Dear Plumpton Public School Community,

14 August 2014

SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Thank you to all of our staff and parents for your help with the athletics carnival – it was just fantastic. Thank you to our wonderful P&C for slaving over that hot BBQ on the day as well. It wouldn’t have been a success without the combined efforts of all. The students were enthusiastic participants and displayed great sportsmanship. Well done, everyone!

SOCIAL MEDIA

Some of the teachers have expressed concerns over the use of social media, in particular Facebook, by some of our students. In a world where friends are made with the click of a mouse, it’s probably not surprising that relationships can be easily damaged.

Researchers say many children won’t tell their parents about cyberbullying, fearing the parent will overreact, and either make matters worse or completely ban them from the internet or mobile phone.

Cyberbullying is defined as online harassment of fellow students, harassment of students by parents of other students (this is a police matter related to child protection), teasing, using offensive names or put downs, belittling others’ abilities or achievements, spreading rumours, ridiculing another’s appearance (to other students including online), degrading another’s race or culture, hurtfully excluding others from groups (which includes deliberately blocking someone to hurt them by excluding them from an online group).

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR A CHILD UNDER 13 YEARS TO BE ACCESSING AND USING FACEBOOK

No primary aged child should be using social media unless they are supervised and you know what they are doing or saying (that is, they are sitting beside you and you can see what they are doing). The police take a very dim view of parents who say things like ‘My child wouldn’t…’ or ‘I know my child and they would never…’ when in fact, the child has, could and would. The police are able to trace and retrieve messages on any social network site even if they have been deleted. Please be careful and be aware of what your child is doing on the internet.

If your child is enabled by you (that is, they have access to an internet enabled device and are using the internet without supervision) you may run the risk of legal action by another parent against you and your child (if over 10 years of age) if they are using it inappropriately.
IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
Most of you would be unaware that our teachers give up so much of their own time, before and after school, during recess and lunchtime, to run extra activities for the children. To name just three: Gardening with Mrs. Garcia, Drama with Miss James, and Citizenship with Mrs. Katon and Mrs. Bailey. I won’t go on; as there are many, many more to mention and I wouldn’t like to leave anyone out!

Over the coming weeks I would like to highlight some of these ‘extra’ activities to you – they are really worth acknowledging and celebrating. These efforts are part of the reason that Plumpton Public School is a truly great school.

Yours in partnership,

Ms Maureen Larkin
Principal
Be safe – Be respectful – Be a learner

CYBERBULLYING:
- Bullying that occurs online or via technology is called cyberbullying.
- Online relationships can be different to face-to-face relationships.
- Hurtful comments and embarrassing photos posted online are potentially there forever.
- Solutions to cyberbullying need a whole community approach, not just schools or parents working in isolation.
- Filters only block certain content and aren’t a solution to cyberbullying.
- Parents need to be aware of the technology their kids are using, and learn to use it as well.

TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY
In week 10 of Term 3, Plumpton Public School will be getting ready to participate in ‘International Talk Like a Pirate Day’ for the third year in a row. Students are invited to wear their pirate costumes on Thursday 18th September. We will be raising money for Childhood Cancer Support, so start collecting your coins. The class who bring in the most treasure (donated coins) on the day will receive ice blocks for the whole class.

SPECIAL SWIM PROGRAM
There are still places available for the Special Swimming Program that will run from the 1 December to the 12 December. These places are now being offered to Years 3 & 4. Thank you.

GALA DAY
Tickets for Gala Day can be purchased now at 50 cents each or 5 for $2. Gala Day will be held on the 12th September from 10am-12.30pm to raise money for Year 6 Farewell.
The Activities on the day will include:
Scones, Jam and Cream (4 tokens)
BBQ (5 tokens)
Can Stall (4 tokens)
Fairy Floss (5 tokens)
Jumping Castle (6 tokens)
Novelty Store (range from 4 tokens to 10 tokens)
Plaster Painting (2, 4 and 6 tokens)
Guessing Comp (2 tokens)
Face Painting (2, 3 and 4 tokens)
Lots more Games and activities

PAYMENTS
All payments for excursions, camp, activities etc must be paid by the advised closing date and put into the chute in the office counter. 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. Please use separate envelopes for each activity. Sorry we do not supply envelopes.
LOST PROPERTY
A reminder to parents to ensure that all school uniform items are clearly marked with your child’s name. Lunch containers and drink bottles also need to be labelled as well please.

P&C NEWS
We have had a busy few weeks with our BBQ on Open Day and running the canteen and BBQ at the Athletics Carnival.
A great big thank you to all our extra helpers at the Athletics Carnival, it’s great to see some new faces jumping in and lending a hand, it certainly is a huge help and as they say many hands make light work. Hopefully the extra help will continue as we work hard to raise funds for the school.

Our Open Day BBQ made a profit of $601 and Athletics Carnival profit was $1150. What a great effort. Thanks to everyone who contributed, all that money is going straight back into the school.

If you would like to know how the money is spent or have any suggestions or questions our next meeting is next Monday 18th August at 4.30 in the staff room.

By now you should all have your tickets for the Father’s Day raffle. Our Father’s Day stall is coming up on 3rd September with gifts ranging from 50c-$5. Helpers needed.

UNIFORM SHOP.
MONDAY AND THURSDAY 8.30-9AM AND 2.30-2.55PM.
CASH ONLY

Do you want to be an Aboriginal Foster Carer?
Community Services is looking for Aboriginal people willing to become a foster carer. You can be single, married, in a de facto or in a same sex relationship. You can be renting, buying or you may own your home. You can be working or not working.
As an authorised carer of a child or young person, you will receive ongoing support and you may be entitled to a carer allowance to assist you with providing care. Standard Care Allowances are detailed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children aged 0-4</th>
<th>Children 5-13</th>
<th>Children 14-15</th>
<th>Children 16-17</th>
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<tr>
<td>$455 p/f</td>
<td>$513 p/f</td>
<td>$688 p/f</td>
<td>$459 p/f</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information on becoming a foster carer please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member in the Aboriginal Foster Care Recruitment Team based at the Mt Druitt Community Services Centre on (02) 8887 7400 or you can email to james.conaty@facs.nsw.gov.au
KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT
FOR 2015

It’s that time of the year where we start taking enrolment applications for children commencing Kindergarten in 2015.

We need to have our anticipated student numbers reported to the Department of Education soon. Staffing is calculated on these anticipated numbers so it’s important that they are as accurate as possible.

If you have a child commencing Kindergarten in 2015, could you please request an enrolment form and have it returned to the office as soon as possible.

It would be appreciated if this information could be brought to the attention of any neighbours who have a child commencing Kindergarten next year. We appreciate your assistance.

GALLIPOLI PUBLIC CALL OUT
The Gallery is doing a call out for our 2015 Gallipoli Home Front exhibition on show 4 April – 24 May. Do you have a long lost relative or friend that had a connection to the Gallipoli campaign? We’re on the hunt for personal mementoes such as letters, photos, mouth accordions, pens, pocket knives, pipes, hats, or games. These personal effects will be on display alongside large scale drawings of the intimate spaces and circumstances soldiers lived in such as the trenches, fox holes and tents by acclaimed artist Catherine O’Donnell.

2015 is the 100th anniversary of the eighth month Gallipoli campaign and this exhibition aims to provide an intimate insight to the lives of the soldiers, and describe the tension of being at the war ‘front’ yet keeping a small piece of ‘home’ and identity with them – hence the title Home Front.

Please feel free to circulate to friends & family and contact the gallery if you need any further information.

Dimitry Mullane
Manager Communication & Public Program
Wed- Fri

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SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY HOTLINE 1300 880 021