

# B.G.S GAZETTE

BRODERICK GILLAWARNA SCHOOL

## RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

### CALENDAR

#### 18th March

Cancer Council Parent  
meeting

#### 19th March

Harmony Day

#### 24th March

P&C annual General  
Meeting

#### 1st April

School photos

#### 2nd April

Last Day of School

How quickly the term is flying by! The start of the year is always hectic and teachers in particular have been busy meeting with most of you, planning personalised learning goals for your child. These are now being written up into individual programs for focused teaching and learning and will be assessed on their progress towards half yearly reports at the end of Term 2.

For the new parents to BGS, we say a warm welcome and hope you have already seen the wonderful activities and programs that occur within the school. It is a very active place and it is heartwarming to see how independent and responsible our students are and even the new students learning to walk with the group and look after their belongings. Thank you to all staff for your hard work and commitment assisting all students to settle back into school routines and be ready to learn and engage.

A reminder the P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Tuesday 24th March at 9.30am. We encourage parents to be a part of their child's school life and have a say into the fundraising, resources and activities that are planned and run by the P&C body. The AGM is an important meeting to vote on office bearer positions and share in the decision making processes within the school.

Harmony Day for 2015 is looking to be a very exciting affair on Thursday 19th March! There will be a special assembly with many vibrant performances and we are looking forward with anticipation to some items from local schools and cultural groups. Parents have been asked to bring in cultural food to share, some staff are dressing up in costumes and the day will recognize the cultural diversity within our community and the harmonious manner we should live. Please dress your child in **orange** clothing to help celebrate this important day.

As well as the start of a new school year, it is the start of a new 3 year School Plan. Staff have been working hard on planning meaningful strategic goals for 2015 – 2017 in terms of student learning and engagement, community partnerships and systems leadership. It is a time of change in many ways and we look forward to the opportunity this brings.



Wendy Milburn

**Relieving Principal**

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# INFANTS SUAREZ SNAPSHOT

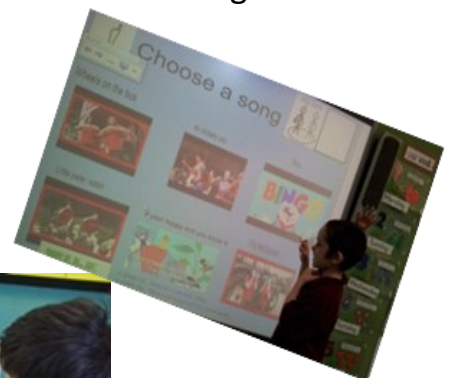
## Communication in class



Here in Infants Suarez we are learning all about the different ways we can communicate and participate in activities together. Sometimes we use real objects. That means we pick up, point to or hold something we want to talk about. If I want to eat an apple I pick the apple up and then everyone knows the apple is my choice.



Bev and Mrs. Suarez use pictures or visuals to help us understand what they are asking us to do, what activity is coming up next or where we need to go. We are learning to use visuals sometime too when we want to ask for something that is too big to pick up or is not in the room.





# Middle School Grenfell

At a glance...



Ethan

Haysam



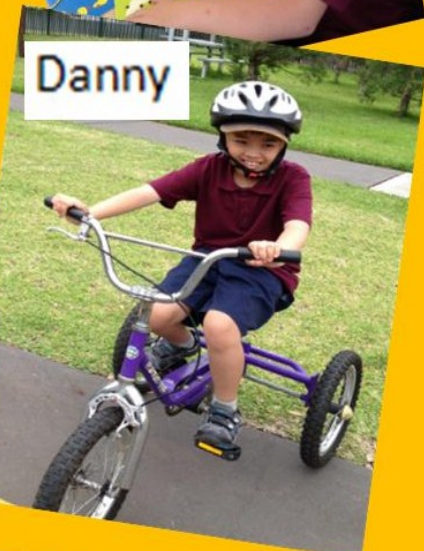
Breanna



Luka



Hamoudi



Danny



Teja



Hanalei

Our class has been very busy this term with bike riding, Healthy Canteen, Music Therapy, Crunch & Sip, reading, strategic puzzles and learning how to work co-operatively.

Join us for free a workshop on

## Social Skills in children with Autism

**PARENTS OR CARERS ARE  
INVITED TO TAKE PART!**

Run by a Northcott Speech Pathologist, this workshop will help you to support your child's social skills at school and in the home environment.

### TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

- Understanding social skill challenges faced by children with autism
- How to teach these social skills
- Advice on professionals who can help
- Links to other resources available

Please contact Merry on 0448 368 791 or email [merry.chau@northcott.com.au](mailto:merry.chau@northcott.com.au) for more information or to book a spot!

Bookings are essential  
as spaces are limited.

PLEASE NOTE: Child care will not be available on the day.

During the April School Holidays, we are also running free Social Skills Workshops for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and Developmental Disability aged 9-12 years. Please let Merry know if you would like your child to take part.



### VARIOUS DATES AND LOCATIONS

Light morning tea provided

**GLADESVILLE - LIBRARY**  
6 Pittwater Road, Gladesville  
30<sup>th</sup> March  
10am-1pm

**PARRAMATTA - NORTHCOTT**  
1 Fennell Street, North Parramatta  
31<sup>st</sup> March  
10am-1pm

**HURSTVILLE - ADHC**  
390 Forest Road Hurstville  
1<sup>st</sup> April  
10am- 1pm

**FAIRFIELD - ADHC**  
Level 4, 25 Smart St Fairfield  
2<sup>nd</sup> April  
10am- 1pm

**Northcott**  
supporting choice & opportunity



Trade &  
Investment  
Resources & Energy

## 2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate

Apply before Midnight  
16 June 2015



**2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM**

<https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/>

\* eligibility criteria apply

### WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?

The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2014-2015 the rebate gives:

- Up to \$150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer
- Up to \$165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

### AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?

To be eligible you MUST:

- Be a NSW resident; and
- Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2013-2014 financial year, and have received an FTB payment in respect of that eligibility; and
- Be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?

Before you apply, here's a quick checklist. Have you:

- Lodged your tax return for 2013-2014 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you are not required to lodge a tax return?
- Received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2013-2014?

### HOW TO APPLY

- **ONLINE** – it takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- **PAPER** – download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the residential community where you live.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88

EMAIL [fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au](mailto:fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au)

WEB [www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate](http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate)

**APPLY  
ONLINE  
NOW!**



<http://thebrainary.com/shop/Calming-Clothing/>

Calming Clothing for kids has been observed by parents and Occupational Therapists to have a very positive, calming and centring effect on children who experience sensory processing disorder (such as those experienced by children with Autism). It has been observed to have an equally positive effect for children with low muscle tone such as those experienced by Rett Syndrome.

Calming Clothing is a patented design for children and adolescents with Sensory Processing Disorders and Autism. When your child is wearing Calming Clothing they will exhibit improved physical awareness and interpersonal communications. Calming Clothing has a discreet appearance and can be worn as an undergarment or casual wear. The garments are designed to fit your child or adolescent snugly, though not tight. This will provide your child with a feeling of security and body awareness, which in turn creates a calming effect.

Calming Clothing is made from easy care premium quality combed cotton and Lycra blend. The cotton is soft, it breaths and absorbs moisture for the comfort of your child.

Products available: Singlet, T-shirt, Long Sleeved Top, Shorts, Tights