BANKSIA PARK 50TH BIRTHDAY

On Friday, 7th November, our school celebrated it’s 50th birthday. It was fantastic to meet old scholars and staff from the last 50 years. Whilst the weather was scorching, it was an afternoon enjoyed by everyone and I have had some wonderful feedback from the day. A big thank you to the 50th committee for driving this event and helping make it the success that it was. Thanks must go to the staff, students and parents who assisted in the many ways to ensure that was a memorable event. We still have a few commemorative wines / badges for sale if there you are interested in purchasing these. The tree sales for our Commemorative Garden was very popular. We do have a few trees still needing a loving supporter so if you are interested please contact the school and we can provide you with further information. All supporters will have their name placed on a permanent bollard in the garden.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Tuesday, 11th November, we held a whole school assembly as part of Remembrance Day. This assembly was entirely run by the students, who did a brilliant job.

I would like to thank Caitlin and Riley from Room 14 and Amy, Sarah, Lily and Maddy for the professional way the service was conducted. I was extremely pleased with all students who sat quietly through the assembly and the minute silence. It is wonderful to see young people talking about what the day means to them and to understand the sacrifices people made for their country.

SPORTS DAY

Tomorrow (Friday 14th November) is our 2014 school sports day. The students have been practicing their events and are excited for the day. We encourage all parents, family and friends to attend this day and show your support. There will be a coffee van and a cake stall, soft drinks for sale and a sausage sizzle. The day begins just after 9am in the gym and concludes at 1pm. Students may go home after sports day providing that the class teacher has been informed and the students signed out. Hopefully the weather is nice for us and the expected showers hold off. Should inclement weather be present in the morning, a push notification will be sent out to all families at around 8am via the Skoolbag App to inform of any changes that you may need to be aware of. At this stage the Bureau of Meteorology is predicting a few showers in the morning and afternoon, but we are confident that we can work around these.

PAT TESTING

Students in Years 1-7 have just completed the Progressive Achievement Testing in Numeracy and Reading Comprehension. Whilst the results have not been collated yet, these results will be compared with the results from earlier in the year to see how much growth students have made and what areas we need to improve on. This data will also be compared to the NAPLAN data to allow us to identify areas that need further development / be encompassed into the Site Improvement Plan.

STUDENT REPORTS

On Wednesday, 10th of December, your child will bring their end of year report home. This term we are trialling a new student report format. We will be seeking the input of the school community via Survey Monkey to gauge feedback about the format and what changes you would like to see / suggestions / positives / areas of improvements. Please ensure that you keep an eye out for your child’s report on this day and we encourage all families to complete the survey (link provided when the reports are sent home).

VACATION CARE

The program for the Christmas break is now available. Days that have excursions planned fill up fast so please ring Mark as soon as possible to book your child/rens spot. This will also give Mark and idea of the staff numbers needed over the break.

2015 MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGES

A watermarked copy of the 2015 M&S Charges is attached to this newsletter. These fees will be set at the next Governing Council on Monday 1st December at 6pm and all parents/caregivers are invited to attend this meeting in the school staffroom.

2015 CLASS PLACEMENTS

We are in the final stages of finalising class structures and student placements for 2015. If you will not be here in 2015, or know of someone who is planning to join us at Banksia, can you please let us know ASAP so that we can make decisions based on correct student numbers.