Term 4 - Week 1

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**WELCOME BACK!** Welcome back to term 4! I hope everyone had a lovely break. This is another busy term, with student learning and finalising end of year activities. Year 6, in particular, will be very busy with their last term in primary school. We will continue to update parents and community, on all activities and events, through notes home, the school sign and the school website. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 9603 1333.

**FETE:** Last term we held our annual fete and it was an awesome success!! We raised approximately $16 000! A big thank you to the staff, students and community who put a lot of time and effort into preparations for our fete. There are many people and businesses to thank for donations. Without them we would not have raised as much money as we did. Also a big thank you to the fete committee led by Miss Bond, who did a wonderful job coordinating the day. All of the money raised from the fete will go to our air conditioning project.

**ATTENDANCE:** A reminder that school attendance is compulsory. Days away from school for birthdays, shopping or other activities are not covered under approved leave for students. All absences need to be explained by a note to the class teacher. This especially includes the absences on the last day/days of a school term. We have a number of students who were absent from school on the last day of term, and they have not brought in a note to explain their absence. Any absence that remains unexplained or, deemed by the Department of Education to be an illegitimate reason for leave, will be marked unexplained on the students record.
DEVELOPING SELF-ESTEEM: Children’s feelings of self-worth or self-esteem influence their happiness, success at school and the way they relate with others. Their self-esteem is influenced by their experiences of success and the messages they receive from those around them. Children with a healthy level of self-esteem usually take sensible risks and extend themselves more, as they have a realistic view of mistakes. Failure doesn’t reflect on them personally, they are still OK and they won’t fall apart when things don’t go their way. Children with a healthy self-esteem tend to be more resilient and cope better with problems and any changes that may occur.

- Develop independence in children. **Allow children to do things for themselves as soon as they are able.** This sends a powerful message that you think that they are capable and able to take some control over their world.

- **Celebrate children’s efforts and achievements in an enjoyable way.** Have a display space at home for schoolwork, art and awards they have received. Change the display frequently and make sure that each child’s efforts are represented.

- Send frequent positive messages to children. **Focus on their strengths rather than criticising weaknesses** and continually pointing out misbehaviour. When providing feedback mention a strength first: ‘Mathew, I like the way you put expression in your voice when you read. Now let’s work on some of these words you are having trouble with.’

- **Value your children’s ideas, thoughts and opinions.** Listen to them and help them to express their feelings and thoughts. Accept rather than reject their ideas even though you may disagree with them.

- **Help children experience success by breaking complex tasks into achievable goals.** For instance, a young child can learn to make a bed by first arranging teddies, smoothing the doona and progressing from there.

SCHOOL DATA COLLECTION: Our school is participating in the first year of the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability. This important data collection will reflect the support that is already being provided to students and will focus on the steps the school is taking to ensure that all students can access education on the same basis. The data will be used to inform future planning by governments and education authorities and will help us to better support the participation of students with disability in our school and all other NSW public schools. Currently, different states and territories collect information on school students with disability in different ways. In 2010 all state and territories agreed to the development of a nationally consistent approach for collecting data on school students with disability. The data collected in 2013 will be used to inform policy development for future funding and other policy requirements.

The data collection will focus on the adjustments that are being made by teachers and schools to support individual students to access and participate in education. Schools will collect information already available in the school about:

- The level of adjustment being provided to support students with disability to participate in their schooling like all other students
- The number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- Where known, the student’s type of disability.

The data collection process will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide the information to the Department of Education and Communities’ Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation. The data that is sent by the school to the Centre will be done in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified. The Centre will remove further identifiable features, such as school name, when it gives this data to the Commonwealth. This ensures that the privacy and confidentiality of all students is protected.

All information collected by the Commonwealth and the Department is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. The Commonwealth follows the requirements of the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988 and the Department of Education and Communities follows the requirements of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.


Donna Barton  
Principal (Rel)

Julie Sivell  
Deputy Principal (Rel)

Chad Harris  
Deputy Principal
If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection you must complete the attached form and return it to the school before 18 October 2013. If you have any questions about your child being counted in the data collection please contact the school. If you need help with English to make an enquiry contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will call the number you provide and get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service. Further information about the data collection can be found at the website www.deewr.gov.au/students-disability.

PARENT BODY:
Lost Property: Please note that the lost property box is cleaned out regularly by Parent Body. Any clothing that has a name in it is returned to the school. Any clothing with the school logo on it is washed and sold at second hand uniform sales. All other clothing is washed and given to charity. Please ensure that you mark your child’s name on all items of clothing. This is ensures that it will be returned.

Second Hand Uniforms: Parent Body would appreciate any donations of girls school dresses or polo shirts with the school emblem in good condition. Smaller sizes would be appreciated as well.

Thankyou for your support

RAFFLE WINNERS

WINNERS: Congratulations to the following families who were lucky winners in the Fete Raffle

1st Prize
Petersons Family
Table Tennis Table & Accessories
2nd Prize
Padraic Lane
Outdoor Gas Patio Heater
3rd Prize
Ashley Brennan
Mountain Bike & Helmet

UNSW Writing Skills Competition – 54 students participated and were awarded

DISTINCTION
Rachel Foong
Nahiyan Mahmud
Shalini Sha
Aarushi Sharda

CREDIT
Lakshmi Alapakkam
Andrew Capote
Declan Doyle
Alexis Karedis
Nicholas Rolls
Anfernee Truong
Aron Keness
Ayan Latif
Anurag Dhar
Felicity Foster
Jacinta Hong
Megan Lam
Jamie Nguyen
Varshini Rajashekar
Arjun Ramesh
Naman Singh

34 Participation Certificates

UNSW Spelling Skills Competition – 79 students participated and were awarded

HIGH DISTINCTION
Neha Arghode
Anurag Dhar

DISTINCTION
Karl Mascarenhas
Lakshmi Alapakkam
Nawaal Adams
Alli Gharib
Jacinta Hong
Arjun Ramesh

CREDIT
Ramin Khan
Jayden Brockwell
Bailey Culgan
Alexis Karedis
Bella Needham
Riley Phillips
Nicholas Rolls
Shusanth Selvam
Anfernee Truong
Michael Binny
Shishir Sankula
Luke Davis
Vinamra Gulati
Jacob Hong
Ryan Imam
Ayan Latif
YEAR 5 PARENTS:
Entry to Government Selective High Schools for Year 7 in 2015

Application is required by mid November 2013 for parents or carers of Year 5 students who wish their children to be considered for placement in Year 7 at a selective high school in 2015.

Parents with internet access are requested to apply online. Online applications will be available from 15 October to 18 November 2013.

Application information is available on the Department’s internet at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

For parents without internet access a limited number of paper application forms will be available in government primary schools, selective high schools, network offices and NSW State Office at Bridge Street from 22 October 2013. Paper applications must be submitted to the student’s school principal by 18 November 2013.

All students seeking Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2015 will be required to take the Selective High School Placement Test on the morning of Thursday 13 March 2014.

In NSW there are 17 fully selective high schools, 25 partially selective high schools, 4 selective agricultural high schools and a virtual selective class provision, offering selective placement in Year 7.

Applicants may apply for a total of any four selective high schools.

A complete list of selective high schools is available at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolfind/types/shs_ahs_details.php

Enquiries about application procedures should be directed to the High Performing Students Unit, email: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au or telephone on 1300 880 367. Enquiries relating to individual school matters should be directed to the schools concerned.

KINDERGARTEN 2014: Letters have been posted regarding Kindergarten Orientation for 2014 students. If you have enrolment papers that need to be returned to school could you please do so immediately so that your letter can be generated. If you have not enrolled your child for next year and they are turning 5 before 31 July 2014, please visit the school office ASAP.

HEARTBEAT : GET THE RHYTHM @ USW CAMPBELLTOWN: Our Year 3 & 4 Aboriginal students have been invited to attend the Heartbeat: Get the Rhythm program on Tuesday 5th November, 2013. The program Heartbeat aims to raise students’ awareness of health issues, inspire some of them to aspire to careers in medicine or health-related fields, and present university as a place for them.

Students received a permission note on the first day back to school this term. Mrs Tunstall will be attending the day with the St Andrews students, and they will be collected from and returned to school by bus, which is at no cost to families. Parents are welcome to attend the day!

Please return permission notes as soon as possible and before Friday 25th October, 2013.

IT’S BACK……..

GELATO ICE CREAM FOR SALE EVERY FRIDAY FROM 3PM.

Flavours: Chocolate, Vanilla and the MYSTERY FLAVOUR

Cost: $2 per tub and spoon

Where: Kinder window near silver seats at the front of the school.