17 February, 2015

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Tonight our school will host its first night time P&C Meeting. I congratulate our P&C for making this bold move in order to give our working parents greater opportunities to participate in our school and our P&C. I strongly encourage you to support this change and come along to our meeting this evening at 7pm in the school library.

A big congratulations to Rylee Schofield who has been selected to play in the Penrith District Girls football team. It is very difficult to make a squad when students from all the schools across Penrith are vying for these positions. Well done and thank you for representing our school proudly!

Scripture lessons will recommence at our school next week. Parents have the right for their child to attend a special religious education program when it is available at the school. In 2015 our school will again have Anglican and Catholic programs running. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from these programs and those students will attend non-scripture. Students continue in the same arrangement each year, unless a parent/caregiver has requested a change in writing to the Principal.

Thanks to all the families who have made their payments. Mathletics is $12 per student from Kinder to Year 6. The School Magazine is $10 for students in Years 3-6. Payment envelopes will be reissued today and I ask that you make these payments as soon as possible. Payment may be made by cash or direct deposit to BSB 032001 Account No. 163318.

Tomorrow night is our Parent Information Night. This will be a great time to chat with your child’s teacher as well as with our other staff concerning other programs and activities your child may be interested in. We hope all parents are able to come along. Please remember this night is not for 1 on 1 discussion concerning your child. If you require this please make an appointment. Please also assist us by making alternative arrangements for your children. Look forward to seeing you on the night!

Wow, it is already Week 4 so this Friday is the deadline for our students to bring in their Awards Booklets. We look forward to celebrating our students’ achievements.

Have a great two weeks!

Adam Wynn
Principal

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.
Gardening Club 2015

Would you like to join the Gardening Club? Our aim is to improve and help maintain our school environment. Members of the Gardening Club participate in activities such as planting, watering, weeding and mulching.

This term the Gardening Club will operate between 8.40 a.m. and 9.05 a.m. on Wednesday mornings. Children will be supervised and assisted in their gardening activities by a teacher. It would be wonderful if the children could bring along their own pair of gardening gloves.

Over the years we have had several parents join in and enjoy gardening alongside their children. Any parents who would like to join in the fun are very welcome.

If your child is interested in joining our Gardening Club, please fill in the details below and return to school.

Julie Cheetham
Gardening Club Coordinator

Gardening Club Permission note
I give permission for my child to participate in light gardening activities at school. I understand that the Gardening Club will operate between 8.40 and 9.05 on Wednesday mornings with teacher supervision.
Name...........................................................................................................
Class.................................................................................................
Signed...................................................... Date..............................

Please return note to the office or Mrs Cheetham.

EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR NEWSLETTERS

Please supply or update your email address with the Admin office to enable us to distribute school newsletters and notes via email in 2015. We are anticipating that most families will receive their newsletters in this manner. Some paper copies will be available from the school office. Newsletters and notes will also be available on the school website.

Child’s Name: _____________________________
Class: _____________________________
Email address for newsletter:

Direct Deposits to school account:
When making direct deposits to the school account for excursion and activities please ensure that you include your child’s name and a description of excursion.
E.g. J. Smith Carnival Westpac - BSB 032001 Account No. 163318. All canteen and P&C activities need to be paid in cash. No direct deposits to the school account should be made.

All payments and permission notes need to be handed in at the office.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions regarding payments please contact the office.

Attendance Reminder
Please be reminded that if your child is absent from school, you will need to provide a note, stating the reason for absence, to the school promptly. Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. If you have concerns in this area, please see or contact Mrs Todd on 47301201.

Cambridge Gardens Public School
34 Trinity Drive, Cambridge Park. 2747
Ph.: 4730 1201 Fax: 4729 1385

Absence note

Name _____________________________
Class _____________________________
My Child was away from ___________ to ___________.
Reason for this absence was:
___________________________________________
Signed ____________________________
Parent/Guardian _____/___/____

CLOTHING POOL will be open in the train Tuesday mornings from 9.15 to 9.45 a.m.
I would like to welcome all the new students, parents and teachers that have started at Cambridge Gardens Public School this year. I would like to introduce the P&C Executive Committee for 2015. President – Leanne Reed Vice President – Rebecca Mott Vice President – Karlea Fearnley Secretary – Samantha Iwimy Treasurer – VACANT

We would be grateful if someone would like to nominate him/herself to fill the vacancy of Treasurer. Our previous Treasurer will be more than happy to show you what needs to be done.

NOTICE OF MEETING

A General Meeting of the Cambridge Gardens Public School P&C Association will be held on TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY at 7.00pm in the Library. All parents, guardians, grandparents and carers are welcome. A brief outline of what is to be discussed at the first P&C meeting of the year includes:

- What you expect from your P&C
- What you would like to see your fundraising efforts used for
- What you would like to see happen at our school this year
- Fundraising ideas…..In particular, ideas for Mothers’ Day

MEMBERSHIP NOW DUE

Membership remains at $1.00 and is now due. By becoming a member you are able to vote at meetings and therefore help make decisions about your child/children’s schooling. Please come along to our first Evening meeting and pay your membership or send your $1 in an envelope marked P&C Membership with YOUR name and child’s class on it. You can still attend P&C meetings if you are not a member, you will just not be able to vote.

SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM

Our school participates in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program to help develop important savings skills. It includes an exciting rewards program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of regular saving. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a Dollarmites token. Once your child has saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for exclusive Dollarmites rewards. School banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 from CBA when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking Program.

Taking part in School Banking is easy. If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in on school banking days using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Banking day is this Friday 20th February, then every second Friday. Make sure you bring your bank-book STRAIGHT TO THE OFFICE and place it in the money slot in the office. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a Dollarmites token.

2015 HELPERS

Even if you can’t attend meetings regularly, we still need you!! Please fill in the slip provided and return it to the office. We will add you to our database and contact you when we have something on. Your children benefit from seeing their parents, grandparents and carers involved in their school. We can always do with extra helpers at the school disco, Election Day BBQ, Christmas picnic and other events that your P&C run through the year.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Mott (Vice President of your P&C).

Helping hand database.

I__________________________, may be available to help with P&C associated events throughout 2015. Please contact me by phone on _________________or by email at ___________________________.

Signed:_____________________

Meet The Executive Committee:

Each Newsletter we will introduce a member of the Committee
Vice President: Rebecca Mott

I currently have 2 sons attending our school, one in Kindergarten and another in year 5. I also had my stepson complete his primary schooling at Cambridge Gardens in 2008. My daughter is 9 months old and I am already looking forward to her attending school with her older brother.

This is my first year involved with the P&C. I am excited and slightly nervous about my role within your P&C. I am looking forward to seeing many new Mums, Dads and carers at our night time meetings. Please come along and share your thoughts, experiences and expectations or simply come for a cuppa and a chat so we can all work together to make our school the best possible place for our children to learn and grow.

Innovation, Excellence and Connections!