NOTES TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

K-6  Gymsports 10/04/13

Principal's Message
I can’t believe that it is Week 11! Where has the term gone! Just a quick recap of activities that have occurred throughout Term 1:

- Swimming Carnival
- ChiME K-1-2
- ‘Welcome BBQ’ for our new Kindergarten families
- Discovery Day at Bulli High School for Year 6
- Responsible Pet Ownership Program
- Clean Up Australia Day - unfortunately cancelled due to wet weather
- Premier’s Reading Challenge commenced
- Celebrated St. Patrick’s Day for charity - We raised $51 for the Westmead Children’s Hospital. Thanks everyone!

Calender Week 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Service</td>
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<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 13 April</td>
<td>Bunnings BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 May</td>
<td>Term 2 Begins – Students Return to School</td>
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<td>Gymsports Begins</td>
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<td>Premiers Sporting Challenge Begins</td>
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<td>Friday 3 May</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7 May</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting @ 3.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 10 May</td>
<td>District Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 16 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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- Narrabeen Camp for Years 4-5-6
- NRL Dragons Visit
- Easter Hat Parade & Raffle
- EASTER BREAK!
- Bandaged Bear Day Breakfast where we raised $65.00 for the Westmead Children’s Hospital
- Cross Country - unfortunately cancelled due to wet weather
- ANZAC Day service at school this Friday

Phew! Take a breath! You can rest easy until next term when it starts all over again. Have a wonderful holiday and a well-earned rest!

Lesley Matthews
Principal

Annual School Report
The Annual School Report is a record of the school's self-evaluation process. It is conducted annually and is part of the ongoing cycle of school planning and evaluation. It provides information to the school community on the performance of the school in national and state testing programs. It also provides information about the context in which that information should be considered.

Approximately 2250 schools and education centres produce an Annual School Report according to specifications established by the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC), Educational Measurement and School Accountability Directorate.

For small schools or small student groups, the reporting of information must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies. Summary statistics or graphical representation of student performance must not be used for groups of less than 10 students in a course or subject. Where there are fewer than 10 students, schools will report information with descriptive text only and give due consideration to ensuring the privacy of all students.

Our 2012 Annual School Report is now available on our website. Happy reading!
School Development Days Term 2
Please remember that Monday 29 April is our School Development Day for staff only. Due to the implementation of a NEW English syllabus in 2014 we have been granted another School Development Day on Tuesday 30 April for staff to spend the day working through the syllabus and discussing similarities and differences and what it means for our teaching. **Staff only to return to school.**

Students return to school on Wednesday 1 May.

Bandaged Bear Day Breakfast
Despite the poor weather we had a wonderful turnout to our Bandaged Bear Day Breakfast. There was plenty of laughter and fun as we shared our breakfast together in our pyjamas. I took a photo of us in our pyjamas to a meeting I had with Mr. Graham Kahabka, our School Education Director, and told him it was our new school attire. It certainly brought a smile to his face as it did ours. Thank you everyone for your support. We raised $65.00 which we will send to the Westmead Children’s Hospital.

I must again acknowledge the support of Woolworths who donated $50.00 towards purchasing breakfast items and Coles who donated $30.00, otherwise that money would have come out of our school budget to support such a worthwhile cause.

Bandaged Bear Day Merchandise - For Sale
We will be selling the leftover merchandise at lunchtime for the rest of this week. If your child wishes to purchase any of these items, please bring the correct money to school.

Our Bandaged Bear Day Winners were:
Oldest Bear: Stella/Joe
Smallest bear: Elena
Biggest Bear: Emma (a very close competition)
Best Dressed Bear: Soraya
Most Colourful Bear: Jack
Most Unusual Bear: Bennet
Bear Most like its Owner: Tahlia/Declan

Congratulations to all of the Easter raffle winners

Gymsports
Just a reminder that Gymsports notes went home last newsletter. It would be appreciated if you could return it as soon as possible with payment as the first day back at school will be the commencement of this activity. **Please remember to wear sports uniform.** If you have misplaced your note please ask at the front office.

ANZAC Day Service
We will conducting our ANZAC Day service this Friday 12 April at 10.45am. Everyone is welcome to bring flowers.

Narrabeen Camp Photos
Could anyone who took photos on our school camp at Narrabeen please bring them in on a thumb drive for me to copy before I put together a DVD of our fun over the holidays.

Cross Country
Unfortunately a difficult decision had to be made about Cross Country yesterday. The weather was too unpredictable so it was cancelled. Please ensure that you have Friday 3 May, the first week back at school, as the next back up date. If the weather is still poor and our cross country is unable to be run I will look back on last year’s competitors and invite them to again represent our school on Friday 10 May at the District Cross Country.
Woolworths Earn & Learn
From Monday 8 April until Sunday 9 June 2013, when you shop at Woolworths you will be given a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent. Collect these Woolworths Earn & Learn Points and our school will be able to redeem these for educational resources. Woolworths at Engadine will have a box for Otford Public School at the checkouts. Just pop your point sheets into the box and they will be added to our total points, or bring them into the school office.

NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or ‘domains’) of:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Tuesday 14 May 2013</th>
<th>Wednesday 15 May 2013</th>
<th>Thursday 16 May 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 45 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Tuesday 14 May 2013</th>
<th>Wednesday 15 May 2013</th>
<th>Thursday 16 May 2013</th>
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<tr>
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<td>40 minutes</td>
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Thanks
Each year the P&C works tirelessly to raise funds for our school. I would like to congratulate the P&C on their efforts so far this year. They have run ‘Special Lunches’ – thank you Paul and his helpers for this very special treat for our students. I neglected to thank Paul in the last newsletter for the ‘special lunch’ of spaghetti bolognese. I believe it was a HUGE success. The Easter Egg raffle raised over $500.00 and the Hot Cross Bun order also contributed to funds.

The next HUGE event for the P&C is this Saturday 13 April at Bunnings Wollongong, commencing at 8.00am. Please look for the roster on the community noticeboard and if you can spare some time throughout the day I know that it would be very much appreciated by Narelle. (Bunnings BBQ organiser extraordinaire!) See you there!

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.

Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision

I do not so easily think in words. ... After being hard at work having arrived at results that are perfectly clear ... I have to translate my thoughts in a language that does not run evenly with them.

—Francis Galton, geneticist

Language refinement plays a critical role in enhancing a person’s cognitive maps and ability to think critically, which is the knowledge base for efficacious action. Enriching the complexity and specificity of language simultaneously produces effective thinking.

Language and thinking are closely entwined; like either side of a coin, they are inseparable. Fuzzy, vague language is a reflection of fuzzy, vague thinking. Intelligent people strive to communicate accurately in both written and oral form, taking care to use precise language; defining terms; and using correct names, labels, and analogies. They strive to avoid overgeneralizations, deletions, and distortions. Instead, they support their statements with explanations, comparisons, quantification, and evidence.

We sometimes hear students and adults using vague and imprecise language. They describe objects or events with words like weird, nice, or OK. They name specific objects using such non descriptive words as stuff, junk, things, and whatever. They punctuate sentences with meaningless interjections like ya know, er, and uh. They use vague or general nouns and pronouns: "They told me to do it," "Everybody has one," or "Teachers don't understand me." They use nonspecific verbs: "Let's do it." At other times, they use unqualified comparatives: "This soda is better; I like it more" (Shachtman, 1995).

Children Going Home with Other Parents
Just a reminder for parents to inform the school when your child is going to be picked up by another person. Please notify the school by a phone call or written permission. Thank you.
Merit Awards
K/1  Soraya, James & Josh
2/3/4  Oliver, Grace, Jack & Thomas
4/5/6  Bennet, Alex, Jake C & Lachie McK

P & C News
A fantastic turnout for our meeting yesterday afternoon! For a change of pace we decided to hold a meeting at school pick up time, and it seems that might be more convenient for some parents to come along. We did well from the Easter Raffle, raising around $500. Thanks to all who supported this fundraiser. Proceeds will go towards our ongoing commitment to purchasing resources for our kids at school.

The Bunnings BBQ will be held this Saturday 13 April. We still need volunteers to come along and staff the stall, which will operate between 8am and 4 pm. Have a look on the roster outside the 2/3/4 classroom, and see where you can help, even for an hour would be fantastic. On Friday afternoon at 2pm we need helpers to come along and help chop onions for the BBQ: BYO chopping board, knife or mandolin, and goggles!! We also need aprons to use on the day. Please bring along on Friday. Any questions please see Narelle.

The biannual OPS School Fete is slowly taking shape with some brave people volunteering to team up to organise. Our Fete will occur on Saturday 19 October. We would love some more team members, especially to help organise the entertainment (music) and raffle. We are also looking for people, perhaps as a class group or groups of friends, to run stalls like the bottle stall, tie-dye, second hand books, white elephant, or old-fashioned games (e.g. three legged race, egg-and-spoon, knock ’em down). Please see Liz, Narelle, Rachael, Amanda or Hayley for further info.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 May at 3.15pm. Please come along and get involved! The more the merrier!

Have a great holiday!

Cheers
Liz Turner
SCHOOL HOLIDAY SHOW AT MONKEY BAA THEATRE

Our school’s ex-Spanish teacher and drummer, Lilli Pang and the wonderful local band mistress extraordinaire, Alison Garvie are a part of a new show that will be on at Monkey Baa Theatre in the second week of the school holidays. If you are looking for theatre, music, singing, dance and moments of sheer joy then check it out.


Homework planner
Kids and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan - so print out our 2013 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays.


"The Art Box"
Holiday Art Program

Helensburgh Scout Hall
Parkes Street Helensburgh

Tues 16th April
Thurs 18th April
Tues 23rd April

For more information and a complete program please contact Lucy Lee on lucy_a_lee@yahoo.com.au

SHARKS BASKETBALL HOLIDAY CAMP

16th to 19th April 2013
9am - 2pm Age 6 to 15 years
T-Shirt & Ball for all Camp Participants

Waratah Park Rawson Ave Sutherland
Phone: 9542-1999 Fax: 9521-5696
Email: admin@sutherlandbasketball.net.au
Website: www.sutherland.basketball.net.au

Sylvan Daley
Head Coach

SHARKS BASKETBALL

Sutherland District Basketball Association
Ensuring fair play and a safe environment for all participants

An Introduction to Basketball Program for Primary School Students
Come and learn the game of basketball skills, drills and mini games

Bounce into Basketball at Helensburgh

At Helensburgh Community Centre
26 Walker Street Helensburgh NSW

Monday Afternoons during School Terms
4.00pm—5.15pm

Starts: Monday 29th April 2013
Cost: $6.50 per class or $60.00 paid in advance for 10 classes
Registration: $20.00 for all new players
Fees include insurance, coaching, court hire and equipment hire

Download enrolment form from our website: www.sutherland.basketball.net.au
Email: info@sutherlandbasketball.net.au for an enrolment form

Community News