23 June 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

Senior Band students from Connells Point, Brighton-Le-Sands and Sans Souci Public Schools are combining for an opportunity to mix and share their talents at our three day BAND CAMP at Stanwell Tops. The three day (two night) camp will take place at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre. The camp will be a fantastic opportunity for the Senior Concert band students to work together intensively with experienced tutors. Our previous band camps, held at this venue, have been highly successful.

Band Camp is an opportunity to build on current musical skills and focus on developing skills not already attained. We would like to see all members attend if possible. Details of the camp are outlined below:

**Camp Dates**

The camp will take place in Week 7 of Term 3 – Monday, 25 August to Wednesday, 27 August 2014.

**Transport**

The band will be transported in a seatbelt-fitted coach with trailer capacity to cater for instruments and other band equipment. The coach will depart Connells Point P.S. at 8 am on the morning of Monday 25 August. **This year we are requesting that parents collect their children from the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre, as the camp will conclude with a concert on Wednesday, 27 August, 3.30-4.00pm.** If you are not able to collect your child, please make arrangements for a responsible adult friend or family member to do this for you. You will need to tell us who is collecting your child by filling out the form attached. If this information changes at any time, you must let us know in writing.

**Accommodation**

Band members will be housed in comfortable accommodation at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre. Students will be in rooms of four to six people. Boys and girls will be housed in separate buildings and each room will have its own bathroom facilities. Linen and towels are not provided. **Children require a pillowcase, sheets or a sleeping bag and their own toiletries.** Children will be able to nominate preferred room buddies to help with room allocation at camp.

**Meals**

Meals will be provided by the Conference Centre as follows:

Day 1: Monday, 25 August: Morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner.

Day 2: Tuesday, 26 August: Breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner.

Day 3: Wednesday, 27 August: Breakfast, morning tea and lunch.
Supervision

The students will be supervised by Mr Paul Cohen and Ms Narelle McCain. Mr Skues will also be employed as our musical director and will assist with supervision of students. The supervising teachers have current emergency care certification. There will also be teachers from the other participating schools in attendance, as well as camp staff.

Medical Forms

The students have been given medical forms to complete and return by Thursday 8 August. These forms include considerations such as procedures for students who need to take medication during the trip, special dietary requirements as well as emergency contact numbers.

Musical Equipment:

Students will need to bring their instrument, pencil, music folder and music stand.

Night Activities

There will be a Disco on the Monday night and a Trivia/Talent Quest on the Tuesday night. This year’s theme for the Disco fancy dress will be “come as a Movie or Film character”.

Special Outdoor Activities

We have organised two special outdoor activities to give the students a break from their intensive music program. The activities will be run by qualified staff members of the Tops Conference Centre, taking place from 2:30-4:15pm on the Monday and Tuesday of the camp. Students will need to nominate their choice of activities from the following list: Giant Swing, Archery, Abseiling Tower, and Vertical Cluster. Preferences must be made on the permission note accompanying this note. Parents need to sign individual permission notes for each activity as well as the Acknowledgement of Risk form. Parents may also view the details on the website at www.thetops.com.au

Break times

During other break times, the students will be playing organised team-building games, as well as informal games such as touch football, soccer and basketball.

Clothing/other requirements

Band members will be required to bring enough comfortable, casual day clothes for the two day camp, including the disco and trivia/talent quest evenings. Evenings are likely to be cool and warm clothes will need to be included. Sufficient toiletries and pyjamas will also be required. Doonas and pillows will be provided but students need to bring a pillow case and linen or a sleeping bag and a towel.
Electronic Equipment

Children are not to bring electronic equipment such as i-Pods, mobile phones etc. These items are valuable items of equipment and can prevent students from taking an active part in all activities prepared for them. The children will not be spending time travelling and so do not require extra individual entertainment items.

Follow-up Concert Performance

This year the concert performance will be held at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre as the conclusion for Band Camp. The concert is an opportunity for the students to show you what they have learnt as well as being wonderfully motivating. **Concert time is 3.30-4.00pm on Wednesday, 27 August.** At the end of the concert you are asked to depart promptly so that the Centre’s staff can finish cleaning in readiness for the next group.

The Tops Conference Centre is located at 51 Bendena Garden, Stanwell Tops, NSW, 2508

Phone: 02 42941430.

On arrival, turn right at the front gate and follow the signs to Grevillea Campsite.

Cost of camp

The total cost to band members will be **$245 per student.** This includes transport, accommodation, meals, outdoor activities and tuition fees. There is no need for additional funds as all vending machines are out of bounds to children for the duration of our stay. **A deposit of $50 will be required by Thursday, 31 July. Final payment must be made by Friday, 8 August. Medical forms must also be handed in by 8 August.** Payment of cash, cheque (made out to CPPS) or credit card can be made directly to the school office.

Mrs T. Corben
Relieving Principal

Mr P. Cohen and Mrs L. Smith
Band Co-ordinators
Permission Note for the Combined Schools Band Camp 2014

I give permission for my child______________________________ of class ______________
to attend the 2014 Combined Schools Band Camp at Stanwell Tops Conference Centre between Monday,
25 August and Wednesday, 27 August 2014.

I understand that my child will be travelling by coach to the camp. Yes / No.

and

I understand that I am responsible for transporting my child home at the end of camp. Yes/No

Or

My child will be taken home by _________________________________.
contact number: ________________________________

Signed ________________________________ Date ____/____/____

Parent/Carer

☐ I enclose a deposit of $50

or

☐ I enclose full payment of $245