Dear Parents and Carers,

The students in Years 1–6 have settled in quickly to the 2015 school year. Today we welcomed our new Kindergarten students and their families to our school and look forward to getting to know them over the coming weeks.

Welcome Afternoon Tea

To welcome all our new families to Summer Hill PS, the P&C has organised a Welcome Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 17 February starting at 3pm with Kindy parents meeting in Kindergarten playground and all other parents in the Infants courtyard. All new families and existing families are invited, so come along and get to know the school and each other.

The afternoon tea will be followed by the “Meet the Teacher” sessions, starting at 4.30pm for Kindergarten parents, 5pm for Stage 1 parents, 5.30pm for Stage 2 parents and 6pm for Stage 3 parents. Following these sessions, the P&C will be holding their first meeting of the year at 7.30pm in the Library. A very productive day!

Cybersafety Parent Presentation

The Cybersmart Outreach - Internet Safety Awareness presentation will be held on: Tuesday 24th February 2015 in the school hall. The session will begin at 5.30pm and conclude at 7pm. Please see page 6 of our newsletter for the form to sign and return. This presentation is free of charge and of great value to all parents as children’s access to technology increases, and with it the issues that children and parents can face.

New Merit System

At the end of 2014, staff evaluated our merit system and have made significant changes to improve the way in which we acknowledge students for learning and behaviour. The new ‘Qualities’ we are focusing on helping the students to develop here at Summer Hill in 2015 are: Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

These qualities come from relevant research into the attributes that best support children to be successful, productive and happy in today’s world. They are also closely linked to the aspirational hopes that parents, students and staff shared with us during community consultation last year.

Students will become familiar with what they mean and try to reflect on their own strengths and weaknesses in regards to each of them. We will be asking students to rate themselves across the three qualities then set themselves some manageable goals for Semester 1. You may like to discuss this with your children at home. Students in K-2 will receive merit awards, while Yrs 3-6 will have their names listed against each Quality as they demonstrate these in the classroom or playground. The Gold Award and Summer Hill Blues will remain the same.

Library/Home Reader Bags

Students in K-2 can purchase Library/Home Reader bags from Mrs Grimmett in the Library. Students in Yrs 3-6 will be able to purchase a Library/Excursion bag from the Uniform Shop. Unfortunately, there will be a 10 day delay in the order for the Uniform Shop Library bags. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Primary Swimming Carnival

The Primary Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday 12 February at Ashfield Aquatic Centre from 9.15am-3pm. Students must be at school by 9.00am for roll call. All consent forms are due to the classroom teacher by Friday 6 February. Payment of $15 will be included in the Activity Statements. Parents are most welcome to join us.

Got Game Physical Education Program

The Got Game PE Program started this week for students in Years 3, 4 and 6 this term. There are all qualified PE teachers, fully trained and licenced with the Department of Education and Communities. They will be working with all grades throughout the year, however this will occur over different terms so that all classes can access our facilities and equipment equitably. Fundamental Movement Skills and Athletics skills are their main focus in Semester 1. In Semester 2 they will be providing a Gymnastics Program.

Please Note: Our next newsletter will be in Week 4
e-News has a new look for 2015!

As mentioned in our first 2015 newsletter last week, we are endeavouring to convey important information to the school community in a user friendly way.

Firstly, e-News will be published fortnightly (on even school weeks, ie. Week 2 Term 1).

Outlined below are the useful school website links which will enable you to source out details – SCHOOL PROGRAMS: Music, Sport, Library, Chess, PARENT INFO & FORMS: Community Notice Board and P&C.

- **SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

- **PARENT INFO & FORMS**

We have also included screen shots to assist you.

This week (even week) we have included all information. As from Week 4 Term 1, you will enjoy the new look.
Australia - The Story of Us Primary School Challenge

The Primary School Challenge is open to students in NSW, VIC, QLD, SA and WA in years 4-7 or aged 9-13 years. Students are asked to watch Australia: The Story of Us on Sunday nights starting soon, then answer the week’s corresponding quiz questions on the website: www.Yahoo7.com.au/StoryOfUs.

There will be 10 student questions each week, either multiple choice or True/False, plus a bonus question for parents. How our school can participate:

Students can register our school to start the quiz. A parent/guardian must register and consent at the same time.

The more students from the eligible grades who participate, the more chance the school has of qualifying for the $10,000 grant.

Schools will accumulate points based on student engagement as well as correct answers. This will be further detailed in the Terms and Conditions at the commencement of The Primary School Challenge.

Finalist schools will be contacted by mid April 2015 and the Principal or an elected school representative will be asked to submit a short response outlining how the school would use the $10,000 grant.

We are very fortunate to have several ex Summer Hill PS students involved in this production, Lily Thorburn and Olivia Rider who were in Year 6 in 2014, and Chris Thorburn, an ex-parent.

Karen Shehata

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parents/Carers

Please note the change in office hours –

Office opens for business at 8.30am and close at 3.45pm.
MUSIC NEWS

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR CHOIR
We have a great tradition of choir singing here at SHPS and there are two choirs in the primary school. The INTERMEDIATE Choir is for students in Years 3 and 4. Mrs Rebecca Salter directs this choir and it meets in her classroom – KRS - opposite the office.

The SENIOR Choir is for students in Years 5 and 6. Mrs Gillian Bale directs this choir with Ms Sarah Phillips and it meets in the Support Classroom, opposite 6AW.

Both choirs will commence in Week 4 on Monday 16th February at 8.15am and rehearsals are weekly. We are happy to confirm that both choirs have successfully auditioned for the Arts Unit Choral Programs – the Primary Proms and the Festival of Choral Music.

Interested students are asked to come and collect an information note next Monday, 9th February, from 8.45am onwards for the choir of their choice.
We look forward to meeting new students and welcoming back previous members!

Rebecca Salter and Gillian Bale

BAND AND ORCHESTRA
Band and Orchestra rehearsals are as follows:–
Stage Band: Tuesday 3-4pm in the Music Room.
Symphony & Chamber Orchestra: Wednesday 8-9am in the Hall.
Concert Band: Wednesday 3-4pm in the Hall.
Senior Band: Thursday 8-9am in the Hall.

TRAINING ORCHESTRA
Training Orchestra will have their first "One-Off" introductory session on Friday 13th February in the library from 7.30-9.00am.
Training Orchestra will normally meet to rehearse on Friday mornings from 8.00 to 9.00am. The first “normal” rehearsal will be Friday 20th February. If your child has not received a note concerning this and you were expecting one please contact Janet Sutherland at the office or email Janet.Sutherland1@det.nsw.edu.au

TRAINING BAND
Training Band will also have their first “One-Off” introductory session on Friday 13th February in the hall from 3-6pm. This ensemble can be quite large with lots of different instruments and so this rehearsal is very important to get everyone settled with their new instrument. Students will be assigned their instruments and music, and will then go in groups with tutors to learn how to assemble and play a few notes on their instrument.
Training band will normally meet to rehearse on Friday mornings from 8.00-9.00am in the hall. The first “normal” rehearsal will be Friday 20th February. If your child has not received a note concerning this and you were expecting one please contact Janet Sutherland at the office.

JUNIOR RECORDER
We are pleased to offer a Junior Recorder class in 2015 for year 2 students only. There will be 2 classes one on Tuesday 8.15-9.00am and one on Thursday 3.10-3.55pm. A note has been sent home to all year 2 students, if you are interested please return this note to the office as soon as possible as there are limited places available.

SENIOR RECORDER
Welcome back Advanced Recorder Group. We will be continuing to meet on Tuesday mornings at 8.15 am in the Music Room.

BEGINNER AND ADVANCED UKULELES
Welcome back Beginner and Advanced Ukulele Groups. I am looking forward to building on the fantastic progress we made last year.
Beginner Ukes will continue to meet on Monday mornings at 8.20am in the Music Room.
Advanced Ukes will continue to meet on Thursday mornings at 8.15am in Ms Carroll’s Room.
I look forward to seeing you all next week!

Donna Ross (Music Teacher)
SPORT NEWS

The PDHPE Committee is currently organising next week’s Swimming Carnival (Thursday, 12th February) for Years 3 to 6. Thank you to all the parents who have already signed and returned the permission notes.

We are also busily preparing Friday Sport. PSSA trials continue this week and next week. We are hoping to field six PSSA teams for the upcoming Summer Season. A junior and senior cricket team (trials began last Friday and will continue through to the announcement of the team next week) as well as junior and senior boys and girls softball teams (trials begin this Friday) and junior boys and girls t-ball. The PSSA competition begins on February 20. Back at School Sport will be offering a wide range of sporting activities including Bootcamp and Tennis. The Back at School Friday Sport program will take place across four different locations so we encourage parents to return the General Activities permission note to their classroom teacher as soon as possible.

The Got Game Athletics program starts this week for Years 2, 3, 4 and 6. We welcome the two PE teachers into our school community and look forward to seeing lots of active students on our wonderful new playground.

Please ensure that your child’s swimming note is handed in by Friday of this week to his or her teacher. Final numbers will be taken on Friday. Entries in the 100m freestyle must be received by Mr Kay by Friday also. No entries will be taken after Friday. Please email the school, Mr Kay directly or send in a note entering your child in the 100m. Swimmers interested in the Individual Medley will be invited to compete at the Western Suburbs PSSA Zone Carnival based on times submitted to Mr Kay also. Again, please email or submit in writing your child’s time if you wish them to be considered for the IM at Zone.

The PDHPE Committee

SHPS SUMMER SPORTING CHALLENGE

I have received lots of reports that the "50 Sporting Things To Do Before You Turn 12 and 3/4" was very popular during the past school holidays. Well done to all that took part and thank you to all the parents that supervised.

Please return the record sheets to class teachers and if any parents happened to take any photos of students completing activities and want them displayed in an upcoming assembly, email them to me with "Sports Challenge Photo" as the subject.

Adam Williams
adam.g.williams@det.nsw.edu.au

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

We are in need of 2 volunteers for Tuesday mornings to run the second hand uniform shop. The volunteers would need to set up the shop and sell uniforms from 8.45am until about 9.30am.
If you can help out then please call me on 0417 484 715 or come and see me on Friday mornings at the shop to organise and discuss further.
All money goes to the SHPS P & C.
Don’t forget to clear out your closets and donate uniforms to the shop. Items can be left at the Front Office.

Thank you
Annette (parent volunteer)

LIBRARY NEWS

Parent volunteers are needed to help get our Home reading book boxes ready for the year.
Please come along to our WORKING BEE in the LIBRARY THURSDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2015 9.15 - 10.45am.
This is a chance to get to know other parents while helping maintain the school reading collection.
Greetings to all our avid readers, LIBRARY classes will commence in Week 3. Students will be able to begin borrowing them, provided they have a sturdy waterproof bag.
Kindergarten students will commence borrowing in Week 5. The library/home reading bag included in the Kindergarten Activity Statement will be provided then.
IMPORTANT: YEAR 6 LIBRARY COLLECTION

A small collection of popular fiction, more sophisticated in theme and content than that usually held in primary school libraries is available for the exclusive use of Year 6 borrowers. Many of the more able readers in Year 6 are already reading and requesting for loan books often described as ‘young adult’ or ‘teen fiction’. Some materials used to support teaching programs in Year 6 classrooms may also fall into this category.

If you do not wish your Year 6 child to use these materials or to borrow from this part of our library collection, please indicate this in writing to the librarian by Friday 13th February 2015. Year 6 students will commence borrowing from the Year 6 collection during class visits in Week Four of this term.

LIBRARY CLASSES FOR ALL STUDENTS COMMENCE NEXT WEEK.

Library class visits begin for all students in Week Three. Please ensure your Year 1-2 child has a Home Reading bag ($10 available from the library.) Primary students may wish to use a Library /Excursion Bag - with drawstring ($10 available from the Uniform Shop.) All students must use a waterproof library bag to carry library books to and from school. Not only does this make it easier to keep track of books on loan to your child, it reduces the risk of costly damage to our books. Families are expected to pay the costs of replacing lost or damaged library books or home readers. Thank you for assisting to maintain our school library collection by ensuring children bring a waterproof bag to school on library days.

Familiarisation visits for Kindergarten students will take place in Week Three and Week Four. Kindergarten loans commence in Week 5 when Home Reading/Library bags (paid for in Activity Statements) will be distributed to Kindergarten students.

Please remember that the library is a classroom and library staff are unable to answer any queries during class times. Parents are welcome to visit the library with their children on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 8.45-9.15am. Please contact Carmel Grimmett, Teacher Librarian if you have questions about your children’s library loans or access to the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge (carmel.grimmett@det.nsw.edu.au)

THE NSW PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE 2015.

Students are encouraged to take part in The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge 2015. The SHPS library staff continues 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. PRC titles in the K-2 (marked with a Pink Star) and Y3-4 (marked with a Yellow Star) sections of the PRC are located separately in the school library for ease of selection. Y5-6 students participating in the PRC are able to select items of interest to them from the library catalogue.

All titles read aloud to Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two students during library lessons in Terms One and Two will be automatically added to K, Y1 or Y2 students’ PRC records online. Students can locate NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge titles held in our library collection by using the ‘Reading Lists’ section of our school library catalogue (‘My Library’ on the Kidspace section of the DEC portal.) Once read, each PRC title should be recorded into the student’s reading record online at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/premiersreadingchallenge

Children can log on to the PRC website using the same username and password they use to access the Kidspace Portal.

*Please note that the library computer system does not record your child’s loan history so it is important to record each title your child reads before returning it to the library!

THE ANNUAL WRITER IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Students in Year 3 and 4 will soon enjoy their visit from the first of our writers in residence this year. Richard Tulloch is a dynamic and captivating storyteller. He delights in creating thought provoking writing activities for the children who attend his workshops. Recently, Richard Tulloch’s skills adapting books for stage productions have been integral to the highly successful dramatisations of Andy Griffith’s series of ‘Treehouse’ books.

The Year 5 and 6 writer in residence, Simon French, will come to Summer Hill PS in Week 9. Simon French is a senior figure in Australian children’s literature, having published his first novel as a teenager. Simon convenes the highly regarded annual Writer’s Camp held at the Brewongle Environmental Education Centre each September. Each year two Summer Hill PS students who are nominated as talented writers by their Year 6 teachers are invited to take part in the Brewongle Writer’s Camp.

In Term Three, K-2 students will take part in workshops with Gus Gordon, visiting author and illustrator.

Also in Term Three, Summer Hill PS students will take part in Australian Children’s Book Week, the national celebration of the best new writing for children. The theme this year is ‘Books light up our world.’
P&C NEWS

P&C Executive Positions – ELECTION

All P&C Executive Positions will be up for election next year. Are you keen to get involved……..
President, Vice President(s), Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Secretary, Fundraising & Events Coordinator, Deputy Secretary
No experience necessary, just enthusiasm and commitment. A fantastic way to meet people and have a say about what
happens at Summer Hill PS.
Election of these positions are at the first P&C Meeting in 2015 – Tuesday 17th February.
If you are keen, considering or just want some more information please get in contact now....shpandc@gmail.com.

WELCOME TO NEW FAMILIES

Families with children of any grade new to Summer Hill Public School in 2015 are warmly invited to a welcome
afternoon tea. Come along and meet other parents and carers and your children’s new classmates.

When:       Tuesday 17 February 2015 – 3pm to 4.30 pm
Where:      Kindy parents to go to the Kindy playground
            Parents of all other grades to go to Infants courtyard
What to bring: A small plate of food to share (no nuts please).

For more info: Contact Gina Newling on 0414 875 884 or Helen De Wolfe on 0408 003 757

欢迎新生家庭

热切邀请2015年入读Summer Hill Public School的新生及家长们前来参加我们的欢迎下午茶。大家可以借此机会来认识其他的家长还有孩子们的新同学！

时间：2015年2月17日 下午3:00 至 4:30

地点：K-2操场（位于学前班教室和Herbert St之间）

请您准备一小盘点心/食品，带来跟大家分享（请确保不含坚果）。

如需了解更多信息，请联系Gina Newling女士 0414 875 884 或者 Helen De Wolfe 女士 0408 003 757。
**CONGRATULATIONS EVA**

Congratulations to Eva G (6SH) for winning second place in the Australian Junior Chess Championships in Canberra. The tournament was held over five days, from the 20th of January to the 25th. The time limit was very long, so the games often lasted for more than two hours. Eva scored 5.5/9, winning second place in the Under 12 Girls division.

Well done Eva!

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**YUMMY BEARS KIOSK**

Yummy Bears Kiosk school canteen is pleased to announce that Summer Hill Public School now has ‘Flexischools’ for **ONLINE ORDERING**.

Go to www.flexischools.com.au and click “Register”. Simplify your day!

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**CYBERSMART SAFETY PRESENTATION AT SUMMER HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL COMING IN 2015**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Internet safety presentation helps children stay safe online.

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the Internet and mobile phones to socialise, study, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your children stay safe online, Summer Hill Public School is hosting a Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation. Designed for parents, teachers and students, this presentation is provided by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) as part of a national program of cybersmart initiatives.

The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation is thorough and non-technical. It covers a range of issues including:

- The ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- Potential risks for children online, such as cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure to inappropriate content
- Tips to help children stay safe online

The presentation is conducted by an ACMA Cybersmart trainer and is free of charge.

The Cybersmart Outreach - Internet Safety Awareness presentation will be held on **Tuesday 24th February 2015** in the school hall. The session will begin at 5:30pm and conclude at 7pm.

To register your attendance, please fill out the slip below and send back to the school office by Monday 9th February.

Regards,

Katherine Butler
Assistant Principal Summer Hill PS

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**CYBERSMART SAFETY PRESENTATION AT SUMMER HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL**

I/we are looking forward to attending the Cybersmart Presentation on Tuesday 24th February 2015.

Number of parents attending: ____________

Signed: _______________ Date: _______________
**SCHOOL BANKING**

School banking is on Tuesday and will begin again for 2015 in Week 4, 17th February. For more information please contact Jane Fletcher on jane_fletcher@hotmail.com or Emma Britton at mmbrrtn@yahoo.com.au.

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**CLASS PARENT**

Class Parents,

At the Meet the Teacher sessions, a Class Parent will be nominated to take on the role of assisting with the communication between the class teacher and the parents of students in the class. Parents will be asked to add their names and contact details to a list that will be used by the Class Parent for communication purposes. Please read the Guide for Class Parents below for more information regarding the role and responsibilities associated with taking on this position. A special Class Parent Information / training session will be held on Tuesday 3 March at 7.30pm in the Library to ensure the success of this initiative.

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**A guide for Class Parents at Summer Hill Public School**

**Your role**
Help with communication between the families of children in the class, with the teacher, school and P&C Committees.
Help to make families feel part of the school.

Note: One or maybe even two people can share this role for every class.

**What does the Class Parent do?**
Make a list of names and contact details of class families.
Support your class teacher as required.
E-mail important information to class families from the school or P&C Committees.
Organises social activities for class families.

NOTE: Class Parents from different classes often work together to help organise joint social activities.

Attend P&C Meetings.
Liaise between teacher and parents of the class

**Things to consider when acting as Class Parent**
The cultural diversity of families in the class.
Family and work commitments of parents on the class.
The diversity of carers.
The ability of some parents to speak English confidently.

**Suggestions for Class Parents:**
Actively attend and participate in P&C Meetings. It’s the best way to find out what is happening at school.
Network with other class parents – find out what has been done in the past – don’t reinvent the wheel.
Identify a person of non-English background who can share the role with you.
Use established friendships to promote your activities.

Arrange for the translation of important messages.
Vary the activities you organise – different times, different places to allow for maximum family participation.
Make sure you encourage parents with little or no English to attend functions – it can be very scary to turn up without someone you know.

Ask bilingual parents to encourage other families of the same language background to come to activities.
Try to contact people you don’t know before an event and encourage them to attend.
Organise events which help show case your class diversity.