Parent-Teacher Interviews

Following the success of last year’s arrangements, we will again be holding Parent-Teacher Interviews in the last week of first term.

Our move to earlier in the year was prompted by parent feedback that indicated that you would like to know how your child was settling before the half-yearly reports, so that there was plenty of time to act on recommendations and set up practices to ensure a successful year.

Thus, we will be offering the opportunity to speak with your child’s class teacher at the end of first term and providing comprehensive written reports at the end of second and fourth terms. As always, teachers are available to meet with you whenever there is a concern or if you would like to “touch base”. Appointments for these meetings can be made through the office or by sending a note to your child’s teacher.

The purpose of our Term 1 Parent-Teacher Interviews is to give you insight into how your child has adjusted to his/her new class and teacher, and to set some target areas for greater attention. There will not be detailed assessments to analyse; teachers will be talking in general terms with particular emphasis on work habits, attitudes to learning, and any areas that require attention sooner rather than later. Meetings will be with class teachers only, not all of the teachers who are involved in literacy and numeracy groups, etc.

Meetings will run from 1.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. For classes of around 30 students, interviews will be of approximately 10 minutes per student. It is important that interviews run to schedule, as even a few minutes over-run per student builds up by the last appointments.

A note will soon be sent home asking you to nominate some preferred meeting times. Teachers will confirm a time and send home a confirmation slip. For those who are able to attend in the early afternoon, this would be appreciated as it frees appointments for working parents to attend the later meetings.

We look forward to meeting with you. As I’ve written in earlier Newsletters, building effective communication and relationships between home and school is one of the most important ways to ensure a happy and successful year for our students.

Value of the Week

Next week’s value is “Cooperation”. We will be highlighting the importance of working with others to achieve goals and solve problems.

This notion of team work - working with rather than against each other— is highly valued in the work place and on the sporting field. It’s why a champion team often surpasses a team of champions! It is the balancing and complementing of skills and abilities that allows more to be achieved collectively than individually.

For many children, working in a group or team is not easy. Compromise is required; negotiation; patience; turn-taking; acknowledging that others’ skills or ideas may be better than one’s own; some loss of ‘ownership’ of a project or a game; accepting the rejection of ideas; and the sharing of leadership and decision-making.

There are many occasions where we can help our children practice these skills, knowing that we will be equipping them well for school and for life.

Dates to Remember 2010

Term 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Mar</td>
<td>Green Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Mar</td>
<td>Y6 Sydney Tower</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Mar</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Mar</td>
<td>Y5 Sydney Tower</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Mar</td>
<td>“Jolly Bops” performance K-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Mar</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Mar</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Mar</td>
<td>Interviews</td>
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<td>31 Mar</td>
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<td>1 Apr</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>1 Apr</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
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Term 1Money & Note due

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>Y6 Sydney Tower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Mar</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>“Jolly Bops”</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Y6 Camp—Expression of interest</td>
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New National Child Restraint Laws

New national child restraint laws will commence in NSW on March 1, 2010. The RTA is conducting a comprehensive media and public education campaign to assist parents and carers to become familiar with the new requirements.

The new laws will improve child road safety and state that all children under 7 years of age must be secured in an approved child restraint when travelling in a vehicle. More specifically:

- Children up to 6 months of age must be restrained in an approved rearward facing child restraint.
- Children from 6 months to under 4 years of age must be restrained in an approved rearward or forward facing child restraint.
- Children from 4 years to under 7 years of age must be restrained in an approved forward facing child restraint or booster seat.
- Children under 4 years of age must not be in the front row of a vehicle that has two or more rows.
- Children from 4 years to under 7 years of age can only sit in the front row of a vehicle with two or more rows when all other seats are occupied by children under 7 years of age in approved child restraints or booster seats.

For details visit rta.nsw.gov.au or call 13 22 13

Changes to School Bus Services

Punchbowl Bus Company will introduce a new bus network on Monday March 22, 2010, which will mean changes to some school bus services.

**Connells Point Public School (9.25-3.25)**

**BUS TIME** | **MORNING BUS ROUTE** | **(L) = BUS TURNS LEFT (R) = BUS TURNS RIGHT**
---|---|---
(953) 9.00 | From Hurstville via Route 953, South Hurstville Shops (9.03), Kyle Bay (9.08), Connells Point (9.17) to Connells Point Public School (Connells Point Rd) | arr 9.20

111 3.30 | To Hurstville via Riverview Ave (R) Terry St (L) Connells Point Road (R) Queens Road into Connells Point Rd (L) Kyle Pde, Morshhead Dr (R) Waitara Pade, Lansdowne St (R) Hillcrest Ave to Hurstville Station | arr 3.45

**Bus numbers in brackets refer to regular route service buses.**

Further information on school services and the new bus network can be obtained from:

Web: www.punchbowlbus.com.au

Phone: 9153 8787

Email: admin@punchbowlbus.com.au
Sydney Region Choir 2010

Sydney Region Choir invites interested singers from Y5–12 to audition for a place in the choir. Auditions will be held during February and March at regular weekly rehearsals. Students will participate in the rehearsal and have an individual audition with the conductor.

Regular weekly rehearsals are at Sutherland PS each Tuesday afternoon from 4.00pm-5.30pm and at Darling PS each Thursday afternoon between 4.30pm and 6.00pm. Students rehearse at one location which is most suitable to them.

The choir has been invited to perform in the ANCA National Choralfest during the July holiday at Port Macquarie and with the Sydney Region Expanding Horizons Tour to China from 20-30 September. (Secondary students who become members of the choir will be eligible to register for selection for this overseas tour).

Costs for membership are $320 (weekly rehearsals) plus $100 (uniform and repertoire). Tour costs for selected signers are additional to this.

Enquiries to Heather Causley—Manager—on 0400 808 603.

School Photos

The Advanced Life Photography team will be taking class, individual and family portraits on Monday, March 29. Students should wear full summer uniform including correct socks and shoes and hairstyles appropriate for school photos.

Envelopes will be distributed soon. Students need to bring -

- The payment envelope on photo day.
- **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.

Scholastic Book Club

Please return your Scholastic Book Club orders by **Friday March 12**. Cheques should be made payable to **Scholastic Inc**.

M. McKirdy  
Teacher Librarian

K-2 Easter Hat Parade

Parents are invited to attend the K-2 Easter Hat Parade to be held on **Thursday, April 1, 2010**. The parade will take place at 10.30am in the 3-6 netball court area.

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 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.

J. Scally  
Assistant Principal

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P & C News

PICK UP ZONE SUPERVISION ROSTER

St Mark’s Anglican Church have joined forces with the Lions Club and have registered a Clean Up Australia Day site at Kyle Bay (next to the Bowling Club).

We are looking for people (parents, kids, grandparents, uncles & aunts etc) to come along on Sunday March 7 at 10.30am until 12.30pm to the park next to Kyle Bay Bowling Club and help clean up the area. After the ‘clean up’ there will be a Sausage Sizzle. If you are interested in coming along, please enter your register your details into the following website.  http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/Kyle+Bay

Don’t forget to bring your sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, gloves and sturdy shoes on the day!