Parent-Teacher Interviews

Next week, we will be holding our Parent-Teacher interviews. The interviews provide an opportunity for teachers and parents to share information that will assist students to improve performance; develop strong work habits and enjoy positive relationships at school.

Because the interviews are, by necessity, restricted in time, it is wise to consider two or three main points that you may like to discuss with your child’s teacher. Having the interviews at the end of Term 1 ensures that there are shared expectations and goals on which the rest of the year can be built. Teachers have had time to get to know your child, and to start to see areas of strength and areas that need to be worked on. Parents have had time to see their child adjust to a new year, new class, new teacher and maybe new friends.

Outcomes for students are best when parents and teachers work together, appreciative and supportive of the different experiences and knowledge they each have of the child. Sharing our perspectives fills out the total picture of the child and allows us more insight into how to support the child to do their best at school—academically, socially and in all other ways.

By now, interview times have been arranged. Please make sure that you know where and when your interview will be. Because the interviews are short, with so many people to be seen, it is very important that we keep to the agreed times. As mentioned previously, if the available time is insufficient, there is always opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher at another agreed time. This is the case right throughout the year.

For families new to school, parents receive comprehensive written reports at the end of Terms 2 and 4. These report on all Key Learning Areas and work habits and attitudes, and provide specific information about your child’s performance in achieving the desired learning outcomes. These reports are based on comprehensive assessments, teacher observations and class work.

Positive partnerships make such a difference to the experience of students in schools. We look forward to extending our partnership with you at next week’s interviews.

Value of the Week

The Community Value for the coming week is Participation, with a particular emphasis on “contributing to class and school activities.”

We are working to develop attitudes and practices that will equip our children to be good citizens in the future. Being a participant, rather than a spectator or an observer, enriches our society. Australia has a history of one of the highest volunteer rates in the world. So much of what makes our society better—our SES, bush fire fighters, WIRES, meals on wheels, community transport, hospital auxiliaries, school P&C organisations, charities and support services—is the result of volunteers giving their time to others and participating in the lives of their communities.

Those attitudes and beliefs start early! Participating requires confidence and a desire to contribute, sometimes with little direct reward. We encourage and value this willingness to be a part of class and school activities, whatever they might be.

Dates to Remember 2010
**Band News**

Applications are invited from Senior Band members who have had **at least 2 years experience** on their band instrument for nomination to **AUDITION** for the Sydney Region Band.

In applying, students need to be committed to attending the full camp, all rehearsals and The Opera House performance. Application forms are available from the office and must be submitted by Wednesday March 31, 2010 at the very latest.

Mrs H. Green
Band Coordinator

**Sydney Tower Excursion**

On Monday March 15, Y6 went on an excursion to Sydney Tower. Our first stop was Sydney Tower. We were split into two groups and took turns going to Oztrek and the observation deck. In Oztreck, we were all strapped into the hydraulic seats that were synchronised with a short video on Australia. As viewers, we actually felt that we were taking a journey across Australia’s landscapes and landmarks. At the top of the tower, we looked through binoculars and saw Sydney’s famous landmarks such as the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House. It was great. We were fortunate that the sky was clear allowing us to have the best views of the city. We all felt like tourists taking numerous photos of ourselves and the city. From the Sydney Tower, we had a bird’s eye view of the city.

Afterwards, we had lunch at the Royal Botanic Gardens. We walked through the gardens and onto the Sydney Opera House. We chatted with each other and looked out at the harbour. From the Opera House, your could see the Harbour Bridge. It was very picturesque. Our day was coming to an end. We packed up and walked back to our buses. Before we knew it, we had arrived back at school. It was definitely an unforgettable excursion to the city.

Fiona 6P

**Awards**

**Principal’s Awards** have been received by:
- Alicia
- Holly
- Daniella
- Luka
- Thomas
- Nikki
- Nevan

Congratulations to these students for consistently displaying our Values in Action. **Special congratulations to Kristyn** who has received our highest award, an **Outstanding Achievement Trophy for Values in Action**.

**SRC News**

- Please keep your Easter donations coming.
- ‘Eggs’hibition entry forms need to be in as soon as possible.
- ‘Eggs’hibitions are to be brought in on Tuesday in order to be prepared for ‘eggs’hibition on Thursday.

30c each
or
4 for $1.00

Your support is greatly appreciated
SRC Teachers

**K-2 Easter Hat Parade**

Parents are invited to attend the K-2 Easter Hat Parade to be held on Thursday April 1, 2010
- Weather permitting, the parade will take place at 10.30am at the morning assembly area (not in the 3-6 netball court area as previously advised).
- We ask parents to assist the children to make a simple hat or headband to wear in the parade.
- All children will be parading and no prizes will be awarded.
- Children **will not** be wearing mufti this year. Summer uniform, please.
- Children are to bring their hat to their classroom on the morning of the parade.

Following the parade, parents are invited to have morning tea with the children. The P & C will be providing tea, coffee and hot cross buns for purchase from the hall kitchen. The ‘eggs’hibition will also be on show in the library.
Thank You

Thank you to all the kind parents who volunteered to help with reading. Our needs have been met at this stage however in Terms 2 and 3 there will be opportunity for you to assist in the classrooms if you are available. We are very grateful for your assistance.

Mrs E. Doulos

Monday, March 29.

Students need to bring -

- The payment envelope on photo day.
- Students should wear full summer uniform including correct socks and showes and hairstyles appropriate for school photos.
- EXACT CHANGE or cheque made payable to Advanced Life Photography is required.

- Each student must have their OWN separate completed envelope.
- Family portraits will be taken at lunch time.
- Envelopes for family portraits are available at the school office.
- Orders will NOT be accepted after photo day.

UNSW Competitions-Reminder

The entry fee is $6.00 per student per test.

- Each student in Y3-6 has already received a note explaining the competitions.
- Please return the supplied envelope with entry fees and details of which competition/s you wish your child to enter by Friday 26 March.
- NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.

Y3-6 Computer Skills Tuesday, May 25
Y3-6 Science Wednesday, June 9
Y3-6 English Tuesday, August 3
Y3-6 Mathematics Tuesday, August 17

Enrolments 2011

Due to the increased number of permanent classrooms, currently under construction, it is anticipated that there will be the capacity to accept some out of area enrolments in all grades in 2011. As this has not been the case for some years, please invite friends or neighbours who are interested in attending our school to contact our office and leave their details.

To help us monitor enrolments, and determine how many places may be available for non-local children, we are also asking for in-area applications to be lodged from now. Application forms are available from the office or our website. Our website also has our boundary map and other criteria relating to enrolment. There is also a link to translations of the application form.

Your help in promoting early enrolments would be appreciated.

Multicultural Public Speaking

Students wishing to participate in the Multicultural Public Speaking competition need to submit their name and topic to Mrs Whale by the end of Term 1. Speeches are to be prepared and practised at home. School competition will be held during Week 5 Term 2 May 17-21. Closer to that date speeches will be checked and impromptu practise held. A list of topics is available from Mrs A. Whale.
Well done!

- Congratulations to Matt for being selected in the Georges River PSSA Boys Rugby League team.
- Well done to Patrick, Ayden, and Jonathan who successfully made the 2010 Georges River/Botany Bay Combined Football Team.
- Congratulations also to Katherine who has been accepted to be part of the Create East 2010 production, 'Toybox'.

Inner West Chess Challenge 6

When: Tuesday April 6, 2010
Venue: Sydney Latvian Society Club, 32 Parnell Street, Strathfield
Cost: $20
Time: Registration is at 8.45am on the day of the tournament.
Format: This tournament is an individual and not a team event. All players play 7 games and no one is 'knocked out' of the tournament. The time limit is 15 minutes per player per game. This tournament will be JCL rated.
To Enter: Entry forms for interested students are available from the Office or visit www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au

P & C News

Être Candles

It's here once again. Être Candles will be holding a Mother's Day candle fundraiser. Please see order forms inside the newsletter for details. Orders and money must be in Friday, April 23 to receive your candles in time for Mother's Day. Please place your order forms together with payment in the P & C box at the school office.

PICK UP ZONE SUPERVISION ROSTER

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<tr>
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<th>Tuesday 30</th>
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CANTEEN ROSTER

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Community News

Vacation Care

Come and join the fun
Forms are available at the hall or office
Call Tara 9546 1092 for more information