In the dim, distant past when I was a girl, my report card had a section entitled “Prompt Obedience”. It was expected that students would do what they were told, when they were told. The key word which separated the As from the Bs, Cs and Ds was prompt. Nobody was foolhardy enough to be downright disobedient: it’s just that some took their own sweet time to do what was asked.

On our reports, we have the section “Follows teacher directions”. I think if we added “promptly”, many children would find that their rating would slip dramatically.

Ideally, children should not have to be reminded/asked/requested, even once, to follow our regular school rules. Yet teachers and I are repeating ourselves time and time again in order to get compliance. Mrs Whale had to ask—using a microphone and in close proximity—six times for children to sit down before the Connellswealth Games last week. Without fail, I leave my desk on an average three times each morning to tell children at school before 9.00am to sit down. Teachers on lunch duty repeat the same instruction every day.

We do have consequences. Children lose playing time; they are last to leave the lunch area etc. But it is exhausting, time wasting and should not be necessary. It would be an interesting exercise for parents to monitor just how quickly their children respond to a first instruction or request. Do your children do things the first time you ask? How many times do you have to ask them to come to dinner, pack away, get dressed, finish their breakfast? How many times do they ignore, delay, start but not finish? How many times do they say “in a minute”? Many children wait until adults reach screaming level before they feel that it’s time to get moving!

To spend more time teaching, and less time gaining children’s attention and compliance, we need children who follow directions the first time they are asked. Our children get plenty of time to play and talk. They need to know when it is appropriate and when it is not.

Your help in reinforcing this message would be greatly appreciated.

Our personal value of the coming week is Responsibility, with emphasis on demonstrating self-discipline. The key word here is “self”. One of the ways we know, as parents and teachers, that children are maturing and developing the right attitudes is that they behave appropriately because it is the right thing to do, not because someone is watching or because they might get into trouble. When they have internal controls, they need fewer external controls.

All of our work around values is about creating beliefs and practices that are part of the child; that guide their decision-making and inform their view of themselves and others. Self-discipline means that a child will act with restraint, consciousness and control, irrespective of whether or not authority figures are present. It also means that children are less likely to follow others into poor or unacceptable behaviour, because they have the internal decision-making that guides their actions. Children need practice in regulating their own behaviour, and awareness of the trust that we as adults place in them to behave well, even when we are not immediately present.
**Band News**

Amendments to Band Timetable for the week commencing Monday, 13 September, 2010.

Performing Band and Junior Band rehearsals cancelled for Monday, 13 September 2010, due to the Training Band Blow In commitments for the Junior Band. Tutorials for Senior Flutes and all percussionists will go ahead on that date.

Senior Band Rehearsals at 8.30am, Thursday, 16 September, 2010 will be cancelled, due to alternate band commitments for Mr Skues. The Junior Band and afternoon tutorials will be held as per the normal timetable schedule.

**SRC News**

Connells Point Public School community has demonstrated, yet again, its generosity and support when needed. We would like to thank everyone who donated clothing to the Stewart House appeal. Your response was warmly received.

We are also pleased to announce that South Hurstville RSL Club has given CPPS funding to implement a program that will support our early learning program. We are very fortunate to experience such community support! The exposure to such programs benefits the entire school, in one way or another, now and in the future.

Many thanks
SRC Teachers—Mrs C. Murray & Mrs N. McCain

**Sports News— Sydney East School Sport**

Did you know that your school sporting Zone/District now has a website where you can access information about your local Zone/District school sporting activities? To find out more, go to—www.sessazones.com

The website also provides links to www.sports.det.nsw.edu.au which provides information relating to Sydney East SSA and NSWPS/NSWHSSA activities.

**CPPS Athletics Carnival 2010**

An error was made in the CPPS Athletics Carnival 2010 results published in last week’s newsletter. It should have read

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR DISCUS</th>
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<th>Marcus</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>Matthew</th>
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We apologise for this mistake.

**Coles Sports for Schools Program**

**How it works**

For every $10 spent at Coles Supermarkets, Coles Online, Bi-Lo and Pick’n Pay from 2 September to the 31 October, 2010 will earn 1 Coles Sports for Schools voucher worth 1 point. Vouchers are provided with the receipt at point of purchase.

**It’s simple**

Collect more vouchers, get more gear!

Students can collect vouchers from family, friends and neighbours and drop them into the voucher collection box in the school’s foyer.
**Gymnastics K-3**

Due to missing a gymnastics lesson for the Connellswealth Games, we will be having an extra lesson on **Thursday, 23 September**.

On this day, we are asking all students involved in gymnastics this term to wear their sports uniform.

Thank you
K-3 staff

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**Hatch ‘N’ Grow**

Students in Y6 will be participating in a program called ‘Hatch ‘N’ Grow’ between Monday, 13 September and Friday, 24 September.

This program will complement the Values and PD/H/PE programs currently being taught. The aim of the program is to encourage responsibility and ownership through caring for ducklings from egg to duck. During this time, students will be able to view the ducklings hatch in the incubator and will then feed them, clean their area, weigh them and care for them each day.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to be involved in and will provide them with hands on learning for the two weeks the ducklings will be with us.

Miss J. Benson, Mr P. Cohen and Mr N. Parsons

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**Inner West Chess Challenge 7**

When: Tuesday, 28 September, 2010.

Where: Sydney Latvian Society Club, 32 Parnell Street, Strathfield (Two minutes walk from Strathfield Station).

Time: Registration is at 8.45am on the day of the tournament.

Format: This tournament is an **individual** event restricted to players under the age of 18 years of age.

Cost: $20.

Entry forms are available from the office.
For further information please visit [www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au](http://www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au)

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**CPPS K-2 Athletics Carnival**

Parents are invited to attend the K-2 Sports Carnival.

Date: Tuesday, 21 September, 2010

Time: 10.00am—1.20pm

Venue: CPPS Oval

Events: Relays, bean bag/ball games, races including age races and skipping.

Please note: Children are to wear school sports uniform including hats and joggers. Children may sit with parents during recess but must sit and remain in class groups during events.
CPPS Public Speaking Competition

Connells Point Public School will be holding its annual Public Speaking Competition on Tuesday, 14 September, 2010.

All stages will be competing during the day at the following times:
Stage 3 (Y5-6) .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. . .. 9.45am
Stage 2 (Y3-4) .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. 12 noon
Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 (K-Y2) .. .. .. .. 2.15pm

The winner from each stage will continue on to the District Public Speaking Competition. Parents, family and friends are welcome to attend. A gold coin donation would be gladly appreciated. This will go towards the adjudicator’s fee.

We hope to see as many people as possible to form our audience.

Sports News

PSSA or Leisure Sport

Please be aware that students who have outstanding accounts are not eligible to select a paid sport option — PSSA or Leisure Sport — until that account is paid.

Our records indicate that there are payments outstanding for a number of children, and accounts have previously been issued. Please contact our office if you believe our records are not accurate.

As selections for the next season of sport are currently being made, it is imperative that payment is made as soon as possible. Your child will be assigned to school sport if payment is not received before selections are finalised.

Congratulations

Recently, Alex of 4/5M, competed in the 2010 MG State Championships Gymnastics Competition at the State Sports Centre, Sydney Olympic Park where he came 3rd overall in all his events.

Congratulations on your great achievement, Alex.
Boys Soccer—2010 Champions

Congratulations to both the Senior and Junior Soccer teams, for winning their PSSA competitions. The standard of PSSA soccer in the Georges River District is very high, with 16 schools eligible to enter teams. Both teams were able to complete the season without losing a game, demonstrating excellent skills, sportsmanship and teamwork.

What made the ‘Finals Day’ even more special was the fact that all our CPPS teams at Gannons Park (Girls and Boys) won their competitions! I am fairly sure that it will be some time before this amazing feat is matched.

Congratulations and thanks must go to the children for their hard work throughout the season. A special mention also to the parents, who are always keen to show their support and attend matches.

Hopefully, we will be able to retain the shields next year!

Mr P. Cohen
Boys Soccer Coach
P&C News

P&C Treasurer Position Vacant

At the end of this year our Treasurer will be leaving the school so to avoid the new Treasurer coming in cold, we would like to start the recruitment process now so that an appropriate handover can occur.

Ideally, we would like an Accountant or Book Keeper who is proficient in MYOB. The P&C turns over approximately $200k per annum.

The Treasurer is responsible for handling the accounts and books for the Uniform Shop, Canteen and P&C Association.

Their responsibilities are:
- To pay the accounts for the Uniform Shop, Canteen and P&C Association.
- To pay the canteen staff wages, superannuation
- To present the accounts to the P&C every month

If you would like more information on this very important job, please contact Sue.

Father’s Day Stall

We hope all our fathers had a wonderful Father’s Day and they enjoyed the presents their children bought for them.

We had a very successful Father’s Day this year; we made approximately $1,700 which was a great effort.

I would like to give a very big thank you to Poppy for organising all the gifts and also to Eli for assisting her. This is a huge job which takes many months of organisation in sourcing and selecting the gifts, ordering them and then sorting them into classes so that there is the same amount and variety for each class.

Thank you to Helen, Diana, Andrew, Toni, Kathy, Eli, Linda and Liane for giving up their morning to help out at the stall.

We are very lucky to have people who continually volunteer for these jobs because it allows us to not only offer our children a chance to select their own present for their father/grandfather/uncle but also helps us to raise money for our school.

Pick Up Zone Supervision Roster

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Canteen Christmas Dinner
- Friday, 26 November
- Venue to be advised

Please keep this date free

Canteen News

Connellswealth Games

The day started out damp and we all had a case of ‘deja vu’ from our attempt to run our own Olympic Games but after waiting for around half an hour our own Connellswealth Games commenced.

We had a wonderful opening ceremony, the kids marching proudly behind their country’s flag and being watched and cheered on by an enormous crowd.

The infants participated in their games first and from all the broad smiles it looked like they enjoyed themselves. It was wonderful to see all the parents helping and watching. After recess it was the Primary’s turn to participate and they too seemed to enjoy the day. After all the exercise, the kids enjoyed a sausage and kebab sizzle. Thank you very much to everyone who helped out on the BBQ – Shiwani, Melinda, Jill, Linda, Toni, Leasa, Kate and Carolyn.

The event wound up with the closing ceremony. Congratulations to all the children who received awards and going by all the happy faces, fun was had by all.

If you haven’t already done so, would you please send in your sponsorship money? Any cheques should be made out to Connells Point Public School P&C.

Canteen Roster

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2010 CPPS Trivia Night
On Saturday, 11 September, the P&C are holding a
TRIVIA NIGHT

Where: School Hall
Time: Starting time - 7pm for 7.30pm
Cost: $15.00 per head
Theme: Sporting Attire
BYO: Food & Drinks
Adults Only – no kids admitted

For bookings and enquiries please contact Sue.

Limited Tickets available on the night

SPRING FETE
SATURDAY
11TH SEPTEMBER

Commencing 9am
in the Church Hall
The Mall
South Hurstville

Lots of fun for the whole family!

Jam, cake, white elephant stalls
plus many, many more.

St Marks South Hurstville

THE CONNELLS POINTER