A Message from Mrs Bonello
How do you make reading a joy and not a chore for your child? One way is to find information and interesting facts about things that intrigue or interest your child in books, magazines or on the internet. Read and talk about what you find out. Here are some other tips: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/ten-ideas-to-help-your-child-with-reading
If you haven’t visited www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au yet I would encourage you to do so. There is a wealth of information available to parents.

NAPLAN Parent Workshop
Just a reminder that there will be a workshop for parents of children in Years 3 and 5 about NAPLAN on Wednesday, 20th March, from 9am in the computer lab. We will be outlining ways we are assisting your child to be more confident in testing procedures and will offer practical suggestions for parents to use at home. This workshop will be supported by our Vietnamese and Arabic teachers. We hope that many parents are able to attend.

Stage 2 & 3 Number Groups
This term at BWPS students in stages 2 and 3 will be involved in number groups. Twice a week for one hour, students will attend ability based, cross-stage groups with a focus on teaching explicit number skills and strategies. These groups are taught by classroom teachers, with the support of Mrs Benson and Mrs Ray. Organising groups in this manner allows teachers to cater more effectively to the specific needs of your child, while ensuring all students cover the same number concepts each week. We are excited to introduce this new program at BWPS and if you have any questions, please make an appointment to speak with your child’s teacher.
Samantha Goodman (Rel. Assistant Principal)

Birthdays
Occasionally parents like to share their children’s birthday celebrations with the class. It is very important that parents approach the class teacher first before making any plans. Generally speaking, individual cupcakes or donuts are the most safe, convenient and hygienic way of distributing treats, but as individuals have specific requirements, we ask you to seek the advice of the class teacher before making any arrangements. Please help us to keep all our children safe and happy.

Swimming Scheme
Our school’s swimming scheme lessons start on Monday 18th March and end Thursday 28th March. These lessons are most important for our students, as it is essential that all children are able to swim. It’s not too late to participate.

Easter Holiday: Friday 29 March to Monday 1 April
School Holidays: Mon 15 April to Tues 30 April
Students return to school: Wednesday 1 May

Playgroup will now only operate on Wednesdays.

Spears Sports Club
Please see the back of this newsletter for information on how to register for the 2013 season with this local sports club. For further information see Mrs Griffin.

Get Ready for Bankstown’s Biggest Youth Festival Ever – The Falls End Youth Week Festival Saturday, 13 April 2013 from 12noon – 8pm Paul Keating Park, The Mall, Bankstown All youth, family, friends and staff welcome!! See Headliner Acts including Fortunate and other past contestants from X Factor and So You Think You Can Dance. Free activities and rides include henna, air brush tattoos, caricature drawings, professional photography, snow cones, face painting, horizontal bungee, a giant inflatable obstacle course and Pitchburst. Competitions like Scavenger Hunt, Design a T Shirt and Oztag have cash and iPad prizes. Call 9707 9605 for more information.

Calendar – The weeks ahead
Term 1 Week 8

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 18 March</th>
<th>Swim Scheme starts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 20 March</td>
<td>NAPLAN workshop</td>
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<td>Wed 20 March</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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Term 1 Week 9

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Thursday 28 March</th>
<th>Easter Hat Parade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29 March</td>
<td>Easter holiday starts</td>
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