Term 1, Week 2
Tuesday 2 February, 2016

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome back to all families for 2016 and a special welcome to the many new families to our school. We also welcome a new staff member in Mr Cisneros. Mr Cisneros joins us this year and will be part of our Special Education Team.

Swimming Carnival
Our carnival was held last Friday at Camden Pools. Very special thanks goes to Ms Ryan for organising the carnival day. We were very lucky to get through due to the approaching storm! Thank you also to the parents who assisted on the day. Your help was invaluable. Results will be finalised and the team selected to represent us at the Razorback Zone.

Classes for 2016
We have been able to form our classes now that we have our enrolments finalised. As previously mentioned, staff spend a great deal of time deliberating over placement of students into classes so as to optimise every student’s learning. Whilst our class numbers are directly related to specific enrolments, we do consider the learning needs and the social mix of the students.

If your child comes home a little upset or worried in the first few days with their class placement, please assist them by reassuring them that all will be fine and they will settle and enjoy their class. This not only helps their learning but builds resilience in your child.

We will hold a “Meet the Teacher” interview time in the coming weeks but if you have any important, urgent information to share with your child’s new teacher please make an earlier appointment.

Team Leaders for 2016
If you have any concerns regarding your child throughout the year then please make an appointment with your child’s teacher in the first instance. At times, you may need to discuss a matter with the team leader for your child’s grade. These are as follows:

Early Stage One (Kindergarten) – Mrs Riley
Year One (and 1/2F) – Mrs Balcon
Year Two – Mrs Hogg
Stage Two (Years 3 & 4) – Ms Ryan
Stage Three (Years 5 & 6 & 4/5G) – Mr Weir
Support Classes – Mrs O’Connor
Of course, Mrs Wilson and myself are also available if matters need to be discussed further.

P&C
Our P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday, 10th February at 7:00pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our P&C has worked very hard last year and support many programs and initiatives within the school. It is also a great place to meet new parents and find out a little more about the school. We look forward to seeing some new faces there next week.

Mr Wray
Principal

PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who have reached the level of Principal’s Award: Ruby Kaluzyn – 3C, Cameron Bowers – 2BK, Max Gorgens – 2H and Emily Lund – 4/5G.

Your award will be presented at your next scheduled assembly.

Uniform Shop Hours
Uniform shop hours are
Monday and Wednesday 8:45am – 9:15am
Friday 2:45pm – 3:15pm
2016 CLASS/STAFF OVERVIEW

Early Stage 1 – Stage Leader Mrs Riley
• KR – Mrs Riley
• KD – Miss Daly
• KF – Mrs Fleming
• KB – Miss Barrett

Stage 1 – Stage Leaders
Yr 1 (incl 1/2F) – Mrs Balcon
Yr 2 – Mrs Hogg
• 1B – Mrs Balcon
• 1H – Mrs Harrington
• 1O – Mrs O’Loughlan
• 1/2F – Ms Foster
• 2AB – Ms Aplin / Mrs Bui Viet
• 2H – Mrs Harris
• 2BK – Mrs Budd / Mrs Kemp

Stage 2 – Stage Leader Ms Ryan
• 3C – Mrs Cavanagh
• 3D – Mrs Down
• 3K – Mrs Kelly
• 3/4N – Mrs Narayan
• 4R – Ms Ryan
• 4W – Ms Wear

Stage 3 – Stage Leader Mr Weir
• 4/5G – Mrs Garney
• 5/6W – Mr Weir
• 5T – Mrs J Thompson
• 6B – Mrs Burke
• 6G – Mrs Grenfell

Support Unit – Stage Leader Mrs O’Connor
• 3-6C Mr Cisneros

• 2/3M Mrs Miller
• K – 6O Mrs O’Connor

Teacher Librarian: Mrs Johnson
Reading Recovery: Mrs Prakesh and Mrs Heath
Learning and Support Teachers and RFF: Mrs Hogg, Mrs Gawthorne, Mrs Quinn, Mrs Ward, Mrs Jarvis, Mrs Johnson.
General Assistant: Mr Herrmann

2016 PREPARATION/BOOK PACK

Parents are asked to support the school and your child’s learning by purchasing a Book Pack for individual use at school. Notes have been sent home with this newsletter.

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.

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

Compulsory School Attendance in NSW Schools

Under the Education Act (1990) all children from six years to 17 years of age are legally required to attend school every day. Recent changes to attendance requirements place obligations on schools to more closely monitor attendance and to take appropriate action if students are either not attending or are absent for reasons not justified by the school.

At Currans Hill Public School, we value good attendance from all students. Regular attendance is important because it helps your child:
• Maximise their learning opportunities
• Develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
• To learn the importance of punctuality
• Maintain healthy social relationships with their friends
• Develop a good working relationship with their teachers

Unfortunately habits of non-attendance tend to develop quickly and it is concerning, that if a child misses just 8 days a term, they
would miss more than one year of schooling by the end of primary school which then presents problems as they begin high school. The law requires that if your child is absent from school, you must inform the school as soon as possible and provide a legitimate reason for your child’s absence. This can be done by
• Sending a note on your child’s return to school
• Contacting through email /fax
• Visiting the school

Parents / Caregivers should note that schools are required to record absences that are unexplained or unjustified and may also be required to report these to various welfare agencies, who may choose to follow this up with parents.

Your child’s education is important. Please contact the school if there are problems in getting your children to school or if there are concerns you have about them at school. A positive partnership between home and school in this area is of great value to the school but most importantly to the success and quality of your child’s education.

Tom Pastor
Home School Liaison Officer

ANAPHYLAXIS – Severe Allergic Reaction

Some children in our school have an allergic condition that makes them especially sensitive to certain foods. Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life threatening allergic reaction to certain foods. Peanuts, nut products and eggs are the main hazards. Eating or touching these foods can cause lips, eyes and airways to swell which may result in significant difficulties in breathing. We request parents inform the school immediately if your child has such a condition so a Health Plan can be developed. In many cases an EpiPen is required. We also ask the community’s support in caring for all children’s needs. Therefore we ask that NO peanut butter, peanut biscuits, cakes with peanuts, peanut cracker dips, Nutella or eggs be brought to school. Our canteen supports this request and we ask all parents to help us keep all children safe at our school.

KINDERGARTEN

2016 Kindergarten started on Monday. All have settled in well and looking forward to a great first year of school. Parents please note that Thursday will be Sports day, so students are to come in their sport uniform and sport shoes commencing this week.

HOUSE CAPTAINS

House Captain badges will be presented to the students at our Primary assembly this Friday the 5th February at midday. Parents are invited to attend to pin the badges on the student’s shirts.

Sport News – Primary Tennis Trials

Talented, competition players are invited to trial for a place in the Sydney South West PSSA team to attend the State Tennis Carnival in Tweed Heads in May.
Date: Wednesday 2nd March
Time: 9am – 2:30pm
Where: West Tennis Club, 16 Old Leumeah Rd, Leumeah

Further details and permission notes are available from Mrs Kelly.

Swimming Carnival

Our Swimming Carnival was held last Friday at Camden Pool. It was a great day of competition and fun. A big thank you to all the parents who assisted us on the day, especially Sarah Ditton and Warren McCarthy. If the parents didn’t help us with timekeeping it would not be possible for the carnival to run smoothly.

Our ribbons and Age Champion medals will be handed out at this week’s Primary Assembly. If your child was successful in gaining a place on the CHPS Swim Team for the Zone Carnival they will receive a note next week. The Zone Carnival will be held on Thursday 25th February (freestyle and relays) and Friday 26th February (individual medley and strokes) at Picton Pool.
Ms Ryan

Currrans Hill Netball Club

Currrans Hill Netball Club registrations days will be held at Kirkham Netball Courts Clubhouse on Saturday 6th February between 9am – 1:00pm. For further information please contact Sherrie Tuerlings on 0488 218 324.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school office is open during the following hours:
Monday: 8.30am – 3.15pm  
Tuesday: 8.30am – 3.15pm  
Wednesday: 8.30am – 3.15pm  
Thursday: 9.00am – 3.15pm  
Friday: 8.30am – 3.15pm

Thursday morning an all school staff meeting is held from 8:30am therefore there is a later opening time on this day.

NEWSLETTERS ONLINE
As started in Term 4 last year we will be continuing with the online newsletter which will be emailed to families each week commencing next Tuesday. This will have many benefits, apart from helping the environment and not using as much paper, the electronic newsletter will be able to provide photo slideshows have files attached for notes and events that are coming up and be generally more interactive.

If you are new to the school and have already provided your email address in your enrolment details you will automatically be added to the distribution list. If you are unsure please contact the office as soon as possible.

If you are unable to receive the newsletter online please contact the office to arrange a paper copy.

SCHOOL BELL TIMES
8.30am  
Children are provided with teacher supervision in the playground.

9.00am  
School commences. Students line up in their designated class areas. Regular “on time” attendance at school is of the utmost importance in children being successful learners.
Students arriving after 9.00am must report to the office for a Late Pass.

11.00am-11.50am Lunch  
Classes eat together under the supervision of their class teacher (10 minutes.)
Play time Teachers provide supervision for students throughout all play times.

1.20pm – 1.45 Recess

3.00pm Classes are dismissed at the conclusion of the school day.

Families are reminded that it is not the responsibility of teachers to provide supervision for students after 3.00pm. Families who will be arriving late MUST ring the school. Young children can become highly anxious and upset and a simple phone call will allow your child to be re-assured.

Toys ‘N’ Tucker
Thank you to everyone that participated in the Toys ‘N’ Tucker donations at the end of last year. As a combined effort Toys ‘N’ Tucker were able to provide Christmas food and gifts to thousands of families who otherwise would have gone without.

The combined effort included approximately 100 Tons of donations, 5 vans which travelled 14,000kms over 5 weeks and delivered 3000 food hampers and 2617 toy hampers.

Thank you to the Currans Hill community for their contribution to this effort.

BIRTHDAY CAKES
As you are aware, we have a number of anaphylactic children at the school. We have introduced several measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of these students in the school setting. Further to this, if your child wishes to celebrate their Birthday at school, instead of sending in a cake or cupcakes that may contain eggs we would like to encourage parents to provide a small treat such as lollipops, ice blocks or a bag of lollies (eg The Natural Confectionary Company).

Inclusions with today’s newsletter:
- Book / Pack School Contribution