What A Difference a Day Makes!

The K/1 Working Bee on Saturday was a great success. Garden beds were moved, scarecrows were created and plants transplanted. The finished product looks fabulous and sets off the school boundary beautifully. Well done to all the volunteers led by Gus and Lu. Thank you all for your outstanding work in making our school a more attractive place for our school community. See the before and after shots later in this newsletter and you will be impressed!

REMINDER - NAPLAN Parent Information Session – TONIGHT at 7pm in the Hall

As previously mentioned, we are holding an Information Session for parents/carers from any grade about NAPLAN (National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy). During this session Ms Parrella will outline what the tests assess and how the tests are constructed. I will outline the results from 2014. There will be an opportunity to ask questions. All are welcome and tea/coffee will be served.
Young Leaders’ Day

Our school captains, vice captains and prefects attended the Young Leaders Day with Mrs Halls at the Qantas Credit Union Arena on Monday. They were given the opportunity to hear some inspirational speakers and their take on leadership. I have included their comments about the speakers:

Lily and Jasi – Rachael Leahear is 90% visually impaired. She taught us that even if there are setbacks in life, you can still follow your dreams. She also told us never to give up because before she came third on ‘The Voice’ she auditioned for X-Factor and Australia’s Got Talent and was rejected, but she kept going!

Archie – Mike Baird (Premier NSW) told us that we can help in everything – we don’t need a badge to support others. Even the ‘outside’ kid can do amazing things and we should all help each other as much as we can.

Bo – Bindi Irwin spoke about how once her dad passed away her family has kept on going in his footsteps. She stood up to the challenge and told us to keep following our dreams.

Joe - The Paper Planes Pilots (movie) speakers were James and Dylan. James spoke about how when he was a kid he didn’t have many friends because he played with paper planes. When he was older he got a brain tumour but just found out he got to the Paper Planes national championship. People told him he shouldn’t go but he went and placed first. He told us we should always follow our dreams, no matter what people say.

Luke – Mike Martin is the founder of the Halogen Foundation (organisers of the conference). His message was that leaders have to sometimes fix a problem by going there and taking the place of someone else.

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You are invited to …. A Parent Information Session on K-6 Mathematics - TUESDAY 21 APRIL at 7pm

This year we have been implementing the new Mathematics Syllabus. Teaching staff have been involved in professional learning led by Anita Chin, a well-known and respected maths consultant who is a co-writer of the new syllabus. Anita will be working with our staff on the first two days of Term 2 and will be presenting a Parent workshop in the School Hall on the first day of Term 2 – Tuesday 21 April from 7pm. Save the date! Anita is an inspirational speaker who will demonstrate and involve you in practical maths activities. A flyer will be distributed next week.
GPS Nutrition Policy

Greenwich PS staff, School Council and the P&C has recently been discussing promoting healthy eating for our students. The topic of sweets and treats has been raised and to this end we have developed a policy to guide our practices. One of our P&C parents is developing a brochure to outline suggestions for good food choices. The Fresh Tastes @School Canteen menu Planning Guide categorises foods as GREEN – fill the menu with these foods, encourage these foods; ORANGE – select carefully and do not let these foods dominate the menu; RED – these foods should be eaten occasionally. I have included a diagram below that shows pictures of foods included in each category.

We will continue to allow birthday treats to be brought to school and respectfully request that parents /carers of children with allergies provide the class teacher with an appropriate treat for your child for these occasions eg jelly snakes, jelly beans or 2 cupcakes in a small container. We will continue to run fundraising morning teas and the Year 6 fete, recognising that we limit these RED occasions to once or twice a term.

As Easter is approaching, please note that the new policy requests that children do not bring Easter Eggs (or at Christmas time – candy canes) to share with the class as by the time 30 students in the class do this, that is a lot of chocolate/sugar!

The following GPS Nutrition Policy outlines our new guidelines in full. Please take the time to read this and understand our policy and I trust that you will support us in encouraging healthy eating practices.
GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOL
Partnerships and Opportunity
Excellence and Success

Greenwich Public School Nutrition Policy

March 2015

Rationale:

Greenwich Public School promotes and models healthy eating and good nutrition. Students are taught about healthy eating and nutrition in formal Personal Development/Health/Physical Education lessons and assembly presentations, in informal situations and during the Life Education program. A healthy lifestyle, including a balanced diet, regular exercise and a good knowledge of healthy food groups, is the goal.

This policy reflects the DEC Nutrition in Schools Policy (2011) and the relevant aspects of the Fresh Tastes @School Canteen Menu Planning Guide documents.

Foods are categorised as GREEN – Fill the menu with these foods - these foods should be encouraged; ORANGE – Select carefully and do not let these foods dominate the menu, avoid large serve sizes and RED – Occasionally – not more than two occasions per term. See Fresh Tastes @School Canteen Menu Planning for more information.

Consideration should be given at all times to students who have allergies and dietary restrictions.

Guidelines for teachers/visitors/guest speakers/voluntary tutors/helpers/Scripture and Ethics Teachers:

Teachers/visitors are encouraged to use non-food based rewards to acknowledge appropriate behavior and achievement in class. Examples include:

- Greenwich Wings
- Extra art activities
- Computer time
- Games and puzzles
- Stickers, pencils, rubbers etc
- Free play time
- Points that can be earned towards a larger prize such as book, sports equipment
- Lucky dip prize
- Mystery prize pack

Food based rewards that fall into the RED category should be used sparingly.

Guidelines for Parents/Carers:

Parents/Carers are permitted to send small birthday treats for the class to celebrate a child’s birthday. They may include cakes, a small chocolate or lolly (no lollipops please) as well as fruit sticks or frozen watermelon etc. Cupcakes are preferable to large cakes as they are easier to distribute.
Recognition Assembly and last Buddy Groups

This Friday 27 March, we will celebrate the achievements of the students in Term 1 in our K-6 Recognition Assembly. This will be followed by our last buddy group session where children will participate in friendship activities then enjoy a combined morning tea. All K/1 students are asked to commence the day at the Kingslangley Rd campus.

Health Alert – Impetigo

We have had a few cases of Impetigo diagnosed within the school community. It is a bacterial infection of the skin. It is easy to catch but can be treated with antibiotics. Students should be kept at home until the blisters have dried out and all sores must be covered. A fact sheet can be found on the school website under Information for Parents/Notes, should you require any further information.

Parent Survey

As part of our review of 2014 and planning for the next three year cycle, we are seeking your feedback. Here is a link to a survey to assist you – http://www.schoollsurvey.edu.au/s/x6kRgyfa

Thank you for time and effort in completing this survey by Thursday 2 April.

School Cross Country Carnival – Friday 24 April

Save the date – our School Cross Country Carnival for students in Years 2-6 will be on Friday 24 April on the school oval. It will commence around 10.30am. More details will follow next term.

NAPLAN Dates

Students in Years 3 and 5 will be sitting the NAPLAN tests on Tuesday 12 May, Wednesday 13 May and Thursday 14 May (with a catch up day on Friday 15 May if absent). Please do not book any dentist or medical appointments during this time. Thank you.

New Attendance Policy

A new DEC Attendance Policy has been released this year. I have included the Parent Information brochure ‘Compulsory School Attendance’ for your reference. If you are requesting leave for travel purposes for 10 days or more you will need to complete an ‘Application for Extended Leave - Travel’ available from both offices. For long periods of travel, please attach travel documentation such as itinerary or e-ticket.

Megan Lockery
Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:
- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:
- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conference

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 0244 5129
www.dec.nsw.gov.au

© February 2015
NSW Department of Education and Communities
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Easter Hat Parade for Kindergarten and Year 1 students

Kindergarten and Year 1
Easter Hat Parade and Teddy Bears’ Picnic

Dear Parents/Careers, Grandparents and Friends,

It is with pleasure that the students of Greenwich Public School K-1 Campus invite you to join us in celebrating Easter at the Greenwich Public School Easter Hat Parade and Teddy Bears’ Picnic 2015. Students will perform a number of songs and a dance at the assembly run by the SRC members. After the assembly parents/careers and grandparents are invited to join students in their classrooms to participate in classroom activities. Students will then join parents/careers and grandparents in the playground for a ‘Teddy Bears’ Picnic’. Parents and grandparents are invited to bring a picnic lunch to share with their own child. Students who will not have family members attending will also need to bring a packed lunch. Lunch orders will be delivered at 11am.

Hats for the Easter Hat Parade will be made at school in class time. Students will be supplied with cardboard, coloured paper and streamers. Students are free to bring in non-edible extra decorations from home if they wish.

As a timely reminder, and in consideration for students with allergies, please do not send Easter eggs to school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Thursday 2 April</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue:</td>
<td>Greenwich Road Campus, Greenwich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>9:30–9:45 Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:45–10:15 Easter Assembly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:15–10:45 Open Classrooms</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45–11:45 ‘Teddy Bears’ Picnic Lunch</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

What to bring:
- Picnic lunch
- Blanket
- Teddy Bear

We look forward to your company.

Kristy Johnson and Luke Richmond
Assistant Principals
K-1 Campus

Megan Lockery
Principal
New Vege Garden at Greenwich Road Campus

Last Saturday the drizzle did not dampen the enthusiasm to create a new vege garden area at the Greenwich Road Campus with the assistance of money from the Gardening Levy. It is being watched over by the wonderful Mr and Mrs Scarecrow who were met with great delight by the students on Monday morning.

The working team, under the guidance of K-1 Ground Coordinators Gus Munro and Lu Chambers have done a great job with this project and with tidying up the garden along the Greenwich Rd boundary. The lovely new vege garden will hopefully entice students to learn about the growth of herbs and veges and encourage them to care for the plants. Parents are welcome to assist with weeding and watering to support this as a learning environment.

Thank you to Ms Jo Smith and Cass Gray-Spencer who worked tirelessly on their day off for the project and also to all the parents and students who came along and contributed their time and muscle power, allowing us to stretch the Gardening Levy money that little bit further.

P&C NEWS

Message from the Presidents

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 1 April at 7.30pm, in the library, at the Kingslangley site. Everyone is welcome.

Thanks
Adam & Dave

DRINKS BY THE HARBOUR

Please check the flyer for Drinks by the Harbour 2015 in this newsletter! Flexischools bookings are now open, make sure to purchase your earlybird tickets to join us on our journey Around the World on Saturday 30th May... More information will follow in the lead up to Mufti Day (next term, Thursday 30th April).
Any questions, please contact DBTH2015@greenwichpandc.org.au.
AROUND the World
GPS DRINKS BY THE HARBOUR

SATURDAY 30TH MAY 2015
6.30PM UNTIL 11.30PM

DRESSES
$55 early bird, $65 after May 3
Per person includes food by Woodland Kitchen and Bar.
All drinks are entertainment.
Prepurchase from the school's website.

DEPARTURE
Greenbank Sailing Club,
Ford Reserve, 490 O'Connell Street

PRIZES
Live auction, silent auction,
Mystery bags, mystery envelopes
Merit Awards
2-6 Week 9

2-6 Week 9 Bronze Award Winners

2-6 Week 9 Silver Winners

2-6 Week 9 Bronze Award Winners

2-6 Week 9 Silver Winners
## DIARY DATES

### 2015 TERM 1

#### WEEK 9
**Wednesday 25 March**
- State Swimming Carnival
- NAPLAN Information session for Parents 7pm in Hall

**Thursday 26 March**
- State Swimming Carnival

**Friday 27 March**
- Recognition Assembly 9.30am
- K-6 Buddy Groups and combined morning tea
- 2MS Parent/Teacher interviews

#### WEEK 10
**Monday 30 March**
- Parent/Teacher Interview week

**Tuesday 31 March**
- Parent/Teacher Interview week

**Wednesday 1 April**
- Parent/Teacher Interview week
- 7.30pm P&C meeting

**Thursday 2 April**
- Parent/Teacher Interview week
- 9.30am K/1 Easter Hat Parade and Assembly
- LAST DAY OF TERM 1

### TERM 2

#### WEEK 1
**Tuesday 21 April**
- Students return to school for Term 2
- Ryde Student Leadership Camp
- Parent Information session ‘Maths’ 7pm in Hall

**Wednesday 22 April**
- Ryde Student Leadership Camp

**Thursday 23 April**
- ANZAC Assembly Years 2-6 11.30am

**Friday 24 April**
- School Cross Country Carnival

#### WEEK 2
**Thursday 30 April**
- Mufti Day for Drinks by the Harbour

**Friday 1 May**
- Winter PSSA commences

**Sunday 3 May**
- Band Intensive

#### WEEK 3
**Wednesday 6 May**
- North Shore Zone Cross Country at Artarmon Reserve

### WEEK 4
**Tuesday 12 May**
- NAPLAN

**Wednesday 13 May**
- NAPLAN

**Thursday 14 May**
- NAPLAN

### WEEK 5
**Tuesday 19 May**
- Scienza Viva workshop 4RR, 6RC and 3OB

**Wednesday 20 May**
- Scienza Viva workshop SCR, 3AR and 4/5/6AH

**Thursday 21 May**
- 4pm School Council
- Scienza Viva workshop 2MS, SLV and 2/3NP

**Friday 22 May**
- Scienza Viva workshop 4AP, 2FS and 25H

**Sunday 24 May**
- Band – Ryde East Festival

### WEEK 6
**Saturday 30 May**
- Drinks by the Harbour

### WEEK 7
**Wednesday 3 June**
- ICAS Science
- P&C Meeting 7.30pm

### WEEK 8
**Monday 8 June**
- Queen’s birthday

**Thursday 11 June**
- Sydney North Cross Country – Gosford

### WEEK 9
**Wednesday 17 June**
- State Cross Country

**Thursday 18 June**
- 4pm School Council

**Friday 19 June**
- Winter PSSA Term 2 finishes

### WEEK 10
**Friday 26 June**
- Last day of Term 2

### HARDCOPY NOTES HOME THIS WEEK
- Nil

### SURVEYS FOR YOUR ATTENTION
- Nil

### EMAIL ATTACHMENTS HOME THIS WEEK
-
North Shore Drama’s youth program focuses on the foundations of acting and drama including story telling, communication, characterisation, imaginative play, improvisation, script work, play building and performance.

**Wednesdays**
Foundation (5-7 year olds*) 4:00pm - 4:45pm  
Step Up (8-11 year olds) 4:45pm - 5:30pm

**Saturdays**
Foundation (5-7 year olds*) 10:00am -10:45am  
Step Up (8-11 year olds) 10:45am - 11:30am

* Children must be of school age

PH: 1300 657 934
113B Willoughby Road, Crows Nest.

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**Local foster carers needed**

Family and Community Services are seeking people in the local area to provide short term and crisis foster care for children and young people 0–18 years that are unable to live with their own families.

Individuals, couples and families from varied backgrounds and cultural groups are required. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

All carers receive training, ongoing support and financial assistance. If you are interested in making a difference and helping children reach their full potential, please call 9765 5000 or email fostering@facs.nsw.gov.au
North Sydney Brothers Junior Rugby League Football Club

We are looking for additional players aged 5, 6, 7 & 8 years old to play rugby League for our Club in 2015 for FREE. We have great coaches & provide excellent training skills. Each player will receive FREE of Charge socks, shorts, jersey & player insurance, End of Season Trophy & a 2015 NRL Pass to all Club Games. If you would like to join a great family orientated club & have lots of fun, please register by calling Annette Hema on: 0404 610 048 or email: nsbros@hotmail.com or visit our website: www.nsbrothers.com.au
Applause

Musical Theatre Academy

Does your child love to **SING? ACT? DANCE?**

Applause Musical Theatre Academy is now enrolling for Term 2!

Every epic class is filled with fun and adventure, as students develop their singing, acting and dancing skills ready for the exciting world of musical theatre.

With accredited and experienced teachers from the music theatre industry (and piano accompaniment), you can be sure that your child learns from the best!

There are performance opportunities and an annual soirée.

Oh – and it’s really fun!

**WEDNESDAYS**
- Roseville
  - K-2: 3:30pm – 4:15pm
  - 3-6: 4:30pm – 5:30pm **(FULL SORRY)**
  - Grade 7+: 5:30pm – 7:00pm

**SUNDAYS**
- Chatswood
  - K-2: 3:15pm – 4:00pm
  - 3-6: 4:00pm – 5:00pm
  - Grade 7+: 5:15pm – 6:45pm

**NEW CLASSES COMING TO...**
- Killarney Heights on Mondays
- & Chatswood on Tuesdays
  - Get in contact with us to be first in line for these new classes!

**ENROL TODAY!**

Ingrid: 0405 495 099
applausemta@hotmail.com
www.applausemta.com.au