Dear Parents and Friends,

**State Swimming**
Emily was successful at the Regional Swimming Carnival last week at Maitland and has now progressed to State Swimming at Homebush on 10 April. Emily will compete in 50m junior back-stroke. Best of luck and well done Emily—Black Hill Public School is very proud of your fine effort.

**Book Fair**
We are planning our annual book fair for Friday, 11 April. This is the last day of term. We already have Easter Hat Parade and ANZAC service on that day so it will be a great afternoon to buy some books as well.

The book fair is an opportunity for families to buy quality books for children or others. It is also a good alternative to chocolate as a gift for Easter.

The books are provided by McDonald Booksellers, High Street, Maitland, a long established and respected bookshop. The school receives a percentage of the sales in books for the library.

The book fair will be open all day on Friday, 11 April, closing at 2.00pm, no sales after that time.

**School Council and P&C Meetings**
The School Council will meet next Tuesday evening, 18 March at 6.00pm.

The P&C AGM will follow at 7.00pm.

**Lower Hunter**

**CIVICS & CITIZENSHIP – CONSIDERATION**

Consideration is being thoughtful of people and their feelings. It is paying attention to what others like and don’t like, then doing things that bring happiness.

**Small Schools Athletics Carnival**

**Wednesday, 26 March**
The Lower Hunter Small Schools Athletics Carnival will be held at the Fred Harvey Sports Complex at Woodberry on Wednesday 26 March. Kindly complete and return the attached permission note to the school mail box by Friday 21 March. Transport will be by private arrangements. Please indicate on the note if your child/ren require transport.

Students are required to arrive by 8.45am, ready to be placed into groups with events commencing promptly at 9.00am. All students in year 2 who will turn 8 this year and students in years 3-6 are expected to attend, except in the case of illness,
as it is a normal school day.

Students are required to wear full sport uniform including hats. Sunscreen is a must, even if it is overcast as the sun’s UV rays are emitted and reflected from cloud, intensifying their potential to damage skin. Fully enclosed shoes must be worn at all times.

Please note that the carnival is for students in year 2 who are turning 8 this year and students in years 3-6 only. Kindergarten, Year 1 and those year 2 students who do not turn 8 this year will remain at school.

**Book Club**

Book Club orders close this Friday, 14 March. Completed order forms with full correct payment (cash, cheque or online payment details) should be placed in the school mail box. Cheques must be made payable to Scholastic Australia. No late orders accepted.

**Paint Shirts**

Could everyone in Kindergarten please bring in an old shirt to wear as a coverall for painting.

**Easter Raffle**

Easter Raffle fundraiser is here! For the new families, every year the P&C runs an Easter raffle. The success is heavily reliant on generous chocolate donations and every family being involved by selling their tickets (attached to todays newsletter). Easter goodies required are eggs, rabbits etc (all sizes appreciated) for us to create our own gift baskets. You can place your donations in the boxes provided in the sick bay. The more chocolates we receive, the more prizes we can make! Please have donations in by Monday, 7 April to allow time to assemble the prizes. Tickets sell for 50c each or 3 for $1.00 and we ask that all tickets and money please be returned to the school mail box by Wednesday, 9 April. The draw is Friday, 11 April after the Easter Hat Parade. If you would like more tickets, they will be available at the office or you can ring/text me and I can organise to send them home with your child.

Each book has 30 tickets and makes $10 (if selling 3 for $1.00). We are hoping each family can sell at least two books this year, aiming to raise approximately $1000 towards resources for our children! **THERE WILL BE A CHOCOLATE PRIZE FOR THE FAMILY WHO SELLS THE MOST TICKETS!** Good luck!

Don’t forget we need the actual baskets for the prizes and usually have enough from donations of any unused baskets/boxes you already may have hiding in a cupboard (tea cup to dinner place size as a guide)...even the coloured boxes/buckets you get flowers in or metal baskets from bath packs etc. would be great! Any questions, feel free to contact me. Thanks, Melinda. M0407 662 961, H49303291

**P&C Annual Membership**

There are still a number of families who have not paid their P&C membership. It is only $5 per family and covers our insurance costs for the volunteers involved in P&C run events at the school. It also allows you to vote at the AGM. We would love everyone to pay before the AGM next week.

$5.00 ENCLOSED FOR P&C MEMBERSHIP

Family Name ___________________________

**P&C AGM**

The annual General Meeting of the Black Hill Public School P&C Association will be held on Tuesday, 18 March 2014 at 7.00pm in the staff room. All are welcome to attend. Voting will take place for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee. If you wish to vote in these elections, or be nominated to these positions, you must be a financial member of the Association (i.e., have paid your annual $5 membership fee). Our regular general meeting of the P&C will take place immediately afterwards.

**Stay and Play**

It was wonderful to see so many families stay after school on Thursday for our first “Stay and Play”. It seemed everyone had a great time! We will host another on Friday, 28 March. Hope to see you there!
Pie and Lamington Fundraiser

It is time for our Pie and Lamington drive. There is a great selection of pies, slices and lamingtons so please pass your order forms around to your family and friends as all money raised supports the school. Your orders and correct payment need to be returned to school by Friday, 4 April and the orders will be ready for pick up on Friday, 11 April. This is the last day of term before Easter and the school holidays so fill your freezer!

Assembly Report 7 March 2014

Miss Gardoll’s Awards
- Merit: Odin
- Literacy Award: Julian
- Numeracy Award: Grace
- Creative Arts Award: Emma
- Quality Work Award: Luella

Mr Braye’s Awards
- Merit: Abby
- Literacy Award: Tallulah
- Numeracy Award: Chloe
- Creative Arts Award: Hunter
- Quality Work Award: Kodi

Mrs Strickland’s Awards
- Merit: Jayden A.
- Literacy Award: Leytton
- Numeracy Award: Jessica
- Creative Arts Award: Jacob
- Quality Work Award: Lara

Mrs Adamthwaite’s Awards
- Merit Award: Remy
- Literacy Award: Siannie
- Numeracy Award: Lachlan
- Creative Arts Award: Darci
- Quality Work Award: Kirralee
Out of Uniform Day
Friday week 8 it will be
out of uniform day. It is a
gold coin donation to raise
money for the Papua New
Guinea water tank.

When sexuality is the question...

interrelate
has the
answers!

Interrelate is a specialist organisation
with over 83 years experience teaching
sexuality education in NSW schools.
Interrelate educators are highly trained
and skilful presenters.

The topic of sexuality will be handled with sensitivity,
openness and humour. The programs offer an interactive
approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual
materials, discussion and games. A range of books on
sexuality education and parenting will be for sale.

Evening programs provide age-specific
sessions of about one hour’s duration.

Interrelate will be offering the program at

- Primary 1 session
- Primary 2 session

informative
entertaining
family focused
designed to encourage
parent/child discussion

* Keep a look out for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content!

interrelate  Strengthening family relationships ... since 1926
Meeting Opened – 7.06 pm
Minutes taken by – Nicole Dobbins

Present – Karen Stevenson(KS), Brian Adamthwaite(BA), Nicole Dobbins(ND), Amanda Single(AS) , TJ Lovasz (TJL), Matt Braye (MB), Michelle Jacobs(MJ), Tracey Thomas (TT), Louise Kozary(LK), Deb Walter (DebW), Debbie Adamthwaite (DA), Miss Gardoll

Apologies – Melinda McCulloch (MMc)

Acceptance of previous minutes (December 2013 meeting) – Minutes accepted KS , Seconded MB.

Business arising –
Discussion of proposal by the Education Department to abolish role of teaching principal & admin staff and merge smaller schools with a larger local school from 2016.
Action – KS to draft a letter to the Minister and Director General to oppose proposal the proposal moved KS, Seconded DebW.

Copy of P&C Minutes to be attached to the Newsletter the week before the P&C meeting
Action - ND to remind office to place copy of minutes in the newsletter

2011 gift to school needs a plaque for the table. Quote is $200. KS moved that MJ will get quotes and is authorised to spend lowest quote. Seconded BA
Action - MJ to get a quote for another plaque for the lockers (2013 Yr 6 ) present

Correspondence (ND) –
Uniform catalogues given to MJ to be given to Deanne Wicks, 3 copies of P&C magazine distributed at meeting, Copy of illuminated drink bottles Tax Invoice given to DebW, Canteen magazines to LK.

Principals report (BA) – see attached report
Brief summary – 86 students presently enrolled – new record. Improvements –maintenance has been completed ($6000) from the Department. AASC – funding will continue for another 12months, Teacher’s aid will be in the Kindy room Mon-Thursday 9am-11am to assist. $2000 of reading resources has been ordered. Kitchen program commences this week. iPads have been ordered. Were ordered last year but due to slow new system the order has only just been received by Apple. Feedback from the Presentation night - unanimous that the new venue is a spacious and comfortable improvement. This year the carpark will be locked and parking will be on the street, decision still to be made as to food/drinks on the night and cleaning up after. Direct deposit for payment of school fees etc has not yet been set up and is unlikely to be working for some time.

President’s report (KS) – Nil

Fundraising report (TJL) – see attached report
No date as yet for the next Fundraising meeting. Report of planned dates for 2014 fundraising as follows -
Entertainment books - March 30
Easter raffle – April 11
Thompson’s pies arrive – April 11
Mother’s Day Stall - May9
Chocolates arrive - May 16
Father’s Day breakfast – Sept 5
Other planned activities – fun run team, Bunnings bbq, shopping trip, additional pie drives. Accepted - BA, MB seconded

Treasurer’s report (DebW) – see attached reports – Oct to Dec 2013 & Jan 2014
October - closing balance $16198.40
November - pie drive + hot lunches - Balance $16633.25. Placed term deposit
NOTE - Bank statements reflect a couple of errors from the bank – the term deposit was taken by the bank in 2 parts (5 November and 15 November) as is shown on bank statements and was placed (eventually) on term deposit.
December - expenses for presentation night, hot lunches, water bottles. Treasurer’s report reflects the term deposit Balance $6125.98 (term deposit is $10000)
Action - KS will put a notice in the newsletter and on the Facebook page. MJ suggested a text be sent out before the AGM.

Cooking program – Area Health Grant will be sufficient money for the ingredients and to replace some needed items. At this stage DA is coordinating.

Action - KS – will add to the newsletter we still need a volunteer to coordinate the cooking program

KS asked BA do any invoices need to be raised for the P&C to pay? BA suggested $2000 for the reading materials. School will pay for iPads. Blue board needs to be purchased for the bottom classroom. P&C to pay for the cost of the materials & then some parents volunteer to mount the board. KS moved P&C pay for the materials, MJ 2nded. Unanimously agreed.

Community Events – BA suggested a community family fun event for the parents during the disco. A lot of out of area families now. Discos will be early term 2, and term 3 then squiddige for term 4.

Action - KS – After school play date will be arranged

LK – Stockland Greenhills is doing community grants. Information passed to TJL.

BA - Education trust – discussion in school council meeting that definitions be added and changes be made to the trust to define such roles as the Principal, P&C, this school - being Black Hill etc. Currently being reviewed and will be further discussed at a later date. Will future proof and protect Black Hill School if changes are made in the future.

TJL – receiving lots of emails re grants and applying for lots of grants at the moment.

AS - Scholastic book club comes monthly during the school term. Agreed one per term will be sufficient – in the middle.

DA – Activities planned for 2014 - - Camp in June, Cameron Steltzer coming and Leadership skills training for Yr6.

Next meeting will be AGM – Tuesday 18th March
BLACK HILL SCHOOL : THOMPSON'S PIE & CAKE FUNDRAISING ORDER

| Name | Family Plain Pie $6.50 | Family Bacon & Cheese Pie $7.50 | Family Steak & Kidney Pie $7.60 | Family Mornay Chicken & Veg $8.50 | Family Quiche $8.50 | Plain Pies: 6pk $10.00 | Bacon & Cheese Pies: 6pk $11.50 | Sausage Roll: 6pk $7.00 | Party Custard Tart: 6pk $7.00 | Party Caramel Tarts: 6pk $7.00 | Apple Slice: 6pk $6.00 | Vanilla Slice: 6pk $6.00 | Finger Buns: 6pk $6.00 | Brownie Slice: 6pk $6.00 | Choc Chip Muffins: 6pk $6.50 | Cream Lamingtons: 12pk $10.00 | Plain Lamingtons: 12pk $10.00 | Total Items | Total $: |
|------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|

Order form and Money to be returned to School by: FRIDAY APRIL 4th

Students Name & Class:

Parent / Contact Name & Number:

Pie Drive Collection Date: FRIDAY APRIL 11th : Last day of Term 1

* All pies, sausage rolls and lamingtons can be frozen for up to 6 months unfortunately vanilla slices and custard tarts do NOT freeze* as advised by Thompsons Pies