Parents/Carers,
I would especially like to welcome our new families to our community and we hope you have a wonderful relationship with Bexley North Public School. Our new Kindergarten students have settled well and are very happy in their classes. Thank you parents for your support in making your child’s transition to school such a positive one and assisting our wonderful Kindergarten teachers.

Terms 1 and Term 4 are obviously our hottest terms. It is very important that the children have a hat at school each day. Our school hats are available from the uniform shop and these are the only type of hats children are expected to wear. It is also a good idea to have a water bottle that the children can drink from in class.

We are a Crunch’n’Sip school, a fruit and veggie break is at 10:00am each morning. Children may snack on a piece of fruit or on some cut up fruit or veggies. Fruit juice or fruit products are not included as these are recess foods. Children may drink water at this time as well.

2012 is the first year of full uniform implementation Kindergarten to Year 6 of our new uniforms. Our uniform shop list outlines all the items that constitute our uniform. I look forward to seeing all students in correct uniform this year. Maroon hats are no longer part of our school uniform and maroon shorts are only to be worn on sport days.

Parent/Teacher Information Meetings
Classes have settled in well to the new year. Teachers are very positive about the behaviour and work shown by the students so far. We will be holding Parent Information sessions in Weeks 5 and 6. This is a great opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and to find out about the programs planned for this year. A variety of topics that are relevant to your child and his/her learning this year will be covered.

We try to structure the time to make these sessions available to as many parents as possible, and especially try to accommodate families with more than one child. However, it is possible that there will be a clash for a few families, which is unavoidable. If you have a clash of sessions, please feel free to contact your teacher/s for any information from a missed session.

Please be aware that these sessions are not the appropriate time for interviews or questions regarding individual students. Should you wish to discuss your child, please make an appointment with the class teacher for a mutually suitable time. Alternatively, our annual Parent Teacher Interviews will be held later this term.

### What's the Buzz!

- **Wednesday 15 February**
  - Textbook Sale Day
- **Thursday 16 February**
  - Official Opening of school year
- **Friday 17 February**
  - Summer PSSA begins
- **Monday 20-Thursday 23 Feb**
  - 5-6pm Yrs 1-6 Meet the Teacher
- **Monday 20 February**
  - 7-8.30pm P&C Fundraising Committee meeting in staffroom
- **Tuesday 21 February**
  - 9-10.30am P&C Fundraising Committee meeting in BASC area
- **Wednesday 22 February**
  - Swimming Carnival
- **Friday 24 February**
  - 4pm P&C Welcome BBQ
- **Tuesday 28 February**
  - 5-6pm Kindergarten Meet the Teacher
- **Monday 5 March**
  - 7.30pm P&C meeting in staffroom
- **Monday 19 March**
  - School photos
- **Wednesday 28 March**
  - Tukros Music Performance
Note: During these sessions, there is no supervision available at school for children. It would be greatly appreciated if parents could make other arrangements for their children on the night to ensure children are cared for and to allow parents to focus on the teacher’s presentation. Thank you.

Times are as follows:
**Monday 20 Feb** – 1RA, 1W, 2H, 2TC from 5-6pm in classrooms
**Tuesday 21 Feb** – 2/3W, 3B, 3/4M, 3/4S, 4T, 4/5K from 5-6pm in classrooms
**Thursday 23 Feb** – 5F, 5/6D, 5/6H, 6B in the hall from 5.00-5.30pm then classrooms from 5.30-6.00pm. 1N in classroom 5-6pm
**Tuesday 28 Feb** – Kindergarten from 5-6pm in hall

**Text Book Sale**
Notes have been sent home in regard to text books required for 2012. These textbooks will be sold from school on Wednesday 15 February. All students must bring their money on this day either cheque or cash in an envelope clearly marked with the child’s name and class and amount enclosed. Mrs Bajic will be supervising this day.

**Swimming Carnival**
All notes and money are to be returned to school by Monday 20 February for student participation in the Primary Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 22 February. The carnival will be held at Bexley Pools. Students will be transported by bus to the pools in the morning and parents are welcome to join us there. Students must be at school on time in order to board the bus at 9am. Students in Years 3-6, as well as students in Year 2 who turn 8 years of age in 2012 are eligible to attend. Parents are requested to fill in all information regarding their child’s swimming levels so that appropriate coloured wristbands can be allocated to each child to ensure safety at the pools. Ms Sharp would be most grateful to any parents who are able to help out on the day with judging and timekeeping, to allow teachers to focus on the supervision of the students.

**School Contributions**
A note will be sent home soon in regard to payment of school contributions. This payment is vital to the school and allows us to provide art supplies, stationary, readers for home and class reading, maths resources etc. We are also hoping to purchase an interactive whiteboard for another classroom this year. Your contribution helps us to do all this and provide your children with the best education possible. Contributions are $50 per child, which equates to approx. $1 per week, a small price to pay for your child’s future!

**PSSA**
Summer PSSA begins Friday 17 Feb. Students in Years 3-6 participating in Summer PSSA must be at school by 8.30am to catch the bus to the sports grounds. They must wear their PSSA tops / sport uniform as required by their coach each week regardless of the weather. Students selected to play in teams will need to return their permission note and money prior to Friday 17 February so that teams can be finalised. We thank you for your support in complying with this request.

**Student Medical Forms**
If your child has a medical condition, please make sure the school is aware of the condition, eg asthma, so that we can assist the child appropriately. Medical forms are available at the school office and are required to be renewed annually.

**SCHOOL MUSIC GROUPS**
For those parents new to the school and for parents of students who have moved from infants to primary – there are a number of exciting musical opportunities for students at our school.

**Junior Choir:** is open to all students from Kindy to Year 2. They will rehearse on Thursdays at first half of lunch time (11:10 – 11:35am) each week, starting from next week.

**Senior Choir:** is open to all students in Years 3-6. They will rehearse on Tuesday lunchtimes from 11:10-12pm every week starting next week.

**Recorder Group:** is open to all students from Years 3-6. A group of 20 will be selected for the Opera House Instrumental Festival this year. Rehearsals will be Monday lunchtimes from 11:10-11:50 each week.

**String Ensemble:** is open to all students wishing to play violin, viola or cello. There is a beginners group for those who have never played before and a junior and senior ensemble for the more advanced students. All groups rehearse either before or after school. A core group from last year will attend the Opera House Instrumental Festival this year.
**Training Band:** is open now for auditions for students in Years 3-6. This band is for students who wish to learn an instrument or who have been playing an instrument for less than a year. Instruments include: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drums, keyboard etc. Band membership also includes a weekly tuition session. Band rehearsal times are before and after school.

**Senior Band:** is open for students in Years 3-6. This band is for students who have been learning an instrument for a year or more. Band membership also includes a weekly tuition session. Band rehearsal times are before and after school.

**Dance Group:** is open to students in Years 3-6 by audition.

**Boys Dance Group:** is open to boys in Years 3-6 by audition.

**Band News**
Training band auditions went ahead Wednesday morning this week as planned and we had a good turn up of students. If any students in Years 3-6 missed out and would like to join the training band, there is still time. Please see Mr Stivaktas if you are interested.

For those students already in the band, rehearsal times are as follows:

**Senior Band:** (last year's training and senior band) Wednesday 3-4pm in the hall, commencing Wednesday 8th February.

**Training Band** Thursdays from 8.00-8.50am commencing later in the term

**Brass & Percussion Tuition:** Wednesdays Seniors 7.50-8.25am in the hall, Training Band 8.25-8.50am in the hall

**Woodwind Tuition (saxophone, flute, clarinet):** Thursdays 8-8.30am for the seniors flutes and clarinets & 8:30-9am for saxophones. The new training band woodwind Thursdays 11.10-11.40am in the hall. Senior band rehearsals commence Thursday 9th February.

Please see Mr Stivaktas for a more detailed information note if you have not already received one.

**String Ensemble**
The string group will commence rehearsals next week, Monday 13th February. If your child is interested in learning the violin, viola or cello it is not too late for them to join.

Rehearsal times are as follows:

**Senior Ensemble:** Mondays 7:50-8:50am in the School Hall

**Junior Ensemble:** Fridays 3:00-4:00pm, in the KF Kindergarten room.

**Beginners Group Lessons:** at time to be arranged between tutor, school and students Please see the Office for a more detailed information note if you have not already received one or if your child is keen to join the string group.

**High School Open Nights for Interested Parents**
It is that time of year when schools start to receive information regarding local high schools and their open nights.

Currently we have information regarding 'OPEN NIGHTS' for Dulwich High School of Visual Arts & Design and Endeavour Sports High School. We expect to be receiving more information in the coming weeks. If you are interested in enrolling your child in either of the two high schools above please see the office for a copy of their information leaflet.

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Learn Music on Keyboard at Bexley North Public School

* Music theory  * Instrument playing
* Ensemble practice  * Fun music games
* 45 mins lesson weekly, small group
* Music material included
* Instrument not required initially

Welcome to the school library. Mrs Carnohan will be the librarian Mondays and Tuesdays. Mrs Gouros will be the librarian Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

**LIBRARY DAYS 2012**

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Smart Kids Love Music!

Call to enrol: 9411 3122 (VIP Music est. 1984)
The P&C held their first meeting this year and had great attendance with 23 parents, teachers and friends getting involved. Meetings help you to find out about what’s happening at school and how we can help create new opportunities for the entire school community. You can have the minutes of the meeting sent to you to see what was talked about. Just email us!

YOU CAN HELP - We need volunteers for the welcome BBQ!

• to cook sausages
• bake cupcakes to bring and sell on the day
• sell drinks, popcorn and ice blocks
• help run 20 min cricket games

To Volunteer just email us or fill in the relevant parts of our Welcome BBQ flyer and hand in to the office. THANKS!

NEW FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE
Would you like to help raise funds for the school?
Do you have a good idea?
Can you come to a planning and ideas meeting?

We are organizing 2 meetings to accommodate people’s schedules.
Evening: Monday 20th February at 7pm-8.30pm – school staffroom
Morning: Tuesday 21st February at 9am –11am - BASC room

Please come and join us.
When: Friday 24th February
Time: 4-6pm
♦ free sausage sandwiches
♦ Drink, ice blocks and popcorn will be sold on the day
Did you know that your school sporting Zone/District now has a website where you can access information about your local Zone/District school sporting activities?

To find out more, go to -

(sessazones.com)

to find out information about -

- Member Schools
- Code of Conduct
- Calendar
- Zone/District Executive
- State Draws and Results
- School Sports Guidelines
- Footwear for Athletics and Cross Country
- Medical Insurance
- Teacher Resources
- Opportunities for Students with Disabilities

The website also provides links to www.sports.det.nsw.edu.au which provides information relating to Sydney East SSA and NSWPSSA/NSWCHSSA activities.

Bruce Riley
Regional Sports Organiser
Sydney East SSA