2016 Welcome Newsletter

I would like to again welcome everyone to Blaxcell Street Public School for the start of another fantastic year of learning. We have had an excellent start to the year already. Welcome to all our new kindergarten parents and students. For all parents, but particularly our new parents, if you do have any concerns, queries or issues please do not hesitate to talk with classroom teachers or our office staff. Throughout the term you will receive a great deal of information relating to your child and our school. Please ensure that you read all the information and seek any clarification.

Our teachers are committed to ensuring that your children achieve success. The teachers at Blaxcell Street Public School work extremely hard to support all students. The NSW Department of Education (NSW DoE) Quality Teaching model underpins all our teaching and learning programs. Research has shown that teachers who apply the Quality Teaching model in their classrooms can improve student outcomes and narrow achievement gaps. You can be assured that your children have access to dedicated and highly trained teachers to support their development.

Thank You
I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the staff for assisting in a highly organised and efficient start to the year. Many staff members gave up their holiday time to attend school and prepare for the year; this is greatly appreciated. This is another example of the dedication and commitment our staff have for our students. I would like to publicly acknowledge our General Assistant, Mr Neville Thorley for his tireless efforts over the past months. He has been an invaluable asset to our school and is highly committed to ensuring our students have an outstanding learning environment.

Attendance
Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

Parents are responsible for:
• enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the Board of Studies for home schooling
• ensuring that their children attend school regularly
• explaining the absences of their children from school promptly to the school
• taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.

School staff are responsible for supporting the regular attendance of students by:
• providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students’ sense of belonging to the school community
• recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance
• maintaining accurate records of student attendance
• implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise
• providing clear information to students and parents regarding attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance
Please support the school in the area of student attendance. In addition, please ensure that your child(ren) arrive at school between **8:30-8:57am** each morning. Arriving late may negatively impact the development and achievement of your child(ren). Again, I thank you for the continued support with attendance. I take this opportunity to remind parents that **no child should be at school before 8:30am**.

**Collection of students for appointments**
If you wish to collect your child before the conclusion of the school day, please ensure that you visit the office before **2:30pm** to sign out your child. Your cooperation with this procedure is appreciated.

**Mobile Phones**
Students should not have mobile phones during school. If your child has permission from you and is required to have a mobile phone for possible use before or after school, please inform the office in writing. In this situation, mobile phones will be securely stored in the office during the day. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me personally. Please note that non-phone devices such as iPods are not permitted at school. Parents will be contacted to collect such devices.

**Canteen lunch orders**
Our canteen is coordinated by volunteers who donate their time to support Blaxcell Street Public School. These wonderful helpers are dedicated parents, former parents and community members who commit many hours each week to provide a service to the students of our school. Please support them by ensuring that all lunch orders are completed before **9:00am** each morning. Unfortunately, only sandwiches will be available to order after 9:00am. Also, if you have any spare time and would be willing to assist with the canteen, please contact the office.

Please visit this site for all educational matters.

**Making an appointment to speak with a teacher**
Please speak to your child’s teacher whenever you have any questions or concerns. As you can appreciate teachers are busy with students each morning at grade lines. As such, please arrange a suitable appointment time to discuss your concerns. If you need further follow up to your concerns, please make an appointment with an Assistant Principal.

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**Deputy Principals**
If you need to speak with a Deputy Principal, please arrange a suitable appointment time via the front office.

- Mrs Towns (K-2)
- Ms Wilton (3-6)

On a personal level, I would like to thank students, staff and the community for the on-going support. I am privileged to lead Blaxcell Street Public School and I look forward to sharing the learning journey with you all. Together with all our teachers we are committed to our school vision which states, **at Blaxcell Street Public School, every student must achieve success.**

Regards,

Mr Hani Zahra
Principal
The parents of Blaxcell Street Public School have agreed to the following items as compulsory uniform for our students. It is an expectation that students wear full school uniform each day.

**BOYS**
- Grey shorts – cargo style
- Grey pants – cargo style
- Blaxcell Street PS original polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS 2016 polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS jackets with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Grey socks
- Black shoes (must be plain black and should be leather - no colours on shoes)
- **NO ¾ tights or compression tights such as Skins**

**GIRLS**
- Blaxcell Street PS dress **(ONLY NAVY BLUE stockings permitted)**
- ONLY white under garments (for arms) permitted for religious purposes under the school dress
- Navy blue shorts
- Navy blue A-Line full length skirt
- Navy blue formal school uniform pants
- Blaxcell Street PS original polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS 2016 polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS jackets with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS white hijab **(ONLY available at the uniform shop)**
- White socks
- Black shoes (must be plain black and should be leather - no colours on shoes)
- **NO ¾ tights or compression tights such as Skins**

**SPORTS UNIFORM FOR BOYS**
- Blaxcell Street PS Navy shorts **(ONLY available at the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS original polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS 2016 polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS 2016 Tracksuit **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- White socks
- Sports shoes e.g. runners – **PLEASE NOTE canvas shoes such as Converse are not sports shoes**
- **NO ¾ tights or compression tights such as Skins**

**SPORTS UNIFORM FOR GIRLS**
- Blaxcell Street PS Navy shorts **(ONLY available at the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS original polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS 2016 polo with crest embroidery **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Blaxcell Street PS 2016 Tracksuit **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- Navy yoga style pants **(ONLY available from the uniform shop)**
- White socks
- Sports shoes e.g. runners – **PLEASE NOTE canvas shoes such as Converse are not sports shoes**
- **NO ¾ tights or compression tights such as Skins**

**HATS - (ONLY available at the uniform shop and front office)**
- K-2 students must wear the **wide brimmed** Blaxcell Street PS hat
- 3-6 students may wear the wide brimmed Blaxcell Street PS hat OR the Blaxcell Street PS cap

**OPENING HOURS**
Monday & Wednesday mornings