Dear parents,

On behalf of the Blakehurst High P&C, I’m writing to urge you, if you have not already done so, to pay the P&C Student Enhancement Fee of $50 per family.

As I’m sure you are aware, Blakehurst High does an exceptional job of educating our children, providing them with enriching experiences and learning opportunities above and beyond the basics, mainly through the hard work and dedication of the staff.

Government funding and the voluntary contributions (school fees) paid by parents provide the basic level of financial support the school needs to operate. However there are many other things Blakehurst High needs to resource its programs which are not covered by this funding.

The P&C has chosen not to ask parents and students to engage in fund-raising activities such as chocolate drives, raffles, sausage sizzles and the like, but rather to ask each family to make a small, yearly contribution to enhance the learning of all students at the school.

The P&C Student Enhancement Fees collected each year are distributed according to the needs of the school at the time. Decisions about how the money is spent are made by the P&C based on funding requests from the faculties and the executive staff and with an aim of spreading the resources as fairly as possible across the faculties and year groups, and providing those resources the school would not otherwise be able to provide for the benefit of students.

Funding from the P&C each year pays for the SMS alert system ($5,000 p.a.), Ecomist in the toilets ($1,100), Mathletics ($9,100), access to Study Skills online resources ($1,000), and Year 7 diaries ($1,800). Just in the last 3 years, P&C funds have also been used to purchase lighting, video and audio equipment for the hall ($26,800), blinds for classrooms ($2,400), a data logger ($8,470), hot plates & electronic balances ($1,600), cameras, lighting box & tripods ($2,500), sewing machines ($5,200) and a drinking fountain ($500), as well as supporting the school’s involvement in a debating program ($4,600) and subsidising travel and accommodation for students who qualify at state or national level in sports.

Without P&C funding, Blakehurst High would have been unable to provide all of these valuable aids to your children’s learning. Every student in the school benefits from this funding, and every student would be affected if this funding was not available. We can only provide these “extras” if families are willing to do their part.

All parents are very welcome to attend P&C meetings (2nd Wednesday of each month, except during school holidays, at 7pm in the staff common room) to hear the funding requests from staff and participate in deciding what programs to support.
If you have already paid your 2015 P&C Student Enhancement fee – thank you! Be assured, your contribution will be used to give all students an enriched learning experience. If you have not yet paid, please do make your contribution as soon as possible via the school office, so that we can continue to support the wonderful learning environment at Blakehurst High.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Woof
on behalf of Blakehurst High School P&C