Calendar of Events ...

Term 1

Week 1

Friday, January 30
Transition to Kindergarten Class

Week 2

Monday, February 2
School Banking
Music Australia

Tuesday, February 3
5:30pm Welcome BBQ
7:00pm P&C AGM & General meeting. All welcome.

Thursday, February 5
NRL School Programs Delivery Team Wellbeing Workshop

Friday, February 6
Transition to Kindergarten Class

Week 3

Monday, February 9
School Banking
Music Australia

Friday, February 13
Transition to Kindergarten Class

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 10
Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival

Wednesday, February 18
MSP School Photographs

Thursday, February 26
2:00pm Leadership Assembly

Wednesday, March 18
Harmony Day Activities

Thursday, March 26
2:00pm School Assembly

Thursday, April 2
Easter Celebration
LAST DAY OF TERM
From the Principal's desk ...

Welcome back! I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday break.

Black Mountain Public School welcomes Sarah Savage, Angus Youman, Maddi Byers and Shylah-Lee Cutmore to Kindergarten, and Tristain Cooper to Year 1. Each of the students has enjoyed their first day at school, arriving proudly in their uniforms this morning. Miss Lindeman is thrilled to have the students join her class.

I commend Year 3 students for their settled and mature start to learning in the senior class. They are each an asset to our school and I am so excited to have them in the senior room.

I would like to congratulate the P&C for coordinating a terrific activities afternoon and carol’s evening at the end of last year. Special mention should be made of Chrissie Bourke who lead the coordination of the event. It was a wonderful occasion enjoyed by all in attendance.

Izzy Ward, Amity Hoade, Hollie Hoade and Caitlin Bell entertain those who attended the P&C Carols Night

Next Tuesday the school will host a welcome barbeque for all families. The BBQ will begin at 5:30pm. The P&C AGM will follow the barbeque. Families are asked to bring a salad to share. It would be fantastic to see everyone at the barbeque, and all are welcome at the P&C Meeting.

The Active After School Communities Program has come to an end. I will present a proposal to the P&C at the P&C Meeting next Tuesday for an alternative to the initiative.

The senior class will welcome a practicum student next week to complete a four week practicum. All students are looking forward to working with the student teacher.

Music Australia has agreed to teach music lessons at Black Mountain Public School. This initiative is being heavily subsidised to reduce the cost to families. It is fantastic as it allows children to access music sessions without having to be transported anywhere. Students can remain at school for their lesson. I am very excited about this great opportunity.

I will be the second adult on site and am happy to supervise students waiting for their lesson to occur. The more students that access the opportunity, the more secure the program will be in our school.

Keyboard and Guitar lessons with Music Education Australia will begin next week. If you would like your child to participate, but have not yet booked them in, please contact the school as there are some places still available. The times of the lessons are below and further information is attached to this newsletter in a letter to parents.

Guitar – 2:45pm
Keyboard – 3:15pm
Guitar – 3:45pm
Keyboard – 4:15pm

I have attached a Calendar of Events to this newsletter. Following the discussion at P&C next week I will send out a revised calendar of events including an After School Activities option should it be agreed upon.

I am so very excited about the year ahead, and the fantastic learning experiences and opportunities students will access at Black Mountain Public School. We are a school that grows successful individuals. Welcome back!

Belinda Baker, Principal

Chris Bell and Mark Baker cooked the P&C Barbeque

Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival ...

The Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival will be held at the Guyra Swimming Pool on Tuesday, February 10, and all students K–6 will be attending the event. Students will travel by bus which will leave school at 9:30am.

All students will be required to pay $3.50 to the pool on the day. There will be many students attending from all schools so parents should send $3.50 cash per child in to school so that Mrs Baker can pay for entry of all students at the one time, which will make entry to the pool quicker.

Please complete the permission note attached to this newsletter and return it, together with the pool entry fee, as soon as possible. If your child has a pool pass please indicate this on the permission note.

Students will be able to purchase food from the canteen on the day, but are encouraged to ensure they bring a water bottle from home to drink throughout the day. The carnival will begin at 10:00am.

Students can be collected from the pool at 2:20pm, or can return to school on the school bus to return home as normal. Please indicate how you child will be leaving from the carnival. Thank you to Faye and Joseph George for providing our return travel free of charge.

Wellbeing Workshop ...

A Wellbeing workshop will be run with all students on Thursday, February 5, by a representative from the NRL School Programs Delivery Team.
School Photos ...

School photos will take place on Wednesday, February 18. Students will be receiving envelopes to purchase photos closer to the date.

The photographer arrives at school at 8:00am to take staff photos and is happy to begin photographing students as soon as he can.

Please ensure your child arrives at school in full summer school uniform by no later than 8:40am to ensure the photographs can be taken quickly, causing little disruption to student learning.

Attendance Information ...

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. I congratulate parents and carers of Black Mountain Public School students for their outstanding support of education. This is evident in our attendance results.

An explanation of a child’s absence from school should be provided either in writing or via a phone call to the school promptly and within seven days of the child’s absence.

If a child is required to be absent from school, due to exceptional circumstances, parents can apply for an Exemption from Attendance at School. This application must be made in writing and if possible prior to the absence. An application form can be collected from the front office. If the principal deems the circumstances resulting in the child being absent from school fall under the criteria for exceptional circumstances then an Exemption from Attendance at School may be granted. A Certificate of Exemption will be completed by the Principal and will need to be signed by a parent. Parents need to be able to present their Certificate of Exemption should they be asked by a Home School Liaison Officer why their child is not attending school.

Encouraging regular attendance is a core school responsibility and I thank parents for ensuring their children attend school every day and for being outstanding role models. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school should you have any questions about attendance.

Transition to Kindergarten ...

The Transition to Kindergarten program will begin this week. Mrs Sally Castle will be coordinating the program. All children starting school in 2016 are welcome to attend.

The cost will remain at $15 per day and provides students with the foundations to start school with ease and confidence.

Please contact the school if you know of any families with children starting school in 2016 who might be interested in this fantastic initiative.

Uniform Information ...

Early in 2014 a meeting was held to discuss the uniform for students attending Black Mountain Public School.

Attached to this newsletter is a Uniform Guide for parents, with all items included agreed upon at the meeting. Please remember that this is a guide only and should you locate the same items for a cheaper price elsewhere please feel free to purchase them.

Terry’s Menswear will be placing an order for girls’ summer dresses early next week, so if you are seeking a dress please call and order your child’s size by the end of the week.

If any families require support in obtaining items of the school uniform please contact the school and staff will be very happy to assist you.

The students of Black Mountain are often complimented on their outstanding uniform and I thank parents and carers for their support in ensuring their child/ren attend school in full school uniform every day. Black Mountain Public School is a school to be proud of.

Update Information ...

Please ensure that all of the family and medical details the school holds in relation to your family are correct and up to date. This information is crucial in ensuring the smooth operation of the school and is becoming increasingly more important in relation to school funding. Parent education level and employment information is one section of data utilised to determine additional funding for the school and is therefore very important.

All information must be up to date when it is harvested from our school system, as we get no second chances to input data. Please assist the school by updating your details as soon as any changes occur.

Should any of your details have changed since you last completed this update of information form please complete the attached form.
Dear Parents,

We have an amazing opportunity to offer professional guitar and keyboard lessons to students. The lessons are conducted by Music Education Australia.

**Music Education Australia provides:**
- Professional Music Tutors
- Small Group Lessons (2-6 Students)
- Very Affordable = $110 Per Term (70% less than private tuition)
- Music Books Supplied During Lessons
- Instruments Supplied for Every Student During Lessons!

**Enrolments Now Open**
If you would like your child to participate please enrol using one of the options below:

**Option 1: Enrol Online (Preferred)**
Please enrol online via www.musiceducationaustralia.com.au. It takes 2 minutes and you will receive a confirmation email confirming your enrolment.

**Option 2: Phone 1300 889 179**
If you don’t have access to the internet you can enrol by calling the Music Education Australia office on 1300 889 179. We hope you can support this program.

Kind regards,

John Brett
Operations Manager
Music Education Australia

**Phone:** 1300 889 179  
**Email:** info@musiceducationaustralia.com.au  
**Web:** www.musiceducationaustralia.com.au
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THUR</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT/SUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAN/FEB</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26 Australia Day</td>
<td>27 Staff Development Day</td>
<td>28 Students Return</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Music Australia</td>
<td>3 Welcome BBQ 5.30pm P&amp;C Meeting 7pm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 Wellbeing Talk K-6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9 Music Australia</td>
<td>10 Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16 Music Australia</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 School Photographs</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB/MAR</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>23 Music Australia</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 Leadership Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2 Music Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9 Music Australia</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Three Way Interviews</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 Harmony Day Activities</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Three Way Interviews</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26 School Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR/APR</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 Easter Celebration Last Day of Term</td>
<td>3 Easter Friday</td>
<td>4/5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>