Gymnastics
This commenced today at our school. Students and staff were very excited about a great program once again. Over the weeks they will develop many skills to improve strength and co-ordination.

School Swimming Carnival
What a great day it was last Thursday. Terrific weather matched by great participation and sportsmanship made it fun for everyone. The Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 24th February in Maitland. Notes have been sent home for those who qualified.

School Voluntary Contributions
Invoices for these contributions have been sent home. It would be appreciated if these were paid as we provide many resources free for students. These funds help us provide these for our students.

School Leaders
A picture of our school leaders for 2015 is in today’s Maitland Mercury. They look great and will do us proud this year, I’m sure.

School Cross Country
This event will be held on Thursday, 5th March at Branxton Oval. It will also double as a fundraiser and will involve the whole school from Kindergarten to Y6.

School Planning
This process commenced last year when we had our successful parent focus groups meeting.

We are moving along with it. Next Wednesday Mrs Noble and Mrs Ballenden will spend the day putting the 3 year plan on paper so we can share with staff and our school community.

See Beyond Borders
On Thursday 5th March all students at Branxton Public School will be participating in the annual Cross Country and International Fundraiser. This year we are aiming to raise money to support children in schools in Cambodia - SeeBeyondBorders. http://www.seebeyondborders.org
Primary students will compete in the annual Cross Country event to select students to represent the school at the Zone Cross Country later in the term. Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 run 1km. 8/9/10 years run 2kms11/12/13 years run 3kms Students race in the event for the age they turn in 2015. Sponsorship Forms have been sent home today. Further details regarding the Cross Country will be sent home next week.

### School Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.10 - 11.10</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.10 - 11.35</td>
<td>Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.35 - 1.05</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.05 - 1.50</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.50 - 3.10</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
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</tbody>
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Office Hours:
The office is open from 8.30 am until 3.30 pm.
Statement of Account
Last week we sent home a financial statement of account to each family. The statement of account includes payments for the 2015 Voluntary Family School Contribution, Mathletics and any other amounts owing for school activities.

The Family School Contribution refers to the voluntary contribution scheme that all public schools operate. This is a very low $40.00 per family per year. This money goes to providing the everyday resources needed in classrooms - pencils, paper, books, teaching aids, counters, craft supplies, reading books, etc, available to every child. Payment of as little as $2.00 per week is possible if you prefer.

Mathletics is an educational program that our school subscribes to and forms part of each class’s teaching program. To fund this across the school we ask that families support the school and P&C by making a payment of $10 per child for Mathletics. This program can also be accessed at home for children to reinforce their skills in Maths. Over a full 12 months this money presents great value and enhances learning opportunities.

If you have any queries regarding the above information please feel free to speak to our School Admin Manager, Kelly Thomas for further clarification.

Expression of Interest for Canberra
Expression of Interest for Canberra 2015 went home to Stage 3 students last week.
Please return $50 deposit to secure your child’s seat on the bus.

Mathletics
Thank you to those who have paid for their subscription to Mathletics. Students can obtain teacher to use this program at home on their computer, tablet or iPad. This fantastic interactive program is available for all students Kinder to Year 6. It’s really worth the $10!

EOI for High School enrolment forms due to be returned to School.

PBL
Branxton Public school students, staff and community are respectful, responsible and achieve their personal best in all settings at all times.

This week we are learning to be ready to learn to be able to achieve our personal best. Classes discussed how it looks to be ready to learn in different settings. Here are some photos of BPS students ready to learn.
Respect, Responsibility, Personal Best

Next P&C General Meeting
Tuesday 24th February 2015 @ 9.30am in the staffroom.

Donation Thank you
Throughout 2014 many local businesses supported our school in many ways. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued support: Royal Federal Hotel, Swill N Grill Restaurant, Mocha & Moss, Branxton Golf Club, Blue Thai Restaurant at Branxton Golf Club, Miller Park Sport and Recreation Club, The Boomerang Restaurant at Miller Park, Hunter Valley Gardens, Branxton Hardware, Yeys Chinese Takeaway, Branxton Newsagency, Branxton Fish & Chippery, IGA nothings ever to much, Kerrie Tillman @ Hunter Hair Art, Amy Heinzel – McDonald’s Greta, Cessnock City Council for their donation of wonderful family pool passes, Branxton/Greta Scouts for the hire of their hall. Jane Fowler @ Travel managers. If you would like 5 star service and the same travel consultant each and every time Jane is the person for you. Jane can be contacted on 0412881903 or on Facebook. Thompson Pies @ Gateshead for donating some bakery product for Carols. We thank each and every business for their support. SPECIAL mention must go to the Golf Club and Miller Park Sport & Rec Club who continue to be very generous each and every year even though their finances may be down a little. PLEASE continue to support both of these wonder clubs.

Also a thank you to Kellie Forage Espresso @ Mojos Saving the best until last. You the wonderful parents/caregivers for volunteering within our school, raffles, hamper donations, mothers /fathers’ day stalls etc. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Council Ranger
As mentioned in the last newsletter the ranger is out and about. This is for the SAFETY of all our PRECIOUS students. BE warned PLEASE use the school crossing of an afternoon that is supervised by a member of staff. Being respectful and responsible is a great example for our students.

The NSW Food Authority has advised of the recall of the following products due to potential contamination with Hepatitis A.

RECALL OF NANNAS’S BERRIES FROZEN in 1kg plastic bag, all best before dates up to and including BBD22/11/16.

RECALL OF NANNA’S RASBERRIES, FROZEN in 1KG plastic bag, all best before dates up to and including BBD19/9/16

RECALL OF CREATIVE GOURMET MIXED BERRIES, 300g, frozen in plastic bag, all batches up to and including BBD10/12/17 and 500g, frozen in plastic bag, all batches to and including BBD06/10/17

Invitation
The P &C committee invites you to join us for the AGM Tuesday 17th March 2015 7.00pm in the school library.

Students & Staff
To our wonderful staff & parents/caregivers thank you for giving our students the best start to 2015. Being responsible, respectful and trying our personal best the students have all settled well into 2015.

Signage around the School
Hayley Williams for her fantastic professional sign writing. The canteen sign and others throughout our school. Thank you Hayley for donating your time to makes these sign.

Canteen News
The canteen is now selling gluten free monster snacks @ 50c each. Available in Chicken, BBQ and Cheese flavour. Please see the schools Facebook page for a photo of this product. A very special thank you to Jane Tudor and Leigh Lovell. The ladies have been making some LOW priced healthy snacks for the students to purchase from the canteen. Keeping with our Nut & Egg free policy the ladies offered samples to the students on Monday of some bliss balls. A fresh supply was made Tuesday and sold out at recess. Please see our Facebook page for the recipe.

Uniform Shop
Uniform shop is back to normal trading hours each Friday morning from 8.45am-9. 10 am. Other times by appointment.

Lost Property
A few items were left behind at the swimming carnival with no names. Other items at school; lunch boxes, Tupperware with no name, hats no name. Please see lost property in front of the canteen if your child has misplaced his or her property. If items have legible names they are returned to the student.

Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all students that attended the carnival. The house captains carried out their 1st round of carnival duties with great respect, responsibility and enthusiasm. Eagles (RED), Hawks (BLUE), Kangaroos (YELLOW) and Wallabies (GREEN) make up our four sport houses.

THANK YOU Miss Miles and staff for a wonderful day.
Primary Swimming Carnival
Last week’s Primary Swimming Carnival was a great success. Thank you to the parents who helped out with time-keeping and those who came to support our students. Well done to all students for participating in races and novelty events during the day. The Zone Swimming Carnival will be held at Maitland Pool on Tuesday 24th February. Students who have qualified have received a note with the relevant information. Please return permission notes and PSSA Parental Consent forms ASAP. Good luck to all students attending.

The Swimming Carnival ribbons will be awarded at the next Primary Assembly in Week 5. Ribbons are awarded based on fastest times for each event.

Gymnastics
The first week of Gymnastics lessons have been great fun. If you still wish for your child to participate, please return the permission note and $20 ASAP. Thank you to our Sport for Life coaches who put together such great lessons for each class.

Primary Sport
Primary sport will begin this Friday. Please pay for Lawns Bowls, Oz Tag, Tennis and Cricket by the end of Week 6.

Cross country
This year both Infants and Primary will hold their Cross Country together at Branxton Oval on 5th March 2015 (Week 6). Students will walk to the oval at 9.30am and races will begin at 10am. Students will take their recess with them and return to school for lunch. All students are encouraged to participate. As we have general permission notes, students will not require a permission notes for this event.

Binless Playground Day
On Wednesday 4th March our school will attempt to reduce waste and littering by holding a Binless Playground Day. All staff and students (and community members) are encouraged to carry their food for the day in reusable containers to ensure they have nothing to throw away. Lunches could be packed in reusable containers rather than plastic wrap of alfoil and students could have fruit for recess rather than packaged foods. Food scraps can be put into a compost bin and paper (e.g. from lunch orders) can be recycled. If students bring packaging they will need to take it home and dispose of it there. Our canteen will also be helping us achieve a binless playground. More information will follow.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5, Term 1 commencing 23rd February, 2015</th>
<th>Week 6, Term 1 commencing 2nd March 2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Bagley</td>
<td>Denise Bagley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toni Langlands</td>
<td>Lysa Thorpe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melinda Cullen</td>
<td>Lisa Holmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jade Nichols</td>
<td>Karen Webber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denise Bagley</td>
<td>Denise Bagley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Knox</td>
<td>Lindsay Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerrie O’Connell</td>
<td>Karen Westling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mel Nemeth</td>
<td>Emma Morrow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marg Holz</td>
<td>Kathy Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilly Edwards</td>
<td>Jane Tickle</td>
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Branxton Public School Canteen
Our school canteen operates everyday of the school term and is run by volunteers. If you are able to help from 9am till 2pm on one or more of these days each term, we would love to hear from you. Please either phone Denise on 0401 139 212 or return the slip below to school.

Hunter Valley Physie Club
PHYSIE develops good posture, strength, fitness, flexibility, co-ordination and balance through dance. Our national choreography curriculum is age-appropriately designed to teach the relationship of music to movement, rhythm and musical interpretation. We provide a new syllabus and music every year and run annual competitions for teams and individuals.

Classes for girls 2ys - Ladies, Branxton, Maitland & Singleton. Check us out at www.huntervalleyphysie.webs.com or email huntervalleyphysie@gmail.com

Branxton IGA
52 Maitland Road, Branxton
(02) 4938 2028
*Great Range of General Groceries *Deli Lines
*Fruit & Vegetables *Meat *Cards & Wraps—Confectionery
*FREE LOCAL HOME DELIVERY
OPEN 7 DAYS

P&L Standen Branxton
Bobcat & Tipper Hire
Mini Excavator
Gravels, Soils, Sands, Trenchers, Auger & Forks
PHONE: 02 4938 3202
or MOBILE: 0428 684 073 / 0429 983 202