

Blackwell Public School

Newsletter

Wednesday, 12th November 2025

Week 5 Term 4 2025

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

PRINCIPAL AWARD WINNERS

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

APC&I CORNER

P&C NEWS

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

CANTEEN NEWS

UNIFORM SHOP

BREAKFAST CLUB

SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

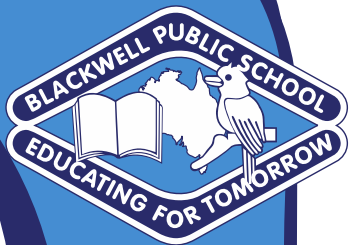
EARLY STAGE 1 NEWS

STAGE 1 NEWS

STAGE 2 NEWS

STAGE 3 NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWS



PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

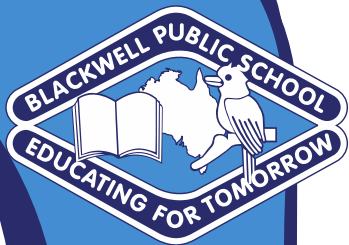
As we move toward the end of another busy and productive term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful school community for the warm welcome I have received. It has been an absolute pleasure to join such a vibrant, supportive, and dedicated group of students, staff, and families.

This term has been filled with a wide range of learning experiences and opportunities—excursions, assemblies, discos, sports programs, representative events, camps, and orientation days for our incoming Kindergarten and outgoing Year 6 students. Each of these occasions reflects the enthusiasm, teamwork, and commitment that make our school such a special place. I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of both our staff and students who have embraced every challenge and celebrated each success along the way.

As I prepare to take extended leave for the final three weeks of term, I would like to extend my thanks to **Rod**, who will once again relieve as Principal during this time. I am confident the school will continue to thrive under his capable leadership.

I wish all members of our school community a successful and rewarding conclusion to the academic year. May you enjoy a safe, restful, and happy holiday break. I very much look forward to seeing you all again in 2026!

Nikki McCabe
PRINCIPAL



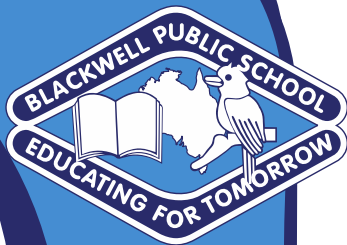
PAWS AWARD WINNERS

PRINCIPAL AWARD WINNERS

Monday, 27th October 2025

CLASS	STUDENT
KB	Lola B
KM	Alexis M
KL	Levi H
S1B	Malabu H
S1D	Hazel P
S1M	Olympia L
S1N	Ayla M
S1S	Adeline C
S2A	Cooper A
S2F	Isabella G
S2M	Aleena S
S2S	Sienna S
S2T	Benji M
S3B	Amelia H
S3CR	Hendrix P
S3H	Joseph M
S3K	Eren C
S3M	Max G
S3W	Kahlan O
MC Class	Calum C

PAWS Lunch is Thursday, 18th December at 1.15pm



DEPUTY PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS

SWIM SCHOOL

Well done to the parents who took up the opportunity for free swim classes during week 4. It was great to see the students improve in confidence and ability in the pool.

A fact: Forty-eight per cent of year 6 students fail national standards for swimming and water safety, new research shows.

There is little improvement in skills going into high school, with children who can't swim or are poor swimmers remaining at increased risk of drowning in early adulthood.

Missing out on learning how to swim while young has known links to an increased risk of drowning in adulthood, with data showing drowning rates grow tenfold between the ages of 10 and 20.

According to last year's National Drowning Report, Australia recorded 323 drowning deaths in the year to August, 16 per cent higher than the 10-year average amid a progressive decline in swimming skills post-COVID.

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR CODE OF CONDUCT

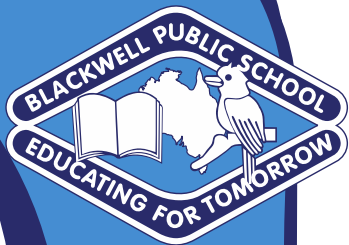
In NSW public schools' students are expected, to the best of their ability, to:

- show respect to other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers
- strive for the highest standards in learning
- act in a courteous and respectful way that makes all members of the school community feel valued, included and supported
- resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly
- meet the school's agreed uniform policy or dress code
- attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- respect all property
- be safe and not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, vapes, e-cigarettes or tobacco into our schools
- not bully, harass, intimidate, or discriminate against anyone in our schools.

NEW LAWS

As parents and teachers are still dealing with social media incidences that are occurring some important changes are coming.

Australia's social media rules are changing to protect children, with a new law banning those under 16 from creating social media accounts starting December 10, 2025. Platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and X must take "reasonable steps" to prevent underage accounts, facing fines of up to \$49.5 million for non-compliance. While under-16s can view public content, they will not be able to post, comment, or message, and parents face no penalties for violations.



KEY CHANGES

- **Account restriction:** Social media accounts are restricted for Australians under 16.
- **Content access:** Children under 16 can view public content but cannot create profiles, post, comment, or message other users.
- **Effective date:** The rules are set to come into effect by December 10, 2025.
- **Enforcement:** Social media platforms must implement age-assurance systems to comply. Failure to do so can result in fines of up to \$49.5 million.
- **Privacy:** Platforms must destroy any personal data used for age assurance after it's no longer needed, and users will not be forced to use government ID for verification.
- **Penalties:** There are no penalties for children or parents who break the rules, but platforms face significant fines for non-compliance.
- **Applicable platforms:** The ban is expected to apply to major platforms like TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, X, and YouTube, but not to apps like YouTube Kids or Kids Helpline.

What can the school do:

If it happens at school, students have breached the Department Behaviour Code and will have consequences.

If it happens at home, and parents ring the school for something to be done, this will be the process.

Parents are in their rights to go to the police.

Parents can report the incident to the E-Safety Commissioner.

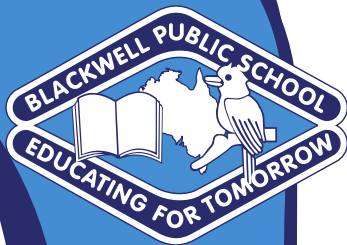
Students will be told to remove the post immediately.

Students will be asked to issue an apology.

Student's involved parents will be contacted.

Teachers, teach about internet safety and the risk of social media. During morning assemblies' teachers are constantly reminding students about the responsibility of being online.

Rod Woolard
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



APC&I CORNER

APC&I CORNER

We're almost there everyone... just hang in a little longer! As any parent (or teacher) knows, the last weeks of school can often be the most challenging. There's the mixture of excitement for the summer holidays and exhaustion from a school year. To help get you through the school term without the burnout, here's a few things that might help!

1) **Stick to routines**

Try not get out of routine yet. As best you can, stick to morning and afternoon schedules and sport/extracurricular pickups. This also includes sticking to a bedtime routine.

2) **Continue reading/homework**

Academic learning continues and final assessments occur throughout the term so it's important to keep focussed. Continue to read each night. Pick summer holiday books or Christmas themed books to keep the kids engaged. Writing or journalling would be great ways to keep practise and engagement up.

3) **Keep hydrated**

It's hot, very hot. As the temperature often climbs past 30+ degrees, ensure that everyone has chilled water regularly throughout the day. Dehydration can make you feel sick, tired and cranky.

4) **Try to be extra patient**

Most likely your children will be showing signs of tiredness. Remember to spend time talking and listening to your children about how their day was. Supporting them through any issues they may be experiencing and showing patience will show you've got their backs and help to boost their confidence.

5) **Itemising anxieties**

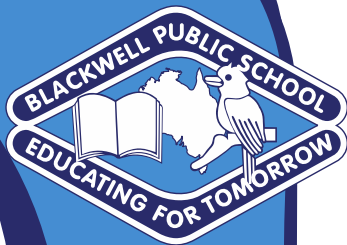
Many of our worries are caused by a lack of readiness. Your child may be feeling anxious about next year – a new teacher, a new classroom. Those transitioning into high school might be feeling emotional about leaving old friends. Feelings of frustration might result in anger, tantrums or meltdowns.

Recognising and naming any worries can be calming and help your child to find solutions (it's hard to think clearly when we are emotional).

Lastly, parents and teachers – take the time to consider the combined team effort that it takes in teaching children. Maintain perspective and keep your sanity intact in these last few weeks!

We are looking forward to the home stretch, take care!

Mrs Sutcliffe and Mrs Hancock 😊



P & C NEWS

P & C NEWS

We have smashed our goal of \$6 000 for our colour run!

So amazing!

Thank you to everyone who has created a profile and is busy raising money for our school. Keep it up!

Because we have hit our target, there are a few teachers that are getting slimed.

A special thank you to Starr Partners who donated and shared our fundraiser on their social media accounts. We truly appreciate the support



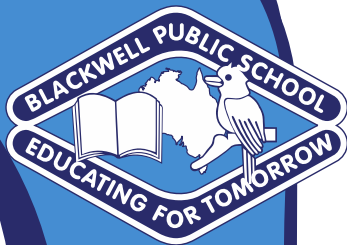
Remember if you haven't already Created an account, log on and start raising funds, our students earn prizes for raising as little as \$20!

Let's get it to \$10 000 and get the kids to slime more teachers!!!

Colour Run
Tuesday, 9th December.

More information will be sent home via Sentral.

Our P&C Halloween Disco raised over \$700, thank you to all our students who battled the storm to come and dance the night away.



OFFICE NEWS - 2025 INFORMATION

2025 OFFICE NEWS

A reminder that our school does not send out paper notes. Everything can be found in the Sentral Parent Portal. It is extremely important that you are a registered user. If you need any help in doing so, please reach out to us.



If you have any queries regarding registering for Sentral for Parents, please email us on:

blackwell-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

MEDICAL

Thank you to those families that have supplied us with their children's medication.

If your child requires medication at school or is diagnosed with any health condition, we ask that you please notify the school as soon as practicable. We can then provide the necessary documentation.

LOST PROPERTY

We are already seeing a large amount of lost property accumulate. Please label **EVERYTHING** with your child's name it makes it a lot easier to find rightful owners!

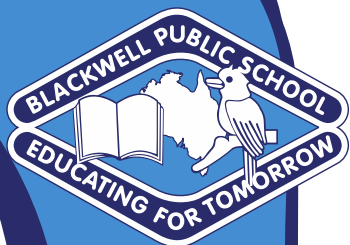
LATE & EARLY LEAVERS

If your child is arriving after the 9am bell time they are required to attend the Front Office for a late note. They should be accompanied by a parent / carer for an explanation other wise the absence will be marked unjustified.

If you need to collect your child prior to 3pm, a parent or authorised person will need to come to the Front Office to obtain an early leaver slip. We will call the student to the office upon your arrival.

LIBRARY





Friday Fun Run Winners

Term 4

Week 1 – Heath S1M & Emma S1S

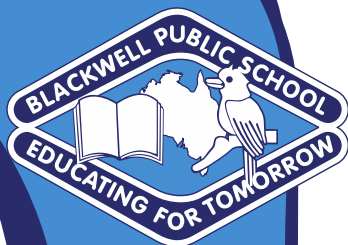
Week 2 – Ruhi S3W & Grace S1N

Week 3 – Scarlett S1S & Harrison S3B

Week 4 – Maverick KB & Marlee S2A

UPCOMING EVENTS

ACTIVITY	WHO	DATE	DUE	COST
Longneck Lagoon Postponed from 11/9/2025	S2 SRC Leaders	20th November	N/A	N/A
Road Safety Day	Year 4	27 th November	2 nd November	N/A
Polo & Jumper Orders	Year 6 2026	N/A	28 th November	Shirt \$52 Jumper \$40
Mini Fete	Year 6	5 th December	N/A	N/A
P & C Colour Run	Kindy to Year 6	9 th December	21 st November	Donations
Scripture Christmas Service	Whole school	10 th December	N/A	N/A
Julia Donaldson Dress Up Day	Kindy	12 th December	N/A	N/A
Presentation Day Assembly	Whole school	15 th December	N/A	N/A



CANTEEN NEWS

KOOKABURRA'S KITCHEN

Thank you to everyone that supports our school canteen. Please remember that on-line ordering closes at 9am for same day orders.

We kindly ask that you please check that your order has been submitted prior to closing the app.

Canteen
on
Mobile



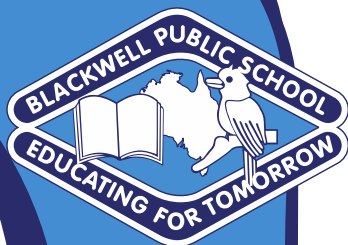
student
pay+

KOOKABURRA'S KITCHEN SCHOOL LUNCH MENU	
HOT FOOD	
Garlic Bread	\$2.50
Beef Pie (H)	\$4.00
Cheesburger (H)	\$4.00
ADD salad	\$4.50
Chicken Nuggets (6)(H)	\$4.00
Chicken Burger (H)	\$4.00
BBQ Chicken Quesadilla	\$4.50
Beef Lasagne	\$5.00
Chicken Noodles	\$2.50
Mac'n'Cheese (H)(V)	\$5.00
Sausage Roll (H)	\$4.00
Spring Rolls (5)(V)	\$3.00
Beef Nachos	\$4.50
Low Fat Sour Cream	\$0.50
Salsa	\$0.50
SNACKS	
Cheese & Crackers	\$2.50
Custard Cup	\$1.00
Salted Chips	\$2.00
Fruit Salad	\$2.50
Hash Brown	\$1.50
Jelly Cup	\$0.50
Popcorn	\$1.00
Whole Seasonal Fruit	\$1.50
FROZEN ITEMS	
Quech Stick	\$0.50
TNT	\$2.00
Moosie	\$2.00
Snap Stix	\$2.00
Low Fat Vanilla Ice Cream	\$2.00
Frozen Zooper Dooper Birthday Buckets - 30 mixed flavors for	\$20.00
SANDWICHES & WRAPS	
Assorted Spreads(V)(H)	\$2.00
Vegemite/Jam/Cheese	
Ham & Cheese	\$3.00
Ham, Cheese, Tomato	\$3.50
Salad (V)(H)	\$3.50
Add Ham/Chicken/Tuna	\$4.50
Egg, Lettuce & Mayo	\$3.50
Tuna, Lettuce & Mayo	\$3.50
Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo	\$4.50
Sweet Chilli Chicken (H)	\$5.00
GF Bread ADD	\$1.00
SALAD BOWLS	
Garden Salad (V)(H)(GF)	\$3.50
ADD Ham/Chicken/Tuna	\$4.50
Grilled Chicken Caesar (H)	\$5.00
Sweet Chilli Chicken	\$5.00
Italian Dressing	\$0.50
PIZZAS	
Garlic & Cheese (V)(H)	\$3.50
Margarita (V)(H)	\$3.50
Pepperoni	\$4.50
Hawaiian	\$4.50
BBQ Chicken	\$4.50
DRINKS	
Flavoured Milk (Choc/Straw)	\$3.00
Juice Popper	\$2.00
Juice Bomb	\$3.00
Up & Go (Choc/Vanilla)	\$3.00
Water	\$2.00
Tomato or BBQ Sauce	\$0.50
GST NOT APPLICABLE	

Julie Patrizi and Canteen Staff

Proud to be a member of our STePS Community. Learning on Darug Land.

58A Blackwell Avenue, St Clair NSW 2759 T: 02 9670 5080 blackwell-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Opening Hours for Excel Uniforms 2025

Tuesday - 2.15pm – 3.15pm
Thursdays - 8.30am – 9.30am

UNIFORM SHOP BLACKWELL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Uniform Shop Hours

Regular Opening Time

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm Tuesdays

8:30 am – 9:30 am Thursdays

Opening Hours during Kindy Orientation Period

Tue 4 th Nov: closed	Thu 6 th Nov: 8:30am-11:00am	Fri 7 th Nov: 8:30am-11:00am
Tue 11 th Nov: closed	Thu 13 th Nov: 8:30am-11:00am	Fri 14 th Nov: 8:30am-11:00am
Tue 18 th Nov: closed	Thu 20 th Nov: 8:30am-11:00am	Fri 21 st Nov: 8:30am-11:00am

The Last Opening Day of the Term is Tuesday 16 December 2025

School Uniform Shop Opening Hours Term 1 2026

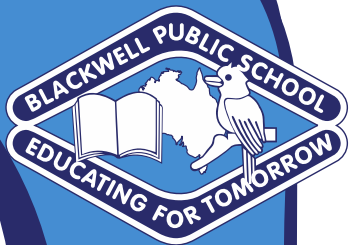
29 Jan 26	Thursday (Pupil Free Day)	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
30 Jan 26	Friday (Pupil Free Day)	8:30 am – 10:00 am
02 Feb 26	Monday	2:00 pm – 3:30 am
03 Feb 26	Tuesday	2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
04 Feb 26	Wednesday	closed
05 Feb 26	Thursday	8:30 am -10:00 am
Then Opens		
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm Tuesdays & 8:30 am – 9:30 am Thursdays		

Shop Online

www.exceluniforms.com.au

Any enquires can be made direct to Excel Uniforms

Phone 0405 506 383/Email blackwell@exceluniforms.com.au



BREAKFAST CLUB

BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS

Blackwell's Breakfast Club

8:30am till 8:55am

Wednesday

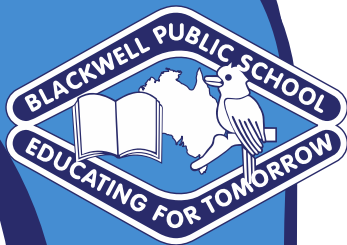
Thursday

Friday

Under the Sails near
the Front Office

Mrs Sutcliffe
Organiser

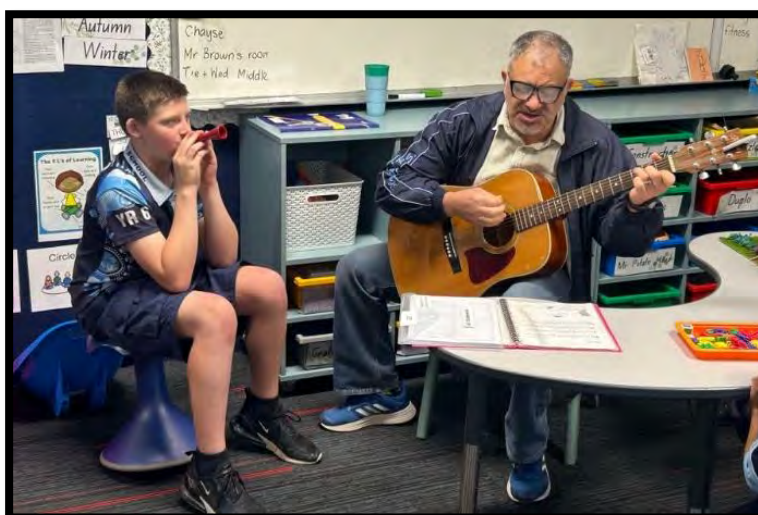
All welcome!

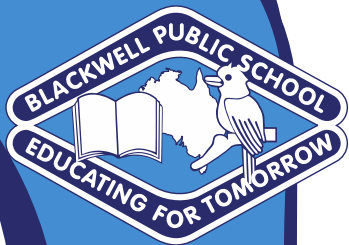


SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

Students have made a positive start to the school term, settling quickly and increasing their independence with daily routines. They have enjoyed participating in a variety of engaging activities, including a musical visit from Mr Farag, developing computer skills, exploring construction projects, and taking part in fun novelty days for the Year 6 students.





EARLY STAGE 1 NEWS

EARLY STAGE 1 NEWS

Term 4 is going amazingly!

Kindergarten students are working so hard and growing so much!

We are busy reading and writing and getting ready for Stage 1. The kids loved the Halloween Disco. Thank you for all those families who dressed their children in spooky outfits. Fun was had by all.

It's hard to believe that it has been a year since our current Kindergarten students began their school journey. In week 4, 5 and 6 our 2026 Kindergarten students will begin their transition lessons.

Friday, 12th December is Julia Donaldson Day. Think about a character for your child to dress up in. The children are looking forward to this day. They love the stories and poems and are enjoying participating in Literacy activities based on her books. Presentation Day will be held on **Monday, 15th December**. If your child receives an award, there will be an invitation for parents/family to attend prior to this date.

Our Party Day will be an in-school water day. This will be on **Tuesday, 16th December**. More information regarding this will be on Sentral closer to the date.

As we are fast approaching the end of the year, home reading and revision of sounds and words is still very important. We read daily in class, however having a little bit of time with a parent or family member encourages the love and importance of reading.

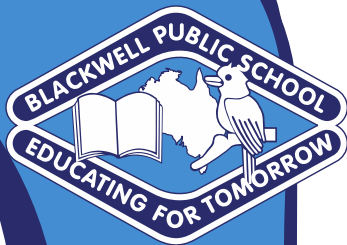
All library books need to be returned by week 6, this includes home readers.

Enjoy some super writing about our recent Science incursion.

Take care,

Kindergarten Teachers





STAGE 1 NEWS

STAGE 1 NEWS

Term 4 is certainly flying by! Stage 1 have been working really hard and are getting ready for the many exciting events coming up this term.

The students had a great time at the Halloween Disco. We saw some amazing and very spooky costumes.



Lots of Year 2 have been involved in the swimming scheme at Ripples. The students have enjoyed these lessons, and we were very lucky to receive this scheme at no cost.

Reports will be emailed out to parents on Wednesday, 10th December. Please look out for these.

Presentation Day will be held on Monday, 15th December. If your child receives an award, there will be an invitation for parents/family to attend prior to this date.

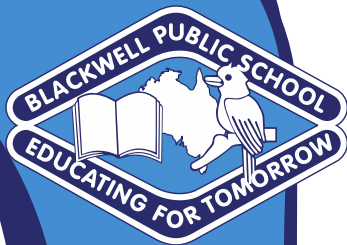
This term, Stage 1 have been involved in weekly soccer skill sessions with their class, Mr Mali and Mr Andre. Both SLSO's are sharing their expertise and skills and involving the students in skill-based lesson and mini games. In the last week of term, we will run a mini competition between the classes.



Our end of term fun day will be an in-school water day. This will be on Tuesday, 16th December. More information regarding this will be posted on Sentral closer to the date.

All home readers need to be returned by Week 7 (reading will be done in class and not sent home) and library books need to be returned by week 6. Any lost books will incur a fee of \$10 for each book.

Take care,
Stage 1 Teachers



STAGE 2 NEWS

STAGE 2 NEWS

Road Safety Day – YEAR 4

REMINDER... Year 4 students will be participating in a 'Road Safety Day' held at school on Thursday, 27th November - Week 7. Students will be required to bring their own bike and suitable helmet. If your child is unable to ride a bike, they may bring a scooter.



There will be no e-bikes, e-cycles or e-scooters permitted.

The program runs for the entire day, and students will need to arrive and leave at normal times. We would appreciate parents ensuring that students arrive and depart school safely with their bike/scooter and helmet. This will require adult supervision if they are riding to and from school. Permission has been sent via Sentral Parent Portal.

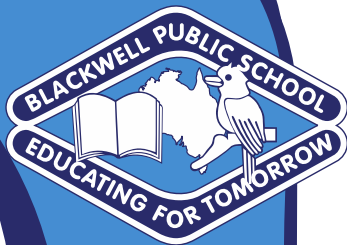
NOTE: Alternate day due to inclement weather - back-up day is Thursday 4th December.

3 Stars To Success



Our targets for Term 4 are 20 books read (or chapters), 10 Lexia sessions and one poetry presentation. Term 4 reading logs and Lexia Stars are due on Friday 5th December - Week 8. Students who have met our targets this term, will be invited to a special morning tea to be held on Wednesday 10th December – Week 9. Invitations will be sent out on Monday 4th December to those students who are eligible to attend.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a lot of lost property that is awaiting collection in a cupboard outside S2S classroom, near the front office.



STAGE 3 NEWS

STAGE 3 NEWS

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through our final term of 2025.

As always, Stage 3 is a great place to be - especially with so many wonderful things happening in classrooms as well as lots of opportunities outside the classroom as well.

We have already had such a great term and looking forward, we have even more exciting things ahead of us. With so many things happening, please keep your eye out on our closed Facebook page for the latest and most up to date information.

Term 4 Week 6

2026 Leadership Applications due – Monday, 17th November

Year 6 only – Wear odd shirt day – Wednesday, 20th November

Term 4 Week 7

Year 6 Camp – Wednesday, 26th November to Friday 28th November

Term 4 Week 8

2026 School Leader Speeches – Monday, 1st December

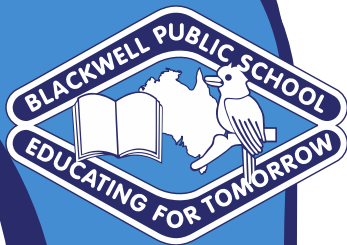
Government High School Orientation Day – Tuesday, 2nd December

Year 6 Mini Fete – Wear everything odd day (Year 6 only) – Friday, 5th December

Term 4 Week 9

Reports go home – Wednesday, 10th December

Year 6 – End of Year Blaxland Riverside Park excursion – Friday, 12th December



Term 4 Week 10

Presentation Day and Announcement of 2026 School Leaders—
Monday 15th December

Year 6 Signing Day – Tuesday, 16th December

Year 6 Graduation Assembly (starts 9:15am) and Year 6 Farewell
(starts at 5:30pm)— Wednesday, 17th December

Talent Quest – Thursday, 18th December

Year 6 BIG DAY IN – Friday, 19th December and Graduation Arch 2:50
ish

The Year 6 Graduation Assembly will be held on Wednesday 17th December in our school hall. We aim to start as close to 9:15am as possible. The assembly will be finished around 10:00am. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our Year 6 Farewell is held in our school hall on the Wednesday 17th December. Our students will arrive about 5:30pm and will enjoy a sausage sizzle with drink and we will have an ice-cream truck. There will be dancing in the hall after food. The Year 6 students have been creating as well as learning dances every Thursday afternoon in preparation.

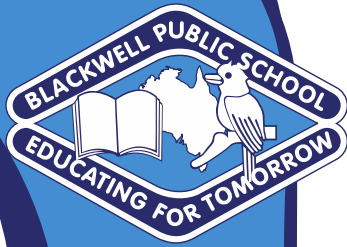
Please carefully consider our neighbours and most importantly the safety of our students and families when dropping off your child at the farewell. We recommend smart casual for the student's outfits. It can get quite warm in the hall. Parents are invited to come at **8:20pm** to have the last dance or two with their child on the night.

Graduation signing products have been ordered. When they arrive, they will be stored safely at school until signing day.

The students have an opportunity to have their items signed by their friends and teachers on Tuesday **16th December**.

Year 6 students **are not able** to wear shirts and have them signed.

If they are planning to get their Year 6 shirt signed, they will need to bring it in a separate bag.



Remember – students will wear their Year 6 Leadership Shirt on Wednesday for the Graduation assembly. They cannot wear their signed shirt on this day.

The 2026 school leadership application process is in full swing! Interested students in Year 5 are encouraged to apply for leadership opportunities. Applications are due 17th November which will be reviewed by Ms McCabe and the executive team. A short list is created and these nominees will plan and write a short speech, explaining why they would make a great leader for our school.

Speeches will be held on Monday 1st December in Week 8. After the speeches, students in Years 2-6 cast their votes. The 2026 leadership team will be formally introduced on Presentation Day – Monday 16th December. We wish all students well.

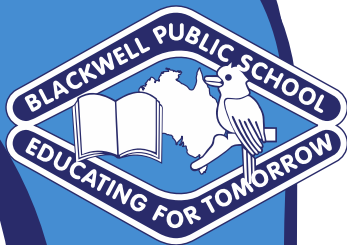
We understand that missing out on one of these positions can be upsetting because we have so many wonderful students who apply and the positions are limited, but please note there are many other leadership roles available to our Year 6 students next year. Some roles include house captains, library monitors, Kinder buddies and peer tutors.

Our Year 6 students are still looking for donations of 'McDonald's Happy Meal' style toys to use as prizes for their Mini Fete. All teachers are collecting these in their classrooms or students can bring donations to the container stored between S3B and S3H.



Until next time, take care

Kellie Balloch on behalf of the Stage 3 team.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Back by popular demand - The Rotary Club of Ryde Inc. proudly presents...

2025 CIRCUS QUIRKUS

New Circus Quirkus Shows, featuring world-class acts performing astonishing illusions, interactive magic, circus and comedy. Providing relaxed theatre performances for children, young adults and families.

Enjoy the "live performance" experience with a casual attitude to audience noise and movement in an accessible and inclusive environment, where you are welcomed and free to be yourself without restriction or judgement.

One hour shows. Suitable for all ages and accessible for people...

- with diverse abilities and backgrounds (wheelchair accessible)
- who might require a more flexible and inclusive environment when attending the theatre (sensory-friendly).
- who are facing hardship.
- are without access or opportunity to live theatre.

***Featuring moving and flashing lights, and upbeat, sometimes dramatic music.**

Scan the QR Code to visit the shows website and watch highlights from previous shows...



ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY , including parent, sibling and carer tickets. Thanks to sponsorship from local businesses.

***Bookings from schools, organisations, carers and families are all welcome.**

BLACKTOWN WORKERS CLUB - DIAMOND SHOWROOM 55 Campbell Street, Blacktown NSW	
SHOW DATE	SHOWTIME
MONDAY, 10 TH NOVEMBER 2025	4.00 PM

To book your free tickets, please email your name and ticket numbers to...

meredithnewman@showintent.com.au
or call / text 0404-367-782