Principal’s Message
05.02.14

Dear Plumpton PS Community,

WELCOME BACK for the 2014 School Year!

We would especially like to welcome our new families to our community. Welcome to an exciting year for your children. The teachers have been working really hard and the students are thoroughly engaged in learning. It’s been great to see so many happy faces!

We welcome our new Kindergarten students and their families to our school! We hope you will enjoy being part of our school community and create many happy memories of your time here.

SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL

Supervision in the playground commences at 8.30 am. Children should not arrive at school before 8.30 am. However, children who do enter the playground prior to this time must sit quietly in the quadrangle until a teacher commences playground duty.

Before and after school childcare is available right here on the school grounds through the Plumpton Out of School Hours centre located in our hall. Please contact them on 9675 5299 for further details.

Parents are requested to collect their children promptly at the end of the school day at one of the exit gates in Bottles Road. Since teachers may need to attend courses away from our school your help in collecting your child as close as possible to 2.55pm will assist us, as well as be in the best interest of the children.

YOUR CHILD’S HEALTH

We welcome information from you about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops. We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your child’s health needs.
MOBILE PHONES
Whilst not encouraging students to bring mobile phones to school, Plumpton Public School accepts that some parents give their children mobile phones for ease of communication and perhaps a sense of personal safety.

Mobile phones must be handed in at the front office first thing in the morning, where they will be kept in a secure location during the school day, and collected at the end of the day.

The school accepts no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged phones in the instance that they have not been handed in.

BE ON TIME AT 5 TO 9!
It is important that our students attend school each day – BUT it is also important for them to “Be on time at 5 to 9”
We understand that students can be late once in a while, sometimes that can’t be helped. But simple things like having bags packed and uniforms and shoes ready the night before, can often make all the difference. We find that classes are much more settled if students are all here and ready to go.

‘Be on Time at 5 to 9’ means that students are able to line up with the rest of the school, listen to the morning messages, walk into their classrooms and take part in the morning routines. This time sets up the whole school day. Teachers can provide students with an outline of the day, give out any special instructions, explain what students will be doing, and then it’s straight into learning. The morning session really is prime time for learning – and we don’t want anyone to miss out.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
In the final newsletter for 2013, I stated that Plumpton P.S. has a school uniform policy developed in partnership with the community. This policy requires all students to wear the full school uniform.

A reminder to families that the uniform policy requires all students to wear black school shoes, in lace up, buckle or velcro. Uniform awards will be given out only to those students wearing the full school uniform.

It is an expectation of the school and community that this policy be followed. A Plumpton P.S. hat is also required for students to play in the unshaded areas. Sports shoes are acceptable to be worn on the designated sports days.

We look forward to a wonderful year of learning ahead – and to working in partnership with parents and caregivers for the success of our students.

Yours in partnership,

Mrs Maureen Johnson
Principal

Don’t forget: “Be on time at 5 to 9!”

‘BE SAFE’ near SCHOOL
Take care of the children at Plumpton P.S.
Drive carefully, drive slowly, and park safely.

BOOKPACKS
Bookpacks are now available for purchase.

Cost is $35 for Years 5 - 6
$30 for Years K - 4.

Money should be placed in an envelope with your child’s name, class, amount and what the money is for eg. Bookpack and given to your child’s class teacher. All money collected is used to purchase paper for the classroom, stationery and classroom resources for your child.
STUDENT BANKING
Student Banking will commence Thursday – 27 February, 2014.

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 Coordinator.

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.

This also applies for siblings who haven’t started school yet.

MESSAGES FROM THE NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES

Family Law Related Issues

We know that some families experience breakdown. In meeting our obligations to students and parents, the Department of Education relies on a number of basic principles. Among the most important is that schools’ decisions in relation to family issues will be based on what is considered to be in the best educational interests of the child. Also of paramount importance is the continued effective and efficient operation of the school.

We do not believe that schools are the place to resolve family disputes. Nor should school staff be involved in such disputes.

We have developed detailed guidelines to help schools deal with family law related issues. The guidelines are designed to balance the obligations and responsibilities of parents with the legal obligations of the school and its staff.

Parents have a responsibility to advise the school immediately if any change to family circumstances occur which has the potential to impact on the relationship between the school and the parents and/or students.

If court orders are obtained by one or both parents, a copy of the orders should be provided to the school as soon as possible. The school’s decisions will be consistent with the court orders.

Unless schools are informed otherwise (e.g. by providing a copy of the court orders), they will assume that both parents retain a shared and equal parental responsibility for their children. This means that the school will recognise that each parent has equal duties, obligations, responsibilities and opportunities in relation to matters involving their children's education at the school.
HEALTH TIP - Cordials, soft drinks and sports drinks

Cordials, soft drinks and sports drinks are high in sugar, and often contain artificial colourings and flavourings as well as caffeine. For these reasons, cordials, soft drinks and sports drinks should be reserved only for special occasions.

Too much of these drinks lead to excess consumption of sugar and kilojoules, which may lead to weight gain and tooth decay. Take a look at the sugar content found in these drinks:

Caffeine is a stimulant – drinking too much has been linked to:

- disturbed sleep
- calcium loss from bones
- stomach upsets
- anxiety
- bed wetting
- irritability
- headaches
- nausea

375mL can of soft drink contains 9-10 teaspoons of sugar and 49mg of caffeine
250mL tetra of fruit juice contains 5-6 teaspoons of sugar
300mL carton of flavoured milk contains 6-7 teaspoons of sugar
375mL can of flavoured mineral water contains 6-7 teaspoons of sugar
600mL bottle of sports drink contains 8-9 teaspoons of sugar and 80mg of caffeine

Water – contains ZERO sugar and ZERO caffeine!

SCHOOL PROCEDURES & REMINDERS

BIRTHDAYS
If you would like your child to celebrate their birthday with their class please only send in cupcakes (one for each student). No other party food is to be brought in. All other celebrations are to be kept at home with the family. Could you also supply serviettes. Before sending these in please speak to the class teacher a few days in advance.

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 LEAVING PROCEDURES
Parents and Carers MUST go to the office first before signing their child/children out early. You will be given an “Early Leavers” pass which must be given to the class teacher. You must also have a valid reason for taking your child/children from school early. This will then be recorded on our attendance computer system and may be audited by the Department of Education and Communities Home School Liaison Officer. If you go to the classroom before you go to the office your child will not be released without a pass. The safety of your children is paramount so please follow these steps. No early passes will be given after 2.45pm as this is too disruptive to the class.

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.
P&I NEWS

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop will be open Monday and Thursday 8.30-9am and 2.30-2.55pm
CASH ONLY

Interested in Dance or Cheerleading classes?
Millennium Dance Productions holds classes at Plumpton neighbourhood centre after school in all styles of dance, glee club and American cheerleading, pom and tumbling classes.
Classes start from as little as $5.00 and we take students as young as 2yrs old.
Casual classes and Performance classes available. Our most popular class Jazz/Funk/Hip Hop is filling up fast.
For more information please call or text Jo on 0413 755 528 OR check us out at www.mdpdancers.com.au
Classes start back Monday 10th February.

Glendenning Sparks Netball Club is a fun, friendly, family based club. We are currently seeking players from 4 years to seniors. Come along and make new friends while being active. We do offer payment plans. To Register please call Penny on 0433 654 385 or email us at sparksnetball@hotmail.com for more information.
DONNA JEAN'S DANCEFORCE

Now for 2014 - "Mum's & Bab's Class"
Toddler's "FAIRY BALLET" & "TINY GROOVERS"!!!
Hip Hop, Contemporary, Jazz/Funk, Tap
Classical Ballet (Ceccchetti & R.A.B.), Acrobatics
Performance "SINGING" Boys Breakdancing

"FUN, FRIENDLY, FAMILY
"3 Studio" for kids from 3 yrs

DONNA JEAN'S DANCEFORCE

2/24 Eddie Road, Minchinbury

9832 3688
donna@jeans.com.au

Players required all age groups 2014
U/6 to U/12 Boys and Girls Can Play Rugby League
Police Citizens Youth Clubs has something for everyone

+ All Under Fifteens must be a minimum 5 Years of Age to Play. Whether you are an individual or family with multiple children, our Registrations Fees are kept at a Minimum cost to handle you.
+ Every Player receives complimentary PCYC Membership giving them access to many PCYC Activities in Clubs across NSW for the whole of the club year.
+ Bowls, Boxing, Cricket, Futsal, Basketball, Gymnastics and Dancing to name a few.

+ 2014 U/6 Players are FREE.

X-Ray - minisculous.com.au/OAB/1.5

Before & After School Care
Plumpton Primary School Hall
33 Bottles Road, Plumpton

For bookings
phone 9675 5299

We're for children, NOT for profit.

ChildrenFirst is a growing network of services and centres dedicated to the nurture and care of children in their very early years. Parents just like you own and run ChildrenFirst. When you enrol your child you become part of our community and assist us to do the best we can for all our children.

For more information visit www.childrenfirst.com.au