Term 1 Week 3

Good Afternoon Parents,

I have just entered our student numbers online and I can now officially say that our numbers are currently 471 and that has enabled us to hold our 20th class. As always there are the initial teething problems around becoming accustomed to a new teacher and kindergarten adjusting to coming to school but overall the school seems very settled. I am especially impressed with the way our senior students have begun their new year at school.

2013 Class Structure is as follows:

 KC Mrs Crye / Mrs Hoye  
 KV Mrs Vinton  
 KT Ms Tagi  
 KL Mrs Chaplin  
 1X Mrs Lopez/ Mrs Martin  
 1R Ms Robinson  
 1/2H Mrs Heffernan  
 1R Mrs Racchi  
 2D Miss Di Bono  
 2G Mrs Garcia  
 3/4P Mr Double  
 3G Ms Milosev  
 4D Mrs Devlin  
 4S Mrs Powell  
 5B Miss Barker  
 5L Mrs Buck  
 6D Ms Ahmad /Mr Dauw  
 6K Ms Katon

RFF – Miss Alexander  
 Learning and Support Teacher (LaST) Ms Wozniak  
 Learning and Support Teacher (LaST) – 3 days only – Mrs Wilkinson  
 English as a second Language (ESL) – Ms Janmaat  
 Library – Mrs Bailey  
 Reading Recovery – Mrs Charles

During Release from face to face (RFF) teaching this year the children will be having a mixture of Ms Bailey, Mrs Charles and Miss Alexander. Miss Alexander will be taking the students for lessons in PE and Health.
One noticeable omission this year is the role of Deputy Principal. Please note the supervisor of your child’s stage as you may need to contact this person regarding issues/problems that your child may be having.

Kindergarten – Mrs Crye (M. T) Ms Tagi (W TH F)
Stage 1 – Miss Di Bono
Stage 2 - Mrs Powell
Stage 3 – Mr Bragg

Children at Plumpton love their crunch and sip time during the morning session and I have always been fascinated by the different array of fruits that mums and dads would pack for the fruit break. During this week I noticed that a couple of parents had packed a mixture of fruit and nuts. That would be such a lovely bite for that time BUT could I ask you not to send NUTS. We do have a few children in our school who are allergic to nuts. Children quite innocently share with their friends and that could be fatal. The same advice should go with peanut butter.

Last week I mentioned the competitive swimming carnival. In an attempt to run the carnival totally within school times we have joined with William Dean school and will be holding our combined competitive swimming carnival on Wednesday 20th February beginning at 12.30 at Emerton Pool. Mr Bragg has already distributed notes for the event.

Over the past 2 years teachers have been learning from the methods of “Lane Clark” and I am sure that the boys and girls have heard that terminology mentioned many times. Lane is actually an educator from Canada. She will be visiting our school this Friday and working with a number of teachers assisting to fine tune our practices. I am sure that we will all make Lane very welcome.

If your child requires extended leave away from school (more than a week), whether it be for holidays, overseas emergency etc please see our office staff to receive the form that needs to be completed. You will also need an item of proof eg airline ticket.

I have spent some time this week ensuring that our phone app is up and running. One change this year is the username / password which is community/plumpton. That is the opposite of last year. You may need to log out and then re log in using the new pass. Term 1 calendar has been installed and there are some new features for me to explore. More details soon.
For new parents looking for the app, it can be downloaded for free from the apps store (Iphone) or from Google play for android phone users.

Yours in Education
Mr Terry Dauw
Acting Principal.

MESSAGES FROM THE DEC

Jargon buster
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters

Avoiding injuries
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain? Find out more: http://www.schmoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/ways-to-keep-your-childs-back-and-posture-healthy
Maths questions
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey's Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.

Helping your child with homework
How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/helping-your-primary-school-child-with-homework

STUDENT BANKING
Student Banking will commence this Thursday – 14 February, 2013.

The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular saving. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

Taking part in School Banking is easy.
If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from either the local branch or contact the School Banking Co-ordinator.

If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Another option is to download a paper-based application form from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. Please note this option may take up to 2 weeks before a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book is sent to your home address to start banking at school.

LIBRARY NEWS
Welcome back to another exciting school year. Just a few important reminders about the Library:

1) Library Opening times- Students are able to borrow each week during their Library class time, however please don't forget that the Library is open every afternoon after school from 3.00 - 3.30 for borrowing. This is a fantastic opportunity for parents to come in and choose books with your children to read at home. We have also added more books to our Bi-Lingual section, which includes Tagalog, Urdu, Hindi, Gujarati, Punjabi & Chinese.

2) To borrow a book to take home your child needs a Library Bag. I sell school Library Bags for $6.00, or you can buy Library Bags from Big W or other discount stores. Please ensure the bag you send with your child is sturdy and if possible water proof. A plastic shopping bag is not acceptable.

3) Overdue Books - if a student still has an overdue book from last year then they will not be able to borrow (except for a classroom reading book). If your child comes home and tells you they were not able to borrow, they will also have had last years overdue notice given to them again. If the book is lost please return the notice with the money due in an envelope.
4) Book Club - your child will have brought home a selection of Book Club Catalogues last week. This is a special School fundraiser for the Library; when you purchase a book from the Book Club, our Library gets rewards points to purchase more books. If you wish to buy any items from Book Club, please complete the order form on the back of the catalogue and place the order form and the correct money into an envelope; clearly marked with your child's name and class on the front. Issue 1 last day for ordering is Wednesday 20th February, your child should receive their order by the end of week 6.

Bronwyn Bailey
Teacher Librarian.

SCHOOL PHOTOS – ADVANCE NOTICE

School Photos will be held on **WEDNESDAY, 13TH MARCH.** Envelops for Individual packs will be handed out next week. Individual photo packs vary in cost from $15 - $55
Family photo envelopes are available from the office. Family packs cost either $15 or $20.

SWIMMING TRIALS – Change of date.

Our school's competitive swimming trials will be held at Emerton Leisure Centre on Wednesday 20th February from 12pm – 3pm.

The swimming trials are for swimmers who can confidently swim the length of a 50m pool independently. The aim of the trials is to provide an opportunity for students to qualify to represent the school at the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival, where they will compete against students from school across the Blacktown PSSA zone.

Students turning 8 this year and older are welcome to take part in the swimming trials. Please note that travel to and from the venue will be by private transport.

If your child is interested in competing, please encourage them to listen carefully to announcements at school regarding the swim trials and to get a note from Mr Bragg.

Mr Bragg
Sports Coordinator

HELP PLEASE!!

At this time of the year students are often having “accidents”. Do you have any spare school clothes your children have grown out of? We are in need of small shirts, shorts, undies and sox. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES & REMINDERS

SCHOOL CAR PARK

Parents are reminded that the school car park is for **STAFF PARKING ONLY.**
Parents are asked not to drop children off in the car park, park in or walk through the car park. The car park is out of bounds for students. This is for their safety.

EARLY LEAVERS

When signing children out early of an afternoon, for appointments etc, parents are asked to do so before **2.45pm.** Students will not be signed out after this time.
MESSAGES REGARDING LATE COLLECTION OF STUDENT
Please phone before 2.30pm with any messages for your child. We do our best to get messages to children but it would be appreciated if you could ensure there are alternative procedures in place.

PAYMENTS
All payments for excursions, camp, activities etc must be paid by the advised closing date and given to the class teacher. Please ensure you have enclosed the correct money (no change will be given) in an envelope clearly marked with child’s name, class, activity and amount. Sorry we do not supply envelopes.

Have you changed any of your contact details? If yes, please contact the office immediately. It is very distressing for students and staff when parents cannot be contacted when needed. Thank you.

P&C NEWS
Welcome back to 2013. We hope all the kids have settled in well and have a great year.
Our first meeting for the year is next Monday 18th February in the staffroom at 9.15am. We would love to see some new faces come along.

Uniform shop
The Uniform Shop will be open on Monday and Thursday 8.30-9am and 2.30-2.55pm. CASH ONLY.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

$4 Lunch Meal Deal
Option 1
1 x Cup of Potato Wedges
1 x Bag of Fresh Popcorn
1 x Drink – Small water or Popper

Option 2
1 x Chicken Burger
1 x Drink – Small water or Popper

Available from Monday 18/2/13
Until Friday 1/3/13 (2 Weeks)
Players required all age groups
U/6 to U/17’s & Seniors
Boys and Girls Rugby League

- Whether you register as an individual or family with multiple children, our Registration Fees are kept at a MINIMUM cost to benefit you.

- Drop into PCYC 30 Second ave Blacktown for registration and training details. Every Player receives complimentary PCYC Membership giving them access to the many PCYC Activities at all clubs across NSW for the nominated activity fee. Boxing, Judo, Cardio, Basketball and Gym to name a few.

- In 2012 all PCYC teams filled semi-final positions and won 2 premierships.

- 2013 should produce another exciting season so grab some friends and come along to an exciting and expanding club.

**It’s Time to become a PCYC SPARTAN**

**Honor and Respect**

Training starts for all teams February 5th 2013
Allen Robertson Res Vardy’s Rd Kings Langley

For all Registration and Training enquiries:
Phone 1438470599

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**DONNA JEAN’S DANCEFORCE**

‘New for 2013! • Enrol Now!’

- Toddlers “FAIRY BALLET” & “TINY GROOVERS”!!!
- Hip Hop • Contemporary • Jazz/Funk • Tap
- Classical Ballet (Cecchetti & R.A.D.) • Acrobatics
- Performance • SINGING • Boyz Breakdancing

“FUN, FRIENDLY, FAMILY Studio” for kids from 2 yrs

Guest Teacher
‘MARCO PANZIC’
“So You Think You Can Dance?”

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**MONIQUE’S GREATEST DANCEWEAR SHOP**

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