Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

GOOD NEWS….and Bad News!

Let’s start the week off with some GOOD News!! On Tuesday night, the P&C held its AGM for 2014. As a result of the hard work from members of the P&C, support from the staff and from the broader community, the P&C has been able to assist the students of our school through the purchasing of resources at a level that has not been achieved for many years! The P&C are also looking to fund significant projects in 2014 – so stay tuned!!

At the AGM, the positions of the P&C executive are elected. The executive for 2014 are as follows: President – Mr Raymond Rosch; Vice President – Ms Amanda Michele; Secretary – Mrs Naomi Bates; and Treasurer – Mr Peter Vassilou.

Now the BAD news…

Unfortunately, there was VERY POOR attendance at the P&C meeting. Whilst there were a couple of new faces at Tuesdays meeting, only 6 families were represented – from a school that serves over 360 families. That’s just 1%. It seriously isn’t a HUGE commitment to attend a meeting twice a term. Even coming to a meeting ONCE A YEAR would be a step in the right direction. It would be great to see a few more faces at the next meeting. It is scheduled for 20th May – Term 2 Week 4.

STUDENT SAFETY - WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Please remind your child/children of the need to be safe when walking to and from school. A few of our students were seen walking on the brick retaining wall on Box Road. This is an extremely risky practice! All students who need to cross Kurrajong Road must exit via the Kurrajong Road gate and cross at the pedestrian crossing. Please work with the school to ensure that ALL our students are safe.

CYBERSAFETY WORKSHOP WITH JOFFA

Next Monday the Stage 3 students will be participating in a special Cybersafety workshop with Cartoonist – Joffa! This workshop provides our Stage 3 students with the opportunity to discuss the concepts of cybersafety, learn the basics behind cartooning and create some great posters to advertise cybersafety to their peers. The workshop will run from 9:15 – 11:15am and is FULLY FUNDED by the school! I look forward to seeing some great work – and reading some important cybersafety messages from our Stage 3 students.

Mark Greentree - Principal
**School Information**

**Assembly Information**

K-2 – Every Wednesday commencing at 2.15pm

**Please note** that assembly on 26th March has been cancelled due to the Cross Country.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Host Class</th>
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<tr>
<td>26th March</td>
<td>Cancelled</td>
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<td>2nd April</td>
<td>1M</td>
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<td>9th April</td>
<td>K/1RB</td>
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3-6 – Every 2nd Thursday- Even Weeks commencing at 2.15pm

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**Kindergarten Best Start Parent Feedback Workshop**

Thursday 27th March
3:15pm – 4:00pm

KL ROOM

Parents of students in Kindergarten will receive their child’s Best Start Feedback Report on Friday 21 March. In order to clarify the information and to answer any questions you may have, we will be conducting a workshop session where you may experience some activities that will be beneficial to your child.

Please complete the form accompanying your student’s report indicating your intention to attend the workshop.

Thank you for your interest.

Mrs Lynne Leverett
Assistant Principal

**High School Expression of Interest Application Forms**

A reminder to Year 6 parents that ALL completed EOI forms are due back to school tomorrow, Friday 21st March.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS 2014**

**What Is A Voluntary School Contribution?**

This is a voluntary payment from parents that is requested each year by schools to supplement existing funding. Our school relies on these contributions to provide additional resources to ensure our students have the best possible learning opportunities and learning environment.

**How Much?**

The voluntary contribution for 2014 is:

$30 per family.

Please note that this equates to only 75 cents per FAMILY per school week, and it is the cheapest contribution amount of ANY school in this local area!

**What Will The Money Be Used For?**

All money raised from these contributions will go directly towards the purchase of school resources and related technology, to enhance the teaching and learning across our schools.

**School Photos 2014**

School photos for 2014 will be on Monday 12th May.

Students will be issued their photo envelopes during the first week of Term 2.

So parents can plan for this cost, student photo packages range in price from $18 to $37 and family/sibling photos range from $15 to $20.

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARD RECIPIENTS**

- KL - Shreesha & Aleksandar
- KS - Selma & Leilani
- K/1RB - Peyton & Arnav
- 1J - Tia & Youshaman
- 1M - Leila & Nour
- 1S - Nicholas & Izzabella
- 2M - Charlotte & Christina
- 2H - Lara & Ana
- 2V - Melissa & Shakasha
- 3B - Shyna & Ali
- 3S - Omar & Laiba
- 3/4S - Vibha & Arishma
- 4C - Sidd & Hannah
- 4S - Emily & Izmayl
- 4/5J - Eliz & Titania
- 5/6H - Izabella & Shahaan
- 5/6M - Ahmed & Julian
- 5/6T - Katrina & Gennisous
- 5/6R - Lianna & Maggi

**DISCO**

As part of Year 6 fundraising, we will be hosting a school Disco, which will be held on Wednesday 2nd April

The money raised from the disco will go towards the cost of a school gift which will be presented to our school at the end of the year from our Year 6 students.

**Where:** School Hall

**When:** Wednesday 2nd April, 2014
K-2 5:00pm-6:00pm
3-6 6:15pm-7:30pm

**Cost:** K-6 $5
(includes free glowstick)

Permission notes and payment will be collected at the door on entry.

*Extra glow items on sale from 50c - $3! Drinks on sale for $1
Lollies on sale from 50c - $2*
Classroom Chat with …..

1J

It’s hard to believe that we are already in week 8! 1J have been working extremely hard this term and we are having a great time doing it!

In literacy, 1J are learning all about adjectives and how to use these within our descriptive writing. We have been lucky enough to engage in many different story books, short animations and images that have helped us build onto our writing skills.

In our TEN numeracy groups this week, 1J are using dominoes to solve addition and subtraction problems. They have been working very hard by using many effective strategies and it is definitely reflecting in their learning. Keep up the great work 1J! I am so proud of your achievements so far.

This week for creative arts, 1J created some self-portraits. Check out some of our masterpieces!

Miss Janabi ☺

5/6H

Term 1 is nearly over already and what a productive term we have had in 5/6H!

I’m proud of the way the students in our class have behaved and how very quickly they have progressed with both their learning and maturity. Thank you for supporting our Dojo system, your child’s homework and home reading program.

It seems that we have some very talented artists in our room. We took the time and patience to complete a directed drawing session from a lovely book called Edward the Emu and they turned out really well. We have also had a go at doing some basket weaving craft in line with our ‘Chumash Indian’ learning and these turned out great! Their ‘hut’ assignments should be awesome and I’m really looking forward to seeing these – please ask your child about it and help them make it successful!

We have been learning new skills and excellent sportsmanship strategies by going outside to play a variety of sports. AFL is on the agenda for learning new sporting skills. We know that people, who are active, dramatically reduce the risk of many diseases, including heart disease and osteoporosis. Only six out of ten children aged between five and fourteen years participate in sport outside of school, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics so we have been engaging in as many different sporting activities as we can to keep fit, healthy and happy at school – active children learn more!

Our Year 6 Peer Support excursion was awesome! The students had a great time challenging themselves to problem solve outdoor activities such as how many people they can get onto a mat by swinging there from a rope. It was very funny to watch!!

Homework is still something that we need to make sure that we are on top of. There are still some students who are not into a strict routine with homework and learning their spelling.

If you would like to volunteer your time in our class, (even it is only thirty minutes a week) it would be appreciated by both me and the students to have an extra set of ears to listen to students read.

Mrs Hawker
LAST CHANCE TO AUDITION FOR THE CHOIR
Voices of Sydney

Voices of Sydney Choir (formerly Sydney Region Choir) is an auditioned and official DEC choir for public school students from Years 5 – 12, with great performance opportunities.

- If you like to sing, and would like to sing in a choir, and
- If you would like to perform in great events (including the 2014 Schools Spectacular)
- Then come along to a weekly rehearsal before the end of this term and join the rehearsal.
- Tuesday afternoons at Sutherland Public School. 4.00pm-5.30pm (Deb and Therese)
- Thursday afternoons at Darlington Public School 4.30pm – 5.45pm (Kipi and Helen)

Please ring, text or email to find out more - or turn up to a rehearsal and meet the choir.
Heather Causley Manager- 0400 808 603
causleys@bigpond.net.au

More information on the website
www.sydneyregionarts.det.nsw.edu.au

Annual Cross Country Carnival

Next Wednesday 26th March, Prestons Public School will be holding its Annual Whole School Cross Country Carnival. The carnival will commence at 12 noon and will be held on school grounds. As this is part of the school curriculum (PD/H/PE) all students from K-6 are required to participate.

Students must wear a school hat, comfortable running shoes as well as sunscreen and a bring bottle of water. Students are also encouraged to wear their house colours to the carnival as this promotes team spirit and house pride.

Parents and family members are encouraged to arrive at school at 11:15am and enjoy a picnic lunch with their child and then stay and watch the children run the cross country course.

Prestons Public School
‘Training with the Pros’ - Baseball Clinic

Training with the Pros
Baseball Clinic

CASULA HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

Some more great news from Casula High:

- 5 Casula High School students have been invited to meet Mr Charles Bolden, the Head of NASA, at the Powerhouse Museum.
- Our Special Education staff have been busy creating comprehensive individual management plans for all of our Special Education students.
- 2 of our amazing students have entered the Phillip Garside Memorial Public Speaking Competition. Good luck!
- 3 of our Indigenous Student Leaders took part in the “Inspire” Project, which will electronically connect metropolitan schools with remote rural schools.
- Our year 12 students have been continuing to work hard by participating in activities such as an HSC Drama Workshop.
- Our Visual Arts year 10 students have commenced the completion of their major work self portrait assignment. We can’t wait to see the finished product!

If you have any queries please contact the school on 9602-4270.
Emily Signorini, Transition Co-ordinator