

Term 4: Issue 18

25 November 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER

<i>Term</i>	
29.11.13	School Disco and Christmas Stall 5 – 7pm – All welcome
3.12.13	Excursion to Botanical Gardens – K-6 and 3day Pre-school
4.12.13	High School Orientation Day
5.12.13	P&C Annual General Meeting + General Meeting in the Library – 7pm
6.12.13	Reports go home
10.12.13	Presentation Day – Ermington Community Hall – 10am
11.12.13	Helpers Breakfast – 8:30am – 9:30am
11.12.13	Combined Scripture Concert
12.12.13	Year 6 Farewell
17.12.13	Fun Day – Class Parties
18.12.13	Last Day for students for the year

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

As the end of the year approaches, many events have drawn to a close. The school library stocktake starts today. All students are asked to search for their library books to return so we can start 2014 with a full library of wonderful books for everyone to borrow. Kindergarten Transition was highly successful with most students attending each session. The children enjoyed working with their Year 4 and 5 buddies to explore the variety of classroom activities and routines associated with starting school.



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Life Education

All students Preschool to Year 6 enjoyed a lesson in the Life Education van last week. These lessons are designed to strengthen personal development and healthy lifestyle choices all students need to make as they move through primary school. The students now have a series of follow-up lessons to complete in the classroom.

Teacher Professional Learning

Teachers are nearing completion of two professional learning programs for 2013. Every teacher is now trained in *Focus on Reading* which supports the explicit teaching of comprehension, reading fluency and vocabulary. This program requires all teachers to undertake an action research project to increase the amount of reading at home and school. The results so far have been fantastic with many students really engaged in their home reading tasks.

The National Partnerships project for numeracy will be finalised this week. The data the teachers have gathered demonstrates student growth in all classes for the specific focus of *Early Arithmetic Strategies* and *Place Value*. Students have engaged in small group, team-teaching, and gifted and talented group activities for maths. The teachers have attended a series of professional development meetings for the *Lesson Study* program. *Lesson Study* was designed in Japan and is now recognised world-wide as a teaching approach to look at specific lesson structure and validate teacher practices in a carefully designed series of lessons. The teachers at Rydalmere found this process highly successful and will continue matching 21st Century learning capabilities to daily classroom lessons.

New School Logo and Uniform

Many of you may have seen the new signs with the new school logo. The new logo has been designed in conjunction with the new school uniform. We are waiting for a few more items to arrive for the new uniform and then we will be able to sell the first uniform packs. There will be a day in January, before school returns, where parents are able to bring their child to school and purchase a starter pack. The starter pack prices are on display with the photos of the new uniform in the Community Noticeboard outside the Kindergarten classroom. Stay tuned for the announcement of the uniform purchasing day in January!

Mandy Ryan
Acting Principal



With this being the second last parent page for 2013, we have a few items to remind you of.....

Term 4 disco / BBQ and Christmas Stall **This week - Friday 29th November: 5pm to 7pm.**

We are now combining the Term 4 disco/BBQ and the Christmas gift stall to have them on the same evening. The Christmas stall will run while the disco is on.

We would love to have everyone come along and celebrate all our achievements of 2013 with an end of year disco and BBQ. A chance for the students, parents and carers to start winding down to a well needed break. This is also a great opportunity to buy some additional Christmas items for family and friends.

If you haven't returned your note for the Disco/BBQ please hand them in at the office by Tuesday 27th November to assist us with catering preparations☺

School Banking

School banking day is Wednesday. Melissa Ball (Lachlan's mum from Year One) is co-ordinating school banking.

Canteen

Great news.....As of the first week back to school next year, the Canteen will be open every Friday as well as every Wednesday ☺
Thank you to Jenny and all the volunteers who help out in the canteen.

First day back in 2014 – Canteen will be open: Wednesday 29th January. The rest of the week we are also open – Thursday 30th Jan for ice-creams and Friday for sandwiches, hot food and snacks.

For the remainder of this year the canteen is open:

Wednesdays: Canteen is open for sandwiches, hot food and snacks.

Thursdays: The Year 6 students are selling ice-creams in the canteen.

Fridays: **Open Friday 6th December** for sandwiches, hot food and snacks.

If you can spare an hour or two please see Jenny Mercer (Canteen Co-ordinator) or give her a call on 0419299784. Jenny is Aliyah's mum in Year 5 ☺

Our final get-together for 2013 – Thursday 5th December 2013 **Annual General Meeting (AGM) and General Meeting**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 5th December at 7pm in the Library. This will be followed by the final general meeting to help us wrap up 2013.

At the AGM, there will be a time for the Election of Office Bearers for the Parents and Citizens Committee. If you are interested in nominating for any of the positions or know someone that might be, please come along and be involved. All positions are up for re-election. A note was sent home recently with your children which detailed all the positions.

Uniform Shop - open on Fridays

When you need some uniforms, come and see Yvette and Maryanne on **Friday mornings from 8:50am - 9:15am** (just down the corridor from the front desk in the office building). If you're unable to make it on Friday, you can leave your order with the office staff or see Rita Cottam.

See you at the disco ☺

COMMUNITY NEWS



Attention Parents: Come and join the party!
Fitness for adults. Great cardio workout if
you're looking to shed a few extra kilos, while toning up.
No experience required, suits all levels of skill and fitness!

RYDALMERE PUBLIC SCHOOL HALL
6.30PM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
CALL, TEXT OR EMAIL TO REGISTER
KAREN 0423 688 088 j.k.bates@hotmail.com

Cost \$10 per class
Classes start 6th April.

Homework Group/ Parent Support Group

Need help assisting your children to complete their homework? Like most parents, helping your children to complete their homework can sometimes be challenging. So why not register for our Homework Group for your child/children.

The lead facilitator will be supporting your children to complete their homework on a weekly basis, in a safe, supportive and encouraging environment.

Details:

Location: Rydalmere Public School (Library)

When: Tuesday from 3-4pm.

First session will take place on the 4th Feb 2014

Contact: Nada on 0448 825 219 for registration

The Go4Fun logo, with "Go" in green and "4Fun" in blue, with a green triangle above the "4". To the right of the logo is the tagline "Healthy • Active • Happy • Kids" in small black text.

FREE fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier & happier

A group of about ten children, mostly of Asian descent, are lying on their backs on a light-colored floor, wearing matching blue t-shirts. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.

Go4Fun Tip: Go4 a healthy breakfast and beat the brain drain!

Do you have a child 7 to 13 years old?
Are you worried about their weight?
Go4Fun can help. Now on weekdays & weekends.
CALL NOW TO FIND A PROGRAM NEAR YOU!
1800 780 900
www.go4fun.com.au

The logo for NSW Health, featuring a red stylized flower-like shape next to the text "NSW Health" and "Western Sydney Local Health District" below it.

PLAY TENNIS

Professional tennis coaching and training

Tennis promotes health and wellbeing, improves fitness and strength, positivity and an overall healthy mind and body.

Group Lessons

45 minutes

\$15 per lesson

Lesson Times

Monday 3.00-3.45/ 3.45-4.30

Thursday 3.00-3.45/ 3.45-4.30

NEW SATURDAY LESSONS starting 24th August

Saturday 9.00-9.45/ 9.45-10.30

10.30-11.15 /11.15-12.00

Tennis racquets are provided and can be purchased at lesson. Beginners, intermediate and advanced students all welcome.

Court Location: Dundas Public School, Calder Road Dundas 2117.

For bookings & enquiries, call Lauren any time on 0410439943.



What do Parents Think?

Children with social and emotional problems are often the topic of parents' conversations, as well as the media. Help us document how today's parents think about children with these problems, their families, and their treatments. We are looking for parents of 4-10 year old children across Australia to complete an anonymous online survey (15-20 min). Participants will go into the draw to win one of 40 \$100 gift certificates to Coles/Myer or Woolworths. To participate go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/parentsattitudes>

Or For more information please contact Dr Jeneva Ohan at 08 6488 6928

Remember when you believed in anything and everything?

Researchers from the University of Western Australia are investigating children's ability to detect and avoid potentially harmful social interactions. We are looking to see how this develops in children, and when children outgrow this vulnerability.

We are looking for parents of **Kindergarten – Year 6 children** across Australia to complete an online survey (15 – 20 minutes). Participants will go into a draw to win one of 10 \$50 gift certificates to Coles/Myers. To participate go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/childsvq>

Or for more information please contact Rebecca Seward at (08) 6488 4652

Internet safety presentation for parents

Date: Thursday 28 November

Location: Granville library

Internet safety presentations offer parents cyber safety information which is presented in an easy to understand, thorough, non-technical and informative manner.

The presentations cover a range of issues such as

- The ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- Potential risks faced by students online such as cyber bullying, identity theft, unwanted contact and exposure to offensive content
- Tips and strategies to help students stay safe online

The presentations are delivered by a team of Outreach trainers, each of whom is an education specialist.

Time: 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Cost: free

Bookings: Required

Contact number: 9637 4270

**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY
PENRITH OBSERVATORY**

Family Astronomy Night - Telescopes for Christmas

The UWS Penrith Observatory together with the Western Sydney Amateur Astronomy Group (WSAAG) will be running a Family Astronomy Night on Saturday, 30 November from 8pm – 10pm. The evening will include a presentation from WSAAG members who will look at some of the different types of telescopes you could buy for your families and friends, a 3D astronomy movie and stargazing through the University's computerised telescopes (weather permitting).

Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 child/concession and \$40 family.

Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What's On

Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by volunteering to host one of our exceptional international students. These students arrive in February 2014 for 3, 5 or 10 month programs in Australia. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Finland, Canada, U.S.A, Colombia, Mexico and Japan will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaustr@scce.com.au or call us toll free on **1800 500 501** to request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Entering Employment Program

Are you looking for a new job?

or

Are you entering the workforce after some time off?

Why not join us in a NEW employment program.

The 'Entering Employment Program' will provide valuable information to help you secure employment. Learn the steps into designing an application cover letter and resume, gain practical skills for the interview process, learn techniques to stand out from the other applicants.

Date: Wednesday

Time: 1:00pm-2:30pm

Venue: Telopea 'Schools as Community Centres Project'. (SaCC)

Childcare: **FREE** childcare is available.

Register: **Nada Mohamed** (Family and Community Worker) Parramatta Mission
phone: 0448825219

Or

Pip Martins Telopea SaCC Facilitator

phone: 9898 3448

email: phillipa.martins@det.nsw.edu.au

Bookings are essential for this FREE course.

Afternoon Tea will be provided.