Achievement

The National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for students in Years 3 and 5 has been conducted over the last 3 days. These tests are a “snapshot” of a child’s performance on the day. This is the third year of a consistent, Australia-wide assessment program.

Over the last few months teachers have been familiarising students in both Years 3 and 5 with the requirements of NAPLAN. They have revised past papers to make the students more at ease with what to expect. For some students this is a trying time, as they feel the pressure to perform. For children in Year 3, this is their introduction to “formal” testing.

As with all situations, some children find the notion of testing more stressful than others. It is important to encourage children to have a healthy attitude to tests, as these are just one of many in their educational life. No test is ever the full measure of what a person knows or can do. No one should ever judge their worth as a student or a person by a score or a number.

Of course, encouraging children to do their personal best is a worthy goal in whatever they do. However, promising gifts or rewards for high results puts undue pressure on students and sends the message that only an “A”, a “High Distinction”, or “Band 6” is good enough. NAPLAN doesn’t measure effort, work habits, consistency or attitude. It tells teachers and parents a lot, but not everything, and maybe not the most important things of all, about our children as learners.

Skills such as sociability, punctuality, conscientiousness and an ability to get along with others are also predictors of success not just test results. At CPPS we place importance on developing balanced, well-rounded students, not just students with a single focus, be that academic, sporting or creative. Students who learn to manage their time, interact with a range of people in a range of situations, commit to an activity, and cope gracefully with both success and disappointment are learning life skills which will make them desirable to an employer and allow them to make the most of whatever ability or talent they may have.

Good luck to each of our sport teams who are competing in finals tomorrow. I am sure you will be worthy representatives of Connells Point.

Mrs Anne Whale
Relieving Principal

Value of the Week

The value for the coming week is Responsibility, with emphasis on students ensuring that they follow school rules.

Adherence to rules is a strategy for ensuring that societies operate in an orderly, respectful, safe and consistent manner. Rules provide a common understanding of what is acceptable, and breaking rules attracts consequences.

Ultimately, we want our children to become good citizens in our society. We also want them to move beyond following rules from fear of being caught, to behaving well because it is the right thing to do.

Like good manners, rules are about respect for others and taking responsibility for our own actions and behaviour.

Explaining the reasons behind why - as a family, a school and a society—we have rules, will help our children understand their importance. So, too, will modelling for our children our own observance of rules.

Dates to Remember 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 May</td>
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<td>18 May</td>
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<td>18 May</td>
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<td>25 May</td>
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<td>25 June</td>
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<td>22 July</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2 Money &amp; Note due</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
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<td>14 May</td>
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**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 as soon as possible. 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.

**OC Placement**

Expressions of interest were issued to Year 4 students last week.

- Interested parents need to inform the school of their intention to make an application and return the reply slip as soon as possible.

- Please lodge your application on line if possible. You can find out how to apply at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement.

- Please submit an application form by May 21, 2010.

- Generally students are in Year 4 in 2010 when applying for Year 5 entry in 2011.

**Sport News**

**AFL**

Connells Point would like to participate in the Winter PSSA season AFL; however we require the assistance of a ‘parent umpire’ for the games every Friday, for the duration of the season. Ideally we would enter 1 boys’ team and if there are sufficient numbers, 1 girls’ team.

To date, we have not received any volunteers from our previous request for assistance. Unfortunately, unless we receive parent assistance, we will be unable to participate in these games.

If you are available to assist please contact either Miss Benson or Mrs Whale before Friday, May 14.

**SRC News**

**Stewart House Dolphins**

Please be aware that there are LIMITED numbers of tattoos and dolphins available. First in, best dressed! Return your order forms to your class teacher as soon as possible so that you will not be disappointed.

When you have placed your order, the tattoos and dolphins will be delivered to your child’s class to take home. Please leave them at home or LABEL with your child’s name as they all look the same! If your child should misplace their dolphin, we cannot guarantee that it will be returned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tattoo</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyring without jacket</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LED Light Keyring</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Multicultural Public Speaking Competition

### CHANGE OF DATE & TIME

- **Stage 2 heats** will be held on **Tuesday, May 18 (Week 5)** at **2.10pm**
- **Stage 3 heats will now be held on Friday, May 21** at **10.30am**
- Students will present both a prepared and an impromptu speech

Any students who have not yet indicated their intention to participate need to do so by seeing Mrs Fowler as soon as possible.

## Well done

Congratulations to Anish in 1/2S, who is currently starring in ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ at the Opera House.

This is what Anish wrote about his experience.

> I went to the Sydney Opera House to perform an Opera. There were lots of people performing with me. The story was about a king and a queen and a little Indian Prince—that was me! Thereat was Puck who steals me from the queen. King Oberon sends Puck and the two blue gopies to steal me. The pink gopies try to save me. But Puck is too clever. Queen Fatnia falls in love with a donkey. I got to light a matchstick and wear a turban. I love watching Thisbe jump around. I had to take a bow three times at the end. I enjoyed the show and made many new friends.”

If you would like to view the video of Anish, it is available on our website at [www.connellspt-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.connellspt-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## School-age play and learning

Playing games together helps school-age children learn about fair play, self-control, right and wrong, and getting on with others. It encourages and enhances your child’s development.  

After a day at school, though, playtime is really just about having fun! Although TV can help your child rest and relax, current recommendations are to limit TV and computer time to one hour a day.

### Ideas for after-school fun:

- Dancing to music
- Board games
- Learning a musical instrument
- Reading illustrated books
- Visiting the library
- Gardening
- Helping with dinner
- Playing an organised sport with a local team
- Visiting the local playground

For more information, visit [www.raisingchildren.net.au/play_learning/school_age_play_learning.html](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au/play_learning/school_age_play_learning.html)
Helping your child with shapes and objects

What can you do at home?

- Use boxes and containers of different sizes to play “stacking” games.
- Ask your child to help you put away the groceries and talk about which things will stack easily.
- Make biscuits using cookie cutters or make pretend biscuits from modelling dough. Talk about the shape of each biscuit.

More ideas in a variety of languages at

P & C News

Cupcake Day-Friday 21 May

Due to the PSSA Finals being held this Friday 14th, the Years 5 & 6 Cupcake Day will be postponed to Friday 21st May.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday May 14</th>
<th>Monday 17</th>
<th>Tuesday 18</th>
<th>Wednesday 19</th>
<th>Thursday 20</th>
<th>Friday 21</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diana</td>
<td>Sibila</td>
<td>Natalie</td>
<td>Helen</td>
<td>Carolyn</td>
<td>Leasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda</td>
<td>Maree</td>
<td>Xenia</td>
<td>Bronwyn</td>
<td>Lianne</td>
<td>Maria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara</td>
<td>Cathy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gemma</td>
<td>Daina</td>
<td>Barbara</td>
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Drop Off & Pick Up Zone

REMINDER

- In the afternoon, the P&C operates the Pick Up Zone for which families **MUST REGISTER**.
- Parents who register to use this service are required to act as supervisors on a roster.
- Names must be clearly displayed in your vehicle.
- Cars may stop for **no more than 2 minutes** to allow children to get out of, or into, the car.
- Parents may not leave their cars during this time.

Pick Up Zone Supervision Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday May 14</th>
<th>Monday 17</th>
<th>Tuesday 18</th>
<th>Wednesday 19</th>
<th>Thursday 20</th>
<th>Friday 21</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leasa</td>
<td>Dina</td>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Lisa</td>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>Toni</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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