Coming Events
February 2015
- Thu 4 - Library Working Bee 9.15-10.45am
- Thu 4 - Y1-6 Assembly in Hall @ 2.15pm
- Fri 5 - PSSA Summer Trials 1.20-3pm
- Tue 9 - Welcome New Parents Breakfast @ 8.30am in the Infants Courtyard
- Tue 9 - Junior Recorder starts 8.15am
- Tue 9 - Chess starts in Library
- Tue 9 - Y6OC @ Fort St 12-3pm
- Wed 10 - Training Orchestra Introduction in Music Room @ 7.30am
- Thu 11 - Swimming Carnival 9.00am-3pm at Ashfield Aquatic Centre
- Thu 11 - Kindy first day photos
- Thu 11 - K-2 Assembly in Hall @ 2.15pm
- Thu 11 - Junior Recorder starts 3.05pm
- Fri 12 - Training Band Introduction in Hall 3-6pm
- Tue 16 - Y6OC @ Fort St 12-3pm
- Tue 16 - Meet the Teacher Stage 3 @ 4.30pm
- Tue 16 - Meet the Teacher Stage 1 @ 5.30pm
- Tue 16 - Meet the Teacher Stage 2 @ 6.30pm
- Thu 16 - P&C Meeting in the Library @ 7.30pm
- Wed 17 - Meet the Teacher for Kindergarten parents @ 6pm
- Thu 18 - Scripture & Ethics begins
- Thu 18 - Y1-6 Chinese New Year Assembly in the Hall @ 2.15pm
**Got Game Physical Education Program**
The Got Game PE Program started this week for students in Years 2, 3, 4 and 6 this term. The staff 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.

**Leadership Positions**
Due to the inclusion of additional responsibilities for House/Sport Captains, including ‘Houses for Habitat’ and Sustainability, we will be holding additional elections for leadership positions for House/Sports Vice-Captains for each House in the coming week. We will also elect an IT Leadership Team. Nominations will be sought amongst Year 6 students and finalised by the end of Week 3. Year 6 students who are interested to nominate for these positions will be provided with the information this week by their teachers.

**Scripture and Ethics begins Week 4 Thursday 18 February.**

**Harmony Day Monday 21 March/ Easter Hat Parade Thursday 24 March**
In recent years buddies have helped K-2 students create their Easter hats for the Easter Hat Parade. This year our focus will be on Harmony Day for our Buddy Program. Parents will be asked to make their child’s Easter hat at home for the Easter Hat Parade.

**Please Note:** Our next newsletter will be in Week 4

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**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 4th FEBRUARY 2016 9.15 - 10.45am.**

This is a chance to get to know other parents while helping to maintain the school reading collection.

Greetings to all our avid readers, LIBRARY classes will commence in Week 3.

Y1 – 6 students will be able to begin borrowing from Week 3, 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. Replacement Library/Home Reading bags can be purchased from the library ($10.00)

The uniform store sells a waterproof drawstring bag which is ideal for use as a library bag and can also function as an excursion bag. Most Y3-6 students prefer to use the drawstring library bag.

**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 teacher librarian by Friday 12th February 2016. Year 6 students will commence borrowing from the Year 6 collection during class visits in Week Four of this term.

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**SCHOOL HOURS 9.15AM – 3.00PM**

This is a reminder that morning supervision of the school playground is between 8.45am and 9.15am.

Do not drop your children at school before 8.45am unless they are enrolled in a before school activity.

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**2016 SCHOOL TERM DATES**

**TERM 1** Thursday, 28 January to Friday, 08 April
**TERM 2** Wednesday, 27 April to Friday, 01 July
**TERM 3** Tuesday, 19 July to Friday, 23 September
**TERM 4** Monday, 10 October to Friday, 16 December
Welcome to a new school year to all our new and returning parents. Our P&C is a not-for-profit organisation that brings parents, citizens and teachers together to promote the recreation and welfare of students and assist in providing facilities and equipment for our school.

Our AGM and first meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday 16 February at 7.30pm in the library. All positions will be open and up for election including President, Vice President(s), Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Officer. You must be a member to stand for election and vote and can become a member on the night by gold coin donation. You may also be interested in being part of one our committees such as music, sport, gardening & sustainability and Spring Fair.

We need your talents, enthusiasm and ideas to stay relevant and functional. Like many community organisations we face the challenge of getting volunteers and running successful events. If you can spare some time and get involved you will help our school get the resources it needs, you will show your children that you value their school life and they will love that you are involved, you’ll be part of a community organisation that makes a real difference and you’ll get to know our school staff and other parents.

If you require any further information check the P&C page on the school website or email summerhillpandc@gmail.com

Paul Gaukrodger
President

CLASS PARENTS 2016
Can you use email, do you like to keep on top of what’s going on? Why not volunteer to become the Class Parent for your class. Class Parents help to keep communications flowing between the P&C, the school, families and teachers. Class Parents also help to create a strong school community by looking out for new families and organising a few social get togethers for the class throughout the year. An information session is provided.

If you are interested in becoming the class parent for your class, please contact Helen at dewolfies@yahoo.com.au

TERM ONE EVENTS
Tuesday 9th February - New Families Breakfast - 8.30am Kindy Playground
Come and meet other families at an informal breakfast before school in the Kindy Playground. All kindy families (old & new) and other new families throughout the school are invited to this event. Coffee, tea and croissants will be provided. If you can volunteer to help run this event please contact Giana gnewling@bigpond.net.au

Tuesday 16th February - P&C AGM Meeting and Elections 7.30pm in the school library
This follows on from the meet the teacher sessions on the same evening.

Tuesday 1st March - Class Parent Info Evening 7pm in the school library
If you have kindly volunteered to be the Class Parent for your class, please come along, even if you are an experienced "old hand" and share your ideas for another great year of "communicating".

Friday 4th March - Ride to School Day
More details to come, but if you are interested in helping with this event please contact Graham graham.newling@gmail.com or Freya freya@p-sys.net.au

Saturday 5th March - Summer Hill Folk Festival. 10 - 4pm
SHPS P&C will be running the BBQ at the upcoming Summer Hill Folk Festival in the grounds of Summer Hill Anglican Church. Not only will we be supporting this new community event, but all profits from the BBQ stall will go to the school. If you are able to volunteer for an hour or so at this event please contact Helen dewolfies@yahoo.com.au

Sunday 13th March - Gardening/Working Bee 2pm - 5pm
This is a great way to get involved and meet new people. Held on four Sundays throughout the year, the Gardening Bees help to keep our playgrounds safe and tidy for our kids. Stay tuned for more information or if you’d like to go onto the Gardening Bee email list please contact Alexalexmunroe@taxinstitute.com.au

Friday 18th March - DISCO K to Yr3 session 5pm - 6.30 , Yr4 to Yr6 session 6.30 - 8.00
One of the social highlights of the year! Lock this date into your children’s social calendar and keep an eye out for more information. This is a really fun night and requires lots of parent volunteers to make it happen. If you are keen to get behind the BBQ, wield a can of hairspray, serve drinks, sell tickets and much more please contact Anita anitafinlayson@me.com

For more information about Volunteering at Summer Hill Public school please visit: http://www.summerhill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/p-c/how-can-i-get-involved
SCHOOL BANKING

GET INVOLVED IN THE SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM.

You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at any Commonwealth Bank branch, over the phone on 13 2221 or via NetBank if you are an existing customer with NetBank access.

Remember to take in identification for you and your child (driver’s license and birth certificate). You will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book that your child will use to participate in the program.

When your child make’s their first deposit at school they will earn their first Dollarmites token and our school will also receive $5 commission. Thank you for supporting our school and helping teach your child the benefits of saving regularly.

SCHOOL BANKING DAY REMINDER.

Don’t forget that Tuesday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

School Banking commences Tuesday 9 February.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit). Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Summer Hill Public School.

Jane Nice janetimnice@yahoo.com
SHPS School Banking Coordinator.

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Beginner Ukulele Group

will be on Monday mornings at 8.30 in the Music Room commencing 15th February Week 4.

If your child is interested in participating in this class, please pick up a note from the front office, fill out your details and return it to the office. There are limited places available to new students, the classes are filled on a “first come first served” basis. If the maximum number is reached your child will be placed on a waiting list.

There are ukuleles that can be borrowed for the class but they cannot be taken home. If you would like your child to come and you are thinking of buying a ukulele, buy a Mahalo or Makala. They are roughly $35 and they hold their tuning. They can be purchased from Optimum Percussion or Logans Music in Burwood. Some students are bringing ukuleles that are impossible to tune.

Advanced Ukelele

will be on Thursday Mornings at 8.20 in 5PCs’ room (Ms Carroll), commencing 18th February Wk 4

Advanced Recorder Group

will be on Tuesdays 8.15 in the music Room, commencing 9thFebruary. (Week 3)

Recorder students will be given a note that must be filled in and returned to the front office. There is a $35 dollar fee for the year. If your child is selected to play at the instrumental festival in August, they will receive another note in Term 2 and there will be additional costs.

Thank you and I look forward to another great year of music!

Donna Ross
**MUSIC NEWS**

**BAND AND ORCHESTRA**

Band and Orchestra rehearsals have already started, the rehearsal times are:-
- 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 Band**

Training Orchestra will have their first "One-Off" introductory session on Wednesday 10th February in the Music Room from 7.30-9.00am. Training Band will also have their first "One-Off" introductory session on Friday 12th February in the hall from 3-6pm.

If you have not received any response from us regarding the bands and orchestras by Friday 5th February, then please contact me as soon as possible at Janet.Sutherland1@det.nsw.edu.au.

**Junior Recorder**

We are pleased to offer a Junior Recorder class in 2016 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 (also a copy of the note is on the school website). If you are interested please return this note to the office as soon as possible as there are limited places available.

**CHINA TOUR is on the Expanding Horizons!!!!!**

In 2016, we have applied and been invited to tour China with senior members of our bands and orchestras (Year 5 & Year 6 students) as part of “Expanding Horizons".

At the moment the tour is in planning mode, rough dates for the tour are 18th to 28th September 2016.

Students on the tour will perform in premier venues, experience life in Chinese schools and work musically with students from China. They will explore significant sites and have tourist opportunities, as well as developing lifelong friendships with other students from Australia and abroad.

At the moment I am asking for an Expression of Interest. This does not mean you have to commit to the tour, but so I can pass on information about meetings and costs as they become available. Please respond by email to Donna.M.Ross@det.nsw.edu.au if you would like to be kept in the loop about the tour.

In Term 1 2016, there will be an information evening for interested families, where a lot of potential questions will be answered. Before you make up your mind this would be a good place to ask questions, and hear all the information about the tour. There is also a parallel tour for parents for the same cost. The two tours run separately, however, parents will get to see all the performances, and (I hope) experience the main tourist attractions with their child.

The Cost of the tour is $3700 which includes, flights, accommodation, visas, travel insurance, uniform, and internal travel. The only additional cost would be the amount of spending money students would like to bring. Payment can be done in instalments, and I am hoping the families that are going can work together to do (a lot) of fundraising to make the tour feasible for everyone!

This is an amazing opportunity for students, and a once in a lifetime experience, if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to ask!

Donna Ross

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**UNIFORM SHOP**

The School’s Uniform Shop is run by Pickles Schoolwear.

Opening times are:
- Tuesday 8:30am - 9:30am
- Friday 2:30 - 3:30pm

Open every week during school term times.

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**SECOND HAND UNIFORMS**

Second Hand Uniforms will be available from the P&C Store on Tuesdays and Fridays 8.45am - 9.30am.
CHESS NEWS!

Chess begins in Week 3 of Term 1. Chess club will be available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:45 a.m. in the library. Please be on time, but do not arrive before 7:50 a.m. The first day of chess is Tuesday February 9th.

For more information and pricing of the chess club, please contact our coach, Brett Tindall, at The Sydney Academy of Chess: https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/

Students who would like to compete in the NSW Term 2 Interschool Friday afternoon competition will need to be an active member of our morning chess club. In 2015 we put forward eight competitive teams ranging from Year 6 right down to Year 1. These students must display good sportsmanship, and be ready for competition. Their parents must be willing to drive to an away game and/or supervise a home game at least twice per season.

For more chess practice, go online with Mum or Dad to www.chess.com!

ITALIAN NEWS

Benvenuti a 2016!

Our 2016 timetable is as follows:

Monday 8 - 9 a.m., Years 3-6, Room 6TK. This class starts on Monday, February 1st.
Tuesday 8 - 8:45 a.m., Kindergarten, Room 5PC. This class begins on Tuesday, February 9th.
Wednesdays 8 - 9 a.m., Years 1-4, Room 2/3 MA. This class begins on Wednesday, February 3rd.

Italian costs $100 per term and payment information will be provided shortly. For more information email Susan on sterravecchia@hotmail.com

Kids!! Have fun learning to speak Mandarin

Beginners Mandarin Language Club for Non-native speakers at Summer Hill PS! (exclusive to SHPS students)

The Mandarin Stars program offers:
- An engaging program that will inspire a love for learning Chinese.
- An immersion based program that teaches strong listening and speaking skills in Mandarin.
- Language building activities such as role play, Chinese songs, rhymes and games!
- The teaching of Chinese characters, reading, writing and Pinyin.
- The discovery of Chinese history, culture, festivals, Calligraphy

If there is enough interest, classes will start in Term 1 and will be held at the school on a Wednesday! K-2 3.10pm – 4.00pm
3-6 4.05pm – 4.55pm

To indicate your interest, please email your child’s name & year group and your name & phone number to enrol@mandarinstars.com.au

www.mandarinstars.com.au ★ enrol@mandarinstars.com.au ★ Ph: (02) 8437 2498
SCHOOL MESSAGES SENT DIRECTLY TO YOUR SMART PHONE VIA SKOOLBAG APP

Our School now has a Skoolbag App for smart phones (iPhone, iPad Android and Windows phones). The Skoolbag App helps the school to communicate more effectively with our Parent/Carer community. The App allows our school to send messages instantly to parent/carers that have the App installed on their phone. Our school will use the Skoolbag App to send instant alerts such as reminders for excursions/events, cancellation of sport/rehearsals and late arrival of excursion/sport buses.

Currently Summer Hill Skoolbag App has 670 subscribers out of a potential 1100 parent/carers, we encourage all parents to install this App so they are able to receive school alerts and messages via their mobile phone. As we are in a transition period with this new communication system the school will continue sending messages via email as well.

To install the Skoolbag App follow the instructions below. The schools App is password protected so that all messages sent remain within the school community. The username and password will be sent via email to all parents and carers so they can access the App.

Please contact the school if there any problems with installation/use of Skoolbag App.

Kathy Timmins
Newsletter Editor

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:
1. Click the “App Store” icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click “Get” then “Install”.
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click “Open”.
6. Select “OK” to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

For Android users:
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the “Play Store” button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the “Install” button.
5. Click “Accept” for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click “Open” when installed.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in “Notification Manager” changed to “Allow” instead of “Notify” in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:
1. Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 81/10 Device
2. Search for “Skoolbag” in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the “Pin” icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au Don't forget to like us on Facebook!
LUNCHBOX LABEL FUNDRAISER

Support our school’s environmental initiatives and help your child pack a Waste Free Lunchbox each Wednesday. Packing a waste free lunchbox is one small way that kids can make a big impact on reducing the amount of waste we send to landfills. Waste free lunches are often cheaper and healthier too! We have a special fundraising deal with www.brightstarkids.com.au where you can get classy custom made labels for drink bottles, lunchbox containers and uniforms – just choose our school in the ‘nominate a fundraiser’ section. To find out more about Waste Free Wednesday see: http://www.summerhillp.scool.nsw.edu.au/p-c/waste-freelunchbox. 
Parent Support Group

Come along, connect with other parents and make new friends. Learn new parenting skills and share your ideas with other parents.

When: Monday mornings, 10am-12pm during school term
Where: Ashfield Presbyterian Church Hall
       Corner of Liverpool Road & Knox Street, Ashfield
Cost: FREE. Bookings are essential on Eventbrite.

This program is run in partnership with Anglicare.

ESL Classes for New & Expectant Mothers

In these English lessons you will learn the language that you will need when you talk to health workers about your baby’s health and your own health.

When: 6 Tuesdays, 2 February-8 March 2016, 10am-12pm
Where: Ashfield Presbyterian Church Hall
       Corner of Liverpool Road & Knox Street, Ashfield
Cost: FREE. Bookings are essential on Eventbrite.

This program has been organised by the Multicultural Health Service, Sydney Local Health District and is supported by Ashfield Council.

Helping Toddlers with Toilet Training

In this session learn how you can tell when your toddler is ready and how you can support him or her through this important milestone.

When: Monday 21 March 2016, 10:30am-11am
Where: Red Bug Playgroup, Ashfield Park
       Corner of Parramatta Road & Orpington Street, Ashfield
No bookings required. This session is conducted by CatholicCare.

Toddler Behaviour Management

Join us for this useful session to discuss behaviour management for toddlers. Learn about some child development basics and strategies to positively influence your relationship with your toddler.

When: Monday 23 May 2016, 10:30am-11am
Where: Red Bug Playgroup, Ashfield Park
       Corner of Parramatta Road & Orpington Street, Ashfield
No bookings required. This session is conducted by CatholicCare.

Ashfield Council

Key Word Sign Workshop

For community workers, child care workers and teachers working in Ashfield LGA

This one day course is designed to provide information and training regarding the use of Key Word Sign and natural gestures.

It will equip the participants with skills to use Key Word Sign to assist in communication with children aged 9-15 years who have complex communication needs.

Participants will learn at least 80 interactive signs, basic communication frameworks and communication strategies for children at different communication levels.

When: Wednesday 3 February 2016, 9:30am-4pm
Where: Ashfield Civic Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield
Cost: FREE. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Bookings are essential on Eventbrite - www.eventbrite.com.au

FundAbility

Get Involved!
GET READY FOR WORK IN 2016!

Do you want to return to work or study? Do your skills need updating? Are you looking for a change?

Get Ready for Work - Certificate II Skills for Work & Training (10089NAT) offers you the opportunity to boost your confidence and prepare you for work or further study in a friendly, supportive learning environment at Ultimo TAFE. Includes a Work Experience Program, Computing, Communication, Workplace Writing, Interview Skills, Resumes and more. Childcare may be available on campus. Close to Central train station. Student discounted parking nearby. This is a government subsidised Smart & Skilled course; concessions apply.

When:
Tuesday 19 January 2016
10:30am
Building D, Level 5, Room D.5.11
Maryann St, Ultimo

Enquiries:
Anna Petrou (Coordinator) 9217 3724
Sylvia Nichols (Head Teacher) 9217 3718
anna.petrou@tafensw.edu.au  sylvia.nichols@tafensw.edu.au

MARRICKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
Monday 22nd February 2016
5.30pm – 7.30pm

School Tours
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Presentation
7.00pm - 7.30pm

Northcote Street, Marrickville 9569 2444 www.marrickvil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au