



NEWSLETTER



120 Barnier Drive

Quakers Hill, 2763

To subscribe email: barniernewsletter@gmail.com

Email: barnier-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 9837 1600

Fax: 9837 1858

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Principal's Message



As the Term/Year comes to an end we have some important end of year events to look forward to before the last day of Term, on Thursday 16th December. Our Celebrations of Learning Assemblies and our End-of-Year Presentation Assembly will take place on Zoom with one parent from each family able to attend Year 6 events only in person provided they are fully vaccinated and follow all Covid-safe procedures. Our Year 6 Farewell dinner will go ahead as well as all stage party days. We are grateful that the lifting of restrictions has enabled us to enjoy these events in a Covid-safe manner.

Welcome to our Term 4 Week 8 Newsletter. I hope you are all happy and well.



I would like to sincerely thank our OOSH provider, Northwest Children's Ministries for their contribution to our school. Not only do they provide an exemplary and much needed OOSH service for our Barnier students and families but they also regularly provide financial support to our school. Their regular contributions have provided Barnier families in need with financial assistance for uniforms, hats, shoes, lunches, incursions and excursions. They have also recently contributed \$2000 towards a P&C community project and \$1000 towards our Year 6 Fundraising to assist Year 6 to purchase a farewell gift to the school. We are just so grateful.

Our Barnier P&C



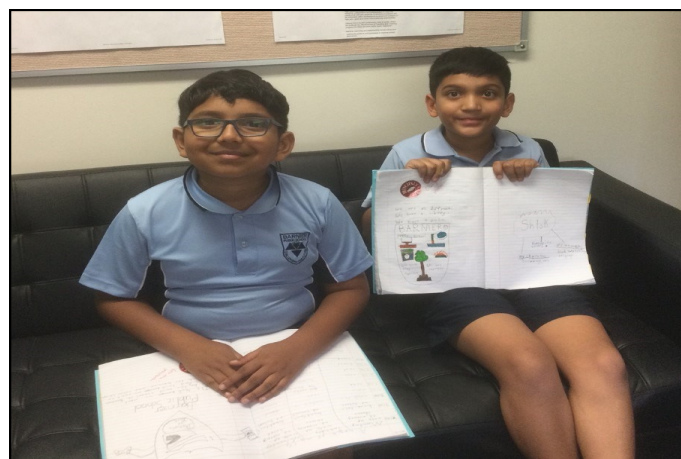
Our P&C had their last meeting on Monday 15th November. It's been a challenging year for our P&C parents, as Covid restrictions have limited their capacity to support our students and our school as they would have liked. They have soldiered on regardless and done whatever they could to support us. I thank them all and look forward to a very different year in 2022. I strongly encourage parents to join our P&C in 2022. Membership is just \$1 and you will have the opportunity to meet other parents and make a positive difference for our students and our school.



Our Kindy 2022 Transition sessions have commenced and have been very positive, highly successful and Covid-safe. We are extremely grateful that we have been able to run our transition sessions as we know how beneficial these are for the children. We look forward to welcoming our 2022 Kindergarten students and their families to Barnier in 2022.

Amazing work

These wonderful 3G students were selected to share their designs for a new school logo with me. I loved them!! Congratulations to them all and well done!





These very responsible, proactive and extremely caring members of 4C came and spoke to me about the issue of the dog meat trade in some countries around the world. They feel very strongly that this is extremely cruel and very wrong. They have taken action in lots of different ways to bring awareness to others regarding this problem and to seek people's support and agreement to speak up against it. Well done to these students!



Bullying



The following information is very important, please read carefully. Every student has the right to come to school every day and feel happy and safe.

We have Zero Tolerance of Bullying at Barnier Public School

Bullying can be verbal, physical or psychological.

Students are strongly encouraged to report any incidents of bullying to a member of staff immediately. Such reports will be taken very seriously. Staff will take a strong, proactive, timely, positive and problem-solving approach to these incidents.

Parents *can* make a difference

Please report any incidents of bullying immediately to a member of staff so that bullying can be dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

All school policies are regularly and routinely reviewed in schools.

Barnier Public School has a detailed and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy.

Reporting bullying does help to stop it occurring and enables us to deal effectively with such incidents when they occur.

We thank all members of the Barnier Public School community for your support and cooperation ensuring that Barnier Public School is a safe and happy school for everyone!

Complaints, Concerns and Issues



Occasionally parents or members of our school community may be concerned about an incident or issue or may have a complaint they would like addressed. A complaint can simply be an expression of dissatisfaction, or it can be a problem that you want fixed.

Sometimes things do not go the way you expect. Sometimes the decisions made, or the actions taken need to be explained better. At other times, we need to look more closely at what we did or how we are doing our work.

The DoE has a policy to assist in the dealing of complaints. The policy aims to:

- encourage the resolution of problems by informal means wherever possible
- ensure that concerns are dealt with quickly, fully and fairly
- maintain good working relationships between all people involved with the school
- provide effective responses and appropriate redress
- be confidential
- be unbiased

How to make a complaint

- Discuss your concerns with a member of our staff or make an appointment to discuss the matter with the Principal.
- You may bring a friend or relative to support you.
- If a complaint cannot be resolved in an informal way, you may be asked to put your complaint in writing.
- It is important that your written complaint includes specific details of the situation/issue and an indication of what you would like to happen as a result of your complaint.
- We can assist you to put your complaint in writing, if you require it.

What can you expect?

- Most complaints can be resolved quickly and informally to everybody's satisfaction simply by talking to the person concerned or the Principal.
- Some complaints are covered under another policy or by special legislation e.g. WHS (Workplace Health and Safety) or anti-discrimination policies. You will be advised if this is the case with your complaint. You will also be told how

and by whom your concerns will be addressed.

Occasionally more serious or complex complaints require investigation. These can take a longer time to resolve. If this happens, you should be informed of the progress and outcome of your complaint by phone or in writing at regular intervals until the matter is resolved.

If you have not heard from the person handling the complaint within a reasonable time, call to ask them what is happening.

What are the possible outcomes?

1. Your complaint is upheld (in part or in full) and, where appropriate, one or more of the following actions may be offered to you:

- action to remedy or amend the situation
- an apology
- an explanation
- an admission that the situation could have been handled differently or better
- an assurance that the event complained of will not recur
- an explanation of the steps that have been taken to ensure that it will not happen again
- an undertaking to review our policies in light of the complaint.

2. Your complaint is not upheld. The reasons for this should be clearly given.

If you are not happy with the outcome, you may request a review of your complaint.

I encourage all parents or members of our school community who have a concern or an issue to approach a member of staff or myself so that matters can be resolved as quickly and effectively as possible.

Teaching Your Children to be Organised – it's never too late!



Some children are highly organised while others seem to always have a schoolbag full of dog-eared scraps of paper, overdue library books, outdated school notices, stale remnants of lunch and any number of strange objects. It is no coincidence that these students often under-achieve at school and find it almost impossible to meet deadlines in high school and in the workforce.

They need support to help them develop the organisational skills we all need to get through our busy, complex, complicated days. Many children never develop these skills during their school days and struggle in their first years at university or in a job.

One of the best things we can do for them is give them ways they can organise their paperwork and homework, get started on tasks in a timely fashion, keep track of books and assignments, concentrate on what needs to be done, plan for deadlines and keep all their school related material in designated spaces. An impossible task? Not with modern technology, colour-coded folders, a desk and shelves at home and a weekly plan for what lies ahead.

Some ideas and suggestions

Make use of mobile-phone and internet programmes to organise a calendar, send reminders, and sound the alarm. Everyone is amenable to using electronic means of organisation and can base their whole life around their organisers. Students are likely to go into jobs where they are expected to

use sophisticated message and calendar systems, so why not utilise these systems now.

Keep a large, clear family calendar in a visible place like the kitchen and use different coloured pens for each member of the family.

Keep a filing shelf with a coloured folder for each child. File all notices, assignments, and important material for that child's activities. Children can also keep coloured folders for their subjects at school which they update every day.

Establish daily routines for mealtimes, screen time, homework, leisure, bed times so your children already have a structure to their day. Spend a set time every day checking on dates and deadlines.

Discuss classroom routines with your children's teacher so you can follow and reinforce them at home. Discuss ways the teacher thinks your child could work at improved organisation skills.

Share your own planning and organisation tips. What applies to work, usually works with school too. Model tidiness, a place for important things like bills and keys, a routine to getting your own tasks done.

Show your children ways to make a start on a task, how to break it up into manageable chunks, how to prepare a mind-map to plan each step.

Share how in your own life you take big tasks one step at a time. This will help save your child from being daunted by what seems an impossible set of demands and build confidence in their own capacity to get things done.

Ask an older student sibling or neighbour to act as a management coach.

Write every event, target and assignment in large letters on a calendar in their work area and have a short daily discussion about what can be crossed off, what progress is being made and any looming deadlines.

Social Media and the Safety of our Children



Social Media

The following information is worth reading and revisiting. Technology and social media are part of everyday life for all of us and this can present challenges and issues for our children.

“Technology will only ever be used as well and as honourably as the motives of those pressing the buttons. Everyone needs to acknowledge its extraordinary power. The technology is out of the bag and we should respect it, but not fear it. Any threat from social networks comes not from the technology, but from those who use it.”

NZ Listener editorial August 27

The best advice is to look at the way your child manages normal everyday interactions with family and friends. If this involves constant outbursts of emotion, hostilities, accusations and tears, then their on-line relationships are likely to be similar. A child who has happy, respectful relationships will usually enjoy using social media and have few if any problems.

RISKS

Fitting in with peers is an important element of growing up. The main risks to young people online today are risks from each other, risks of improper use of technology, lack of privacy, sharing too much information, or posting false information about themselves or others. These types of behaviour put their privacy at risk, often for

years as they leave behind evidence of which sites they have visited.

One of the biggest threats to young people on social media sites is to their *digital footprint* and future reputations. Youngsters who lack an awareness of privacy issues often post inappropriate messages, pictures, and videos without understanding that “what goes online stays online”. As a result, future jobs and opportunities may be put into jeopardy by rash clicks of the mouse.

There’s plenty you can do to support and protect your child

Parents are the best people to educate young people to be responsible, sensible and respectful digital citizens.

- Talk to your children about their online use and the specific issues that today’s online users face.
- Supervise online activities with active participation and communication, as opposed to remote monitoring with a net-nanny program.
- Encourage your children to tell you if something they encounter on one of these sites makes them feel anxious, uncomfortable or threatened. Stay calm and remind your children they are not in trouble for bringing something to your attention.
- **Set your own house Internet rules.** As soon as your children begin to use the Internet on their own, it is a good idea to come up with a list of rules for using the Internet that everyone can agree on.
- Look at the sites that your child plans to use and make sure both you and your child read and understand the age restrictions, privacy policy and the code of conduct. Find out if the site monitors the content that people post.
- **Insist that your children never meet anyone in person that they’ve communicated with only online without your knowledge and permission. Because children can be in real danger, you can help protect your children by encouraging them to use these sites to**

communicate with their friends, but not with people they've never met in person.

- It might not be enough to simply tell your child not to talk to strangers, because your child might not consider someone they've 'met' online to be a stranger.
- **Ensure your children don't use full names.** Have your children use only their first names or a nickname, but not a nickname that would attract inappropriate attention. Also, do not allow your children to post the full names of their friends.
- **Be wary of other identifiable information in your child's profile.** Many social websites allow children to join public groups that include everyone who goes to a certain school. Too much information can make your children vulnerable to cyber-bullying, Internet predators, Internet fraud, or identity theft.
- Photographs can reveal a lot of personal information. Advise your children not to post photographs of themselves or their friends with clearly identifiable details.
- **Teach your children about cyber-bullying.** As soon as your children are old enough to use social websites, talk to them about cyber-bullying. Tell them that if they think they're being cyber-bullied, they should share this information right away with you, a teacher or another adult whom they trust.
- It's important to encourage children to communicate with other people online in the same polite way they would face-to-face. Reinforce the message that they must treat other people the way they want to be treated.

Have a great fortnight, everyone!

Warmest regards,

Mrs Mandy Hollis

Principal

School Leadership 2022

Barnier Public School is ever changing in size and context. To meet the needs of students and the school environment, eight student school leaders will be elected in 2022. This is a very exciting opportunity for our future student leaders, and we are certain they will do an outstanding job for our school and its community. If parents have any enquiries about this, please contact the school for more information.

2021

Week 9

Monday 29th November

- Year 6 Digi-Ed incursion

Tuesday 30th November

- Mo or Bows for Movember

Wednesday 1st December

- Stage 3 Party day

Thursday 2nd December

- Stage 1 Party Day

Friday 3rd December

- Kindy Party Day

Week 10

Monday 6th December

- Kindergarten COL @ 9:00am

Tuesday 7th December

- Year 1 COL @ 9:00am
- Year 2 COL @ 11:45am

Wednesday 8th December

- Year 3 COL @ 9:00am
- Year 4 COL @ 11:45am

Thursday 9th December

- Year 5 COL @ 9:00am
- Year 6 COL @ 11:45am

Friday 10th December

- Stage 2 Party Day

Week 11

Monday 13th December

- Presentation Assembly @ 9:00am

Thursday 16th December

- Year 6 Graduation Assembly @ 2:15pm

