Congratulations to the School Swimming Team who are once again Botany Bay Champions. A full report will be in the Week 8 Newsletter. The following students have been successful gaining selection in Botany Bay teams: Luca, Kyron—Rugby League Dunja—Tennis Renee—Girls Football

Student Information Sheets
Today all students have been given a Student Information note for you to check. Please understand that these are auto generated at the start of year. Quite often contact details change and the office need to have up to date records in case there is a need to contact you. Please complete and return the sheets as soon as possible to the class teacher. Thank you if you have already let the office know of any changes.

Voluntary Contributions
Today all families will receive a note seeking your support through the payment of the school contribution. The funds are used directly to enhance the outstanding Teaching and Learning programs that provide the foundation of this great school. Please return in the envelope provided.

Dogs in schools
I have a dog, as do many of the staff, and I appreciate the benefits that they bring to a family. However, with 750+ children at our school, not all children feel safe around dogs. Please do not bring your dogs onto the school grounds.

Payments
We ask that all payments and notes are handed to the class teachers at the start of the day and not handed to the office. Please note that the Office does not have any cash and the staff cannot provide change to place in the envelopes. No money should be sent in on a Friday.

P&C Meeting
The next P&C Meeting will be held Wed 11 March, commencing at 7:00pm in the Staffroom. At this meeting I will discuss Brighton’s 2015 - 2017 School Plan and present the School’s 3 Strategic Directions. Parents will have an opportunity to provide input into how the implementation will proceed.

P&C Disco
This is scheduled for Friday 13th March starting at 5:00pm. I know that any assistance that you can give on the night would be really appreciated. Please contact Fatima, Melissa or Noelle.

Book Club
Please do not send cash or cheques to pay for Book Club. Payments must be made on line.

Excess Furniture
The school has some excess furniture, students tables and chairs, that we are happy to let go. Mr Nat will have the furniture in the South Playground tomorrow, Wednesday, morning from about 8:30am. Please note that the school will not be able to deliver the furniture. You will need to make your own arrangements to get the furniture home.

Parent Reading Seminar
There will be a reading seminar for parents K-2 on Tuesday 10 March in the Library starting at 6:00pm. You must RSVP as spaces are limited and will be allocated as the RSVPs are received.

Thank you to Endeavour High School who have partnered with us to construct and install some additional seating. Miss Bodnar did a great job organising this for the school.

Ian Power
Classes
Instruction groups (classes) are formed each year based upon sound educational practice and research. Some classes may be all one grade while others may be multi-age classes. Extensive research, samples of which are available, indicate that there is no detrimental effect on children placed in such groupings. Our practice is to form classes that are as homogenous as possible in terms of gender, academic ability and social skills.

State schools are staffed on the total school population using a formula which is based on a specified teacher/student ratio that varies with the age of the children i.e. the Kindergarten ratio is lower than Year 6.

Communication
We encourage open dialogue at all times. Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school to discuss any issue or concern. Information regarding school activities is sent home as required and a regular newsletter is produced each fortnight. P&C meetings are another avenue for parents to raise issues concerning the general nature of the school.

Competitions
Children in Yr3-6 may participate in the ICAS competitions. These competitions, run by the Educational Testing Centre, are national competitions. A fee is payable and a comprehensive analysis of the results is given for each student. This is an optional extra but we urge all students to participate.

Concerns
Concerns about individual children should be directed to the class teacher, deputy or the principal. Please ask your child’s teacher, or teacher involved for an appointment.

Counsellor
Our school counsellor assists classroom teachers to identify students with specific needs and develop strategies to overcome the diagnosed difficulties. In supporting students, the counsellor will also provide advice to parents and teachers as appropriate.

Court Orders
The school must be informed if there are any current court orders regarding access and custody of children. Any such information is treated with the utmost confidence and is only accessible on a need to know basis.

CPR
Members of staff are annually trained in CPR. It is Government policy that all overnight excursions are accompanied by a member of staff who has current CPR qualifications.

Crunch and Sip
Most classes have a Crunch and Sip time at 10:00am. This allows the students to eat some fresh fruit or vegetables while they work.

BOOK FAIR
YEARS 3-6
We will be holding our first Scholastic Book Fair during Week 8, 17th-19th March. This fair is for our students in years 3-6. There is always a fantastic range of books to choose from. I’m sure there’ll be something for everyone. As well as providing an opportunity for our students to purchase books for themselves the Book Fair raises funds for our school.

A reminder that students who received a Scholastic Book Certificate last year on Presentation Day are able to ‘spend’ this at the Book Fair.

Happy reading,
Mrs Dellagiacoma
Teacher Librarian

McGrath
Your property is worth more with McGrath. If you would like an appraisal on your home and what is involved in achieving the best price please feel free to call your local agents.

George Panagopoulos
T 8558 7207 M 0414 454 000
E georgepana@mcgrath.com.au
BLSPS P&C NEWS

BREAKING NEWS: We will be holding a disco to raise money for the school on Friday 13 March! So dust off those dancing shoes, get the hair gel out and get down!! Entry fee is $2, with kids under 5 free. If you can’t dance, or the kids won’t let you dance we will have a few stalls that we need volunteers for so please sign up. We will pin a roster up outside the canteen in the coming days. Speaking of volunteers, a big thankyou and welcome to all the volunteers who have donated their time and energy to volunteering for the P&C. All efforts are greatly appreciated! We are always looking for new people to assist in the Uniform Room and Canteen so if you haven’t signed up and would like to help out please pop in and put your name on the volunteers list at either room. Currently the Uniform Room is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, but as of next week we will be opening only 2 days per week on Tuesdays and Fridays. We will extend the opening hours to 3 days a week in winter, at the beginning of Term 3. The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 March from 7pm in the Staff Room. All welcome.

Thank you
P&C

1/2G CLASS NEWS

1/2G have been enjoying learning about our new Bounce Back values. Each week we have learnt a new value and are trying hard to collect badges in each colour. We like listening to stories and talking during circle time about being responsible, courageous, respectful, cooperative and always doing our best.

Mrs Giovenco and 1/2G

5/6P CLASS NEWS

A class summary of our learning about Antarctica.

Over the last three weeks 5/6P has been learning about Antarctica during HSIE, Literacy and Art. We have started to learn about Antarctica’s environment, climate, the three Australian research bases and researchers such as Douglas Mawson and his tough expedition to Antarctica. Although Antarctica is not owned by one particular nation, Australian Antarctic Territory covers approximately 42% of Antarctica as a result of long associations with Antarctica. As the 5th largest continent, Antarctica is practically a desert because of its lack of rain and dry climate. It experiences 6 months of sunlight and 6 months of darkness as it only has 2 seasons. Antarctica’s temperature can drop to -80 degrees Celsius and contains 90% of the world’s ice. As a library research project 5/6P is now researching Antarctica’s flora and fauna. The following acrostic poem, submitted by Emmanuel, is an example of the creativity that our students are showing throughout this unit of work.

I - Icebergs float in icy seas
C - Covering their real size
E - Existing only at the poles
B - Blasting winds
E - Extreme cold
R - Rugged ridges
G - Gigantic ships of ice

Miss Froggatt

1/2T CLASS NEWS

1/2T have made a great start to learning in Term 1. Each student has been working hard to improve their Reading, Writing and Mathematics skills. We are all Striving for Five (Responsibility, Courage, Personal Best, Respect and Cooperation) and making great friends and good choices. Last week we started Home Reading (books change Monday, Wednesday and Friday) and every Wednesday we borrow 2 Library Books. The students are already doing quality work in their beautifully covered books. Computer time is great fun as we can all log into the computers and are enjoying learning about the Internet and Word. A highlight this term was Clean Up Australia Day held in Week 5. Each student proudly helped keep the school surroundings litter free. We talked about bringing in less rubbish with our lunches and putting rubbish straight into the bin. We looked at and talked about the general waste bins and the recycling bins. There is a lot to remember in a school week and everyone in 1/2T is learning how to become more responsible and independent.

Mrs Thompson
BOUNCE BACK UPDATE

All classes are well under way with the Bounce Back Program. Students have been learning about our School Values with a focus on Responsibility, Cooperation and Respect. This week’s K-2 and 3-6 assemblies will acknowledge those students demonstrating the value of RESPONSIBILITY.

Bounce Back in 1/2A
1/2A students are enjoying the Bounce Back activities. When asked how they demonstrate the values of Responsibility, Cooperation and Respect.

Arkie said: “I show responsibility and respect by sitting nicely on the floor, not talking when someone else is talking and listening to others. I am responsible because I help people. “

Ryan said: “I like to help others. I sit up straight and I try my best for Mr Allum.”
1/2A created this beautiful display to remind them of our ‘Strive for 5’ School Values.

Bounce Back in K Green
K Green have been having fun incorporating the Strive for 5 values in their Literacy sessions. Check out some of their work.

Mrs Williams
Deputy Principal/Bounce Back Coordinator

School of Music and Arts
Magic sounds offers piano and singing lessons at Brighton Le Sands Public School for kids in group classes. The classes are held each Tuesday and Friday at North Hall class room start at 3—5 pm
Take enrolments for TERM 1, 2015
All inquiries call at 0415 971 915 (Natalie)
E-mail: school@magicsounds.com.au
Info:www.magicsounds.com.au
Find us: www.facebook.com/magicsoundsedu

We’re on the Web
CHESS

This year Chess will be run by Ms McKenna, Mr Allum, Mrs Glastras and Mrs Mavros. All students from Years 2-6 are welcome to participate regardless of their ability. Tuition will be provided for those students who wish to learn or extend their skills. A cost of approximately $10 per term is required, as all students will be participating in the Oz Schools Chess Challenge. Chess club will be held on Wednesdays after eating lunch. Years 2-3 in Mr Allum’s room with Mr Allum and Mrs Glastras and Years 4-6 in Mrs Barker’s room with Ms McKenna and Mrs Mavros. Due to lunchtime rosters Chess Club cannot be held in the event of wet weather.

DEBATING

Debating this year will undergo an exciting change. Brighton Le Sands PS has proposed a new model of debating competition to our local schools. This new model will encourage a more “friendly” approach with students being encouraged to take a more in-depth learning approach rather than one that focuses purely on the competitive aspects which have been in place previously. Rockdale PS, Carlton South PS and Ramsgate PS will be joining us in the “friendlies” competition and debates will be held about 4 weeks apart. During this time students will be given the debating topic and will use the time to prepare for the debate. Thank you to Mrs Justine Williams for her organisation and sharing her vision with our school.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA

Last Friday 3/4M went up to the garden area to clean up as part of the school contribution to Clean up Australia Day. Enthusiasm was evident and we managed to pick up a great deal of rubbish especially around the back gate! After seeing all the rubbish that had collected we decided to try harder to keep our school clean!

What is Important to Us…

As part of the Bounce Back program students in 3/4 M were asked to write about what is important to them. The things they included were:

I value …

My family, my friends and my teddies (Lily)
My family, my friends, my pets (Jennet)
My family, my toys, my things (Gabriella)
My family, my life, technology (Leo)
My family, my friends, my teacher (Cassie)
My family, my friends, my toys and books (Liam)
My family, kindness and fun (Martha)
My family, my mum and my cousins (Felicity)
My family, my home, my things (Michael)