School Strategic Directions 2015

- Consistent, high quality student learning.
- Consistent, high quality teaching and leadership.
- Cultivate consistent, high quality collaborative processes within the Whitebridge Community of Schools to enhance the quality of teaching, learning & leadership.

What’s Happening This Week:

Week 3, Term 3

Mon 27 July - Book week/ Education Week begins
- Creative arts groups
- P&C Meeting

Tue 28 July - Scripture
- ICAS English Test

Wed 29 July - Book Fair
- Book Week Parade

Thurs 30 July - Learning Support Team

Fri 31 July - Assembly: Dance Group

P&C Meeting—TONIGHT! EVERYONE WELCOME!
Tonight is our first P&C Meeting for Term 3.

Meetings are held Week 3 and 7 of each term on a Monday evening at 7.00pm in the school library. We always love to see new parents in attendance so please feel welcome to come along.

Three-way Interviews

Last week our teachers conducted their three-way interviews and the staff would like to thank all the parents who took time to attend these interviews and support their child’s education.

If you were unable to attend an interview on the allocated days, and would like an interview, please contact the school office, by phone or email to arrange a suitable time.

Congratulations to Bryce Stace who received his Principal’s Award for sporting excellence, great getting along skills and effort in class.

National Tree Day

Our Stage 3 students helped celebrate National Tree Day last Thursday by helping to plant trees down in the Awabakal Nature Reserve. Teachers from the Awabakal Environmental Education Centre were there to help our students know how, and where to plant a range of different tree species. Well done Stage 3 for helping to keep Dudley green.
School Athletics Carnival
A wonderful day was had by all! We were very fortunate with the weather and it was wonderful to see how many parents came along to cheer the children on in their events.

Our students eagerly participated in their events and many new records were set for Dudley PS. We have listed all the new records that were set on the day. Macquarie House were the victorious house this year. Thank you to Stevie Adams and Jackie Winter for organising this very successful carnival. We would also like to extend a very heartfelt thanks to all of our wonderful parents, students and community members that helped before, during and after the event. We couldn’t have run the carnival without you. Congratulations to our age champions:

Age 5/6: Girls - Jessica Hitchcock; Boys - Eddie Grainger
Age 7: Girls - Sophia Romeo; Boys - Max Murray/ Zac Nugus
Age 8: Girls - Anna Cupitt; Boys - Toby Winter
Age 9: Girls - Matisse Murray; Boys - Jake Pappas
Age 10: Girls - Jemma Pollard; Boys - Jettson Hunt
Age 11: Girls - Bailee Pappas; Boys - Joseph Gillard
Age 12: Girls - Aarkey Kneen/Isabella Milajew/ Leah O’Hagan; Boys - Brayden Park

NEW ATHLETICS RECORDS FOR DUDLEY 2015

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Time/Distance</th>
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<tr>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Toby Winter</td>
<td>16.85sec</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jake Pappas</td>
<td>1.21m</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Brayden Park</td>
<td>1.35m</td>
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<td>Matisse Murray</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Isabelle Spruce</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Annika Ash</td>
<td>96cm</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Elsie Croal</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Maggie Croal</td>
<td>1.20m</td>
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Water Safety Program
Last Thursday our Kinders, Year 3 and Year 6 students completed a special water safety lesson “A Matter of Seconds” presented by Redhead lifesavers. This program is sponsored by Lake Macquarie Council and presents information on water safety issues essential for our students in preparation for the spring and summer ahead.

State Cross Country
Congratulations to Emmy Ormandy and Joseph Gillard who competed in the NSW State Cross Country Championships last week, finishing 17th and 14th respectively. Both students improved their results from last year at the same event. You have done your school, zone and region proud. Well done!
***************Camp Reminders***************

Our year 5/6 Canberra/Snow Excursion is fast approaching with students departing on Tuesday 25th August. The next instalment of $110 is due on 7th August. This is also the date that payments should be finalised. Please call the office ASAP if there are any issues.

- Year 3 Camp to Toukley—Instalment No. 2 of $40.00 is due on Friday 7th August.
- Year 4 Camp to Sydney— Instalment No. 3 of $70.00 is due on Friday, 21 August.

ALL MEDICAL NOTES FOR THESE CAMPS SHOULD BE RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

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Lost Property!
Parents please ensure that all your child’s clothing is clearly labelled with their name. We would also ask that parents please check that their child has only brought home uniform items that belong to them. We appreciate that it is very easy for our students to pick up someone else’s jumper, jacket, hat etc. by mistake. These items are very costly to replace and we would appreciate if everyone could do a quick check. If you find any items that don’t belong to your child, please return them to the school office.

Dudley Flipside Dancers
Meg Burton and Ruby Bickford have been dancing over the past month as part of the Flipside Dance Project’s Hunter Dance Ensemble. The girls have been working with accomplished choreographers and performed at the Hunter Dance Festival at the Griffith Duncan Theatre last week. Well done girls for all of your hard work with this dance project.

Silver & Bronze Awards Week 1

Congratulations to our Silver & Bronze Award students above from Week 1.

Long Service Leave
Mrs Hunt returned from Long Service Leave today and Mr Adams will return on Monday 3rd August. Thank you to Ms Reed and Mrs Tweed for working with 1H and 5/6H over the past weeks.

Netball Schools Cup
Congratulations to all of the students who attended the Netball Schools Cup last Wednesday 22nd July. By all reports, everyone had a lot of fun and as usual, our students displayed amazing sportsmanship at all times.

Principal’s Award - Week 2

Congratulations to Tristan Clinton-Muehr who received his Principal’s Award for academic excellence and outstanding sportsmanship.
From the Library...
This Wednesday is our Book Week Open Day. The theme is ‘Books Light Up Our World’.

Our Book Fair opens at 8am in the library with a great range of quality books for sale. At 12.20pm we will hold our Book Week Assembly in the quadrangle, where each class will parade in their costumes.

After the assembly parents and friends are invited to join our students for lunch in the playground. You may like to pack a picnic lunch. The canteen will provide complimentary tea/coffee and biscuits, and is providing preordered lunches – orders due by Monday 27.7.15.

PRC
Can you believe there are only 3 weeks left to complete the PRC. Here is a snapshot of participation so far:
Number of students registered: 228
Number of students finished and validated: 77
Number of students finished but who need to enter their logs on-line: 30
3 weeks to go! For those not finished, I know you can do it! Let’s get that reading done – and for any questions don’t hesitate to see Mrs Warren.

Upcoming Author & Illustrator Visit
We are excited to host visits from local author Jess Black and illustrator Liz Anelli in Week 6. Each class will attend both workshops.

Jess Black is the author of over 25 junior fiction books, and is the co-author of the popular Bindi Wildlife Adventures, RSPCA Tales and the Kaboom Kid.

Liz Anelli has illustrated many books, including Howzat!. She is also involved in the Renew Newcastle Project, with her first project in Newcastle being the huge illustrated map which covers the side of the Maritime Centre on Honeysuckle Wharf.

Find our more about these talented ladies at their websites: www.jessblack.com.au and www.lizanelli-illustration.com

More information about this day will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Book Covering
Thank you to the ladies who volunteered their time last term, and it’s very much appreciated that some have offered to continue this term. If you can spare an hour – book covering will continue in the library on Wednesdays from 2-3pm.

Congratulations to all of our Bronze and Silver Award recipients for Week 2.

Zone Public Speaking
The Zone Public Speaking Finals will be held in Week 5 in various locations within our zone. The dates and locations are:
STAGE 3 – Monday 10th Aug - BELMONT PS
STAGE 2 – Tuesday 11th Aug - FLORAVILLE PS
EARLY STAGE 1 – Thurs 13th August - MARKS POINT PS
STAGE 1 – Fri 14th August - VALENTINE PS

Our speakers need to be at the school at 9:30am. The session should finish at 10:45am.

Good luck Lachlan, Lily, Annika, Gabby, Jacob, Matisse, Elvie and Monet!
What’s Happening Next Week

Week 4, Term 3

Mon 3 August  - Mr Adams returns
- Premier’s Spelling Bee
- CAPA Groups

Tues 4 August  - Scripture/Ethics
- Premier’s Debate 10:30am
  (home)

Wed 5 August  - SRC Meeting

Thur 6 August  - Year 1-2 Oakvale Farm
  Excursion
- Learning Support Team
- Train-on debate 10:30am
  (home)

Fri 7 August  - Jeans for Genes Day
- Assembly Stage 3 Choir
- Train-on debate @ The
  Junction PS

Whitebridge High Robotics Course

Tate Coram-Parker, Jonah Finlay, Fletcher Foggo and Daisy Fenwick will take part in a short robotics course at Whitebridge High School on August 4th and 11th.

The course is run by staff at the high school and will focus on learning basic computer coding to control robots.

Jeans for Genes
Denim up and help cure childhood disease.

On Friday 7 August students are encouraged to denim-up for the day and go all-out with their outfits.

Sadly, barring accidents, genetic disease and birth defects are the leading cause of death in children under four.

Please show your support by wearing denim and donating a gold coin on the day.

Working with Children Check

If you have not already done so please bring in your “Working with Children” declarations.

Stop Press

Happy 50th Birthday to Mr John Costolo
Tuesday 28 July 2015

It is Dudley School’s turn to manage the canteen at the Zone Athletics Carnival this year.

The carnival is on the 12th and 13th of August at Baxter Oval, Marks Point.

There will be more choices on the lunch menu than there was at our carnival and there will be more students to cater for.

We will need quite a few volunteers for each of the two days.

This is a great fundraising opportunity and anyone who is able to help out on even one of the days for a couple of hours is most welcome - please do not stay away because you do not have a child in the carnival.

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Blackert Gymnastics Academy Has Moved!

Blackert Gymnastics Academy (BGA) is a successful and established gymnastics club that is fully affiliated with Gymnastics Australia. This year we have moved to a brand new, fully equipped, state of the art gymnastics centre and are offering a new and exciting range of programs. All programs are supervised by fully qualified gymnastics coaches and delivered in a fun, friendly and professional manner.

Kindergym: 18 months - 5 years
Recreational Gymnastics: 4 years+
Regional Levels Gymnastics: 7 years+
Tricks & Tumbles: 7 years+
Fitkids: 5 years+
Competitive Gymnastics: 5 years+ by assessment only

It’s Party Time!
Looking for a fun, easy, energetic and exciting place for your child’s birthday party? Then why not try one of our gymnastics parties! It’s the simple, stress free place for your child’s next birthday party.

School Holiday Fun!
We also have fun holiday programs to keep the children busy and active during every school holidays.
So why not come and give one of our programs or parties a try.

Where: 21 Templar Place Bennetts Green
Phone: 4948 0555
Email: blackertgymnastics@hotmail.com
Facebook: Like us on Facebook Blackert Gymnastics Academy
Website: www.blackert.gymnastics.org.au
There is a strong shift away from the old rule of “never talk to strangers” to “never go anywhere with anyone without asking permission first”. Catherine Gerhardt has 5 practical ways to help keep children safe in public.

Five ways to enforce the new rule:

1. Never go anywhere with anyone without asking permission first

This is the new fundamental rule to keeping kids safe. This rule must NEVER be broken. Regardless of if it is a school, public or family function, work with your children to ensure they always ask an adult for permission before going off with ANYONE.

Classic “what if” scenarios are worth their weight in gold. “You are at school and walking back to class after snack when a man comes up to you and says he is looking for his son’s class. He asks you to go with him to show him where it is. Do you go?”

Use tempting scenarios that are relevant to your child, such as puppies or toys, and discuss safe options and strategies in each case.

2. Your personal alarm

Children have an innate sensitive personal alarm, which we can teach them to use. This is their natural defence system. Work with them to identify and recognise the physical and environmental signals that cause their alarm to sound. Knowing that a rush of adrenalin will cause physiological changes in our bodies and activate our personal alarm is a good start. A child’s personal alarm will present the same physical and emotional cues that an adult’s will.

3. Trust your instincts

Have you ever gotten “the creeps”? Maybe it’s the idea of snakes, mice or heights that does it for your child. Encourage them to draw on how it feels when they get the creeps. Instincts are those feelings you get when something or someone makes you feel uncomfortable. Instincts are the physiological changes that happen to our body when our personal alarm goes off.

Physiological changes include noticing that you feel scared or nervous, your tummy feels upset and your heart is racing. And you know what? Our personal alarm is right 100% of the time.
... Keep children safe in public with these 5 ideas ...

4 Personal space vs. safety zone
Most kids understand the concept of personal space. How many times have we heard, “Stop invading my personal space!” Most people feel comfortable within an arm’s length of others. However, do your kids recognise their safety zone? Teach your child to be aware of their surroundings. If a “strange” person is too close, suggest they back away and maintain their safety zone. A safety zone is much bigger than your personal space – at least three giant steps bigger.

5 Safe places, safe people
There are times when a child must ask for help quickly and instinctively. We already know that not all strangers are bad, that most strangers will help a child who is lost or upset. It is situations that are safe, not places. Talk with your child and reinforce that he or she must ALWAYS use his or her skills with ALL people, including those presumed safe. Encourage your child to tell an adult they trust when someone or something has frightened them.

As parents we need to empower our children with self-confidence and trust in their ability to sense when something is just not right. It doesn’t matter if they can articulate it; they just have to feel it.

For more ideas to keep kids safe visit the Daniel Morcombe Foundation.

To find out more about Catherine Gerhardt’s great work about keeping kids safe online and offline visit Kidproofsafety.com.au

Catherine Gerhardt

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael’s NEW Parentingideas Club today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.