From the Principal’s desk

Remembrance Day
Unfortunately due to bad weather, our Year 5 and 6 children were unable to attend the Remembrance Day Service at Manly Dam today. The service still went ahead and our student leaders represented our school. Our school captain, Toby West, delivered an interesting and informative speech about National Service which impressed the organisers. The captains also laid a wreath at the service. As a follow up, our Year 6 children will be visiting the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway on the Parramatta River next Tuesday. We will be guests of the RSL and will be guided around by Kokoda Track veterans with many stories to tell. I’m sure the boys and girls will gain much from this visit.

Parking issues around our school
Thank you to the majority of our school community who manage to obey the road safety rules and park safely around our school. It is always going to be busy around drop off and pick up times but we need to be very careful to ensure our precious children are protected. I received a call from a frustrated neighbour earlier this week who regularly witnesses double parking, three-point turns and whose driveway is often blocked by our parents dropping off and collecting their children. This neighbour was parked in and unable to leave her driveway to pick up her own children. I have also seen many instances of people parking in ‘No Stopping’ zones, which attracts a fine of $304 and 2 demerit points from your licence. Please respect both our neighbours and parking rules.

Selective High School
A reminder for those parents considering Selective High School placement in 2017 that online applications close at 10pm next Monday 16th November. You can apply via this link: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php

Learning Lab Graduates
Congratulations to our latest group of graduates from the Learning Lab. Well done to the boys and girls on your efforts and achievements and thank you to Mrs Watson and her team of volunteers for helping to make the program such a success.

Day of Kindness
This Friday is World Kindness Day. When we are kind to others it makes us feel good and it makes the person who receives the kind act feel good too. When you do something good, your body rewards you by releasing endorphins. These endorphins create the feel good experience and they also have the capacity to reduce or even block pain signals to the brain. Why not try out a random act of kindness on someone, not just this Friday, but every day.

We would appreciate the settlement of any outstanding accounts to make this process smoother. The easiest way to pay is via the online Parent Online Payment (POP) system which you can access from the home page of our website. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Owen Taylor, Principal
Term 4 Week 6

Important Dates
16 November  Life Education K-6 (2)
17 November  Yr6 to Kokoda Memorial Trail
20 November  Yr6  fund raising Fun Day

PBL Focus
Be Safe- Move safely

From the Deputy Principal’s Desk
We are half way through Term 4 already, teachers are busy working on end of year reports for sending home in the second last week. The second half of term has many major events and activities, however, we also need to keep a focus on learning and our expectations of safety, respect and responsibility.

Lost Property
Once upon a time there was a little boy, or girl, who had a lovely new school jacket that kept them warm on a chilly school morning. By recess the sun was shining and playing on the play equipment had made the little boy, or girl, hot. The lovely new jacket was removed and placed on the ground near the play equipment, suddenly the bell rang and it was time to go to class. The little boy, or girl, rushed off to class leaving her lovely school jacket behind. The jacket waited all through lessons for the little boy, or girl, to come back and collect it. The jacket waited all through lunch to be collected. The jacket waited all afternoon to be collected but no one came. Soon the sun was setting and it was starting to get dark and cold, the jacket wondered whether anyone would come to collect it. Just when the jacket was about to give up hope someone picked it up and carried it to Lost Property. They gently placed the lonely jacket in a Lost Property tub with the other forgotten jackets, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles. It is here the lovely new jacket spends its days and nights waiting to be collected by the little boy, or girl, who left it behind.

Please check the Lost Property tubs in KC and 5M before the end of term.

Life Education
For the next few weeks’ students K-6 will participate in Life Education lessons in the mobile learning centre, which is currently situated at the back of the school. The interactive, student centred-sessions focus on issues around food and nutrition, personal safety, physical activity, cyber safety, safety with medicine and illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol and caffeine. By taking a comprehensive approach to drug and health education, the lessons help children to develop relationship skills, positive communication, problem solving and decision making skills. The aim is to instil in children the confidence to make safer and healthier choices now and in the future. Further information for parents is available on the website http://www.lifeeducation.org.au/parents

Clothing Pool
Jenny Burgess has been the convenor of the clothing pool over the last few years and has done a fabulous job but is unable to continue this term. Thank you Jenny and we wish you a speedy recovery. Meaghan Croll has kindly offered will take over the Clothing Pool until the end of this year, thank you. The clothing pool will be open each Monday from 3.00pm – 3.30pm and is located in the Music room.

Assembly
This week we will be holding a 3 -6 assembly in the hall commencing at 2.20. 4 N will be leading this assembly and performing an item for your enjoyment. We look forward to parents and friends joining us this Thursday.

Thankyou
Over the weekend Ben Wood of Alana in Year 3 spent Saturday constructing some much needed shelving for storage in the band storeroom. This will make such a difference allowing instruments, amps and other band equipment to be stored off the floor and enable easy access to our drum kit and stands at setup each rehearsal. Thank you Ben we appreciate the generous gift of your time and expertise.

K-2 Dance Club
Congratulations to our Year 5 Dance Club Leaders for working with our enthusiastic K – 2 dancers in the hall on Thursday at lunch. The music and moves have engaged our members to interact and learn new skills. It has been fabulous to see so many girls and boys joining in the fun at lunchtime.

Thanks to Mrs Mason who has worked with our Year 5 leaders each week.

Marita Nieuwenhuis
Deputy Principal
Musical Notes

Combined Schools Band Program (CSB)
The ArtsAlive offers the opportunity for Primary and Secondary students to join the Combined Schools Band Program (CSB). The ensemble provides maximum opportunity for training and performance of the highest quality for young aspiring instrumentalists from government schools.

All new students who wish to audition will need to submit the audition form so they can be given an audition time. Audition forms can be found on the website http://www.artsalivecsb.com/2016-auditions.html Audition times will be posted on the website from Monday 30th November.

Congratulations
Our Musicians of the Month for November – Mischa McCulloch, Olivia Tully, Isabella White and Lola Nicou. They have demonstrated teamwork, professionalism, dedication to practice and improvement. Well Done.

Congratulations to Zoe Lemlin who was awarded an "A" Honours pass in her grade 4 flute exam last week.

Junior Band 2016
Thank you to all our parents and students for the overwhelming response to joining the band program in 2016. All acceptance letters need to be returned to the school office by 13th November. This will allow the conductors time to organise all bands prior to next term. If you have any queries regarding instrument allocation please contact me at school.

The band committee also have a number of instruments for hire to new band members at very reasonable rates. A full list of instruments will be distributed in the next week or so. Instruments will be issued on a first come, first served basis.

If you require any further information please contact bnpsband@hotmail.com

Come and Join the Band Committee!
The Band Committee is a wonderful way to contribute to your children's primary school years as a volunteer. You are guaranteed to be entertained and learn something about musical education in the process. (or the best place in Sydney to repair amps, instruments). Best of all, your involvement significantly enriches your child's experience, and helps you appreciate what they have achieved and all that goes into providing these opportunities for so many fresh-faced musicians. 2016 is already looking to be an exciting year for the BNPS Band Program, with an enthusiastic group students. Many aspects of coordinating the band program can be broken into tasks at different times of the year. If you feel that you could contribute in any way to the smooth running of the band program in 2016, to allow our conductors free reign to inspire the children creatively, please get in touch at bnpsband@hotmail.com

Important Dates:
19th November – Senior Strings Assembly Performance
26th November – AGM Band Committee for 2015
3rd December – Last Band rehearsal for 2015
7th December - Junior Band performance at Stage 1 Presentation Assembly (11.30am)
8th December - Intermediate Band performance at Stage 2 Presentation Assembly (9.30am)
Concert Band performance at Stage 3 Presentation Assembly. (11.30am)
Marita Nieuwenhuis

Chicken Pox Notification
There has been an outbreak of Chicken Pox in the school. The symptoms are a slight fever, runny nose and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab. If your child is diagnosed with Chicken Pox they should stay at home for 5 days from the onset of the rash and the blisters have dried. Thank you.

Kerrie Nugent

Congratulations to Tess Johansson, Olivia Treeby, Olivia Bradley, Mia Jarrett, Leah Burton, Zoe Johnstone & Chloe Barnes (absent) on receiving a school medal.
Library News
This week we began a Lego Building club in the library at lunchtime. Students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 are invited to come on a Tuesday and Years 3 – 6 on a Thursday. We aim to encourage collaborative group play where students are working together to create imaginative lego structures. I look forward to sharing some photos of their creations in the coming weeks.

This term Stage 2 have been learning about sustainability and Australia’s Farming Industry. In library lessons they are completing a research project on one primary product which is produced in Australia. The learning intention for this project is to find out how that product is being farmed sustainably. So far students have learnt that some farmers are using techniques like drip water systems and organic compost instead of chemical fertilisers. Students will be presenting their finding to the class later on in the term. We look forward to seeing what they find.

Next week is our final borrowing week for the year. In Week 8 and 9 we need all library books returned ready for our annual library stocktake. Please help your child find their books and return them to the library.

Debbie Horsley & Wendy Trute
Teacher Librarians

Sports Report
Girls Eagle Tag Final
Last Friday the Balgowlah North girls’ senior ‘B’ eagle tag team played in the final of the summer PSSA sport competition. What a game. The girls played against Harbord with the skill and speed that has been their trade mark throughout this season. Their defending and attacking was as effective as ever. It is unfortunate that the ball didn’t bounce their way during the first half, allowing Harbord to score two vital tries. They didn’t come away with the trophy but they did play some of the most exciting Eagle Tag I have seen. Girls, it was a great season to remember and we’re all very proud of you. Well done.

Tony Saunders

Movember
Movember is well on the way and the BNPS team members are all looking fantastic. Click on the following link: http://moteam.co/bnps to donate money and support many good causes!

Mark Wallace
Team Captain

FOR SALE
Homemade Strawberry Jam & Chutney $5 from the school office

All proceeds to BNPS
Ryan is a delightful student who greets his peers and teachers with a big smile every day. He is always polite and patient, putting the needs of others before his own. Ryan takes on challenges with a positive attitude and encourages others to do the same. He shows resilience and views mistakes as an opportunity to learn and grow. Ryan consistently models respectful, responsible and safe behaviour in both the classroom and playground, making him a wonderful role model to his peers. He is a valued member of 2B and a very deserving recipient of this special award.

Isabella is a polite, mature and focused student who strives for excellence in all learning areas. She consistently upholds the values of Balgowlah North Public School by displaying genuine empathy, and a respectful, caring attitude towards her teachers and peers. The dedication she displays to all learning pursuits, particularly in performing arts, is highly commendable. Always setting herself high goals, Isabella works diligently to meet them. She seeks and responds positively to feedback. Her cooperative, encouraging nature means other students are keen to work beside her. Isabella is a truly valued class member and an outstanding citizen who is to be congratulated on receiving this prestigious award.