PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Dear Parents

What a busy and exciting two weeks we have had at our great school!

Over the past two weeks, our Learning and Support Teacher, Mrs Todd has been conducting Personalised Learning Conferences for our Aboriginal students and their families. These have been an excellent avenue for our students, teachers and parents to work in partnership in planning the next part of their child’s learning and schooling.

A big congratulations to all our competitors from the Penrith District Cross Country Carnival. Our students produced excellent performances and we congratulate Mitchell Shanahan on being successful in qualifying for the regional carnival.

Well done to all our Year 3 and 5 students who completed the NAPLAN assessments throughout last week. We are looking forward to our students showing excellent results both individually and as a school. Thanks to Mr Tucker for all his work and organisation in this area.

Congratulations to our two wonderful debating teams who fought out against each other in the first round of the Premier’s Debating Challenge. Well done to our Sea-Eagles team from Year 6 who successfully argued that all primary school students should learn debating. Good luck to both teams who will take on teams from Warragamba in Round 2.

A number of our students took part in the UWSW Computer Skills test yesterday. It is great that so many of our students take up the opportunity to test their skills in these assessments and we look forward to seeing their success.

Today we welcome Mrs Ptolemy back to school following her holiday and we thank Mrs Castle for her work with Paterson during Mrs Ptolemy’s absence. Mrs Castle will now be covering Mrs Harrison’s two days of RFF teaching whilst Mrs Harrison undertakes long service leave. I would also like to take this opportunity to inform our school community that after a long and wonderful teaching career, Mrs Wheeler will be retiring at the end of this term.
On Friday May 23, our teachers will be participating in the Walk Safely to School Day. If you and your children would like to meet with our teachers at the Cambridge Gardens McDonalds at 8.50 a.m., you are most welcome to all walk together to school and be part of a healthy and safe lifestyle activity.

A reminder to our Recorder parents that tickets for the Opera House performance go on sale next Tuesday.

In regards to uniform, there seems to be a number of students wearing coloured sloppy joes and hoodies and a number of girls wearing non-school uniform bottoms. Can I please ask that you ensure your child comes to school in their school uniform each day to show their pride in our school. If there is an issue with uniform can you please send your child to school with a note explaining the problem. We really appreciate your help on this matter.

Please remember our next P&C meeting is Tuesday, May 27 at 2pm. This is a great opportunity to contribute your ideas and thoughts and be part of our excellent school and community partnership. We look forward to seeing you there!

A reminder that this Friday May 23 is the final date for Dance Costume payment. Please ensure that this payment is made so that the costumes can be ordered. Thanks for your help on this matter.

Have a great two weeks!

Adam Wynn
Principal

Athletics Carnival
Tomorrow Wednesday 21st May is our school athletics carnival at Harold Corr Oval, Werrington. Please assure that students wear either school sports uniforms or house colours, have appropriate footwear, a hat, a water bottle and something warm to wear in case the weather changes. There will be breaks to eat recess and lunch at the ground. Our canteen will deliver pre ordered lunches to the ground and there is also food and drinks available for sale at the venue. If you are taking your child home early from the ground, please sign them out with the class teacher. If your child is leaving with another parent, they must have written permission from you. A reminder that no students will be remaining at school as all teaching staff will be at the carnival.

Rugby League
Today our senior rugby league team is competing in the Panther Trophy, an NRL based regional competition for schools from Blacktown, Mt Druitt, St Marys, Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains and Nepean districts. Next Tuesday the senior 7 a side rugby league team will be competing in the Greg Alexander Shield against the same districts. The boys have been giving up every recess and many lunch times since February to train for these competitions. We wish both of these teams all the best.

District Cross Country Carnival
Last Friday 45 CGPS students participated in the Penrith District PSSA Cross Country. All students ran very well and proudly represented our school with excellent behaviour. Mitchell Shanahan was successful in making the Penrith squad to participate in the Sydney West Area Championships. Congratulations to Mitchell and all of our students for a fine effort.
Premier’s Sporting Challenge 2014

CGPS is about to get active!! We have entered all of our students K-6 in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge. The idea is to promote physical activity amongst our students. With the help of parents and teachers, students will be logging their physical activity, working towards a Premier’s Sporting Challenge Award.

Physical activity both at school and outside school counts towards the challenge. Examples include aerobics, athletics, ballet, basketball, bicycle riding, cricket, dance, football, gardening, golf, gymnastics, hiking, hockey, jogging, martial arts, netball, rope jumping, sailing, skiing, softball, swimming, tennis, trampolining, walking, washing the car etc.

Today, each student will take home a photocopy of their logbook. Please keep an eye on your child logging the out of school activity. K-2 students colour in a picture if they total 60 minutes activity. Maybe if they are active for ½ an hour at home they can colour in the bottom ½ of the picture. When added to their play time at school and PE lessons, the whole picture will be coloured in. 3-6 students tick a box for each 20 minutes of activity.

Please send the photocopied logbook in to class once a week (Most teachers will want it on Fridays) so the out of school activities can be added to the in-school activities in the original log books, which are being kept at school.

I will be keeping track of the totals and entering data online. At the end of the challenge, students will receive a Premier’s Sporting Challenge Award. The challenge is class based – all K-2 students finishing the challenge will get a gold certificate. 3-6 students will either get a bronze, silver, gold or diamond certificate depending on the level of logged activity for their class.

In 2013 approximately 800 DET staff statewide also participated in the Premiers Staff Sporting Challenge, getting active to set an example for their students. When I invited our CGPS staff to participate this year, the response was overwhelming. We will have 28 CGPS staff members participating!!

We wish all of our students and staff members well in this challenge.

Mr T Nicholls

WE’RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY, 23 MAY 2014

Well it’s that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn’t realistic for many of us, it’s quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family’s daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:
- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 23 May 2014!

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

Principal’s Assembly Term 2 Week 5
Friday, 30th May, 2014 at 9.15 a.m.

Please ensure that your Blue, Maroon or Principal’s award for this assembly has been recorded at the office by Tuesday, 27th May, 2014.
Reforms to P&C Federation
The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations.

Each school’s P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department’s website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php

Kindergarten 2015
We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2015. Students enrolling in Kindergarten 2015 MUST turn 5 before 31 July, 2015. Please visit the office to obtain enrolment forms. The forms should be returned as soon as possible so that we can notify prospective parents of information and orientation sessions to take place in term 4. Please inform neighbours if they have children due to start school next year.

P & C News

Next Meeting
Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th of May at 2pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome!

School Banking
School Banking is this Friday 23rd May. Please make sure you complete the deposit slip and secure your money in your banking wallet. All bank books are to be taken straight to the office.

Mother’s Day
We hope all the Mums enjoyed their Mother’s Day gifts. I know the children really enjoyed making them for you. We would just like to suggest that the Stage 3 gifts of the painted pots be sealed with a waterproof sealer if you intend to actually plant a plant in them. The paint may fade if not sealed.

Mother’s Day Guessing Competition
Congratulations to all the lucky winners of our Mother’s Day Guessing Competition. Prizes were sent home with the lucky winners on 9th May. If you won a voucher, please check the “use by” date and make sure that you claim your prize by then.

Thank You!
We would like to thank the following businesses who were so generous in their support of our school:

If you have the chance, please support these businesses as thanks for supporting our school.