Dear Parents and Carers

Budgewoi Public School will transition to the new NSW Public Schools’ finance system and a new bank account on 16 May 2016. To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept payments from parents and carers.

1. **Direct deposits:** We are no longer accepting direct deposits into our current school bank account as we prepare to close this account and transition to the new one. Any payments made using direct deposit cannot be properly allocated to a student’s account in a timely manner. Please ensure you make payment through the Parent Online Portal on the school’s website at [www.budgewoi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.budgewoi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au).

2. **Cash and cheque payments:** Between 9 May 2016 and 17 May 2016, we will also not be able to accept payments by cash or cheque as we prepare to close our current bank account and transition to the new one. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding cash or cheque payments before 9 May 2016. From 17 May 2016, cash and cheque payments will be accepted as before.

3. **Online payments:** From 19 February 2016, we began to accept online payments using the Department of Education’s Parent Online Payment (POP) system. A button to access this new online payment system titled ‘$ Make a Payment’ will be visible on the utility bar on the front page of our school’s website at [www.budgewoi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.budgewoi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au). By selecting this link, parents and carers will be taken to a secure Westpac QuickWeb payment page from which they can make online payments.

Please note: As a Westpac-hosted solution cardholder and account details will be held securely helping to protect the school and its customers from fraudulent transactions as well as assisting in meeting the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) compliance requirements.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. If you have any further questions, please contact the school office.

**Contact Numbers**

We have been having trouble contacting parents recently as their phone numbers have changed. Please remember to let us know if your number changes or any of your emergency contact people so we are able to contact someone in the case of an emergency.

**Parent Reading Workshop**

On Wednesday 6th April at 2.20pm Mr Edwards will be holding a special reading workshop called Torpedoing Reading which is a great idea for helping your child with reading at home. ALL parents are most welcome to attend (not just K-2). The workshop will be held in the hall and will be most beneficial for parents.

**NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance. Further information including an information brochure and a link to sample questions for parents and carers can be found at [http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html)

**NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Contribution**

The prize draw for those parents who have paid their school fees will be done at the end of Term 2 as we have been so busy we have not had time to organise prizes. If you have a business and would like to donate something for the prize drawer in return for publicity throughout our school community please either send the prize in or contact Mrs Moore or Mrs Keats. Thanks to Sweet Chevy cakes n Cars who have donated a one hour drive $300 value and A & A Spectrum Pty Ltd who have donated a $20 gift card for carpet cleaning or pest control (for a spend of $100 or more).

**Staff News**

Mrs Keats is on sick leave for the rest of the term following a small operation on her foot. She is home and progressing well. The Assistant Principals have assumed

**Health and Safety**

A gentle reminder that Health and Safety Regulations state there should not be smoking within a 4 metre distance of school boundaries. We have had concerned parents mention that smoke can clearly be smelt in Top Quad by volunteers who do our Home Reading program with Kindergarten students. We all wish our children to have the best start in life, so please consider the regulation and act within the guidelines.

**School Photos**

School photo day is next term, Thursday 26th May. Please mark your calendar. Further details will follow and payment envelopes will be distributed AFTER the holiday break.

**ICAS Competition**

A final reminder if you would like your child to participate in either the Digital Technologies, Maths or English competitions to be run later in the year, final payment date is Wednesday 6th April. Each test paper costs $8 to participate. Candidates need to be in years 3-6 and enjoy a strong challenge.
Congratulations to our Privilege Badge winners

KCN Georgia, KL Emilie, KEB Anthony J, KD Tyleigh, 1K Rhys, 1M Jasmine, 1T Adelaide, 1/2J Jayde, 2C Talan E, 2M Olivia, 2JR Aaron W, S2SE Calleb C, S2J Piper, S2F Nakesha, S2L Isabelle, S2A Amelia, S2O Jack O, S3W Mya, S3K Bailey, S3GP Ryan H, S3VL Charli, S3M Daphne, Unit 1 Matthew, Unit 2 Oscar, Unit 3 Deanna and Unit 4 Damon.

Best Attendance

Congratulations to KCN who had one absence last week. Well done!

Mrs Kerry Moore (Principal)

School News

KCN News

These are some of the things that we like.

Ben – I like going to school because I like to play with my friends Thomas and Kurt.

Bradley – I like eggs because they are delicious and juicy.

Ethan – I like smells because they smell different.

Lachlan – I like my friends because they go to the library with me.

Tenekah – I like playing with my dad because sometimes he picks me up.

Thomas – I like playing with my cars because they have wheels.

Taylor – I like flowers because you can put them behind you ear.

Raymond – I like playing with my best friend because I like him.

Lilian – I like my friend Jordan because we like to go where the big kids are.

Samuel – I like all the Easter hats because they are pretty.

Kaiden – I like chocolate because it tastes good.

Georgia – I like my aunty because she cuddles me.

Kurt – I like my poppy because he mows with me.

Harleyrose – I like kangaroos because I can pat them and feed them.

Kobi – I like my granny and pa because they play with me and visit my house.

Faith – I like Patch because she tickles my nose with her tail.

Cooper – I like mowing with my daddy because he lets me lawn mow by myself.

2016 K-2 Easter Hat Parade

Last Thursday afternoon the weather was perfect and all K-2 classes had an enjoyable time celebrating Easter by participating in a hat parade. The smiles on the faces of everyone indicated that they were happy and having fun. It was great to see the children join in by creating a hat that reflected the theme and the huge crowd of supportive family members attend. I would like to extend a big thank you to all the people who helped make this event a special memory. It was a wonderful start to the Easter holiday and we look forward to another parade next year.

Miss Jurd (Easter Hat Parade Coordinator)

Stage 2 Excursion “52-Storey Treehouse” Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Next Term, Stage 2 will have the opportunity to attend the play “52-Storey Treehouse” at the Civic Theatre, Newcastle. The 52-Storey Treehouse is a play by Richard Tulloch, adapted from the best selling book by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton. Andy Griffiths’ and Terry Denton’s latest best seller comes to life on the stage as the team behind the hit adaptations of the 13-Storey Treehouse and the 26-Storey Treehouse return with this crazy, imaginative and engaging play. A permission note for this excursion has been sent home with each child. The excursion will be on Wednesday 18th May 2016 and travel will be by bus. The cost of the show is $30.

Please ensure permission notes and money are returned to school by Friday 8th April (last day of this term). Money needs to be in by this early date as the show is very popular and the tickets at the theatre need to be confirmed and paid for well before the performance.

Canteen News

Roster for week beginning 30th March:

Wed 30/3/16 - Denise Heather, Jenny Leatham
Thurs 31/3/16 - Vanessa Allen, Annie Vandertouw
Fri 1/4/16 - Madeline & Dale Clintond, Megan Lewis
Mon 4/4/16 - Natasha Stoddard

Helpers, if for any reason you cannot attend, please contact Sophie early on 43992238.

P & C News

Thanks to everyone who sold tickets for the Easter raffle and to Coles at Budgewoi, San Remo and Killarney Vale for their donations. Thanks to the fundraising committee for their work in organising the prizes as well.

Community News

Come to our FREE Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop

Date: Wednesday 30th March 2016
Time: 9:05am until 11:05am
Venue: Budgewoi Public School

Did you know that eating enough fruit and vegetables all their lives can help protect children against diseases, including some forms of cancer? This free workshop run by Cancer Council NSW will show you how you can easily:

- Save time and money making healthy meals
- Learn clever ways to entice fussy eaters
- Get a free recipe book simply by attending
- Pack a healthy lunch box your kids will love

Don’t miss out – registration in essential. To book your place please register no later than 23/03/2016 by:
- Email eatitobe fit@nswcc.org.au
- Phoning (02) 4923 0704

Eat It To Beat It