Dear Parents

Welcome to Week 4!

What a wonderful day, Mrs Ptolemy and I had with nine of our Stage 3 students at NIDA. Our students had the opportunity to work closely with working actors learning about dramatic techniques with a focus on improvisation. The actors worked with our students teaching them how to accept offers of storylines and how to build stories. Our students displayed an excellent understanding of these concepts in their work as well as their usual outstanding behaviour. It was a pleasure to share this experience with our students. A big thank you to Mrs Ptolemy for promoting and organising such a special experience!

Our staff participated in three hours of professional learning during their week 2 staff meeting. Mrs Ptolemy and I presented to the staff on the DEC’s new Performance and Development Framework. This is a new ongoing process for all staff in which staff will set their professional goals, plan what they need to do to work toward the achievement of these goals and the evidence that will show their progress. Our staff also worked with our School Plan developing their ideas and actions in regards to achieving the products and practices that will contribute toward the planned school strategic directions.

Congratulations to all our school Cross Country team who participated proudly in this event last Friday. Our students ran well and many achieved personal best times and placements. A special congratulations to Tia Ellick who finished in second place and will now progress to the Sydney West carnival. Thanks to Mr Morgan and Mr McAllister for their efforts to make the day such a great success. How good did our new shade shelter look standing proudly and providing recognition for our great school!

What a fun morning we had to celebrate Mother’s Day across our school community. Our assembly was fun and also highlighted some excellent work our students had been completing in class about Mother’s Day. Our morning tea was very enjoyable and congratulations to our Stage 3 for conducting such a successful cake stall. The school really appreciates the contributions that our families made toward the success of this activity.
Innovation, Excellence and Connections!

12 May, 2015

We hope that all our Mums had a tremendous day on Sunday and enjoyed the small gifts that our students made for them. A huge thank you to our P&C helpers for all their work working with our students and our teachers to produce such wonderful gifts!

Our students in Year 3 and 5 commenced their NAPLAN assessments today. They will continue throughout this week. To ensure our students can display their best, please ensure that your child is having a great nights sleep this week and arrives at school before the bell so that all students can calmly and efficiently enter their classroom on time and commence work promptly.

Thanks to everyone for your help on this matter.

This week I will be attending the Penrith City Council School Leader Recognition ceremony at the Evans Theatre at Panthers. I look forward to enjoying this special occasion with our school captains and their families.

This week, our school’s participation in PSSA commences. Good luck to all our soccer and netball players in their opening games. Parents are asked to ensure that the initial PSSA payment for buses of $36 is paid by Friday. Please contact me if this is an issue. Thanks for your help on this matter.

A reminder that our Friday assemblies will commence this week at 2pm on Friday afternoons whilst PSSA is on.

**Please remember the following events and activities coming up in the next two weeks……**

Good luck to our students who will be taking part in the Panther Trophy next Tuesday May 19.

Wednesday May 20 will be our school Green Day activity. Mrs Cheetham will be leading this school activity.

On Thursday May 21, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Cummings and I will be taking 45 of our students in Years 4-6 to the Sydney Writer’s Festival.

Have a great two weeks!

Adam Wynn
Principal
**GREEN DAY**
On Wednesday 20th May 2015, Cambridge Gardens PS students will be participating in a ‘Green Day’ at school. Students are asked to come dressed in green mufti and bring along a $2.00 donation. Clothes and footwear should be appropriate for normal school activities. A school hat or other broad brimmed hat should be worn. The money raised will be used to further improve our native and vegetable gardens.

Throughout the day, each class will have the opportunity to plant a native tree or shrub. Students will also take part in a nature walk around our beautiful school. They will be able to observe and investigate aspects of the natural and built environment.

Participation in Green Day will help the students become more aware of our school environment and how they can help care for it. The money raised will go toward the activities of our Gardening Club

J.Cheetham
Gardening Club  Environmental Studies

**Year 6 Fundraising**
A very big thank you to all students and parents for supporting our cupcake stall on Friday, 8th May in conjunction with our Mothers’ day celebration. We raised $790 which will go towards our Year 6 farewell.

J. Thompson
Rel Assistant Principal

**Kindergarten 2016**
We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2016. Students enrolling in Kindergarten 2016 MUST turn 5 before 31 July, 2016. 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 2 and term 4. Please inform neighbours if they have children due to start school next year. Mr Wynn will be conducting interviews with all 2016 Kindergarten parents and students throughout the coming weeks.

Our parent information night for Kindergarten 2016 will be held on Wednesday, 17th June, 2015 at 7.00 pm. in the school hall.

**Walk Safely to School Day**
On Friday, the 22nd May 2015, our staff are encouraging students, parents, and caregivers to participate in Walk Safely to School Day. This day is to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy and active way to get around, as well as learning about road safety. Our staff will meet at Cambridge Gardens McDonald’s at 8:20am to walk to school with those who choose to join us. If this is not possible for your family, leave the car at home and walk to school. If you live too far away, incorporate driving and walking by parking further away from the school. Remember, while walking to school, discuss with your children the importance of being active and what it means to be road safe.

**Canteen - Deleted Item from Menu**
Diet Lemonade 350ml Bottle
(No artificial colours. No artificial flavour)

**2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge**
The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools.

Students logon using their DEC portal username and password.

If you need help on how to do the Challenge or navigate the website, refer to frequently asked questions and rules or speak to Ms Mc Ardle (Librarian).

The Challenge is now open and you must complete your online Student Reading Record by 21st August 2015 (11:59 pm) to complete the Challenge. The full list of books may be accessed on the PRC website.
You must read a certain number of books to complete the Challenge:

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<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books you must read</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books</th>
<th>Maximum number of Personal Choice books</th>
<th>PRC booklists you can read from</th>
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**Opportunity Class Placement**

There are 75 primary schools with opportunity classes across NSW.

Successful students attend the opportunity class full-time for the duration of Years 5 and 6 at the primary school with an opportunity class. It is a two-year placement program. In the majority of cases students who accept a place in an opportunity class will leave their current school to attend the school with an opportunity class. Parents normally apply when the students are in Year 4. There is no provision to apply for Year 6 placement.

**Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2016**

The application website for Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2016 opens on Monday 27 April 2015 and closes on Friday 15 May 2015. Late applications will not be accepted.

**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: ______________________________

Email address for newsletter:

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**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.**
Mother’s Day Gifts/ Raffle
We have had a busy few weeks of craft. I would like to thank all the Mum’s that came in to help in the classrooms, without your help it would not of been possible to complete all the crafts. Also a big “Thank You” to Melissa Mackenzie, who wrapped 11 out of the 14 classes by herself.

Estelle Fisher organised another great raffle. Congratulations to the winners and “Thank You” Estelle. Between the Crafts and Raffle we raised just over $1800 !!!!! A terrific effort made by our school community.

I hope everyone enjoyed the yummy cake last Friday, this was just a small gesture from the P&C to show our appreciation. And “Thank You” to the Bewley-Skinner family for donating the milk.

School Banking
School banking is this Friday 15th May. Please make sure you complete the deposit slip and secure your money in the banking wallet. All bank books are to be taken directly to the office before school. If anyone is interested in helping out with the banking on a Friday morning please let us know either via the slip below or email cambridgegardenspublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Book Club
Book Club order has been placed and should be back next week.

Next P&C meeting
Our next General Meeting will be on Tuesday 26th May at 7pm in the library. There will be a guest speaker talking about Maths at school. Please come along and be part of your child’s schooling. It benefits our whole school community to hear new ideas, thoughts and perspectives. If you can’t attend but would like something raised, please send an email or drop a note in the suggestion box in the front office. Hope to see some new faces at our next meeting.

2015 HELPERS
Even if you can’t attend meetings, 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, Mother’s Day crafts, Election Day BBQ, Christmas picnic and other events that your P&C run through the year.

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: ______________________

Many thanks,
Leanne Reed (President)