Performing Arts Showcase

What a delight it was to watch our children on stage at the Sutherland Entertainment Centre last night! So many beaming faces, proudly showing their families their skills and talents in a huge range of performing arts: dance, singing, public speaking, drama, musicianship and skipping. The confidence of the performers was amazing—nobody was overwhelmed by the bright lights or large audience!

I never take evenings like our Showcase for granted. They only happen because of the commitment and good will of teachers who are prepared to give their time to create quality performances. If teachers don’t put up their hands for this extra workload, they just don’t happen. So my sincere thanks to each and every staff member who lends their support to making our Performing Arts Showcase an annual highlight.

Every child who gave of their best deserves to feel the glow of achievement today, none more so that those who performed an individual item. That’s a pretty big stage when you’re the only person on it! So well done to Charlie, George, Lara, Dayna and Fiona, who delivered their winning public speaking speeches, and to David, for his truly amazing violin solo. I can’t imagine where their skills and talents will take them in the next 10 years!

As I said last night, Connells Point Public School values participation, commitment and striving for excellence. We encourage all students to have a go, find a talent and then work at developing it. The results for those who take the opportunities, and stay the course, were evident last night. As in life, you get back what you put in. Those who excel, whether in the performing or creative arts, academically or in sport, do so because they put in the hours of practice that are essential for excellence. There is a theory that says 10,000 hours of concentrated and reflective practice is required to achieve mastery of anything — this amounts to about 10 years. Talent is not enough on its own, without dedication and commitment. Last night, we saw many children who are well on the way to becoming masters of their talents.

Cyberbullying

Don’t forget to come along to next Tuesday night’s presentation for parents and carers on the issues surrounding cyberbullying.

With the school holidays fast approaching, children may well be spending much more time using technology and this presents the opportunity for problems to arise with peers. Students no longer get a break from peer relationships—out of sight is no longer out of mind! Understanding what the issues might be, and how to skill your child in using mobile phones, social networking sites, texting etc, is more important than ever.

Senior Constable Pointon spoke today to our students in Years 3-6 about cyberbullying. Please come along to the Performing Arts Room on Tuesday 7 December at 6.00 p.m.

No parent should miss the opportunity to learn more about this issue. It happens out of school time, and is a problem that is going to become more serious. Even if your child does not yet have access to facebook, mobile phones or emails, many of their peers do. Understanding how your child can effect, and be effected by, others using technology should be a high priority.

Dates to Remember 2010

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<th>Term 4</th>
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Year 6 Fete Wednesday 8 December, 2010

Our Year 6 will be conducting its annual fundraising fete next Wednesday, between recess and lunch. A list of stalls and activities that have been organised will be sent home with students next Monday. It is an activity run by students for students, not an open fete for parents and friends.

Your help in providing coins or $5 notes rather than larger notes will help the stall holders manage change.

Thank you
Y6 Teachers

Planning for 2011

To assist in our organisation for 2011 it would be helpful to know if any student, other than Y6, will not be returning next year. Please advise the office as soon as possible if you will not require placement next year.

Sydney Youth Writing Competition

Once again, students from Connells Point Public School have achieved success in the Sydney Youth Writing Competition. Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding work;

**Senior Poetry**
- 6P — Madeleine — *Family* — Encouragement Award
- 6C — Ashleigh — *Pets* — Highly Commended

**Junior Short Story**
- 4/5M — Anastasia — *Torn Between Two* — Highly Commended

**Junior Plays and Scripts**
- 4S — Olivia — *The Art of Shopping* — First Place

All finalists have been published in *Thunder and Lime*, this year’s collection of the best entries.

Mark McKirdy—Teacher Librarian.

P&C News

Christmas Twilight Market & Fashion Parade

Our twilight market and fashion parade was held last Wednesday evening and was a HUGE success. Thank you to everyone who assisted and a special thank you to Eli for coordinating the event. The high quality and variety of gifts for sale made Christmas shopping oh so nice!

The Christmas Cart Bauble Fundraiser

Thanks to all those who have ordered Christmas baubles—for those who got in early, I hope they look great on your Christmas tree.

If you ordered at the shopping night, they will be available for collection on **Tuesday, 7 December** on the hall verandah from 3pm.

If you cannot make this time, they will be held in the office for collection (due to their delicate nature we cannot hand them out to the children).
**P&C News continued**

**Shopping Opportunity**
Still looking for Christmas presents? Friends, family, teachers????? Well look no further—shop easily and quickly at school. All VERY reasonably priced and already wrapped! Don’t miss out.

**When:** Tuesday 6 December from 3-4pm  
**Where:** Hall verandah  
**What:** Gourmet gifts, girly gifts, grown up gifts and even gifts for the men in your life.

**Canteen News**

**HELP PLEASE**

We STILL have no volunteers on **Tuesday 7 December**. If anyone can spare a few hours, please contact Sharon.

**End of Stock/Year**
As we approach the end of the year we will be running down our stock. During the next week, some items may no longer be available for lunch orders; therefore, it would be helpful if you could provide a second preference. We will attempt to fill all orders where possible but if the item is out of stock and no second preference is provided, your order will be substituted with a Cruizer Pie.

**Closing Date for 2010**
The last day canteen will be open is **Friday, 10 December** (not open 13/14/15 December) and will reopen on the **first day of Term 1, 2011**.

**Menu Changes**
The new menu for 2011 is enclosed in this newsletter. Please note that the menu has changed significantly for 2011 and as a result, we ask that you take the time to note what has been removed/included in the new menu.

**Canteen Roster**

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**THE CONNELLS POINTER**
P&C New continued

Canteen Roster

Thank you to the 6 families that bought shoes at **ATHLETES FOOT**. We received a cheque for $30.00 from them this week. Don’t forget this offer when you are next purchasing shoes.

Pick Up Zone Roster

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Community News

**SYDNEY INSTITUTE TAFE**

**OUTREACH ACCESS**

Course No. 4962  Statement of Attainment in Vocational & Community Engagement

College Location: St George College, cnr Princes Hwy & President Ave, Kogarah
Attendance: Classes take place during school hours and run for 12 weeks.

Who are these courses for?
- Men and women lacking confidence to go back to study
- Women wanting to re-enter the workforce after years at home caring for family
- Men and women who wish to change their career

The learning programs are at entry level and delivered flexibly to suit individual requirements. You can choose your own study program and study for as little as 2 hours per week or many more.

**HOW DO I GET INTO THESE COURSES?**

Attend: INFORMATION SESSION

AT 9.30AM  (PLEASE BE ON TIME)

On: Tuesday, 25 January 2011

Where: St George College, Conference Room, First Floor, Building A.

When do classes start? Monday, 14 February 2011
When do classes finish? Monday, 7 June 2011

Contact: OUTREACH, Building C, First Floor, Room C1.21
Phone: 9598 6371

TAFE FEES: THESE ACCESS COURSES ARE FREE

These programs are subject to the availability of resources and sufficient demand.