FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S OFFICE

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY—FRIDAY 1 MARCH

The school clean up Australia Day will be held this Friday. Classes will be assigned areas to clean up. It may be worthwhile to bring a pair of gloves along. We are not anticipating a great deal of time being spent on the clean up. It is an opportunity to remind our children to take care of our environment and keep our school as clean as possible.

For those parents who would like to support the school with our grounds please come along on Saturday 9 March to the gardening bee. It will begin at 3pm and concludes at 5pm.

Greg McLachlan

FROM THE DEPUTIES’ OFFICES

BUDDIES

“Buddies” is a school-wide program pairing a younger class with an older class for buddy activities. Every class in the school has a buddy class. The teachers in each buddy class pair develop a program that suits the students in their classes. For information about the buddy program for your child’s class please speak to your child’s class teacher.

TIME TO START SCHOOL – Family Guide to Starting Kindergarten

HEALTH MATTERS

Sun safety

Schools try to protect children at school from the damaging effects of the sun’s UV rays by providing shelter where possible and having hats as part of the school uniform. Your child’s hat should be worn when they are on the playground or they will have to stay in the shade. At home apply sunscreen on your child each morning before they leave for school as part of their routine for getting ready for school. This is to protect your child.

If your child is sick at school

If your child gets sick or injured at school, the school will contact you and seek the necessary medical attention. If your child is mildly ill they will go to sick bay, which is near the school office where they can lie down and be monitored. You will be called to come and pick them up should this be necessary. For this reason you should always keep your current contact details up-to-date with the school.

If your child is sick at home

Keep your child away from school and see your doctor if your child has:

- a fever
- vomiting or diarrhoea
- rashes of an unknown origin
- severe cold or flu symptoms

Coming Events

March

- Fri 1 - K-2 Awards 9.15am
- Fri 1 - Yr 3-6 Assembly 11.30am
- Fri 1 - Schools Clean Up Day
- Fri 1 - PSSA Sport
- Mon 4 to Wed 6 - YEAR 4 CAMP
- Mon 4 - 5/6PC, 6SP, 6TK Cooks River Walk
- Tue 5 - Zone Swimming @ Auburn
- Fri 8 - K-2 Awards 9.15am
- Fri 8 - Yr 3-6 Assembly 11.30am
- Fri 8 - PSSA Sport
- Sat 9 - Gardening Bee 3-5pm
- Mon 11 - K-6 Harmony Day Assembly 1.20pm
- Mon 11 - Regional Swimming Carnival @ Homebush
- Tue 12 - High School Info Night 6.15-7.30pm in the Hall
- Thu 14 - High School Selective test
- Fri 15 - K-2 Awards 9.15am
- Fri 15 - Yr 3-6 Assembly 11.30am
- Fri 15 - PSSA Sport
- Mon 18 - K-6 PHOTO DAY & YR 6 GROUP
- Tue 19 - Music Committee Meeting 6.45pm
- Tue 19 - P&C Meeting 7.30pm
- Thu 21 - Harmony Day
- Fri 22 - K-2 Awards 9.15am
- Fri 22 - Yr 3-6 Assembly 11.30am
- Fri 22 - PSSA Sport (Summer last game)
- Sat 23 - Earth Hour
- Mon 25 - Wed 27 - YEAR 5 CAMP
- Thu 28 - Easter Hat Parade in Hall 9.15am
- Fri 29 March - GOOD FRIDAY (No School)
- Mon 1 April - EASTER MONDAY (No School)
**Head Lice**

Anyone can get head lice, it is common for school children to get head lice at some time and it has nothing to do with being clean or dirty. Head lice can spread when children are in close contact, but head lice do not cause any harm to your child’s health.

To help prevent your child getting head lice:

- Check your child’s hair regularly
- Keep long hair tied back or braided

If your child has head lice:

- Remove tangles with a large comb, then comb hair with a white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb to get rid of head lice and their eggs (nits) until there are no more eggs.
- Continue to send your child to school.
- Inform the school so they can inform others to check their children’s hair (your child does not have to be identified).

**Common Infections**

- **Chicken Pox** – slight fever, runny nose and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab – **KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND SEE A DOCTOR.**
- **Measles** – fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days, followed by a red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts four to seven days – **KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND SEE A DOCTOR.**
- **Conjunctivitis** – the eye feels scratchy, is red and may water; eyelids may stick together during sleep — **KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND SEE A DOCTOR.**
- **Impetigo (school sores)** – small red spots change into blisters that fill with pus and become crusted – usually on the face, hands or scalp – **KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND SEE A DOCTOR.**
- **Ringworm** – small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring – **KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND SEE A DOCTOR.**


**FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT**

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?**

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

**REMINDER**

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Our photo days are coming up – Monday 18th March for classes (main day) and Monday 8th April for other groups. On the main day all class photos and family/individual portrait photos will be taken. Weather permitting, we also take the Year 6 group photo. On the second day the other group photos (eg: home, orchestra, library monitors) will be taken.

All orders and payments for class, individual and family photos are to be given to the photographers on the day. NO MONEY OR ORDERS ARE TO BE HANDED TO CLASS TEACHERS OR TO THE OFFICE AT ANY TIME. Class teachers will distribute order forms and spare order forms will be available from the office. Family (sibling) photo order forms will also be available from the office.

The office will not be able to give change on photo day and will not be able to phone home on photo day for students who do not have an order form. Late orders can be made through the photography company and may incur a late fee. A late order form will be available on the day from the photographers.
Group photos will be available for order after they have been taken and we have been sent samples to have a look at. These will be on display for a period of time once they have been made available to us.

All enquiries regarding photo packages, prices and photos after they have been taken are to be made directly to the photography company: Advancedlife 1300 728 972

STUDENT ABSENCES
If your child has been away from school please provide a note and/or medical certificate for all absences immediately upon your child’s return to school. A convenient slip is attached to the newsletter for this purpose and is also available in the front office and from your child’s class teacher.

If your child is away for two or more days, please also contact the school so his/her teacher can be informed.

For extended leave (more than 15 school days) an application form must be filled out – these are available from the front office

CONTACT DETAILS
Please ensure you notify the school of any change of address or contact phone numbers. It is vitally important that the information we have is up-to-date in case we need to get in contact with parents or carers. Thank you.

MOBILE PHONES
Students are not permitted to have mobile phones on them or in their bags during school hours. If a student needs to bring a mobile phone to school it is to be left with the front office staff during school hours. Students need to ensure their phones are switched off or switched to silent whilst in the office. Thank you.

Mark Warnock, Jo Meldrum and Tim Kay

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HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING
(FOR YEAR 6 PARENTS ONLY)

Dear Year 6 Parents / Carers,

Please check with your child regarding a letter sent home which gives you further information on the High School Information evening which will be held on Tuesday 12th March from 6.15pm to 7.15pm in the Hall.

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SUMMER HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL
ABSENTEE NOTE
(To be returned to classroom teacher first day back after absence)

Students Name: ___________________________________________________________ Class: __________

Date/s of absence/s: __________________________________________________________

Reason for absence: __________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Parent/Carer: ____________________________ Date: __________________________
LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you for assisting to maintain our school library collection by ensuring children bring a waterproof bag to school on library days.

THE PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

The SHPS library staff continue to promote the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) as a great way to extend children’s reading skills and expose them to a ‘smorgasbord’ of classic writing for children.

Information regarding The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge will be posted in the school newsletter next week, once student login information is available.
**SPORT NEWS**

**INVOICES FOR SUMMER PSSA**

Invoices for Summer PSSA will be sent home this week. The invoice will be for $100 per player and not $125 as was advertised on the permission note.

**WSPSSA ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Auburn Swimming Centre, Church Street, Auburn.
Tuesday 5th March 2013

Selected students from Year 3 to 6 will be competing. All students have been issued with a permission note. Please meet Mr Sinclair & Ms Pillay OUTSIDE the pool at 8.20am. First marshalling call at 8.40am. The carnival finishes at 3pm.

Spectators entry fee is $2.00 payable at pool entry. Children must wear school uniform. Children must bring hats, sunscreen, swimmers and towel. Summer Hill will provide swimming caps. Canteen will be open for snacks and drinks, but children should bring recess, lunch and drinks.

Mr Steggels
PDHPE Committee

**PSSA SPORT REPORTS (FRIDAY 22-FEB-13)**

**JUNIOR GIRLS T-BALL**

It was a great game to start the season. The score was 24-13 to Summer Hill. A great score and everyone played very well. Great batting, 3 cheers for Summer Hill.

Thank you to Mr King, our new coach, for coaching us on Friday morning and coming to support us at the game.

Ella H (Team Member)

**JUNIOR BOYS SOFTBALL**

Coaches: Mr. Kay and Mr. King
Friday 22nd of February was our first game. We had only had one training session together as a team and we had already started making friends in the team. We all wanted to play our very best – we were so excited about the game that afternoon against Strathfield South. They were worthy opponents but with some epic teamwork we managed to beat them 10-8. It was a great start to the season – so much teamwork. There’s so many good players in the team. Although there’s always room for improvement!

Sam G (Team Captain)

**SENIOR BOYS SOFTBALL**

On Friday the 22nd of February 2013 the Senior Boys played against South Strathfield and lost 11-7. The team played great for their first game this year.

Archie B (Team Member)

**SENIOR GIRLS SOFTBALL**

Last Friday the Senior Girls Softball Team played South Strathfield. We beat them 18-2 and Madeleine played very well on first base. Over all the whole team played really well and had fun.

Angelina T (Team Captain)
P&C AGM SUCCESS!

What a wonderful start to the year! The P&C’s Annual General Meeting last week attracted almost 50 people – perhaps a record number. We talked about the Spring Fair and how much fun it is to be on the organising committee. We also heard from the sport committee about how the P&C can help even more with activities in the school. We agreed not only to contribute $3000 to the school's sports program but also to fund a softball coach for this term. However we would love to hear from any parent or parents who would like to volunteer to coach the softball teams as we still need more support…

The P&C’s Annual Report was presented to the meeting and I am delighted to say that we helped our school with almost $70,000 in financial assistance. In order to keep the fundraising momentum rolling, the P&C would love to hear some new ideas for fundraising and events. Our inimitable Fundraising and Events Coordinator is looking for volunteers…

We also voted for the 2013 P&C Executive Team:

- President – Deborah Samuels
- Vice-President – Priscilla Strachan
- Secretary – Frances Notman
- Deputy Secretary – Helen De Wolfe
- Treasurer – Sandy Robertson
- Deputy Treasurer – Joanne Herron

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 19 March at 7.30pm. At this meeting we will have an informal get together with all the committee coordinators. This is an excellent opportunity to come along and see how you can get involved. If you’re interested in events, music, sport, fundraising, sustainability, gardening, food, uniforms and lots more, this is the time to come along and sign up to the committee that most tickles your fancy.

It is just a gold coin donation to join the P&C, and worth every penny!!

Thanks to all the parents, carers, friends and teachers who came along last week. I look forward to meeting many more of you throughout the year.

Deborah Samuels
President

THE P&C’S FUNDRAISING & EVENTS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

In 2012 the P&C raised around $70,000 for the school. How did we do it? Events! Coordinated and run by parent volunteers, with gifts and prizes donated by parents and the local community.

2013 is set to be another great year with an exciting and fun filled calendar of events ahead of us. Discos, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Breakfasts, a Trivia Night, the Spring Fair, cake stalls and a number of new events and activities in the pipeline.

We need YOU to help us make these events a reality. HOW?

- Join the Fundraising & Events Committee
- Register your willingness to help out via our Volunteers Register
- Donate a goods or services to be used as prizes at one of our events

Come along to the next P&C meeting and hear about what’s happening
Contact Helen De Wolfe on 0408 003 757 or dewolfies@yahoo.com.au

HOT CROSS BUN STALL @ THE EASTER HAT PARADE

Would you like to coordinate our first event this year? Thursday 28 March, 8.30am to 9.15am
A complete set of instructions on “How to Run an Event” will be provided.
Contact Helen De Wolfe 0408 003 757 or dewolfies@yahoo.com.au

GREEN THUMB? THEN THE P&C’S GARDENING COMMITTEE IS FOR YOU!

The P&C’s first Gardening Bee for 2013 will be held on Saturday 9 March from 3-5pm, followed by a BBQ and drinks to welcome our new families to the school.

Whether this is your first gardening bee or your 15th, we are grateful for helpers of all ages and it is a great way to contribute to our school environment and community.

Enquiries to Alex 0402 349 209
**WANTED**

Parent volunteers who can assist with reading in Year 6. The school will provide training. If you can help please contact Mr Tim Kay at school or send an email to timothy.kay@det.nsw.edu.au.

**COOKS RIVERWALK (5/6PC, 6SP & 6TK)**

As part of our study of the Cooks River, 5/6PC, 6SP and 6TK will be undertaking a short walk on Monday March 4 along the Green Way Trail from Cadigal Reserve, Summer Hill to Haberfield and return. The GreenWay is a rare green corridor in Sydney's Inner West. It has grown from a grass-roots community vision to link two of Sydney’s most important waterways. The GreenWay acts as a "bush link" for local flora and fauna. It is also an active transport link, with a shared walking and cycling path linking the Cooks River Cycleway and Earlwood to the Bay Run at Iron Cove Bay to be implemented as part of the Inner West Light Rail Extension. We will depart the school directly after recess and return after lunch. The children will need to bring a water bottle, hat, sunscreen and clipboard. They can bring their lunch in a small backpack. The children will be recording observations of the local flora and fauna and the positive and negative affects that man has had on the local environment. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Mrs Donnelly, Ms Pillay and Mr Kay

**FORTHCOMING CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS**

**St David's Day (Wales) – 1 March**
St David's Day is celebrated in Wales in honour of Dewi Sant or St David, the patron saint of Wales who lived in the early 6th century. St David's Day is celebrated by schools and cultural societies throughout Wales. It is the custom on that day to wear either a leek or a daffodil – two of their national emblems – young girls wear the national costume and boys wear Welsh rugby shirts.

**Bandaged Bear Day - 1 March**
Bandaged Bear Day is conducted to raise funds to support various research projects, special services and equipment for the Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney NSW.

**Clean Up Australia Day – 3 March**
On the first Sunday in March, volunteers from all over Australia remove rubbish from beaches, parks, roadways, rivers, bushland and other open spaces. The purpose of this day is to collect unsightly and polluting rubbish from our fragile environment.

**Hina Matsuri (Dolls’ Day-Japan) - 3 March**
This festival celebrating girls’ health, growth and happiness is more than one thousand years old. Ceremonial dolls representing people of the ancient Japanese court are displayed on tiers of shelves covered with scarlet carpet. These dolls were believed to protect people from misfortune. Nowadays girls hold tea parties with their friends.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT**

For Year 7 2014
WHEN: Mon 4-MAR-13 @ 7-8pm
WHERE: School Hall, Burwood Girls High School
        Queen St, Croydon
PHONE: 9747 3355
http://web3.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

**DEADLINE:** Please make all submissions for the next issue of the Summer Hill e-News BEFORE TUESDAY 5th MARCH, 12.00PM.