Dear Parents and Friends,

Compulsory School Attendance
Please see attached information for parents regarding the Department of Education & Communities new Attendance Policy.

Scholastic Book Club
Each family has received book club orders today. Orders need to be returned with full correct payment by Friday, 13 March. If you would like to order and pay online using the LOOP method (details on the order form) then select “all classes” as your child’s “year level”.

Please do not include this order with any other payments as they are collected by a volunteer and processed off site.

Scholarship Book Club

Pie and Lamington Fundraiser
It’s time again for our Pie and Lamington drive so it’s a great time to fill the freezer ready for Easter and school holidays. 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 the school by Wednesday, 18 March and the orders will be ready to pick up from school by Thursday, 26 March. Please make any

Civics & Citizenship Theme—Caring
Caring people make others feel less alone. They help when people feel sick or are hurt. They are concerned and attentive.

cheques payable to Black Hill Public School P&C Association. Please return your order separately to any other payments as these are collected by a volunteer and processed away from the school.

P&C AGM
The Annual General Meeting of the Black Hill Parents and Citizens Association will be held in the school staff room on Tuesday, 17 March 2015 at 7.00pm. All office bearers for 2015 will be elected. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to vote for office bearers, please ensure you are a paying member of the P&C (annual membership is $5.00 per family). The regular monthly P&C meeting will be held immediately afterwards.

Uniform Orders
Orders are open for uniforms. This is an opportune time to order items for winter. P&C does not hold stocks of winter items. An order form is attached. Please complete and return with full correct payment to the school mail box by next Friday, 13 March. Once again, please keep the order separate to other payments as these are also taken off site for processing by volunteers.
Stay and Play

The P&C are hosting another Stay and Play. This time on a Wednesday in the hope more people can come. It’s a great opportunity for new families to get to know us all, and for us to get to know you! Bring a small plate of afternoon tea to share (chips, biccies, fruit etc). From 3pm, Wed 18 March. As with last time, older kids with scooters/ skateboards etc will play on the concrete at the front of the school, ensuring safety for little kids to play on the top basketball court. Please call Karen if you have any questions: 0414 807 053.

Sausage Sizzle
Friday 20 February
Fiona Mallard, Gwenda Duck
Sizzle $1.50 Poppers $1.00 Up’n’Go $1.50

If you are interested in playing SOCCER for fun on Saturday mornings
BERESFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB still has some vacancies for 5 to 11 year olds
For further information call Sue 4966 4018
all 5 – 7 year olds receive shin pads and ball

FRIDAY TIE DAY

Friday 13 MARCH Year 6 would like to have FRIDAY TIE DAY
Gold coin donation
Wear your funniest tie with your school uniform
There will be a prize for the funniest tie for each class.
**Assembly Report 27 February 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miss Gardoll's Awards</th>
<th>Merit</th>
<th>Hamish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Isabelle</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mackenzie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Timothy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Work Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Matilda</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mr Bray’s Awards</th>
<th>Merit</th>
<th>Maddy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooper J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Odin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Noah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Work Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooper W.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mrs Strickland’s Awards</th>
<th>Merit</th>
<th>Kaylah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Makayla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ben</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Work Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Indianna</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mrs Adamthwaite’s Awards</th>
<th>Merit</th>
<th>Lachlan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Danny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alysha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lucas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Work Award</td>
<td></td>
<td>Abigail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Prefect’s Report**

Hope everyone has a good weekend.

**Prefect’s Awards**

Tallulah

**House Cup**

**Worimi**

**Special Awards**

Kyle, Julian
Dear parents/carers of Year 4, 5 and 6 students,

As I hope you are aware by now, the Black Hill Educational Trust applications are open for submissions. I have taken the liberty, on behalf of the Black Hill P&C Association, to submit an application requesting some fee subsidies for the upcoming Year 4/5/6 Camp to Point Wollstonecraft.

The submission requests are for:

- a fee subsidy of $100 for the second child in the family where two children from the same family are attending camp. This will reduce the family's camp fees from a total of $590 to $490.

- or a subsidy for ALL students camp fees for up to $100 per student.

As per the preamble on the applications, the committee is free to consider either fully funding or partially funding this request. If the request is fully funded (at $100 per student), this will be at a cost of $3200, and will result in a significant saving to Families with senior students.

Please let me know ASAP if you do NOT wish to be included in the submission.

I will let you know as quickly as possible after the Trustees have notified me of the decision (likely to be the end of March).

Please feel free to talk to me if you have any questions.

Karen Stevenson

(President, Black Hill P&C)

0414 807 053
**Black Hill Public School**

**UNIFORM ORDER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pale blue polo shirt with embroidered emblem, short sleeves</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straight leg tracksuit pants – royal blue (fleecy)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open hem sweat (Sloppy Joe, no waist band) - royal blue with embroidered emblem</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polar fleece jacket—royal blue with embroidered emblem</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16</td>
<td>$42.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports shirt—gold, blue striped collar, embroidered emblem</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14</td>
<td>$23.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skorts—royal blue</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys royal blue, zip pocket shorts</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slouch hats—royal blue</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sizes S-54cm, M-56cm, L-58cm, XL-60cm</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embroidered School Emblem</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name: ___________________________ Class: _________  Contact Phone __________________

Kindly complete & return with full correct payment to the school mail box by Friday, 13 March 2015.

Please make all cheques payable to **Black Hill P&C Association**.

For further enquiries, please phone Deanne on 0402 222 141.
**Price List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tie Dye Bags</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Print Bags</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie Dye and Indigenous Print Pencil Cases</td>
<td>$5 &amp; $6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie Dye T - Shirts</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie Dye Sarongs</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cushions - per set of 2</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headbands</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrunchies</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Rings</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewellery - Earrings/Bracelets/Anklets</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kid's Craft Bags</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORROBOREE**

The Woodberry Red Belly Blacks Inc would like to invite you to our 2015 Corroboree. There will be a FREE dinner provided. Jumping castle for the kids, a stall selling items from our Mums and Bubs sewing group, and dancers showcasing our Culture. There will also be activities for the kids.

**DATE**
Thursday 5th March 2015

**VENUE**
Woodberry Public School

**TIME**
5pm-8:30pm

Everyone is welcome to attend

In order for these events to continue a gold coin donation would be very much appreciated.

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Items can be purchased at the Corroboree and also orders will be taken on the night.
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team
T 131 536

Learning and Engagement
Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships
T 9244 5129
www.dec.nsw.gov.au
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NSW Department of Education and Communities
# BLACK HILL SCHOOL: THOMPSON'S PIE & CAKE FUNDRAISING ORDER

| Name | Family Plain Meat Pie $6.50 | Family Tomato & Onion Pie $7.50 | Family Bacon & Cheese Pie $7.50 | Family Chunky Steak Pie $7.50 | Family Mon. Chicken & Veg $8.50 | Plain Pies Pkt 6 $10.00 | Chunky Steak Pies Pkt 6 $11.00 | Sausage Roll Pkt 6 $7.00 | Party Carrot Slice Pkt 6 $6.00 | Party Caramel Tarts Pkt 6 $7.00 | Apple Slice Pkt 6 $6.00 | Vanilla Slice Pkt 6 $6.00 | Finger Bun Pkt 6 $6.00 | Brownie Slice Pkt 6 $6.00 | Choc-Chip Muffins Pkt 6 $6.50 | Rocky Road Slice Pkt 6 $10.00 | Cream Lamingtons Pkt 12 $10.00 | Plain Lamingtons Pkt 12 $10.00 | Total Items | Total $: |
|------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|

Orders & correct money to be returned to School by: WEDNESDAY 18th March

**Please make any cheques out to Black Hill Public School P & C Association**

Students Name & Class: Contact Name & Ph Number:

**Pie Drive Collection Date: THURSDAY 26th March**

* 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
Mining under Blackhill Road
Notice of potential impact requiring repairs

Abel Underground Mine wishes to advise that mining in the Upper Donaldson Seam is planned to pass under a section of Blackhill Road from early January 2015 for a period of approximately 2 months.

A Risk Assessment was held in July 2013 to assess the risks associated with mining under Blackhill Road. A Management plan to control the impacts from Mining under Blackhill Road has been developed in consultation with Cessnock City Council, The Mine Subsidence Board, The Department of Trade and Investment and representatives from the local community.

As per the Management Plan, traffic management will include:
• 60km/hour speed limit through the section of road that will be potentially impacted
• A road monitoring crew will be in place 24/7 with personnel on standby to carry out repairs as required and
• Lighting plants and variable message boards will be in place through the night.

Mining will cause the road surface to subside along a 600m section of Blackhill Road located approximately 2.2km west of Blackhill Primary School. The extent of the affected part of the road will be sign posted for identification. Monitoring and temporary repairs to the road are expected to take around 2 months depending on the progress of mining and weather.

Abel Underground Mine will continue to work with the Cessnock City Council, the local community and the Mine Subsidence Board to ensure the road remains in a safe and serviceable condition with minimal inconvenience to the public.

For more information please contact:
Phillip Brown
Environment & Community Manager
T: 1800 111 271

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Hunter Animal Rescue Inc.
9TH ANNUAL PETS PICNIC
10AM TO 3PM SUNDAY 15 MARCH
at Speers Point Park

FREE Family Event
FUN FOR ALL AGES
• BBQ
• Prizes
• Raffles
• Exhibitors
• Competitions
• Market Stalls
• Kids Entertainment
• Dogs Welcome (On Leads)

Proudly Sponsored by:
PETquarters

For more information go to www.hunteranimalrescue.com.au