Dear Parents/Caregivers,

What an amazing last few weeks we have had at Belmont Public School.

**Illuminate**
Our art show “Illuminate” was spectacular and we were overwhelmed with the amount of community support we received. Special thanks to Mrs Kuba for coordinating this event. $2000 was raised from the sale of the auction items. If you would still like to purchase your child’s individual art work for $5, could you please see the office staff.

**Public Speaking**
This event was followed by the Lake Macquarie Public Speaking competition. Belmont Public hosted the stage 3 finals last Monday. Mrs Hocking was the host for this event and we would like to thank her for her coordination and efforts that went into this day. Congratulations to Sophie Harrison, Tia Morgan, Kenya Cheers, Hannah Jarvis, Jasmine Locock, Rani Scorringe, Ava Leman and Phoenix Locock who were our finalists. All students represented our school proudly.

**Buddy Bench**
Thank you to the parents and students who came to school early last Wednesday. Unfortunately our buddy bench wasn’t delivered at this time. However it was great to see so many people supporting this initiative. Our bench has since arrived and will be installed this week. If students can’t find someone to play with then the bench can be a great way to find someone to play with and is a visual reminder for other students to include others in the games. The bench will be positioned near the oval. We are also adding a buddy bench in the 50c area.

**Spelling Bee**
The stage 2 and 3 Spelling Bee finals will be in our hall at 10am on Thursday 20th. All parents and families members are invited to attend.
Kindergarten 2016
Enrolments are being taken for Kindergarten next year. If you have a child or know of any children who are coming to Kindergarten next year please see the office staff for enrolment forms.

Zone Athletics Carnival
Well done to our zone athletics team, who competed last week. Congratulations to Hannah Jarvis and Sophia Walton who have made it through to the Regional Athletics Carnival.

Book Week
Book week will be celebrated next week in week 7. Books will be on sale in the Library on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before school. Our book week parade will be on Wednesday 26th August, starting at 10am in the hall. Students are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character on this day. The Senior Choir, Junior Dance Group and our Star Struck dance group will also be performing.

Operation Art
Congratulations to Beau Hankin, Jessika Corkery, Izabella Ridley and Cailene Dow. Their art work has been chosen as part of the Operation Art exhibition in Sydney. The exhibition will be at the Armory Gallery, Sydney Olympic Park from the 5th September – 25th October.

P&C
Our next P&C meeting will be on Friday 21st August at 9:30 am in G block. All nominations for P&C President need to be forwarded to the Secretary- Mrs Mettam before this meeting.
**Jump Rope For Heart**
Our school is participating in the Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart program and we would love your support! Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is an exciting and non-competitive program which encourages children to become more active through skipping, learning new skills and raising vital funds for heart research and community health programs. Visit the website to see prizes, create a profile and log your activities.

Sponsorship forms were handed out last Friday. Students are to raise funds by collecting money from friends and family within the community. Our Jump Off event will take place during week 9 – Wednesday 9th September. During the middle session, students will participate in a number of skipping activities and prizes will be announced for those students who raise money and hit targets. Good luck!

**Lake Macquarie Art Gallery**
I had the privilege of attending an art workshop with our Aboriginal stage 3 students a few weeks ago. Not only were our students extremely well behaved but it was fantastic to see the students creating meaningful sculptures that will be part of a larger exhibition that will be on show from the 4th September at Lake Macquarie Art gallery. The exhibition will show the stories of Aboriginal people and what life was like for them when they were on Missions. Thank you to Mrs Roberts for organising this excursion.

**Important Dates**
24th – 26th August: Book week
26th August: Book week parade
28th August: Stage 2 Belmont Library excursion
1st September: Kindergarten Oakvale Farm excursion
3rd September: Fathers Day stall
3rd September: Bunnings Fathers Day BBQ and craft night
9th September: Jump Rope for Heart

Kate Foley
Principal