Term 1, Week 4
Tuesday 17 February, 2015

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Attendance and Student Absences – New and Revised Government Procedures
If your child has missed school, you are required by law to inform the school within 7 days of the child’s first day of absence. Ideally written notification is made to the class teacher however a phone call to the school office can also be satisfactory. If your child is sick, a medical certificate from the doctor would also suffice. The note must include your child’s name, class, date of absence and a justified reason for the absence.

Absences for the following reasons cannot be justified absences and will most likely be recorded as unjustified:
- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding siblings
- Birthdays
- Haircuts
- Weather conditions (e.g. too hot, too wet)
- Airport visits for relatives
- Car trouble
- Other family members are sick
- Attending a school approved event with a sibling (not for themselves; e.g. to watch a sibling’s sporting event)

NB: Frequent partial absences (e.g. late arrivals) are now time cumulative and can add up to many full day unjustified absences.

Justified reasons for absences may include:
- Sick or infectious diseases
- Religious holidays
- Unavoidable medical appointment (please try to make appointments out of school hours)
- Urgent family situations (e.g. funeral….)

Children are not recorded as absent from school if they are:
- Representing the school (e.g. zone sport carnival)
- Attending Stewart House
- Attending an alternative school planned program

There have also been significant changes to applications for exemption from school. Previously, parents could apply for an approved exemption from school for travel and holidays.
- Travel and Family Holidays are no longer given an exemption from school attendance.
- The Principal cannot accept a reason for travel during the school term if it is not in the best interest of the student. Reasons must be specified on the application form and travel documentation such as an e-ticket or itinerary attached to the application.
- If the Principal approves the leave it will be recorded as Approved Leave and will be recorded against the child’s leave record. This type of leave is no longer an exemption from school attendance.
- If the Principal does not approve the leave it will be recorded as Unjustified Leave and will be recorded against the child’s leave record.

A poor record of unjustified absences may result in referral to the Home School Liaison Officer.

Mount Annan Challenge Walk: This will be held on Sunday, 8th March at Mt Annan Gardens. I will be entering and I encourage families to get involved. If you do choose to enter please register for the Currans Hill PS Team (Open) or children can register for Currans Hill PS (Primary). You never know, we may win the school event!
P&C Meeting: It was very pleasing to see many at the meeting last week. Among other things, we did discuss some ideas on homework and the main focus we believe homework should take. The P&C endorsed our thoughts and I thank Mrs Miller for presenting some of these ideas at the meeting. Homework will still be occurring for the children and we are aware that families and individual children have different needs and requirements for homework. Your child’s stage will give you more information regarding this shortly.

Mr Wray
Principal

CALENDAR TERM 1 - 2015

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>24/2</td>
<td>Environmentors 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 &amp; 27/2</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>5/3</td>
<td>Student Leaders to Parliament</td>
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<td>P&amp;C meeting</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who have reached the level of Principal's Award: Tyra Hale – 2C, Jake Webster – 1F, Connor Dawson – 3D, Cody Cooper – 3K.

Your award will be presented at your next scheduled assembly.

CAMPBELLTOWN PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOPS

Campbelltown Performing Arts High School will be running a series of gifted and talented performing arts workshops for students in years 4, 5 and 6. The workshops are aimed at students who have a keen interest and some experience in one of the areas offered – Dance, Drama, Music Vocal, Music Instrumental and Circus Arts. The workshops are a fun and interactive way for students to build their skills in these areas. Workshops are as follows:

- Circus Arts: Monday 23rd February 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Drama: Tuesday 24th February 9.30am – 3.00pm
- Dance: Tuesday 24th February 9.30am-3.00pm
- Music Vocal: Wednesday 25th February 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Music Instrumental: Wednesday 25th February 9.30am – 2.30pm

There is a $15.00 fee for each workshop. Spaces are limited. Experience is preferred in the areas of contemporary dance, vocal and instrumental to attend these workshops, but not essential for circus arts.

Please direct any enquiries to the Performing Arts Faculty via Sara Seton or Catherine Sanders on 02 4625 1403

“RED” MUFTI DAY – HEART KIDS – Thank You

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Red Mufti Day for Heart Kids. What a wonderful day we had. Due to your generosity we are able to forward $576.60 to this worthy cause. Well done Curran’s Hill. http://heartkidsnsw.org.au/

HEAD LICE

We have had quite a number of reported cases of head lice this year. We ask all parents to be vigilant in checking their child’s hair regularly and to treat with the appropriate shampoo if necessary.

PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS (POP)

Parents are reminded that it is now possible to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard debit or credit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school’s website by selecting the
tab $ Make a Payment. The school’s website address is printed at the top of the school newsletter.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, excursions, sales to students (e.g. book packs) and sport. There is also a category called “Other” which can be used to pay for items not covered in the previous headings.

It is a legal requirement that a signed permission slip for all activities is provided and the online receipt number should be written on the permission/payment slip before sending into school.

Please contact the school office if further information is required.

REMINDER: 2015 Book Pack/Voluntary School Contribution

Parents are asked to support the school and your child’s learning by purchasing a Book Pack for individual use at school. We would like to clarify the costs for this school year, due to some information being omitted from the new Kindergarten letters.

The cost of the book pack is $25 per student and payment will be expected as soon as possible in Term 1.

In addition to the Book Pack, the Voluntary School Contribution is set at $40 for one child, $70 for two children or $100 for three or more children. These contributions will be used to support the purchase of additional resources for all students to use in classrooms in all Key Learning Areas. Our apologies for any confusion.

If making payment online please tick voluntary contribution for contributions and select Other and enter: Book pack, for book pack payments.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening hours for the uniform shop are: Monday and Wednesday 8:45 – 9:15am, Friday 2:45 – 3:15.

The price of school caps is now $12 and school bags will be $50. All other prices have remained the same.

Price lists are available on our website or from the front office.

The Department of Education and Communities and Curran Hill Public School in no way endorses any of the products or services mentioned in the following advertisements. Their distribution with our Newsletter is a community service.

Inclusions with today’s newsletter:
- Songbirds Vocal Tuition
- Real Taekwon Do
- Utopia Music

Book Packs and Voluntary School Contribution 2015

1st Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
2nd Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
3rd Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
4th Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
I have enclosed $______________ being for Book Pack/s. I have enclosed $______________ being for Voluntary School Contribution. Payment has been online. Receipt number is: ____________________.

__________________________________     ____________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian           Date