**Farewell Mr Fitzpatrick**

After a successful teaching and leadership career, it is with sadness that we say farewell to Mr Peter Fitzpatrick who has announced his retirement which takes effect during the holidays. I know that students and teachers will miss him. A special assembly will be held at school for Mr Fitzpatrick and we will be issuing invitations to his farewell function at the school on Monday 7 December commencing at 3:30pm.

**Applications for Year 7 2017 Selective High School**

All students in Year 5 have been provided with a note about their intention to apply for entry to selective high school for 2017. We ask parents to return the note if they are intending to apply as this helps us to track applications. All applications must be made online. **The closing date is Monday 16 November** and no late applications will be accepted. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on **Thursday 10 March 2016**.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Week 6 Commencing Monday 9 November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 27</td>
<td>3-6 Basketball 3:00- 4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28</td>
<td>Kindergarten transition 9:30-11:00&lt;br&gt;53 Karate 3:00- 4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 29</td>
<td>K-2 Basketball 3:00- 4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 30</td>
<td>K-6 Learn to Swim program&lt;br&gt;PSSA Round 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Week 7 Commencing Monday 16 November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17</td>
<td>3-6 Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19</td>
<td>K-2 Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20</td>
<td>PSSA Semi Finals&lt;br&gt;K-6 Swimming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Week 8 Commencing Monday 23 November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24</td>
<td>3-6 Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>White Ribbon Day Assembly 9:15&lt;br&gt;All parents invited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19</td>
<td>K-2 Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20</td>
<td>PSSA Semi Finals&lt;br&gt;K-6 Swimming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Important Dates

- **Monday 30 November**: Parent Helper Morning Tea 11:10am
- **Wednesday December 2**: Performing Arts Concert
- **Monday 7 December**: Mr Fitzpatrick’s Farewell Afternoon Tea
- **Wednesday 9 December**: Year 6 Farewell
- **Friday 11 December**: Kindergarten Graduation, K-6 Assembly including Mr Fitzpatrick’s Farewell Assembly
- **Monday 14 December**: Presentation Day and Student Reports issued
NSW Health Whooping Cough Information
NSW Health has requested that all schools provide the following information to parents about whooping cough. The information is general and there are no concerns about Belmore North PS in this matter. See the back page.

Do you know what your child is buying at the corner shop?
There is a very strong link between effective brain function and good nutrition. The occasional treat is something most parents give their children. Lollies before school is not the best way for your child to start his/her school day.

Stage 1 Students had a fabulous learning time at the Australian Museum.

Parents as partners with the school
All staff at our school are committed to continuous improvement. We want to work in partnership with you to so that children achieve the best learning possible. Please take the time to go to our website and complete the survey. If you have an email address we can send the survey link directly to you.
Congratulations Marissa in 5R who has been accepted into the Australian Children’s Choir. We look forward to seeing you in a Qantas advertisement or even your first solo.

Improving Dyslexic Children’s Reading Abilities? The role of Video Games

The University of Sydney is running a study looking at improving reading ability in children with dyslexia using video games. The activities will be carried out at the University of Sydney for 11 days (90 minute sessions) during the summer holidays. Participation in the study is free and parking is provided. To participate in the study or for any questions you may have, please feel free to contact Dr Piergiorgio Trevisan at piergiorgio.trevisan@sydney.edu.au or on 0421 948 022.

Save the Date: Wednesday 25 November
Parents are invited to attend our White Ribbon Day Assembly commencing 9:15 am. Please try to come along to this important community event.

Reminders
Under no circumstance is a parent to approach another parent in the school about a matter relating to student behaviour. If you have concerns about another student’s behaviour you must see the principal.

Be a good role model to your children when crossing the road. Let’s keep our children safe.

Please remind your child to see a teacher in the playground if there is a problem and keep hands off other people.
**Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.