Swimming Carnival

What a fantastic day was had by all at our Swimming Carnival today! We managed to get through all our events successfully. Our captains and vice captains kept their house teams focused and cheering on all day. We were very impressed with the high participation rate of the students in all events. Well done to every student who participated in a race! The behaviour of our student spectators was second to none! We extend our gratitude to our co-ordinator Ms Amelia Rutherford who was assisted by Mrs Corrine Ranieri, and to the staff and parents who acted as officials on the day. The winning house will be announced once the house points have been tallied.

Parent Teacher Interviews 7 – 11 March

Information outlining your child’s teacher availability and Parent Teacher Interview sessions will be distributed to parents soon. This year we will continue to use the online booking system. Accessing this system will be outlined in the letter sent to parents.

CREATIVE ARTS

Visual Arts

I trust you will enjoy the Chinese New Year artworks included in this week’s newsletter by Stage 2 artists. Students have also been busy completing practical artworks used as book covers across much of the school. In Visual Arts students study the style and individuality of artists in addition to exploring and manipulating techniques and textures to construct their own original creations.
Chinese New Year Dragons

Year 5 Dance Group

Dance as art attempts to convey images, ideas and emotions to the audience. Some Dance is thoughtful, serious and abstract. Some is frivolous, joyous and narrative in form. Our Year 5 Dance Group, mentored by Mrs Rebecca Radovanic, will soon be auditioning for a place in the Arts Alive Dance Festival. If successful, this will provide our students with the opportunity to perform Dance in a professional theatre environment to a paying audience in May and June 2016.

Senior Choir

This year, Greenwich Public School has been selected to participate in the 2016 Arts Alive Choral Concert that will be held at the Sydney Town Hall in August. We are limited to a choir of 30 students for this opportunity. As a result, students in Years 5 and 6 who have indicated they wish to be part of this year’s choir will be required to audition in front of a panel including Ms Amelia Rutherford and Ms Jenni Bittar. A note will be sent to students wishing to participate in this program outlining the selection criteria for the successful applicants and the costs involved.

Given the limited number of places in this choir, unsuccessful Year 5 and 6 students will have the opportunity to participate in another choir throughout the year.

‘Experienced’ Guitar Group

Mr Richard Clark will run one ‘experienced’ guitar group this year on Thursday mornings at 8am. This is for students who have already had a series of guitar lessons and are able to play a variety of cords to sustain a tune. Further details will follow shortly.

Parent Information Evenings

It was great to see such a good turn-out at our Parent Information Evenings over the last week. Teachers enjoyed meeting the parents of their students and sharing their programs and directions for the year.
ICAS - INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS

Years 3-6 ONLY

ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 3 – 6 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science and Writing. It is important to know that the content of the tests does not always align with the NSW Syllabus documents used in our school. Teachers at Greenwich do not use the data provided as a record of student progress for that reason.

Participation in ICAS at Greenwich Public School is not mandatory. Parents may choose to enrol their children in the competitions. This year we will offer three options:

OPTION 1: English, Maths and Science competitions Total Cost = $ 24
Students must pay for and sit all 3 assessments as a bundle. Greenwich Public School will be running the competitions before school. Students will assemble in an allocated classroom at 8am (room details closer to the test date via newsletter and student noticeboard outside the science room.) Late students will be permitted to sit the test but will not be given extra time.
It is the students’ and parents’ responsibility to ensure the child is at school on time. Teachers will be giving up their own time to supervise the tests to enable our students to participate.

OPTION 2: English, Maths, Science and Writing Competitions Total Cost = $ 42
Students complete the bundle of English, Maths and Science competitions at 8am in an allocated classroom as above. This option also includes the Writing Competition which will be held in school class time in June. It is marked by hand according to set criteria.

OPTION 3: Writing Competition only Total Cost = $ 18
Students only complete the Writing Competition which will be held in school class time in June. It is marked by hand according to set criteria.

If you are in doubt as to whether you think your child should participate, please ask your child’s class teacher for advice.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The student report is useful for highlighting your child’s strengths and weaknesses.

ICAS certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Merit to the next 10% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating students.

The entry fee per student and sitting dates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>Year Levels</th>
<th>ICAS Sitting Date</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3–6</td>
<td>Tuesday 31 May 2016</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Tuesday, 2 August 2016</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Tuesday, 16 August 2016</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Week of Monday, 13 June – Friday, 17 June 2016*</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Actual sitting date for writing will be determined by the school to fit in with the class timetable.

Results will be available to schools approximately 6 – 8 weeks after the sitting date of each subject.

If your child has an extra-curricular activity such as band or guitar before school on one of the sitting dates, your child will need to inform their tutor, as a matter of courtesy, that they will be absent from their activity that week.

You can go to the ICAS website for more information.
http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about

Please return the permission slip and entry fee to the office by: Friday 8 April 2016 (Last day of Term 1.)
Parents/Carers please note, no entries or fees will be accepted after Friday 8 April 2016.

The permission note is attached to this email.

Peer Support

The Peer Support Program K-6 will now begin in Term 2. This extra time will allow students in Years 5 – 6 an opportunity to visit the K-1 campus at Greenwich Road and introduce themselves to the K-1 buddy group children this term. The organisation of the Peer Support Program will be communicated to parents later in the term.

P&C Website

Parents/Carers are able to access information regarding P&C Fundraising initiatives and minutes from previous meetings on the Greenwich P&C website: http://www.greenwichpandc.org.au

Safety Alert Students are not to walk through Greenwich Hospital

It has been brought to my attention that students have been taking a short cut to school and walking through the Greenwich Hospital grounds. The grounds of Greenwich Hospital are private property and cars move freely within these grounds making it dangerous for pedestrians. Parents/Carers please talk to your child about using the correct route to school.

Anna Parrella
Relieving Principal

LIBRARY NEWS

We have recently completed a cull of school book resources prior to our conversion to a new library system.

We are looking for any organisation who would like the books we no longer require as our previous contact is now not available.

If you know anyone or any group that would be interested could you please contact the school office at the Kingslangley Road Campus.

Marian Walker (Teacher Librarian)
P&C NEWS

Bookclub

**SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB - ONLINE ORDERS**

*Kindergarten and Year 1*

Greenwich Public School has **2 Different listings** for Bookclub online

- **GREENWICH INFANTS SCHOOL**
  
or

- **GREENWICH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Please check you have the correct one when ordering.

*If you can’t find your child’s class then you may not have selected the correct school.*

**PLEASE CHECK BEFORE CONTINUING TO AVOID DELIVERY DELAYS.**

*Issue 2 Brochures out soon.*

School Banking

*School Banking - starts this week*

We are now up and running with our new processes so we can start School Banking this week, Thursday, February 25. We look forward to seeing all our returning bankers and of course any new bankers who may already have a Youth Savers account with the Commonwealth Bank.

For the Year Two kids, the School Banking desk is set up outside the Assembly Hall under the COLA. We have a new Account Opening date scheduled for Thursday, March 17 at the K-1 site. Please see the bank’s information note on what is required for you to bring on that day and for information on other ways you can set up an account for your child.

**Term 1 Week 5 K-6**

Merit Awards
Bronze Awards

Silver Awards
DIARY DATES

TERM 1 2016

WEEK 5
Wednesday 24 February
- School Swimming Carnival
Thursday 25 February
- 4pm School Council

WEEK 6
Monday 29 February
- Young Leadership Day
Friday 4 March
- Clean Up Australia Day

WEEK 7
Monday 7 March
- Parent Teacher Interviews will take place this week
Wednesday 9 March
- Zone Swimming North Sydney Pool
Thursday 10 March
- Selective High School

WEEK 8
Tuesday 15 March
- K/1 SRC badging at Assembly
Wednesday 16 March
- Sydney North Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre
Thursday 17 March
- Year 2 excursion Ryde School Museum
Friday 18 March
- Hands on Science – Hunters Hill High School. 6 nominated students Years 5 and 6.
- Year 1 Ryde School Museum
- Years 2-6 SRC badging at Assembly

WEEK 9
Tuesday 22 March
- Kindergarten Parent Information session on Numeracy 9 – 9.50am in KSM room
Friday 25 March
- Good Friday

WEEK 10
Monday 28 March
- Easter Monday
Thursday 31 March
- 4pm School Council meeting
Friday 1 April
- Recognition Assembly 9.30 – 10.15am

WEEK 11
Tuesday 5 April
- Drinks by the Harbour
Wednesday 6 April
- State Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre
- P&C Meeting and AGM
Thursday 7 April
- State Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre
Friday 8 April
- Last day of Term 1

HARDCOPY NOTES SENT HOME
- SURVEYS FOR YOUR ATTENTION
  - Nil

EMAIL ATTACHMENTS HOME THIS WEEK
- ICAS Years 3-6 only

Greenwich Public School does not endorse or approve any particular product or service advertised in this newsletter.
Dear Parents and Guardians,

It’s fantastic that your child is learning Mandarin Chinese at Greenwich P.S. with weekly 40-minute lessons. To become fluent, experts estimate that it’ll take **2,200 class hours**. So, if your child were only learning for 40 minutes a week, it would take 82.5 years to become fluent!

To significantly speed up the process, you may wish to enrol your child in ChiFUNese after-school program at Greenwich P.S. on **Tue 3.15-4.15pm**. In addition to the weekly 1-hour lessons you also have unlimited access to an award winning online learning platform for practice at home every day! ChiFUNese program complements the in-school program and help students to consolidate and extend their learning.

To enrol, please go to [www.chifunese.com/enrol](http://www.chifunese.com/enrol). For enquiries, please email [admin@chifunese.com](mailto:admin@chifunese.com) or call (02) 8006 8208.

**The ChiFUNese difference:**

- Fun, multi-sensory learning through interactive games, songs, arts and crafts, stories, role-plays and hands-on activities;
- Cultural enrichment through Chinese festival celebrations;
- Multimedia online learning for additional practice at home;
- Feedback and support to parents including student reports;
- Team of professional teachers who are experienced and passionate.