Welcome
We welcome some new students to our school. Macesha is in Y3/4F while her sister, Shayli, is in Y5/6N. We hope they settle quickly and get into the wonderful school life of our school.

School Photographs
These will be taken on Monday, 9th March. All monies, with envelopes, need to be returned to school by the end of this week. The photography company are given the envelopes at the beginning of the day and work from there.

Y5/6T
Ms Towns will be taking leave from the end of this week as she will be having her knee operated on. Mrs Russell will be teaching Y5/6T for the remainder of the term., following the same content as the rest of Stage 3. Ms Towns will be coming in for the photo with her class on Monday.

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. We will be assembling in the morning at 9:30, before walking down to Branxton Oval. Let’s hope it is a great day for all involved. It would be great to see lots of supporters in attendance as well.

Whole School Assembly
Our first Whole School Assembly will be held on Friday morning, commencing at 9:30 in the COLA. The first Citizenship badges will be presented based on our 3 PBL expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best.

Kindergarten teachers will select their class citizen, while students in other classes will hold a secret vote.

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.3.15</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3.15</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.3.15</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assembly Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.3.15</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 9:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.3.15</td>
<td>Infants’ Assembly (Y2FP) 2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.3.15</td>
<td>Primary Assembly (5/6M) 2:30</td>
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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 2kms, 11/12/13 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 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.
Cross Country Event
Tomorrow is our School Cross Country. All students K—6 will be leaving school at 9:30am to go down to Branxton Park for a 10:00am start.

Students are to wear their sports uniform and running shoes. They must have plenty of water and take their recess down to the oval with them.

Sun Shelter for School Cross County
We would really appreciate some sun shelters for the morning of the run so our students can be as sunsafe as possible. If you are able to donate your shelter for the time on this morning, as well as you time to erect the shelter, it would be fantastic! The shelters would need to be up by 9:30am. Please let Mrs Ballenden know or Mrs Noble if you are able to assist.

Year 6 T-Shirt
Planning is now underway in the process of ordering our Year 6 T-shirts. Cost of the T-shirts will be around $40—$46 dollars depending on what each student would like on their shirts. As was the case last year, no nick names will be accepted.

Claiming The DATES
GRIP Leadership Day—Newcastle
In May, Stage 3 students will be invited to attend the GRIP Leadership Day at Newcastle Panthers. This has always proven to be a valuable experience for our aspiring leaders—whether they wear a badge or not! Cost for a ticket will be $40—$50 and numbers will be limited to 40 students.

Interrelate
Interrelate, our personal development program regarding puberty will occur in Term 3 this year, for our Year 6 students. Cost will be around $36.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent teacher interviews scheduled for Week 9. Please lookout for the note from your child’s class teacher.

Class Citizenship
This Friday our Whole School Assembly our first class citizenship will be handed out. Each class has been through the process of nominating students who have demonstrated our PBL expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best. The nominations have been discussed and a secret ballot conducted. If you get a call from your child’s teacher telling you that child is this month’s recipient, we would appreciate it if you could keep this information confidential.

Zone Swimming
Well done to all students who competed at the Zone Swimming Carnival. A special congratulations goes to Matthew W who qualified for the Regional Swimming Carnival at Maitland on the 5th March. Good luck Matthew.

Binless Playground Day
Thank you for helping our school reduce waste in our playground. Try to consider using less packaging in lunches each day so that our playground and our local community are kept rubbish free.

Parking Around the School
Parking parallel in the direction of traffic.
When you parallel park, you must park your vehicle pointing in the same direction as the flow of traffic closest to you vehicle. This is for traffic flow safety. Penalty in excess of $169.00

Parking on footpaths and in or across driveways.
You cannot park on nature strip, even if two wheels are on the road and whether or not there is a footpath or kerb and guttering. This is for pedestrian access safety. Penalty in excess of $101.00

Please remember these rules when parking your car in Bowen Street. The safety of our children is very important when they are leaving the school to go home.

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Dear Parents and Carers of students in Years 4, 5 and 6

This term, our school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child’s school by Friday 13 March.

More information about the survey and the research is available on the CESE website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Mark Ouvrier
Principal
Branxton Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 13 March 2016.

I (print name) ................................................................. DO NOT give consent for my child/children (print name/s) ................................................................. of class/es ........................................ to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Signed................................................................. Date...............................
Next P&C General Meeting

Annual General Meeting—All Welcome.
17th March, 2015 at 7:00pm in the school library.
All positions vacant.

School Photographs 9th March, 2015
Please be in correct full summer uniform. Bike pants/tights are not part of our uniform.

Easter
Our annual Easter Hat Parade will be on Thursday, 2nd April. We would appreciate donations for our Easter hampers. This can be in various ways, chocolate eggs, bunnies, Easter colouring books, Easter Cookbook etc. Please start bringing in donations keeping mind we are a nut and egg free school.

Easter raffle tickets will be sent home shortly 50c each and 1 book per student if you are unable to sell your book. Please return it for future use.

Cross Country
P & C will supply cups of water for every student at the cross country. Each student that participates will receive a fruit tube ice-block donated by the P & C.

Canteen
Canteen rosters will be sent home in Week 7. If you are able to do canteen are not on Term 1 roster please see Denise. Kinder families that have returned a form or contacted Denise will be on the Term 2 roster.

Thank you all for a wonderful start to the year.

“The Protectors”
This is a performance that is part of our annual Anti-Bullying program. It will be held at the Community Hall on Tuesday, 17th March. As we consider it to be a very important part of our school curriculum, the school pays for it. Therefore all students should attend. It mixes humour with the serious side of a topic we all need to keep aware of.

Kindergarten Photographs
Our kindergarten class photos were take by the Maitland Mercury they will appear in the newspaper on Wednesday, 18th March.

Mrs Nimmo is going to organise for newspapers to be ordered through the school, $1.40 per newspaper. Payment to be back at school by the 12th March. Order forms will be sent home soon.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7, Term 1 commencing 9th March, 2015</th>
<th>Week 8, Term 1 commencing 16th March, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>D Bagley</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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··· martín BUILDING SERVICES ···

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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.
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