Welcome Back

Welcome Back to 2016! I trust that you have had the time for both rest and great times with your family and friends. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new Kindergarten families and families of new students in Years 1 - 6 to Greenwich Public School this year. I am sure you will enjoy the support and friendship offered by our school community. This year is shaping up to be an exciting year full of opportunities, hard work and celebrations.

The students look smart in their summer uniforms. They are eager to learn and teachers are ready to embark upon another year of quality teaching and learning programs.

The School Newsletter

The School Newsletter is emailed weekly on a Wednesday and it contains information about school and community events and attachments containing permission notes. It is very important parents take the time to read the Newsletter carefully for details of what is happening at school. The Diary Dates at the end of the Newsletter provide important dates to put into your own diary for the current term.

Classes

Whilst in holding classes our senior students have trained as Peer Support Group Leaders in preparation for buddy groups later this term. Students in Years 1 - 4 have been busy focusing on our School Values of Respect, Responsibility and Success and on the Bounce Back Program promoting resilience. Students have also been revising literacy and numeracy skills. Our new Kindergarten students have been participating in their Best Start appointments and started their first formal day of school yesterday. Year 2 have undertaken a ‘treasure hunt’ around the Kingslangley Road campus and are settling well to a new campus.

The students have now been placed into their permanent classes and have been getting to know their new teachers and friends.

Parent Information Sessions will be held shortly for all classes and dates will be sent home once these have been finalised.

This year we have the following 20 classes:
Class formation is a complex and lengthy process as teachers consider many aspects when deciding upon class placement. Students are placed in classes with regard to balancing academic abilities across the grade, special needs, social and behavioural concerns and friendship issues. Teachers have met on many occasions both late last year and early this year to carefully consider the placement of each child.

Over the course of your child’s schooling, your child is likely to experience straight classes, composite classes, teacher job share classes and change of teacher during the year. Students adapt to these variations well and benefit from your support.

Our experience indicates that these are some strategies you can use for successful transition to a new class. For example:

- Parents can talk to their child about the opportunities presented by the new class/teacher/friendships in a positive light
- Parents can organise play dates to promote new friendships
- Parents can involve themselves in class and school activities
- Parents can reinforce class routines so that their child feels organised and confident
- Parents can suggest to their child to organise meeting places in the playground to catch up with friends in different classes
During the first few days of new classes, teachers work hard to develop class cohesion and strong bonds between students. Should you have any concerns, appointments can be made with the class teacher, supervisor of the grade or principal.

We would like to thank you in your support in helping students settle quickly into their new structures and routines.

**Support Teaching Staff**

Ms Marian Walker – 2-6 Librarian  
Mrs Liz Imlay – 2-6 Science (T, W, Th)  
Ms Michele Myers - Learning Support Yrs 2-6 (partially P&C funded), Library K-1, Science K-4  
Ms Christine Brookman - Learning Support K-1 (P&C funded) (T, W)  
Mrs Dani Olivey – Library K-1, Science K – 1 and Yr 3  
Ms Rebecca Guo – K-6 Mandarin (M-Thurs)  
Mr Richard Keller – K-6 Learning and Support Teacher (M, T, F morning)  
Mrs Margaret Sanders – K-6 Counsellor – T and every second F morning

**Morning routines**

Students should arrive at school and farewell their parents between 8:45am and 9:10am. This enables students to talk to their friends and ‘de-brief’ before a busy day of learning. At 9:10 the warning bell will ring. This allows students to go to the toilet, wash their hands and be ready at their designated class meeting area when the school commencement bell goes at 9:15am. Once a week there will be a morning Assembly at each campus where school information and any changes to routines will be discussed with the students. At Greenwich Road this will take place on Monday mornings. At Kingslangley Road this will take place on Tuesday mornings.

**Principal Position**

As you are aware, our former principal, Ms Megan Lockery, has secured a promotions position as principal of Lindfield Public School. On behalf of the students, staff and community of Greenwich Public School we would like to extend our sincere gratitude for the friendships and contributions she has made during Ms Megan Lockery’s leadership from 2012 – 2015. She will be sadly missed and we wish her well at Lindfield Public School.

The process of appointing a new principal to Greenwich Public School needs to follow departmental procedures. It is the role of the School Education Director, Ms Sharon Sands, to provide information to be released to the school community when this becomes available throughout the process.

I will be the Relieving Principal until a new principal is appointed. Prior to Ms Lockery’s appointment in 2012 I fulfilled the role of Relieving Principal position for 8 months. The School Executive team has worked closely with Mrs Lockery and the school community. We have collaboratively developed the School Plan, curriculum and learning programs, student welfare programs, professional learning opportunities and supported community based initiatives within the school.

I would like to extend an invitation to parents. You are welcome to make an appointment to see me if you feel there is an issue that should be addressed concerning your child or about our school
Assistant Principal Position Changes

We welcome back Ms Bittar, Assistant Principal, who has been working in the Arts Unit of the Department for 18 months.

Ms Amelia Rutherford will be Relieving Assistant Principal whilst I am Relieving Principal.

Following Mr Richmond’s promotion as Deputy Principal at Manly Village Public School, Ms Joanna Smith will be the Relieving Assistant Principal whilst a new assistant principal is appointed through the merit selection process. This is expected to take a term to complete.

Welcome

Welcome back to Mrs Emily Tamborini, who has returned back from Maternity Leave.

Ms Kirsty Baker will be joining the teaching team at Greenwich Road. Ms Baker has taught at Lane Cove West, Seaforth and Greenwich Public School on a range of classes and will be with us until the Assistant Principal is filled.

Welcome to Ms Georgie Clinch, who taught in a temporary capacity last year at Greenwich Public School on a variety of classes. She will be instructing my class whilst I am Relieving Principal.

Farewell

Similarly, our school would like to thank Mr Luke Richmond for his commitment and diligence in his role as Assistant Principal, Stage Coordinator, Learning Support Leader and facilitator of curriculum, student welfare and technology programs. We wish him every success at Manly Village Public School as Deputy Principal.

Farewell to Mr Mark Sheriff who has continued his studies and is pursuing a career working with students and adults where English is their second language.

Special Religious Education (Scripture) / Ethics Classes

We are currently organising our Special Religious Education (Scripture)/Ethics classes for 2016 which will begin next week.

All Scripture and Ethics classes are taught by trained volunteers who have been accredited by their affiliation and have the appropriate ‘Working With Children’ Child Protection clearance. Classes are offered in Anglican, Catholic, Baha’i and Jewish instruction. Ethics classes are offered for those students whose parents opt out of religious education and would like their child to be involved in discussions around ethical issues. Places are limited in Ethics classes. Non-Scripture is available for those not attending Scripture or Ethics Classes.

A Year 1 and Years 2-6 Scripture/Ethics Classes note has been sent home and emailed with this Newsletter for further information.

Your child will be placed in the same Scripture/Ethics or Non-Scripture group as last year. Kindergarten students will be placed in classes in accordance to your preference collected last year. If your child is new to the school in Years 1-6, or you would like your child to attend a different Scripture/Ethics/Non-Scripture class in 2016, please complete and return the form attached to the note.
Flip Sport and Flip Gym

The Flip Gym Program will begin next week. Students in Kindergarten and Year 1 will need to wear their sport uniform on Mondays. Students in Years 2-6 will need to wear their sports uniform on Wednesdays. Permission notes will be sent home with the students this week.

Advanced Notice for the Annual Swimming Carnival – Years 3-6 and some Year 2 students

Our school swimming carnival will be held at Lane Cove Pool on Wednesday 24 February. More information will follow.

P&C Meeting and AGM – 17 February 7:30pm, Kingslangley Road Library

Come along, find out how the parent community is supporting the school, listen to the address by the principal on how the school is progressing, get involved and make new friends. The P&C is a friendly group of parents, principal, teachers that meet to raise money, oversee parent organised programs and work collaboratively with the school to obtain resources and that support optimum outcomes for students. ALL WELCOME!

Anna Parrella
Relieving Principal

KINDERGARTEN FAMILY PICNIC

FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2016, 4.30 - 6.30pm

BERRY ISLAND RESERVE (end of Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft)

All Kindergarten families are invited to join the Greenwich Public School P&C for a Kindergarten family picnic afternoon on Friday 12 February, after school 4.30 - 6.30pm. It is a chance to meet other parents and children from all Kindy classes in a social friendly setting. BYO picnic rug, food and drinks. All parents and siblings are welcome and encouraged to attend. Berry Island Reserve has a fenced playground, toilets, water facilities and sprawling grass for picnic rugs. We look forward to seeing you all there! Any questions, email events@greenwichpandc.org.au.
P&C NEWS
A very warm welcome to our new families starting at Greenwich Public School this year, we hope you have settled in well. We also welcome back our existing families and hope the summer break was fun. We are very fortunate to have such a caring and supportive school community and a P&C which takes an active role in the school. The P&C host a number of fundraising events over the year to raise much needed funds to support important initiatives to make a child’s time at Greenwich as fulfilling as possible. P&C initiatives over the years have included the installation of smartboards in every classroom, iPads, computers, air conditioning, gardening and paying for additional and important teaching and resources. There are a number of ways in which you can support the school by attending events, helping in class, gardening working bees or being a class parent. We encourage everyone to join in, including fellow dads!

Class Parents
Now classes and teachers have been finalised we will be on the lookout for class parents. This is a great way to support the school, make contact with other parents and generally help out. Class parents are the link between the teacher and the other parents for requests or reminders specific to that class. They also organise class social events throughout the year. If you would like to be considered for the role of a class parent or would like more information on what this role entails please contact Hannah at communications@greenwichpandc.org.au

P&C meetings
The P&C meets at least every second month and this is a great forum for parents to find out what is going on at the school, discuss any concerns or participate in any P&C funded school initiatives. I would encourage all parents to come to the first meeting to be held on Wednesday 17 February at 7.30pm in the library at the Kingslangley Road campus.

School Uniform Shop
This is located on the Greenwich Road site and is open every Wednesday from 2.30pm – 3.45pm and sells new and second hand uniform and is manned by volunteers. You can also order uniforms online via www.flexischools.com.au which will be delivered to your child’s classroom.

Playground Project Update
Thank you to everyone who contributed to the playground funding last year. The team headed by Anne-Marie and Grant did an amazing job bringing the Playground Project to shovel ready, however just prior to hitting the go button at the end of last year the Department of Education changed its assets management policy to now control all new school projects including our new playground. This has delayed the Playground Project until the DoE runs its internal processes to manage and oversee the construction.

Project Manager wanted for Frog Pond Project
Last year GPS was successful in obtaining a grant to turn our current pond into an educational frog pond area where the students can watch and learn about the development of frogs. The funds have been secured, so we are looking for a volunteer to take on the role of managing this small but fun project. Please contact us if you are interested.

Thanks

Adam and Dave

P.S. Keep an eye out for details regarding “Drinks by the Harbour” which is the main fundraiser of the year and importantly a really fun night out for everyone.

School Banking

School Banking will resume for existing bankers next week, Week 3, Thursday 11th of February at both sites. The Commonwealth Bank has a new theme for this year’s prizes, The Australian Outback.
There will be a CBA representative at the K-1 site the week following for families who wish to join in this school activity which the school P&C receives a commission from over the year. The school receives $5 for any new account opened and then a quarterly commission on the total of the deposits made in that same period. Please see below for information outlining the different ways in which you can open an account for your child.

**School Banking Account Opening Day**

Greenwich Public School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit.

To encourage regular savings behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns your child a Dollarmite token, and once they’ve collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward.

The rewards available during 2016 are:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

School Banking day is Thursday. Each week you need to send your child to school with their completed deposit slip and money in their banking wallets and go to the banking desk under the COLA at each site between 8.45am and 9.10am.

We will be holding an Account Opening Day at our school:

**Time:** 8.45am  
**Date:** Thursday, February 18th, 2016  
**Location:** K-1 site, Greenwich Rd, Greenwich.

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along your current driver’s licence or another form of photographic identification.

Alternatively, you can open an account at your local branch. All you need to bring is your current identification as well as your child’s birth certificate. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have NetBank, you can open an account online.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.
PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Recorder Ensembles

Happy New Year everyone!

- Year 2 Recorder commences next week – Tuesday and Friday at 8.30am in the ESL room
- Year 3 Commences tomorrow – Thursday 4 February 8am in the ESL room
- Year 4-6 Commenced today 3 February 8am in the ESL room

Greenwich has again been accepted into the Opera House Instrumental Festival. Dates:

- Concert and Rehearsal 2 - 24 August
- Rehearsal 1 29 – June

Bev De Luis
Recorder Coordinator

STRINGS at Greenwich

Are you a K-Yr6 student looking for a Violin tutor?
We have violin tutors available through our school to teach private violin lessons! We can also provide a group lesson for beginners if there is enough interest...

Are you a Yr 2-6 student currently learning violin, viola or cello and looking for a string ensemble to play in?
We have a Primary String Ensemble at our school!

To register your interest and get more information, please email Collette on stringsgps@gmail.com.

Strings Committee
Greenwich Public School
DIARY DATES

TERM 1 2016

WEEK 3
Monday 8 February
  • K/1 Flip gym begins
Wednesday 10 February
  • 2-6 Flip gym begins
Friday 12 February
  • Kindergarten Picnic afternoon

WEEK 4
Wednesday 17 February
  • P&C Meeting 7.30pm and AGM

WEEK 5
Monday 22 February
  • Class Photo Day
Wednesday 24 February
  • School Swimming Carnival
Thursday 25 February
  • 4pm School Council

WEEK 6
Monday 29 February
  • Young Leadership Day

WEEK 7
Wednesday 9 March
  • Zone Swimming North Sydney Pool
Thursday 10 March
  • Selective High School

WEEK 8
Wednesday 16 March
  • Sydney North Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre

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

WEEK 11
Wednesday 6 April
  • State Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre
Thursday 7 April
  • State Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre
Friday 8 April
  • Last day of Term 1

HARDCOPY NOTES HOME THIS WEEK
  • Nil
SURVEYS FOR YOUR ATTENTION
  • Nil
EMAIL ATTACHMENTS HOME THIS WEEK
  • Nil

Greenwich Public School does not endorse or approve any particular product or service advertised in this newsletter.

Grill’d Crows Nest

We’ve been selected to participate in Local Matters at Grill’d Crows Nest this February!

Local Matters is the Grill’d community donation program that sees each Grill’d restaurant donate $500 back into the community every month. The donation is split between 3 local community groups $300 / $100 / $100.

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

We’d love your support in receiving the highest $300 donation! Simply head to Grill’d Crows Nest during February for a burger and pop your Local Matters token in our jar. The group with the most tokens at the end of the month receives the largest donation.

It’s a simple (and delicious) way to show your support!

You’ll find us on a jar at Grill’d Crows Nest, 57 Willoughby Road Crows Nest.
North Sydney Brothers Junior Rugby League Football Club

We are looking for additional players from 5 years old. **Players aged 5 years old to 9 years old play for free.** We have great coaches & provide excellent training skills. Registration includes socks, shorts, jersey & player insurance, End of Season Trophy & a 2016 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
WANT TO PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE?

**Mini Footy**  
Focussed on involvement and encouraging learning through play without the pressure of sticking to the strict laws of the game  
Ages 4-8

**Mod League**  
When Mini Footy is not challenging enough and they are ready for a more structured game  
Ages 9-12

**Rugby League**  
The full game played to international rules in various age-appropriate grades  
Ages 13+

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**Lane Cove**  
Family-oriented club  
Safe play code - Qualified coaches & referees  
Tantallon Oval  
Spring Road, Lane Cove

Free Come and Try Clinics at Tantallon Oval  
5pm - Mon 8th & Tues 16th Feb  
U9’s & U12’s Premiers, U10’s Grand Finalists!  
Email: lanecovertigers@gmail.com  
Facebook: /lanecovertigers  
Ph. 0422 001 311

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PLAYNRL.COM
IT’S TIME TO PLAY AFL!
IT’S TIME TO JOIN THE WILDCATS!

4 to 17 year olds welcome.

AFL is a fun, active and safe sport for all boys and girls. The Willoughby Wildcats, awarded Sydney Juniors’ Club of the Year in 2015, offer a great on-field experience for players, backed up by an off-field network of more than 100 volunteers and a strong bond with the North Shore community.

Based at Gore Hill Oval in St. Leonards, the Wildcats’ season runs from April to August. Auskick (4 to 7/8 years) is our introductory program, with sessions held on Sunday mornings. Here we introduce kids to AFL and teach them the rules and basic skills of the game via drills, activities and modified match play. Juniors (8/9 to 17 years) train mid-week and then play competitive games against other clubs on Sundays. We have accredited coaches at every age level and a strong focus on player development and welfare.

Compared with other codes, the Willoughby Wildcats offer great value. Auskick costs $160 per child and includes a backpack (valued at over $50) full of gear, like a football, cap, bottle etc. Our Juniors program costs $200 per player and includes a jumper for the season.

Register now at www.wildcatsafl.com
Learn music on the keyboard at school

GREAT SONGS  MUSICAL FUN
MUSIC THEORY  AT-SCHOOL VENUE
SMALL GROUP  K - 6 WELCOME
LIMITED VACANCY!

Learn music in a fun environment with friends at Greenwich Public. Classes are every Monday after school for 45 minutes. Instruments and music are provided in class. Call 9411 3122 or visit our website for more info and to enrol.

Enrol now for immediate start