



NEWSLETTER



Established 1962

9th February 2015

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2015 school year. Classes have been formed and our students have had a very positive and lovely start to Term 1. I would like to thank all parents and carers for your patience and understanding while we waited for student numbers to be confirmed. It is perfectly normal for some children to feel anxious about change. Please give your child time to settle in and adjust to being a new class, a new room and with a new teacher. Children need opportunities to learn how to make new friends and adjust to new situations and environments.

Staff Changes

We have sadly said farewell to Mrs Kelly who was appointed to St Patricks Primary School and has taken up her position there this year. Mrs Garay has moved out west to the country, so we also say farewell to her. Both these teachers were highly respected, greatly loved and will be missed. Mrs Gaynor will return soon to take classes on a day-to-day basis as needed so we look forward to seeing her back at Marayong South PS. I would like to warmly welcome Mrs Cooper and Ms Mendel to our school. Mrs Cooper will be teaching KC and Ms Mendel will be teaching 3/4V. Both these teachers have settled in beautifully to our wonderful school and are doing an outstanding job with their classes. We are very lucky to have them.

Swimming Carnival

Our Swimming Carnival is fast approaching. I would like to remind everyone that children must be able to confidently swim 50 metres in order to participate in this carnival. This is very important. In previous years we have had students attend who were non-swimmers or very weak swimmers and attempt to compete in events. These students have not coped at all with the expectations. This has presented problems for students and staff. Students cannot participate unless their parent has signed the permission form and confirmed that they can confidently swim 50 metres.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

We will be conducting teacher/parent interviews later this term. This is a great opportunity to get to know your child's teacher and ask any questions that you may have. I strongly encourage all parents to take this opportunity. More information about this will be sent home soon. If you have any immediate concerns, please do not wait for interview time. Make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher asap.

Assemblies 2015 Changes

This year school assemblies will take place every Wednesday afternoon at 2pm.

Weekly assemblies will be either K-2 OR 3-6 (**not both**). At least once a term we will have a whole school assemblies instead of stage ones.

Parents/Carers will need to check the What's On or the school Facebook page to be sure of what is happening with the assembly roster.

Website: www.marayongs-p.school.nsw.edu.au

School Contribution/Levy notification

Today the notification letter has been sent home to all families. This covers resources as well as incursions for students.

This year the school contribution/levy is \$60 per student. The cost of excursions, camps, PSSA and extra educational opportunities will be paid separately.

We greatly appreciate all contributions made to provide for the education of our students.

Please fill out the attached form and return this with payment to the front office. As always we are happy to organise a payment plan for families or assist in any way that we can. If you have any concerns or questions about this, please see Mrs Hollis.

How to Help Your Child be a Better Student

1. Let your child see you making mistakes.

Parents are their child's first teacher and their lifetime teacher. Part of being a teacher is teaching your child how to deal with making mistakes. Let them see that you can make mistakes and deal with it so they will understand it's not a big deal and they can cope when they trip up.

2. Don't tell your child that you weren't good at maths.

Some parents might feel intimidated by the thought of helping children with their maths homework, especially in the upper grades but maths is here to serve you, not to trip you up.

Maths should make life easier, and mastery can start at home with parents showing that they're not frightened by numbers.

One way to make math more accessible is to relate it to daily activities. Capitalise on examples where maths is useful, especially the kinds of calculations adults do daily like measuring ingredients, managing sums of money, working out distances.

This way, children see how what they're learning matters in life.

3. Check their homework, and then have them explain it to you.

It's not enough to just get the answers right. To make sure your children aren't guessing, sometimes ask them to explain what they did and why. This lets you know that the child has completed the task and for the child to actually explain their work helps their learning. If you have any concerns about homework, please speak with your child's teacher.

4. Don't compare your child with others.

Don't put pressure on children to be just like others. There's no such thing as the child that's like every other child. They are all different. They all have strengths and weaknesses, they all have talents and challenges."

5. Help your child make connections to literature.

To help your child get the most out of books, focus on problem-solving, social skills and life experience. Take your child to the zoo (life experience). Teach them to ask an adult for help if they lose something (problem-solving) or to hold the door for others (social skills). With skills like these, children will be able to relate their own life experiences to those of book characters, improving their comprehension. If they don't have these life experiences, when they are asked to make deeper connections to reading material, it's hard for them.

6. Don't do everything for your child.

Sometimes it's faster to do things yourself than wait for your children to complete a task. But having everything done for them means they don't learn take care of themselves. Empower your children to think for themselves and be more responsible for themselves.

7. Ask about your child's day.

Stay involved in your child's education, beyond helping with homework. Even small things, like asking a child what happened at school, can be the difference between a child who unplugs at the end of the day and one who continues thinking about what they learned. Give them the kind of feedback that acknowledges and respects their feelings so they know you are really hearing them.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Mandy Hollis

Principal

Website: www.marayongs-p.school.nsw.edu.au

ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2016

If you know of any friends or neighbours that have a child turning 5 before the 31 July 2016 please ask at the administration office for an enrolment form.



Important information:

- **Smart Start:** This program aims to help your child become familiar with the school environment and routines, and to develop their pre-skills in literacy and numeracy. Smart Start will run each Thursday from 9.15am to 10.45am, commencing in Term 3 - dates to be advised. The program will run for a total of 12 weeks and finish late in Term 4. There is a limited waiting list of 25-30 children. Applications will be offered to all enrolled students for 2016 and will be sent by mail during early Term 3.
- **Teddy Bear's Picnic:** In September dates to be advised.
- **Kindergarten Interviews** will be conducted during October in Term 4, dates to be advised. Special appointments will be made for those parents who cannot attend at the appointed time. Letters will be sent late in Term 3. Interviews are very informal and a great opportunity for us to meet both the parent and child.
- **Kindergarten Orientation:** During November dates to be advised.
- **Parent Information Night:** Date to be advised

What K-2 students will need for 2015

- Paint shirt
- Library bag
- Hat
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 Hand sanitizer
- 1 Paper towel roll



What Years 3-6 students will need for 2015

- Lead pencils (3&4)
- Blue, red & black pens (5&6)
- Years 3-6
- Wooden ruler only
- Eraser
- Textas
- Coloured pencils
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Paint shirt
- Library bag
- Hat
- 1 box of tissues



PLEASE NOTE
THE DRIVEWAY IS CLOSED
FROM 8AM - 4PM TO TRAFFIC
FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR
CHILDREN
STAFF & DELIVERIES ONLY

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected as School Captains, School Leaders, Sports House Captains and Vice Captains for 2015:

School Captains:

Annalise Ahmad
 Anav Prasad

School Leaders:

Rylea Conlon
 Taylor Piliae
 Mariah Camilleri
 Samuel Salazar-Vasquez

Sports House & Vice Captains:

Waratah
 Captain: Hollie Barnes
 Vice Captain: Randall Bentoy
Bottlebrush
 Captain: Alex Sutrina
 Vice Captain: Elijah Balobalo
Wattle
 Captain: Tayla Atkins
 Vice Captain: Antoine Tawatao
Banksia
 Captain: Boston Stewart
 Vice Captain: Andrea Arcilla

**CANTEEN
 CLOSED ON
 MONDAYS**



FYI..... International Competitions ICAS:

The Australian Schools English, Mathematics, Computer and Spelling Studies competitions are here again this year and will be available to Years 3-6 students. Parents of students in Years 3-6 may elect to have their children sit any or all of the

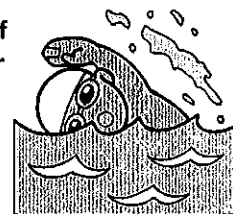
competitions. There is a cost of \$8 each for English, Mathematics and Computer and \$11 for Spelling. All students will receive certificates and a full analysis of their results.

Spelling Comp
 Tuesday 16th June
 English Comp
 Tues 28th July
 Maths Comp
 Tuesday 11th August

These competitions are not compulsory. If you wish your child to participate, please send the note below to the office with the money no later than the closing date of Friday, 20th March, as paperwork must be processed. Order forms will be given out tomorrow, Tuesday 10th February.

OVERDUE NOTE - please return to the office immediately:

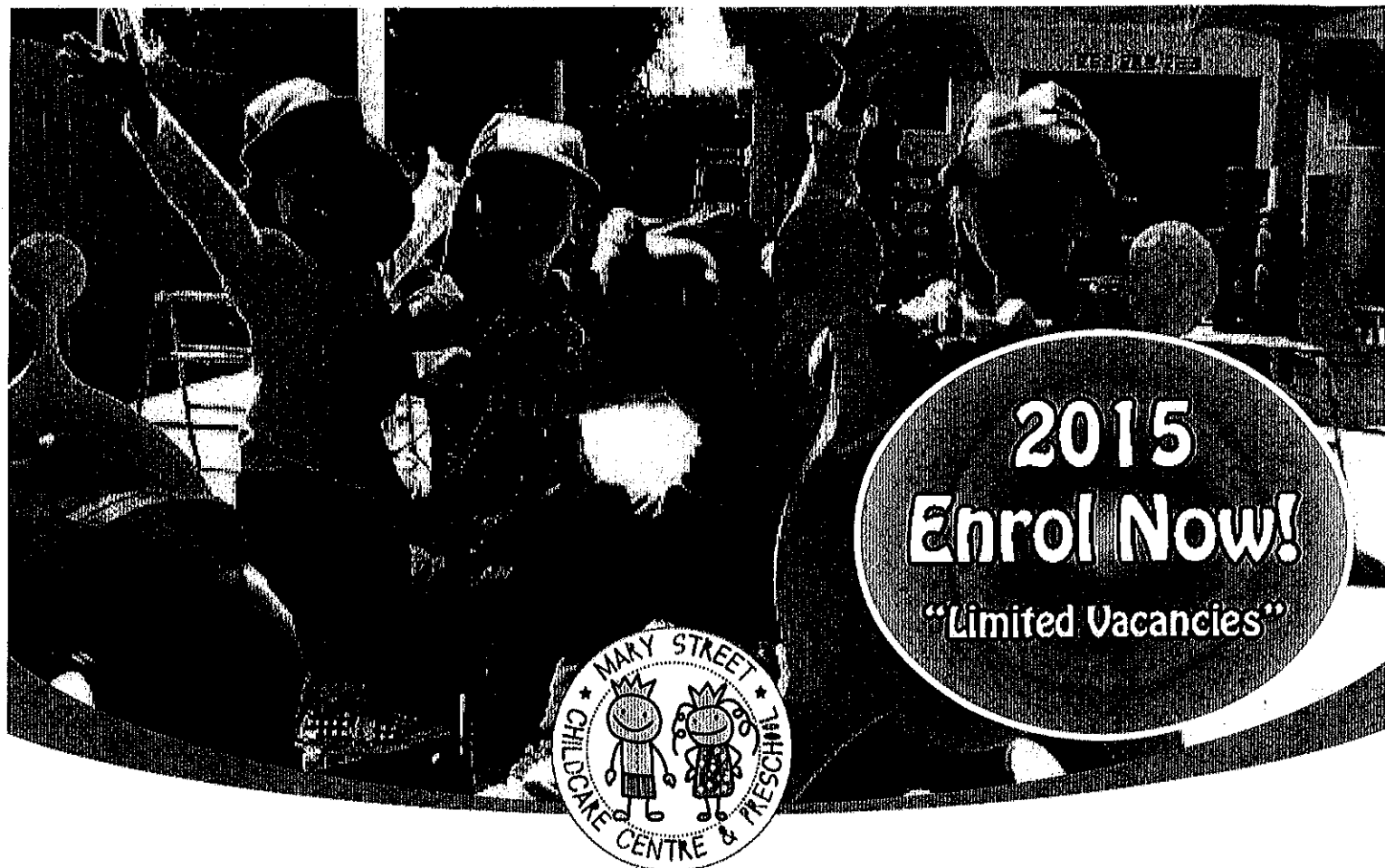
EOI Expression of Interest for competing in our School Swimming Carnival



Our 2015 swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday, 18th February (Week 4) commencing at 12pm at Emerton Pool. Due to the timing of this event and the high level of risk involved with supervision of non-swimmers near water we will only be taking competent swimmers. **As there were a few students who attended last year that became distressed in the pool, it is very important that we have an honest account of your child's swimming ability.**

If your child **CAN SWIM 50 METRES INDEPENDENTLY IN WATER GREATER THAN ONE (1) METRE IN DEPTH**, and indicate by ticking which events your child may enter and their swimming ability. Children competing from Year 2 must be turning 8 years of age in 2015.

This year the carnival has been scheduled for 12pm - 3pm.



MARY STREET

Childcare Centre & Preschool

- 40 place centre for 2-6 years
- High quality care & safe and spacious backyard
- Qualified, experienced & dedicated educators
- Focusing on the Early Years Learning Framework
- School Readiness Program (Literacy & Numeracy)
- \$59 per day/CCB & CCR available
- Animal farm & vegie garden enclosed
- Free programs include:
Computer / Second Language / Science

OPEN 7AM-6PM (MON-FRI)

Enrolment Enquiries: 9621-8778

15 Mary Street Blacktown NSW 2148

www.marystchildcare.com.au

Blacktown Premier Spurs Soccer Club Inc.

Po Box 4053

Marayong NSW 2148

Email: blkpremier@hotmail.com

Website: www.premierspursoccer.com.au



Join the "Champion" Blacktown Premier Spurs Soccer Club

Online registrations will open on the 2nd January 2015 (U5 - Youth League Boys & Girls)

2015 registration includes Soccer Starter Pack **Valued at over \$100.00**

Go to: www.premierspursoccer.com.au and follow the links

Don't miss out, register early & keep your kids active with the largest participation sport in Blacktown and the world SOCCER!

About **Blacktown Premier Spurs Soccer Club:**

A family orientated soccer club playing in the Blacktown District Soccer Football Association (BDSFA) competition. Spurs fields teams in the U5 – Youth League, Senior Men's and Ladies League's and O/35 competitions.

Last season Spurs had almost 300 players registered...

For More Info Visit:

Blacktown Premier Spurs Soccer Club Inc.

Po Box 4053

Marayong NSW 2148

P: Terry Isaaks 0419306904

Email: blkpremier@hotmail.com

Website: www.premierspursoccer.com.au

BIBLE SERIES

For kids
7 - 12 years olds
school years 3 - 6

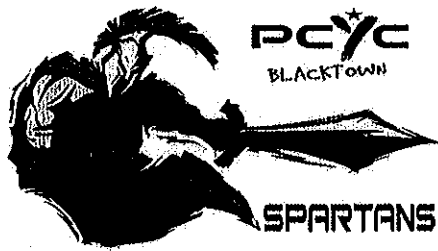
Fridays 4 - 5.30pm
Unit 1, 13 Turbo Rd Kings Park

Optional donation \$1.00

Contact
Bek 04331 00166
Reuben 042367700

Community Church
place of worship & support

Christian COMMUNITY
CHURCHES OF AUSTRALIA



PCYC SPARTANS WANT YOU

Blacktown Police Citizens Youth Club Rugby League

REGISTER FOR 2015 "Under 6 to A Grade"

- All players are welcome minimum 4 years of age.
- We offer Junior Rugby League to the community and pride ourselves on INCLUSION.
- Registration includes SHORTS, SOCKS, CLUB POLO, BUCKET HAT, TEAM PHOTOS & PCYC Membership
- Take advantage of PCYC activities (Boxing, Basketball, Judo, Martial Arts, Weights Gym 16 years and over) in the Blacktown Club at a 50% discounted rate as soon as you register. Tell your family and friends that it's time to become a Spartan and be part of the club offering much more for the family.

Training has started at Allen Robertson Reserve Vardy's Rd Kings Langley From 5pm Weeknights
Contact 0438470599 for training details for your age group.

Alternately you can call into PCYC Blacktown 8pm to 8:30pm Monday to Friday for assistance with all registrations our friendly staff will assist you to complete your registration.



PCYC Nations of Origin U/16 Aboriginal Boys and Girls 7 a side tackle Tournament.
PCYC host the Africa United Harmony Cup Representative teams along with
PCYC Respect League 7's tackle and League 7's Girls tag in the Pre Season.

COACHES, MANAGERS & TRAINERS ALSO REQUIRED FOR 2015 ALL ENQUIRIES 0438470599

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/BlacktownPcycSpartans>

Sportingpulse: http://www.foxsportspulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=0-724-71861-0-0&sID=266455

Contact mobile 0438470599 email blacktownpcycjrl@pcycnsw.org.au



MARAYONG SOUTH WANDERERS
MYSTERY DAY



Wednesday 11th February 2015

Come and be a part of another day out. The day always has surprises for you to look at and enjoy this is always a popular day's outing.

You never know it could be up the coast or down the coast, or even out west so Do come along. Morning Tea, Lunch and Tour is included. Please wear walking shoes.

COST – \$75. 00 Names with a deposit, PLEASE Balance NO LATER THAN 11-1-2015

Bus Leaves 8.00am

Pick Up: Lyton Street cnr Arthur Ave, Blacktown

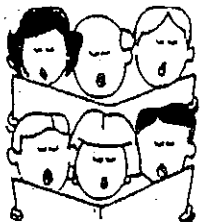
Blacktown Railway Station north side near lift (Bus Interchange Stands)

For any further enquiries please phone Melva on 9621 5507

~Friends and neighbours most welcome~



MARAYONG SOUTH WANDERERS
PREMIER'S SENIORS WEEK GALA CONCERT



WEDNESDAY 18th March 2015

It's the Premiers Seniors Week Gala Concert, at the Qantas Credit Union Arena.

10.30am show.

Stopping at Burwood Centre (at your own expense) for Lunch on the way home

Cost \$23.00 Names with Money in full ASAP. SO YOU DO NOT MISS OUT.

Bus Leaves 8.00am

Pick Up: Lyton Street cnr Arthur Ave, Blacktown

Blacktown Railway Station north side near lift (Bus Interchange Stands)

For any further enquiries please phone Melva on 9621 5507

~Friends and neighbours most welcome~