



# GEORGE BASS SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

Week 9 Term 2 2014

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I have been very pleased with the progress that George Bass School has made over our second term. Our whole school staff, our parents, community and our students continues to strive to make our school the fantastic learning environment it continues to be. Everyone is to be congratulated for the success thus far.

The official opening was a huge success, it provided us with an opportunity to celebrate our success. Thank you to all of those members of the community and parents who attended to celebrate the opening and early success of our school. Thank you as well to Mr Murat Dizdar, Jason Clare (Federal Member for Blaxland), Tania Mihailuk (State Member for Blacktown) and Mr Harry Allie and our many guests for helping us officially open our school. The organising committee and Toulia Finka should also be congratulated for the huge amount of work put in behind the scenes.

Following a competitive process and an expression of interest, Kristy Kirkham from Tallowood School will be relieving as assistant principal over terms 3 and 4 of this year while Tara Dang takes maternity leave. Tara will be greatly missed while she is on leave. Her contribution to our school has been immense over our establishment period and throughout the year.

I am pleased to announce that George Bass will have its first group of students performing at the School Spectacular this year. I would like to congratulate the successful group of students who were nominated to audition for the event. Well done to Sarine, Aljaye, Anne-Marie, Heba and Nada. We all look forward to seeing your performance later in the year.

School reports will be going home this week. They should arrive home sometime after Wednesday. I have been very pleased reading about all of the progress of our students over first semester. I look forward to hearing from parents about their opinion of their students' progress and our reporting format.

I hope that everyone has a safe and restful holiday period with their families. Please remember to keep safe over this period, particularly while driving to holiday destinations. School resumes for students after the holidays on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of July.

Peter Skinner

## KULA CLASS

Term two is ending so quickly but it has been a very exciting and rewarding term for Kula Class. We are making pleasing progress learning in and out of the classroom.

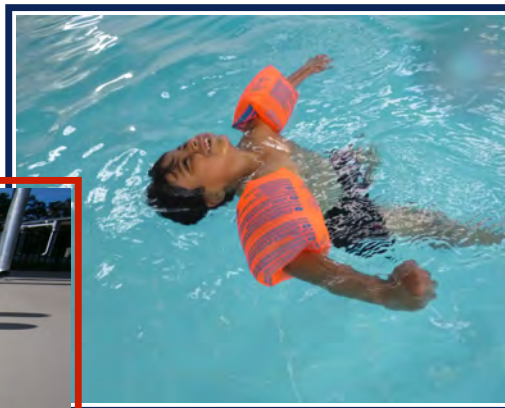
Students are making great progress in their Personalised Learning Plans (PLP) goals with some goals now being achieved and others nearly there. We are getting more aware of the routines and are getting confident in the pool, on the trampoline, while riding bikes, during the aerobics sessions and George Bass Olympics.

On Thursdays we do cooking following Sarah's yummy recipes. We learn about ingredients, preparing meals, using cooking equipment safely, serving meals, table manners and cleaning up.

Students are also sitting beautifully reading and viewing books, doing artwork, waiting for their turn and participating in Morning Circle activities. We are learning about sharing, being a good friend, being gentle and caring for each other.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy 2 weeks break.

Abhi and Sarah T



## IMPORTANT DATES

25/06/2014	Musica Viva
27/06/2014	Last day of term 2
15/07/2014	Term 3 – school resumes
25/07/2014	Plant a Tree Day
28/07/2014	Swimming Scheme Begins
30/07/2014	Parent Visit for Education Week
01/08/2014	NAIDOC Day
12/09/2014	Trivia Night Fundraiser

## LIBRARY BAGS

New student library bags are now available to purchase from the office for \$8.00.

# STEPPING STONES TRIPLE P

Thank you to those parents who attended the Stepping Stones Triple P Information Session last week! Stepping Stones Triple P Program is a Positive Parenting Program for parents of students with a disability.

Pamela and Toula will be running the program at George Bass School throughout term 3, week 1 each Thursday from 11am – 1pm. If you did not attend the information session or sign up for the course and are interested in doing so, please call Pamela or Toula for more information.

The Stepping Stones program will help you:

- manage problem behaviour and developmental issues common in children with disabilities
- encourage behaviour you like
- cope with stress
- develop a close relationship with your child
- teach your child new skills

Session 1	Positive Parenting
Session 2	Promoting Children’s Development
Session 3	Teaching New Skills and Behaviours Part 1
Session 4	Teaching New Skills and Behaviours Part 2
Session 5	Managing Misbehaviour and Parenting Routines Part 1
Session 6	Managing Misbehaviour and Parenting Routines Part 2
Session 7	Review of content
Session 8	Planning Ahead

## Highlights from the OFFICIAL SCHOOL OPENING



# BIDJAWONG CLASS

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Term 2 has been a busy and exciting term in Bidjawong class! We have continued on with our unit, exploring the theme of identity throughout the KLAs. The students really enjoyed our latest art project, where they were able to take photos of their classmates and turn them into Pop Art style artworks using an online computer editing program. We have also explored identity in our food technology lessons by cooking and eating foods from different cultures each week.

Bidjawong students have also started senior work groups on Tuesday afternoon. They are in charge of collecting the recycling, collecting the mail and collecting and washing tea towels from each classroom. This program gives students a chance to learn valuable life skills, as well as giving them an opportunity to interact with staff and peers.

We've also been learning outside the school! At the beginning of the term, we started our first Community Access program. As part of this program, students travel to Bass Hill Plaza to buy ingredients for the week's Food Technology lessons. During these excursions, students have been learning how to transition and move around safely in the community, use lists to locate items in the supermarket and are getting real life experience paying for their shopping with cash and interacting with community members.

Bidjawong also got the chance to perform on George Bass School's Official Opening Day. Students were very excited to perform their 'Firework' dance in front of the whole school and visiting guests and parents. They did a great job and had a fantastic time!

Catherine and Shae

