Calendar Week 9

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NOTES TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

2-6 Cross Country 28/03/13
K-6 Gmysports 10/04/13
Parent/Teacher Interviews

Principal's Message

Well we arrived back from camp safe and sound last Friday. If not, somewhat, a little more sore and sorry for ourselves. We were on the go from early morning until late in the evening. I have added a small overview of what we experienced whilst we were away:

Our Year 4-5-6 students swapped desks and computers for fresh air and activities last week when they visited Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation Centre.

The group of 25 students attended as part of their outdoor education program as well as a wonderful parent, Todd, who again volunteered to assist at camp.

Our Wednesday active outdoor learning program included kayaking. And our evening activity was swimming in the indoor pool. I very cheekily asked how I was supposed to get the girls’ hair dry before bed and of course the reply was – Not my problem! Still walking back to the bunker room allowed plenty of time to dry along with supper of chocolate milk and a biscuit. Next it was back to the rooms for brushing teeth, hair, a chat, then off to bed. First night down! One to go!

On Thursday the first duty of the morning was to wish Joel a Happy Birthday! We had breakfast and got ready for high ropes/flying fox and sailing, which unfortunately was cancelled due to an extreme wind warning, but substituted with a design and make boat activity. Each team had to select a variety of components to make their boats. Once the boats were made they had to race them to a white buoy and back. The only condition was that whatever was on the boat at the start of the race had to be on the boat at the end. As bits and pieces started to drift away from the racing boats designated team members were sent off to retrieve them. Those of us observing couldn’t stop laughing! I will include some very interesting photos on our website. It was a great deal of fun! In the afternoon we celebrated Joel's birthday with an amazing cake that was carefully carried on a train and bus to get to camp. I hope you appreciate mum’s efforts Joel! In the evening we had chair games in the bunker room before supper and bed.
On Friday, our last day, we did rock climbing and archery. Many of us challenged ourselves and stepped outside our comfort zone to have a go at something we had never tried before.

The adventurous activities were certainly a lot of fun, but they also provided a significant educational advantage. The program was a great opportunity for us to challenge our abilities and practice initiative, teamwork and communication.

Sport and Recreation Centres also host family and kids’ programs during the school holidays. Visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/camps for more information or check out their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NSWSportandRecreation.

Camp Photos
Could any students who took photos at camp bring them into school on a thumb drive for me to copy before the end of school as I will be working on a DVD during the holidays. Thanks!

Well the Easter hats are made and some very excited children ready to wear them! A HUGE thank you to our senior students who assisted our younger ones in Peer Support groups to make their wonderful creations. What imaginations!

The hats are ready-now all we need is an audience. Don’t forget to bring something to share and come for a tea or coffee at 1.30pm in the Special Purpose Room tomorrow. The Easter Hat parade is due to start at 2.00pm. After the parade we will draw the Easter raffle then have an Easter egg hunt.

Hope you can join us! I would like to wish everyone a wonderful Easter and a few relaxing days with lots of chocolate.

Bulli High School Enrichment Test
Just a reminder that the Bulli High Enrichment Assessment will be held on Thursday 4 April for those students who filled out the application form. You will need to arrive at Bulli High School by 9.15am; the assessment commences at 9.30am and finishes at 12.30pm. Parents will need to organise their child’s transport to and from Bulli High School.

Bandaged Bear Day Breakfast
Next Wednesday 3 April is our Bandaged Bear Day breakfast. Thank you to everyone who has already returned their breakfast requests. If you would still like to come it is not too late. Pick up a breakfast menu from the office, but it would be a great help if you could return them by this
Thursday 28 March. Don't forget to bring a labelled: bowl, plate, cup and spoon.
I would like to thank both Woolworths and Coles who have kindly donated GIFT cards to assist with the purchase of our breakfast foods. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Cross Country
Don't forget that our school's Cross Country is being run at Rex Jackson Oval Helensburgh on Friday 5 April. Only children from Years 2-6 will attend and only those turning 8 this year will be considered to go to District Cross Country if their times are competitive. However, K-1 will have a mini cross country back at school.

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their permission notes and offer of transport. If you feel that you can assist on the day please let the office know and pick up a form to say how many children you could assist with. Looking forward to a fun day! Parents helping with transport need to be at the school by 12pm to be ready for a 12.10pm take off to Rex Jackson Oval.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
On Monday 8 April Mrs Flamme will be conducting parent/teacher interviews and my interviews will be conducted on Wednesday 10 April. This is a ten minute overview of your child's progress. If you would like a more extensive discussion about an issues you may have please do not hesitate to contact to office to make an appointment with your child's teacher. Notes went home today.

I would like to wish Mrs Cudmore a relaxing Long Service leave commencing on Tuesday 2 April. She will return in Term 2 when a date and time will be organised for her class parent/teacher interviews.

Thank you for your support of our St.Patrick’s Day mufti gold coin donation we raised $51 which will go to the Westmead Children’s Hospital.

School Development Days
Every year schools get five School Development Days. These are designated at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3 and two at the end of Term 4. However, this year school have been allocated an extra School Development Day to assist teachers in working collaboratively to get their heads around the new English syllabus which is being introduced in 2014.

This is just a reminder that next term we have both Monday 29 April and Tuesday 30 April as School development Days. Students will not return to school until Wednesday 1 May. Please make sure you add these dates to your calendar.

Sporting Efforts
We are very proud of Huon - on the weekend he was selected to represent Sydney in under 11’s hockey.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
The Premier’s Reading Challenge registrations opened on Friday 1 March. The reading list can be accessed on the NSW Premier’s reading Challenge website.

To make sure you are reading the right books, please check the rules for your Challenge on the website: http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au.

Student Reading Records must be entered online by parents. There is a Personal Reading Log print out to record what you read until you get time to enter your books online. Mrs Dufty will be organising the Premier’s Reading Challenge.
books that we have available in our school library. Other titles may be sourced from public libraries. Happy reading!!! Let’s see if we can get the whole school involved.

Premier’s Sporting Challenge
We are also taking part in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge this year. The Challenge commences in Term 2 2013 and concludes on 20 September 2013. Schools have a nineteen week time frame to complete the 10 weeks of physical activity required to meet the Challenge. The Challenge is class based. Class members contribute the time they spend in physical activity each week to the class effort. Classes are challenged to set goals to accrue time spent each week in moderate to vigorous activity which is undertaken in a range of sports and physical activities.

Let’s get active!!
Gymsports
Gymsports will be commencing on **Wednesday 1 May, term 2**. A note has been sent home with your child today. Please fill it out and return the form by **Wednesday 10 April**.

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**Million Paws Walk Team**

By taking part in the 2013 Million Paws Walk to fight animal cruelty! The walk will take place on Sunday 19 May across NSW - it will be a great day out!  **Register now** for our special discounted registration price to save $$ from your entry fee. But hurry, this offer ends on Sunday! Join us for a 2km or 4km walk in **Sydney** or **view other locations across NSW**. Invite your friends, family, colleagues and canine companions to sit, fetch, roll over and walk to help animals. For more information, **visit the website**.

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**Helensburgh Lions Club**

**Easter Saturday, Easter Scramble!**

Come to Charles Harper Park on Easter Saturday from 9am for some chocolatey family fun and the Lions Club's Easter Scramble. Indulge in a bacon & egg or fruit salad & pancake brekky, buy a raffle ticket and enjoy a free kids' show with Snake Tails before our fifth fantastic Scramble - one for children 5 and under and the second for the 6 and over crowd. Please bring some Easter eggs for the basket so there's a lot to scramble for, and remember the Scramble rules - no pushing or shoving, no taking eggs from others and no bags or hats, collect eggs in your hands only! That way, we all have fun and a fair go. See you there!
Administering of Prescribed Medications
If your child requires any form of prescribed medications to be administered during school hours, the appropriate forms must be completed and signed. These forms are available from the school administration office. For safety reasons, students are not permitted to have medications in their school bags.

St George Illawarra Dragons Visit

School zone safety
A reminder to parents about the operation of school speed zones around the Easter holidays.

School zones exist for the safety of children and families; they will operate on Thursday 28 March, then resume on Tuesday 2 April.

Forty-kilometres-an-hour school speed zones operate across New South Wales at all school sites on gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil-free days.


Practise to be a journalist
This website could definitely make practising writing and spelling more interesting for all of us. Make a newspaper clipping with your own headline and story. Your child may even start imagining themselves as a publisher or journalist.

http://www.fodey.com/generators/newspaper/snippet.asp

Safety locks
Between 2011 and the end of 2012, 39 children aged nine or younger were hospitalised in NSW as a result of window falls. New lock laws in apartment buildings will soon help to keep our kids safe. Child safety locks are now required to be installed on apartment windows.


Back by popular demand
Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.


Bullying knows no bounds
When cyberbullying hits home - what one mum wishes she’d done differently. Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using.