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). Please note: As a Westpac hosted solution cardholder and account detail 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.

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.

Will and Piper Memorial Garden

I am delighted to inform you that we have secured assistance from the Bara Burang Corporation to undertake a 6 month supervised work for the Dole project to complete our Will and Piper Memorial garden. An artist Megan and landscaper Joe will be leading a team of workers to plant our bush Tucker plants, put our plant information stations, complete the path, do some artworks and build our yarning circle. Work will begin this Wednesday. This application has been a long time coming to fruition but we should see some results happening quickly from now on.

**ANZAC Day March**

The ANZAC Day march is organised by Doyalson RSL Club and will be held on Monday April 25th 2016. Please meet Miss Martin, Mrs Gamble and Mrs Vincent at the Doyalson Church at 8am for the march to commence at 8:30am. The service will begin at approximately 9am in the Doyalson RSL carpark. Please wear full school uniform and represent our school with pride. We look forward to seeing a large number of BPS students at the march.

**Bus Safety**

It has been reported by local community members that some Budgewoi school students have been getting off the bus in the morning and going straight into the corner shop. All students must cross the road safely and enter the school grounds as soon as they get off the bus.

**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.

**Write 4 Fun competition**

Thank you to all of the students who gave entries to Mrs Ellen for the Write 4 Fun competition. We had a great response, with excellent poetry and narratives being submitted. The entries have been sent off for judging. The good news is that the deadline has been extended until the 10th April, so if you would like to enter you can enter online at the web address below.

[http://www.write4fun.net/competitions/57/enter](http://www.write4fun.net/competitions/57/enter)

There is no cost to enter. Good luck everyone, there are some fabulous prizes up for grabs!

**School Contribution**

We have had some new donations for our prize draw for those parents who have paid their school fees. We have a dinner voucher from Halekulani Bowling Club and a family pass to the Australian Wildlife Walkabout valued at $70 as well as Sweet Chevys 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). The prize draw will now be held at the end of Week 5 Friday 27th May.

**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 seen 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.

**Coming events for Term 1 (updated as events arise)**

- Fri 8th April Final payment Stage 2 Civic Theatre
- Fri 8th April Last day of Term 1
- Wed 27th April Term 2 commences

**Congratulations to our Privilege Badge winners**

- KCN Kurt, KL Jacob, KEB Tyson, KD Emily, 1K Pateyn, 1M Ava
- 1T Jenee, 1/2J Cooper, 2C Lilly, 2M Bonnie, 2JR Jack, S2SE Emily, S2J Trinity, S2F Cameron, S2L Sienna, S2A Jayden, S2O Louise, S3W Elijah, S3K Jaykob, S3GP Matilda, S3VL James A, S3M Madi, Unit 1 Hannah, Unit 2 Lucas, Unit 3 Ashton and Unit 4 Crystal.
Best Attendance
Congratulations to 2M and Unit 2 who had one absence each last week. Well done!
Mrs Kerry Moore (Principal)

School News

S3K News
Along with the rest of Stage 3, S3K have been studying Hitler’s Daughter. We have been able to use our connecting skills as ANZAC Day approaches, discussing the effects of war on families. As a class we discussed National Service and how teenagers were forced to join the army. We produced a piece of Persuasive Writing addressing this topic; it is great to see the mature approach the students took to quite a sensitive topic.

Jessica said that “it is wrong to have to risk your life because of the decisions of others.” Tayla suggested that “asking soldiers to travel far away in order to protect our country, when so many need help here was wrong.” Brodie thought that “with the actions going on in the world that something needs to be done, he believes we need the army to keep us safe.” Brodie described people that make the decision to sign up for the army as “heroes” and “extremely brave.”

S3K will be thinking of all soldiers who have lost their lives and those currently serving in the armed forces on ANZAC Day.

Stage 2 Excursion “52-Storey Treehouse” Civic Theatre, Newcastle
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). You can also pay and fill in permission notes on the Skoolbag App. 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. No late payments will be accepted.

Entertainment Books
Order your new Entertainment™ Books and Entertainment™ Digital Memberships from us today, and 20% of your Membership contributes towards our School! For only $60, Entertainment™ Memberships are packed with hundreds of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel, and much more! Available as a traditional Entertainment™ Book - or - Digital Membership on your smartphone, your Membership gives you over $20,000 worth of valuable offers valid through to 1 June 2017! These are great value and pay for themselves in a very short time. Woolworths Wish cards at 5% discount can be purchased and redeemed at Woolworths, Dan Murphys, Big W, Caltex Woolworth outlets, Dick Smith, BWS and Cellarmaster stores, discount movie tickets, fast food discount vouchers, accommodation & theme park discounts etc. They were recently reported on TV as being the best money saver so grab one. Pre-order fliers have been sent out but if your child did not receive one we have a few spares are available from the office.

Application and Trials for Hunter Sports High School 2017
Any students interested in applying for Hunter Sports High school in 2017 can download information and application forms on their website www.huntersports.com.au or by contacting the school directly.


If you have any questions regarding this information please contact their Director of Sport—Mr James Pascoe on 49 43 5755.

Applications close on May 2nd, 2016

Canteen News

Roster for week beginning 4th April:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>5/4/16 – Denise Wilson, Michelle Burgess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>6/4/16 – Denise Heater, Jenny Leatham, Kirsty Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>7/4/16 – Georgina Atkinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>8/4/16 – Madeline &amp; Dale Clinten, Megan Lewis, Roxy Hill</td>
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</tbody>
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School Holidays

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

P & C News

Thanks to all people who supported the Easter raffle. The prizes have now been collected. A profit of $1922.65 was made which will go towards the new playground equipment.

This year’s Mother’s Day stall will be on Thursday 5th May. There will be a large variety of gifts this year. Items will be available for Grandmothers too. All children can buy two items each and may return at recess to purchase more after all classes have made their purchases. Gifts will be priced between $2 and $8.

What are opportunity classes?

Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving Year 5 and 6 academically gifted students. These classes help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level. Parents normally apply when the students are in Year 4. Students who are placed then attend the opportunity class full-time in Years 5 and 6 at Wyong Public School. It is a two-year placement program. There is no provision to apply for Year 6 placement only.

Thinking of applying for Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2017?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application website opens and application information documents available in schools</td>
<td>26 April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application website closes (No late applications)</td>
<td>13 May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principals complete processing of applications</td>
<td>3 June 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test authority letter sent by mail and email to parents</td>
<td>13 July 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunity Class Placement Test</td>
<td>27 July 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement outcome information sent to parents</td>
<td>Mid-October 2016</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

To: The Office

I would like to receive the e newsletter each week instead of receiving a printed copy from school.

Parent Name: __________________________

My Child’s Name is __________________________

Class __________________________

My email address is: __________________________