Dear parents,

**NRL Players Visited GPS this week.** The players, from Penrith Panthers spoke to a combined Yrs 3-6 assembly about safe, respectful interactions with one another, including talking about how to respond to bullying. They spoke about the need for friends to support victims of bullying and to report any instances they see that they think could be examples of bullying. Our three visitors were extremely pleased with the students’ attention and their superb manners. Thank you to all of the students and teachers involved.

**An Exciting Initiative – Peer Support** I am very pleased to report that Miss Fitzgerald will be undertaking training and coordinating a program of peer support at GPS. The program will take some time to fully introduce but research and experience has shown that the program has been an awesome success in many, many schools.

**Student Behaviour** – Student behaviour has been really good thus far, this year. The students have been living our safe, respectful learner values in nearly all cases. Congratulations to all students!

**Playgroup has begun for 2013.** Miss Rox was very pleased to see a number of the ‘old faces’ return, along with some new children (some of whom will be the first of their family at Glendenning PS).

**Attendance** – Just a reminder. Miss Rox had her first meeting with the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) this morning. Overall, the vast majority of students arrive at school, every day, by 9.00am. To all of these students we say thank you as their punctuality allows their classes to start on time and begin learning asap. Regrettably, we now have a small number of students that the HSLO will be monitoring to ensure that they come to school regularly and on time.

**The Annual Swimming Carnival** – By the time this newsletter is read, our annual swimming carnival will be over for this year. We hope all students enjoyed their time at the pool and my special appreciation goes to Mr Sundstrom and Mr Graham as coordinators, to all of the teachers and also to the very helpful parents who volunteered their support on the day. We will be carrying out a very special review of our annual swimming carnival in the next week or so. It has been very difficult to get students to attend this event and this year’s attendance was our lowest ever. I have contacted a number of local primary schools and many of them take ONLY their competitive swimmers and combine with other schools. This cuts costs to families and allows those students who are not competitive to stay at school and continue their normal programs. In Glendenning’s case, we also seem to have more and more students who are non-swimmers and, at their parents’ requests do not attend learn-to-swim classes. Whilst changing the swimming carnival to be for competitive swimmers only is a major change, the increasing lack of swimming ability in our student group is very concerning. As soon as our evaluation is complete, we will post the findings on our school website.

**Student Goal-Setting Conferences** Overall, these were very well attended. Mrs Rowe is developing a survey to gather the ideas of parents to see how we can make these more effective. If you were unable to attend, you will receive a special letter.

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**Coming Events**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>Kinder - Year 2 Assembly</td>
<td>2.00-3.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Years 3-6 - Assembly</td>
<td>2.00-3.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>PSSA Summer Sport commences - pay in Library</td>
<td>8.30-9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Payment due for Kindergarten Excursion</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Payment due for Jollybops Science Show</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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Blacktown Girls High School

Year 7 2014 Information Evening

Parents with daughters in years 5 and 6 are invited to attend the Year 7 2014 Information Evening on Wednesday 6th March. It will be held in the School Library at 7pm.

Please have a look at the school’s website, www.blacktowngh.schools.nsw.edu.au/ for additional information about the school, including the selective classes.

RSVP: Monday 4th March
9831 7577 (phone) 9831 7838 (fax)
rebecca.simm@det.nsw.edu.au

Blacktown Boys’ High School

cordially invites

Years 5 and 6 Parents and sons
to the

Year 7 2014 Information Evening

on

Wednesday, 6 March, 2013

at

6.00pm – 7.00pm
Blacktown Boys’ High School Library
Fifth Avenue
Blacktown

- Explore the best choice for your son’s future.
- Consider the benefits of a boys’ school, which values learning, respect and safety.
- Gifted and Talented Program information available.
- Selective High School admission test information.
  (Blacktown Boys’ is a partially selective high school)
- Meet and mingle with teachers, staff and other students.

For further information please contact the school:
Phone: 9622 1555 Fax: 9331 2282
Email: blacktownb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.blacktownb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

We look forward to seeing you.
Zumba Fitness classes
Join the party
ROOTY HILL SCHOOL OF ARTS
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www.nulookdance.com
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Party yourself into shape, have fun, get fit. No more excuses, come and join us in this latin based dance fitness program guaranteed to burn lots of calories whilst you move to the exotic sounds of various rhythms including salsa, hip hop, reggaeton, cumbia.
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First visit free with this ad
Lyndaz

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All sewing work made-to-measure and alterations undertaken.
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  Casual day wear and Children’s wear
  School uniforms and School formals
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  Mob: 0423 663 670
  Website: www.lyndaz.com.au
  www.lyndaz.com

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- Aqua Aerobics
- Personal Training
- Nutrition Planning

Contact Kathryn Wahby
Ph: 0422 264 970
E: kathryn@b2bpt.com.au
W: www.b2bpt.com.au
**REMINDERS**

**MESSAGES REGARDING LATE COLLECTION OF STUDENT**
Please phone **before 2.30pm** with any messages if you will be late picking up your child.

**SCHOOL CANTEEN**
The canteen operates on Monday to Friday each week.
Any payments or orders for the canteen should be taken directly to the canteen.

**LUNCHES**
If parents need to bring lunches to school after 9.00am, we would ask that you wait until 11.15am, when you will be able to gain a pass to your child’s class and then be able to take the lunch to your child.

**EARLY LEAVERS**
When signing children out early of an afternoon, for appointments etc, parents are asked to do so **before 2.45pm**. Students will not be signed out after this time.

**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS 2012**
Mondays: 8.30am to 9.00am
Fridays: 8.30am to 9.30am

**SCHOOL CAR PARK**
Parents are reminded that the school car park is for STAFF PARKING ONLY.
Parents are asked not to drop children off in the car park, park in or walk through the car park.
There is a gate near the administration office for pedestrian access.

**PAYMENTS**
When sending payments to school please ensure the CORRECT AMOUNT of money is enclosed in a separate envelope for each activity. (If more than one activity is placed in an envelope your child may miss out on participating).
Clearly mark each envelope with:
- your child/children’s name
- your child/children’s class
- name of activity – (one activity per envelope) & please put the permission note/s inside the envelope.

Please **endeavour to make payments before the due date** as paying late may result in your child missing an activity. If for any reason you are unable to pay on time, please contact the school before the due date.
All money is to be deposited in the payment slot in the door at the Admin Office.
If additional envelopes are required, they are available at a cost of 20cents each.
When sending payments to school, (for excursion, PSSA etc) please ensure Australian coins ONLY are sent. We are unable to accept foreign currency. Please DO NOT use school payment envelopes for anything other than to make a payment.