FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S OFFICE

Dear Parents and Carers,

The staff would like to wish all our students and their families a very Happy Easter and a safe and enjoyable Easter holiday. Students return to school for Term 2 on Tuesday 21 April.

OC Applications for 2016

Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for opportunity class placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 22 July 2015.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2016, you need to do so soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student’s email address). Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 27 April 2015 in a printed application information booklet and at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. The application website opens on 27 April 2015 and closes on 15 May 2015. No late applications will be accepted. There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance after 27 April 2015. You must submit only ONE application for each student.

School Disco

What a fabulous event! It was wonderful to see our school community come together at the disco held last Friday. These events would not happen without the hard work and commitment of our P&C and parent helpers. I would especially like to thank Anita Finlayson and Helen de Wolf for organising this event and all the parents who supported them. The students had a great time dancing the night away while parents networked and enjoyed the company of other parents. Well done SHPS!

“Believing You Can” Project

Four Year 5 classes at Summer Hill Public School have been invited to participate in a University of New England research project titled “Believing You Can” that is investigating how psychological factors such as self-esteem and thinking styles influence academic outcomes.

Ms Alicia Chodkiewicz from the School of Education at the University is conducting the research project. The research has the full endorsement of the Department of Education and Communities. The children will be split into two groups initially. Both groups will be surveyed as a class group three times in 2015 and once in 2016. One group will also attend ten weekly hour-long training sessions during class time throughout term 2, 2015. Through participation in this project, each student, his/her teacher and the school will benefit greatly through developing new skills that foster improved self-esteem, resilience and coping strategies.

Kindergarten Parent Home Reading Workshop

There will be a special parent information session for Kindergarten parents on Thursday 23 April at 8.30am in the Library to provide parents with strategies to support their child with home reading. This is a very valuable session and will enhance your child’s reading ability.

Please select the links below for updates on the following topics:
SPORT, MUSIC, LIBRARY, CHESS, DRAMA
P&C
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

www.summerhill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/school-programs1

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Statewide Paper Plane Competition

For the first time ever, the Professional Teachers Council of NSW is running a paper plane competition that will be open to all NSW students. During Term 2 and early Term 3, schools or classes are encouraged to hold paper plane competitions, where the winning students will qualify for the 2015 Young Scientist Paper Plane Challenge to be held at The University of Sydney Open Day on Saturday 29th August.

Dylan Parker and James Norton, whose World Championship exploits inspired the hit Aussie movie Paper Planes, will be there giving advice to student qualifiers and they will be entertaining everyone with a 20-30 minute show between the Preliminary Finals and the Grand Final. The Grand Final will involve the top 6 competitors in the Furthest distance K-6, Furthest distance 7-12 and Longest airtime K-12 events. It promises to be a most wonderful afternoon at Sydney University.

For more detail, go the website of the STANSW Young Scientist Awards who are organising this inaugural event [www.youngscientist.com.au](http://www.youngscientist.com.au) and click on the link to the Paper Plane Challenge. Students also need to know that they can qualify individually if they can throw further than 20m (7-12) and further than 12m (K-6). The qualifying airtime (K-12) is 5s. So, SHPS, start practicing over the Easter holidays and let's try our luck!

MARSHALLING VOLUNTEERS – WE NEED YOU!

Bring us more Barry! In the spirit of our dedicated school crossing supervisor, Barry, we are seeking volunteer traffic marshals to provide adult supervision in our new drop-off and pick-up areas during the transition to the new crossing, zones and signs.

We’ll need volunteers across a three week period at the start of the Term 2 when the changeover to new traffic conditions take effect: Monday to Friday: 8.45am – 9.30am and 2.30pm – 3.30pm.

Your role will be to make sure parents and carers know how to properly use drop-off and pick-up areas and understand how the traffic control changes affect them. This might include explaining the new road signs to parents where there is confusion, ensuring they don’t stay for long periods in NO PARKING zones, that they pull-up in the right place and stay near their vehicles.

You will be provided with all the information you need and high visibility vests. There will be a briefing meeting the first week back after the Easter break, and exact dates for traffic marshalling confirmed (likely to be Week 2, Week 3 and Week 4). If you can spare an hour in the morning or afternoon to help us with this very important school transition, please email Karen Shehata on karen.shehata@det.nsw.edu.au. Thank you for your support.

NSW Swimming Championships

Congratulations to our Senior Boys’ Relay Team, Matthew R, James H, Alfred T and Samuel Y, who won the 4 x 50 metre relay at the State Swimming Championships held last week. I was so proud of all our competitors for their sportsmanship and support of each other. I would also like to acknowledge the dedicated parents who give of their time to take the students to these events and provide the opportunity for participation.

Responsible Pet Ownership Program

The Responsible Pet Ownership Education Program was held at our school this week for students in Years K-2. This popular incursion involved a Pet Educator and their suitability tested dog attending our school to facilitate education sessions on all facets of responsible pet ownership, safety around animals and minimising the risks from dog bites/attacks.

The Program has been in operation in NSW Primary Schools for the past four years conducting approximately 4000 visits to over 400,000 students. Primary age children remain highly over represented in the dog bite/attack statistics. Ongoing education of children and their families in relation to living safely with dogs is vitally important, if we are to continue to reduce the number of dog attacks in the home and community.
**P&C MEETING REPORT FROM 17 MARCH 2015**

The P&C met on Tuesday 17th March with the focus item being the changes to the traffic arrangements around the school and the communication plan surrounding the changes. These changes have taken a long time coming and are there for the safety of the children and effective and efficient drop-offs and pick-ups. A discussion followed with good ideas about how to communicate this information in the best way possible. A grant application has been made to the NRMA for traffic safety for the next financial year for ongoing safety communication and training.

Reports were presented from Fundraising, Sports, Music, Gardening and Sustainability committees and from the Treasurer. It was noted that the upcoming comedy night on 22 May should deliver a good financial benefit to the P&C and that prize procurement for the year is progressing well. The ride to school day was a great success and everyone in our school community is encouraged to see where they can volunteer and help.

The uncertainty of our fundraising capacity was shared and with funds already committed to projects the issue of what items and services P&C funds was raised.

The accident insurance for the students was resolved to be renewed.

The Principal shared results from the student feedback survey about student engagement and the school annual report. In addition, the Principal shared how a new equity funding model meant government funding for the school will likely reduce. A new absentee policy is now in place across NSW where students who are taken on holidays will be marked as being absent. A new form for parents taking their children out of school for more than 11 days must be completed and given to the school prior to taking children out of school.

The proposal to reduce the number of OC classes was reported as being submitted to the Department but at the time of the meeting there was no update on whether a decision had been made. It has now been announced that the Summer Hill Public School OC classes will reduce as proposed with Ashfield Public School taking one Year 5 OC class from 2016.

Jane Williams shared how children are being encouraged in self-evaluation and are being rewarded in line with the school values of respect, responsibility and resilience.

All parents are welcome at the P&C meetings, the next being held on 21 April at 7.30pm in the library. The focus item will be the P&C’s financial position and commitments for 2015.

Chris Braga  
Vice President

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**P&C NEWS**

**SCHOOL DISCO SUCCESS!**

A huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Dance for Diversity in March. Hundreds of Harmony Day hipsters hit the floor while parents and carers chilled in the outside food zone. A massive thanks to the wonderful volunteers and teachers who kept it running so smoothly. A special thank you to Jimmy the DJ for the lights and music, the Gandhi family for their delicious Indian food stall and also the team at Summer Hill Village Meats for their support. The event raised approximately $6,000.

**ELECTION DAY BBQ BLITZ**

Thanks to a band of fabulous helpers (and bakers), we managed to raise about $2,200 for the P&C from the election day sausage sizzle and cake stall. We even saw feedback on the 702 ABC Sydney Facebook page saying that the onions were the best someone had ever had from a sausage sizzle (thank you to that person who shall remain anonymous). And the leftover vegetarian sausages, cooked in bacon fat (and later wrapped in bacon) were the surprise hit of the day!

Thanks to: Kate and James Jackson, Jane and Tim Nice, Helen de Wolfe, Gina Newling, Leigh Ringrose, Paul Gaukrodger, Ben and Sarah Tari, Jacqui Cassell, Shelagh Doyle, Annette Boyd, Darren Smith, Annie Mendelson, David Read, Gabi Walsh, Dom Millgate, Jacqui Taylor, Katrina Lee, Penny Murray, Helen Wills, Jo Everett, Brian Langsworth, Fiona Gayler (even though we sent you away), Jason Rudd, Lanyun and Sam Vickery. Special mention to Bronte, Lachie and Gus Jackson for sales assistance. If I’ve left your name off the list, thank you too. I hope you know who you are and that we’re grateful!

And huge thanks to our wonderful suppliers – Two Fat Butchers, Happy Loaf and Drugstore – and, of course, all those that purchased our fine fare!
**STATE SWIMMING**

Congratulations to our amazing group of swimmers who attended the Sydney East Swimming Championships recently. At the end of the whole competition, our team Western Suburbs, finished in first place. A great achievement that was assisted greatly by our team of talented swimmers.

Many of our students are off to the State Carnival. Congratulations to our senior boys really team of Matthew, Samuel, James and Alfred who broke the Sydney East record. Great work. Our senior girls team of Emily, Ella, Sienna and Jessica are also off to the State championships. Well done. Emily, Matthew, James and Albert are also swimming in individual events. A full list of the results is available on the Sydney East PSSA website.

Photo shows our wonderful senior girls relay team who finished 1st at the zone carnival, 3rd in the region and 15th in all of NSW. A great effort girls. Congratulations.

**SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY**

Our annual school cross country will be held on April 28, 2015. The course will take in the beautiful grounds of Yeo Park and Trinity Grammar school. Parents, family and friends are invited to attend the carnival and cheer on the children as they strive to do their very best on what promises to be a very tough course. Many of our students have been practicing at school but it is advised that students spend some of their own time getting in that much needed practice for this event. Hope to see you there on April 28.

**SUMMER HILL CONGRATULATES RAEJA**

Raeja P from Year 5LW who is currently in Miss Winters Class was last year offered the role of a lifetime to play the role of the young child Eponine in the current Cameron Macintosh national touring production of Les Miserables. This is Raeja’s Musical Theatre Debut and was her first professional audition. In the very same week she was offered the role in Les Miserables she also made it to the final call backs in the first round for the lead role in Matilda the musical. Since accepting the role in Les Mis Raeja has been on tour since the end of last year, rehearsing in Melbourne debuting her first performance in her home town of Melbourne on the stage at her Majesty’s Theatre, and has since just finished the Perth Season which opened on New Years Eve in 2014 at the Crown Theatre to 5 star reviews. She has just returned home to Sydney where the show has just opened at the Capitol Theatre in Sydney. The show so far has been a great adventure, she has met and worked with some incredible people and has also learnt a lot about the professional theatre. Raeja is so happy to be home and back at Summer Hill Primary, and was super excited to have been placed in a class with her closest friends! She is also looking forward to continuing the show in Sydney with an incredible cast of people who have now become like second family.

Les Miserables will be on at the Capitol Theatre until the end of October.

Website Home Page

Raeja’s profile Online

Head Shot that has been used in the program.

**MS FUNDRAISER**

Gwen M of 5SP will be doing a 24 hr swim 2nd-3rd May to raise money for people living with MS. She will be camped out at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre with her friends from her swimming club, to maintain an ongoing relay for the entire 24hrs.

She would love your support.
https://events.megaswim.com/2015-Sydney-24-Hour-Mega-Swim/donate/Gwenog
**MUSIC NEWS**

**ADVANCED UKELELE** will not be on this Thursday. My apologies for ending the term on a whimper. It has been a fantastic first term and I look forward to seeing you all first week back in term 2. Happy Easter and have a safe and relaxing holiday.

**UKELELES BEGINNER AND ADVANCED**

We will be introducing a fee next term for participation in this program. We have enjoyed the luxury of free participation however, with Local Schools, Local Responsibilities comes managing a much tighter budget. The fee will cover some of the photocopying and administration costs associated and hopefully afford us more resources to support the the program. A note will be sent out in term 2. Thank you to all for you support and participation throughout the term.

**RECORDER GROUP**

You should all have your music and rehearsal CD’s. Please find some time for a practice during the holidays. We will be launching into the Swans of Llir on your return. Enjoy your holidays and well done in term 1!

Donna Ross
Music Teacher

**CHESS NEWS**

**Blaxcell Street Public School Tournament**

On the 23rd of March, we participated in the first chess tournament of the year at Blaxcell Street Public School. Our school came first, with a score of 23.5 out of 28. Four of our players received an award individually, including Eva, who had a perfect score of 7/7. Well done team!

Eva G 6SH 1st, Finnian C 6SH 2nd, Kevin Z 5TK 3rd, Jasper B 4AW 5th.

**Canterbury Chess Challenge**

Summer Hill came first among many inner west schools in the Canterbury Chess Challenge on March 31st. We also had several individual winners, including Aaron H who was the overall winner. With a chess club of 190+ players, SHPS is looking forward to many more successful and exciting tournaments this year.

**ITALIAN NEWS**

The Years 1-2 Italian class enjoyed a pizza making class at Da Vinci’s on the 25th of March. Who could say no to homemade pizza and fruit filled gelato for breakfast? The Years 3-6 class will do the same on April 1st. Please bring your aprons and be at Da Vinci’s by 7:30 a.m. Grazie Mille Da Vinci’s!

And thank you to Francesca S. who volunteered as our official Year 6 helper.

**CRUNCH & SIP**

A small handful of baby spinach leaves teamed with another crunchy veg such as capsicum, carrot or cucumber is a great Crunch&Sip snack. It also helps your child meet their intake of green leafy veg that can sometimes be tough.

Some people love to crunch on a whole stick of celery, but generally kids prefer it cut up into sticks. A variety bag of vegetable sticks (e.g. celery, carrot, cucumber) is great for Crunch&Sip. Chewing on celery can help clean your teeth!

**Collecting Woolworths dominoes**

If you shop at Woolworths and don’t wish to keep your dominoes, please drop them in the bucket at the front desk. We will collect them and share them across the grades.

Thank you
Mathematics Committee
Australian Early Development Census

Playing our part to build a national picture of child health

What is the AEDC?

In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school to build a national picture of health and wellbeing. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families.

Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children don’t need to be present so no class time is missed, and parents/carers don’t need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers’ individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.

In other communities across the country, census results have helped communities to plan new playgrounds and parental services; schools are seeing improved student performance through new literacy programmes; and governments are using the results as evidence to develop better policies for children.

Teachers have also noticed practical benefits in the classroom. Some said in previous years that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole. Others reported that the census results are useful in planning for transitions to school and for developing class programmes.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don’t need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census.

To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website.

MY TIME PEER SUPPORT GROUP

For families and carers of a child with a disability or chronic medical illness such as Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome and ASD.

MyTime Peer Support Groups have been designed to provide local support for families and carers of a child with a disability or chronic medical condition aged 0-16 years. All groups receive government funding and there is no cost to eligible families.

The groups provide a safe, welcoming environment where carers can come together to connect with people that are experiencing similar challenges to help support each other and network locally.

MyTime groups are run with the support of a facilitator where parents & carers can discuss a variety of topics, discuss their feelings and get further information on local support services. Play helpers are available to engage children that attend in order to allow for adults to have some time to socialise with one another and meet others who understand the challenges of this caring role.

The groups may have visits from local guest speakers and provide workshops that are immediately beneficial for families in the group setting such as transition to school, nutrition and diet, strategies in leading positive behaviour etc…

There is a new MyTime Group commencing at Canterbury Public School in term 2 which will run on Fridays from 9:30am-11:30 during schools terms. We would appreciate if you would make this information available to local families and carers that could benefit from accessing this service. Families can ring 1800 171 882 to register for MyTime Peer Support and view the website at http://www.mytime.net.au/ for more information.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Thanks and regards,

Lynda Andrews
MyTime Facilitator
Playgroups NSW
Choose safety over convenience
Parking and zones – the rules explained

No stopping
What does it mean?
NO STOPPING means no stopping for any reason.

Why is it there?
To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children so both have more time to avoid collisions.

No parking
What does it mean?
You can stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop-off and pick-up passengers. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

Why is it there?
To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.

Double parking
NEVER stop on the road adjacent to another vehicle at any time, even to drop-off or pick-up passengers.

This extremely dangerous practice can cause children to run in front of moving vehicles. It forces other cars to go around you, causing traffic congestion and reduces the view of drivers and children crossing the road.

Bus zone
What does it mean?
Don’t stop or park in a BUS ZONE unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there?
Bus zones provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up passengers.

Footpaths and nature strips
You may not stop on a footpath or nature strip for any reason. These actions could lead to you running over a child or forcing pedestrians onto the road to get around you.

IMPORTANT!
Children should ALWAYS get in and out of the car on the kerb side of the road or ‘safety door’.

Children’s crossings
You must slow down and halt before the white stop line and remain stationary until the crossing is completely clear.

Never stop, turn or park on a Children’s Crossing.

IMPORTANT!
This is NOT a zebra crossing. Children need to STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK! before stepping onto the crossing.
安全重于便利
停车区域及范围——规则说明

NO STOPPING
严禁停靠

NO PARKING
严禁泊车

BUS ZONE 巴士区

DOUBLE PARKING
并排停靠

FOOTPATHS AND NATURE STRIPS
人行道和草地

INTERSECTIONS
道路交叉口

CHILDREN’S CROSSINGS
儿童过马路区

重要提示!
谨记确保孩子们始终在
“安全门”一侧上下车。

重要提示!
这不是斑马线，所以孩子们在此处过马路之前应该
止步！观察！聆听！思考！
Parenting & Wellbeing Workshops
at The Infants’ Home, 17 Henry St, Ashfield
Term 2, 2015

Bringing Up Great Kids
for Parents/Carers

Thursday, 10am - 12.30pm
30 April - 4 June, 2015 (6 weeks)
Course cost: FREE + Free child-minding

Facilitators: Felicity Meehan & Danielle Pretty
(Clinical Nurse Consultants - Sydney Local Health District)

The “Bringing up great Kids” program uses ideas of mindfulness and reflection to support parents to review and enhance their interaction and connection with their children.

Through the program parents of 0-12 year olds will explore:

- The origin of their own parenting style
- Important messages that children communicate to their parents and how they do this
- The importance of building self-esteem in children
- Ways for carers/parents to take care of themselves and to find support when they need it

For more information and to register contact Jenny:
9799 4844 or jgilchrist@theinfantshome.org.au

This course is run by The Infants’ Home in partnership with Sydney Local Health District
The Mother’s Day Classic – 10 May 2015

Parramatta Park or The Domain

Get ready to celebrate a classic Mother’s Day!

Registration opened in December 2014 for Australia’s biggest breast cancer research event, the annual Women in Super Mother’s Day Classic.

Every Mother’s Day for the past 17 years, Australians have walked or run to fund research and honour those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

At the 2014 Mother’s Day Classic more than 135,000 participants in 97 events around the nation and on overseas military bases raised $4.5 million, bringing the overall total raised to $24.3 million.


This year’s event is being held on Sunday 10 May 2015, and is open to all ages and fitness levels, so there is something for everyone, whether you want to participate or simply come along and support.

More than a quarter of a million people have participated in past Mother’s Day Classic events, and you can too this year by registering at www.mothersdayclassic.com.au

The Mother’s Day Classic was established in 1998 by Women in Super.

Women in Super continue to organise the event. Since Women in Super initiated the event in 1998, survival rates for women diagnosed with breast cancer have increased to 85%.

ME Bank has proudly supported the Mother’s Day Classic as the major sponsor since 2005.
Featuring comedians from Sydney and Melbourne International Comedy Festival

In support of:

Summer Hill Public School

8pm - May 22
Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL
20-26 Canterbury Road Hurlstone Park, NSW

Ticket Price: $35 [http://www.trybooking.com/hcgm]
comedycause@gmail.com - 0421 244 288