the **Welcome Breakfast** a success.

To all our new families, we would like to welcome you to our Balmain Public School community and we hope you have an enjoyable time with us. Thanks, Cliff



February, 2019



Welcome to our STEAM Lab

This week, you may have heard our students tell you about their STEAM class. Don't panic! We weren't playing with steam, we were enjoying our new Science class with Miss Tamplin.



What is STEAM?

I do hope that our students can answer this one for me! In case it has slipped their memory, STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. This is an experiential subject where we are allowed to wear many different hats.

Our students love STEAM because we are curious and creative, we enjoy new challenges and we are engaged when we work collaboratively.

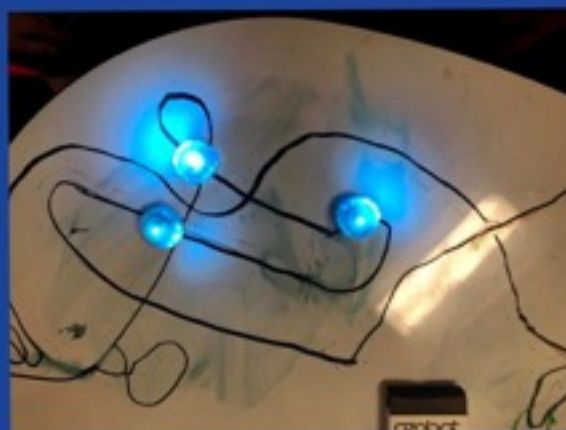


This week we have:

- * Participated in a STEAM Challenge
- * Navigated the iPads to use Seesaw (K-4) and Google Classrooms (5/6)
- * Created individualised lanyards and avatars
- * Learnt about QR codes
- * Designed incredible Lego constructions
- * Taught Ozobot how to move and communicate



► The week that was...





OPEN NIGHT



**Sydney
Secondary
College**
Balmain

Monday 4 March
5:00-7:30pm
Formal Presentation 6:00pm

25-33 Terry St, Rozelle
www.balmain-h.schools.nsw.edu.au



PLAY RUGBY

JOIN BALMAIN JUNIOR RUGBY

Teams U6 to U13s
U6 & U7 Touch, NOT TACKLE.
Boys & Girls BOTH Welcome.

Games U6 -U9 Saturday's
U10s+ Sunday's

Only \$160 - \$190
(Including Uniform)

TRAINING STARTS

Early March 2019

Train Thursdays at
Leichhardt #2 Ground,
Glover St, Lilyfield

