Dear Parents and Caregivers,

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2015

National Reconciliation Week offers an opportunity for all Australians to focus on reconciliation and celebrate the rich culture and history of Indigenous Australians.

National Reconciliation Week began in 1996 to provide a special focus for nationwide reconciliation activities. It is a time to reflect on achievements so far and to renew commitments to reconciliation by exploring ways to help create a better future for Indigenous Australians.

National Reconciliation Week coincides with two significant dates in Australia’s history, which provide strong symbols of the aspirations for reconciliation.

The week begins on 27 May with the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum, which removed clauses from the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Indigenous Australians. It also gave the Commonwealth Government the power to make laws on behalf of Aboriginal people. The week ends with the anniversary of the High Court of Australia’s judgement in the Mabo case on 3 June 1992. The decision recognised the Native Title rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and overturned the myth of terra nullius - that the continent was empty of people and the land unowned before European settlement in 1788.

Reconciliation involves building mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and other Australians that allow us to work together to solve problems and generate success that is in everyone’s best interests.

Achieving reconciliation involves raising awareness and knowledge of Indigenous history and culture, changing attitudes that are often based on myths and misunderstandings, and encouraging action where everyone plays their part in building a better relationship between us as fellow Australians.

Mark Greentree - Principal
School Information

Assembly Information

Koomurri Aboriginal Performance
On Tuesday 2nd June, Koomurri, an Aboriginal culture company will be visiting our school during Reconciliation Week to expose students to Aboriginal culture. The students will be involved in activities like face painting, song and dance, didgeridoo and storytelling, art and writing. Students will also be involved in creating an artwork for the school. There will be no cost involved for students to participate in this activity.

3-6 – Every 2nd Thursday- Even Weeks commencing at 2.15pm

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Book Club

Issue 3 Book Club orders are due back to the office by Wednesday 3rd June.

Athletics Carnival

Our 2015 Athletics carnival will be held on Thursday 18th June 2015. Field event finals and novelty events will take place at school, running races will be held at Peter Miller Reserve.

Students have been issued with a lunch order form. If you would like your child to receive a “Lunch Pack” please complete the order form and return it to the office with your payment no later than Monday 15th June.

The canteen will not be open on this day, students must bring a packed lunch or pre-order a “Lunch Pack”.

The P&C will also be selling juice poppers, water, varieties of chips and a variety of sweets on the day.

Kindergarten Excursion

Students in Kindergarten will be attending an excursion to Symbio Wildlife Park on Tuesday 23rd June. The payment of $25 and the signed permission note need to be returned to the office by Friday 19th June.

School Swimming Scheme

Students in years 2 and 3, and weak swimmers in years 4 to 6 are invited to participate in the School Swimming Scheme.

This scheme focuses on students who have not reached a satisfactory standard of water safety and are unable to swim 25m confidently.

This scheme will be held next term, during week 3, 27th July to 31st July. Students will travel to the Whitlam Leisure Centre each day and participate in a 1 hour swimming lesson. The cost for this extra curricular activity is $50 and spaces are strictly limited to 60 participants.

Students need to return their payment and signed permission slip to the office by Monday 29th June.

School Calendar

What’s on when? Stay on top of school holiday, term and state examination dates across NSW. Find out more: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/calendar/?do=setViewPeriod&categoryid=2&viewType=yearView
5/6T

This term, 5/6T students have become Eco Warriors. We have been learning all about the environment in so many different ways.

First of all, Stage Three have been learning about Rainforests in HSIE. This has also been the underlying theme connecting the learning content across most subjects in our classrooms this term.

5/6T have been studying Australian rainforests in our Visual Literacy unit Fern Gully and as they say ‘There’s nothing quite like the real thing’. So, we took a trip down south, with the rest of Stage 3, to Minnamurra. Here the children got to experience a real rainforest-located only about two and a half hours away. This excursion was certainly one of the key highlights for this term and I just have to say, ALL the students in 5/6T behaved so beautifully; our guide said to me that my class was “the best class” she’s had in a “long time”. So naturally, I couldn’t have been any prouder. Well done, boys and girls!!

The next project is the remodelling of our vegetable garden. Now we should have our new raised garden beds very soon. So we’ve been busy little bees trying to get the area ready. We have ripped up all the old plants, and soon all traces of the old garden beds will be gone too. Next..

We start all over again with new soil, new plants and most importantly new beds, less the weeds and grass. Now, the children can concentrate on the plants and growing their crops to harvest; rather than having to weed each week.

Take a look at some of our up and coming gardeners in 5/6T.

Another Peek Inside KS

Term 2 has been super busy in KS. We are learning how to add, subtract, identify a half and share objects into equal groups. All of the students are focusing on reading, writing and identifying numbers up to 30 and some super mathematicians are working with numbers up to 100.

Our first time at running the K-2 assembly was a huge success. I was so proud of all of the students for their ability to speak clearly and confidently on stage. Well done!

We are gradually turning our classroom into an “Under the Sea” area. Our jelly fish, sea horses and red crabs look fabulous. If you haven’t seen our classroom lately, please pop in for a quick visit.

This week we started working in our writing groups. A new addition to the classroom is our whiteboard writing area where the students have the opportunity to write on the desk, yes the desk. Everyone was engaged and motivated to write. Another success in KS!

KS is a great place to be and I am so proud to be guiding your children with their academic achievements. A big thumb up to everyone!

Mrs Seeney
Multicultural Day is coming soon!!!

Are you part of a cultural performance group? We are looking for cultural groups who would like to perform for us during our Multicultural Day on Wednesday 10th June. Please contact the school for details and to register your interest.

Our Feast of Nations will be held in the school hall. For this feast we are inviting students to bring along a plate of food from their cultural background.

All of the fabulous food will be set up as a buffet for students to sample and enjoy.

Due to student food allergies, food that is bought in will need to have a ‘food inclusion’ slip attached to it.

We request that food donations be sent to school on disposable dishes. All plates of food can be brought to the staff room from 8:30am or straight to the hall from 9:30am.

CASULA HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

This week at Casula High:

- A hugely successful school athletics carnival was recently held with record numbers of students attending and all taking part in events. Our special education students also attended the carnival and had a great time competing in the many events held.
- Casula High School recently hosted the meeting for the Kurrajong Community of Schools. The teachers from the other schools who attended were treated to a very informative innovations tour of our school and its innovative programs.
- The Lawyers in Schools program begins in week 5 and our Year 10 students are eagerly looking forward to welcoming the lawyers and continued learning throughout the program.
- Our junior maths students are investigating angles in construction and analysing them using dynamic software and trigonometry.
- 60 of our students recently undertook coding training with Microsoft through ‘hands on’ and video conferencing lessons.
- Our Year 8 TAS students are working on their plastics projects creating photo frames.
- For more updates on our exciting achievements why not like us on Facebook? Find us at www.facebook.com/casula highschool

If you have any queries please contact the school on 4643-4373 Emily Vigneswaran, Transition Co-ordinator

Photos from the Zone Cross Country