WELCOME TO 2015

Kindergarten 2015

I have just been to visit the Kindergarten classes and I am amazed at how quietly confident the students were in their classrooms. Congratulations parents - you have prepared your children well. Kindergarten students are dismissed at the same time as all other students - 3.20pm. To find a parking space around Ben Venue in the afternoon can often be a challenge, so the 3.20pm dismissal assists family pickups/bus travellers/sibling collection. Please wait on the silver seats under the trees or on the brick wall. Avoid the verandahs and waiting at the classroom door please as it distracts from the lesson and makes students inattentive if they can see you.

Teachers have meetings and phonecalls /interviews after school so please make an appointment if would like to discuss any aspect of your child’s “settling in”. Conversations at the classroom door are not encouraged as teachers need to supervise all students to ensure safety and well-being.

Green fence around the Pebbled Area

The new green fence is much sturdier, although a little difficult to manage, so the gates will only be closed during playground duty at recess and lunch. They will be open when students come to school and opened in the afternoon. At all other times, younger students will use the double gates (without a childproof lock) during school time. The new (higher) fence for the Kindergarten Play Area has started to be constructed today. Soon there will be playground equipment, a sand pit and lots of equipment for these students to use. Thank you to the Parent Club/P&C who have been fundraising to equip this area. The school has also put aside a sizeable amount of money to make it a great play space.

Changes to internal bell times

The internal timetable for the school day has altered slightly to accommodate 40 minute RFF lessons in Music, PE and Library. Students are to be in their classrooms ready to work at 9.20am. The recess break 11.20am – 11.40am remains the same. Students will begin eating lunch now at 1.00pm and the afternoon session will begin at 2.00pm. Students who arrive late to school must report to the Front Office to sign in and this will also apply to students who return late after going home for lunch.

These late times need to be recorded and will be monitored by the Home School Liaison Officers. They access the data remotely without having to visit the school.

Congratulations to Sally Spillane and the Yr 6 selected choir members – off to the Opera House again for the Bennelong Concert on October 28! We await news about the Marimba Group.

THE PREFECT ELECTION TO SYDNEY

The Prefect Election to Sydney is scheduled for March 22-March 25. Organisation and accommodation is being finalised this week for a visit to a city school and Parliament House, to see leadership in a different context. There will be a local Leadership Course offered to students in Years 5 and 6 and details will be given to these students soon.
Over the weekend it was obvious that people had entered the school grounds and climbed over locked gates to use the upstairs verandahs. I have reported this to Police and asked for patrols. There is no after-hours use of school grounds permitted without a written contract and payment of the appropriate fee including the Basketball Court, Shade Shelter and COLA area. The gym area is also included in this regulation from the DEC.

Looking forward to a great 2015!
Judy Graham

Information for Kindergarten Parents
If it is more convenient, you can pay for your child’s Kindergarten handwriting books, excursions and some uniform items on the Ben Venue Public School website. Go to the Homepage and click on the tab at the top of the page ‘$Make a Payment’ and follow the instructions. Uniform purchases can be collected from the Front Office - just bring in your receipt.

I _______________________ will be available to assist at the School Swimming Carnival on Monday 9 February. I would be happy to assist as a timekeeper/runner/general helper.
(Please circle)

My child is ___________________________ in class __________.
Signed: __________________________

2014 Presentation Day Photos
Available from the Office
$2.00 each

2015 Kindergarten students have arrived and are settling in beautifully!

Above: Kindergarten Morning tea with the Year 6 Buddies.

89 The Corner Store
Weekly Special
Spaghetti Bol and a Popper or flavoured Milk
$ 6.00
Please ring through your order on 6772 5571
Lunch orders are only available on Wed, Thurs and Friday
Menus can be collected from the Front Office.

NETBALL NEWS
The 2015 netball season will soon be upon us. I will endeavour to create teams as soon as possible.
The fees for this year are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NetSetGo</th>
<th>(3-10 years in 2015)</th>
<th>$85</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
<td>(11-17 years in 2015)</td>
<td>$115</td>
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There is a family discount (3 or more people) of 10% which can also be downloaded from ADNA website.
The cost to hire the Ben Venue dress will be an extra $25. The dress will need to be returned at the end of the season.

If you would like your child to participate in the Armidale and District Netball Association (ADNA) Competition, which begins March 14 2015, please download the registration form from the Armidale and District Netball Association website http://armidalena.nsw.netball.com.au and return it, along with the money, to Mrs Swain before February 18, 2015. Amanda Swain

Ben Venue Swimming Carnival – Monday 9 February 2015
Our annual school carnival will be held on Monday 9 February. Information notes about the carnival have been sent home with all primary students.

Year 2 students who turn 8 years of age this year and can swim 50m confidently may also attend the carnival. If you would like your Year 2 child at attend, permission notes are available from the front office.

We are seeking the assistance of parents to help in the running of the day. Please fill in the attached note and return it to Mrs Watson ASAP if you are able to help.

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(Please circle)

My child is ___________________________ in class __________.
Signed: __________________________