Planning for 2015–2017

The current School Plan concludes at the end of this year and with this in mind all staff, students and our community will shortly commence a consultative process working towards the implementation of a new school plan covering the next three year period. An important aspect relating to the value and validity of this planning process will be ensuring that all stakeholders within our school community have the opportunity to contribute to the development of our key priorities and strategic directions for the next three years.

To start this process, we will be organising an informal coffee and chat where all parents / carers will be given the opportunity to participate. This is to evaluate the progress we made in the last three years and identify focus areas for the future. This will ensure that all parents have the opportunity to have a say and make recommendations for the future. A note will be sent out advising you of this date.

Bullying

Misunderstandings and arguments are pretty common in the playground. Children are still developing social skills and learning how to communicate with others. Not every incident or disagreement that upsets a student can be defined as bullying – sometimes it’s a one-off problem or a genuine misunderstanding. Bullying is different.

Bullying is a deliberate and repeated abuse of power of one student over another. It can be verbal, physical or psychological abuse that is intended to cause harm. Bullying is not a problem isolated to school yards. It can happen anywhere that kids socialise, including online. It’s a community issue, which is why parents have such an important role to play in resolving this kind of negative and very damaging behaviour. Unfortunately, parents often don’t hear about their child’s problems until the issue has really escalated and their child has been repeatedly harassed and hurt.

If your child is not one to talk openly – some of the signs that may indicate there is a problem are:

- Sudden physical pain – like stomach aches or headaches that keep them from school
• Finding it difficult to get out of bed or not wanting to go to school at all
• A change in their demeanour. Are they more withdrawn than usual? Do they look stressed or really miserable?
• Are they much angrier than normal? Is your child having trouble containing his or her emotions?
• Or perhaps you’ve noticed a sudden decline in academic performance?

Bullying is something that we take very seriously at Sherwood Grange and we encourage parents and or students to report this to a teacher as soon as possible.

It is imperative that you do not approach other students in the playground to discuss these matters. Please see your child’s class teacher or an executive member to look into your concerns. We appreciate your support in this matter.


School Safety – morning time

There are some concerns about students arriving to school well before the 8:25am morning bell. Please, a kind reminder to all parents that students are not to arrive to school until the first bell at 8:25am. There are no teachers on duty until this time.

Trespassers on School Property

Each Monday morning Mr Steven (cleaner) arrives to school to find broken windows, rubbish bins tipped over or evidence of people being in the school grounds. If you see any trespassers in the school out of hours we would appreciate a call to school security.

I would like to thank the Williams family for completing a letter drop to all our friendly neighbours asking them to please contact School Security if they see trespassers.

Premier’s Spelling Bee

Good luck to Erin C, Zoe E, Louise T and Abdullah A who will be representing Sherwood Grange Public School for the 2014 Premier’s Spelling Bee at the Regional Final at Carlingford West Primary School on Tuesday 9th September.

Online Payments

Just a reminder that parents are now able 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 credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting $ Make a payment.
When you access the $Make a payment you must enter:

- the students name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the students name, and
- date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number. These are not used at our school, please leave blank.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.

You can access the school website at: http://www.sherwoodgr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

Parking safely near the school

We understand that at times parking at the school to pick up your children can be a frustrating experience. Parking is very limited due to the Bus Zone and also because of our No Stopping areas. We do appreciate your patience in this matter and do request that all drivers please follow the road and parking rules that are now displayed on our school fence. The rules are in place to keep our students safe.

Upcoming Events – Term 3

Week 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9/9</td>
<td>Regional Spelling Bee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10/9</td>
<td>Year 3 and 4 excursion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sydney West Athletics</td>
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Week 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16/9</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17/9</td>
<td>Coin Line</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19/9</td>
<td>Last day of school for Term 3</td>
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</table>

Term 4 Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 6/10</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7/10</td>
<td>Students return to school</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Term 4 Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13/10</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14/10</td>
<td>Book Swap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15/10</td>
<td>Year 6 Holroyd Sustainability Expo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 16/10</td>
<td>K–2 Music Excursion</td>
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</table>
‘The purpose of education is not to prepare students for the world we grew up in but for the world they will inherit’ (John Dewey)

Keep Smiling 😊

Ms Karen Macphail

Athletics Update:

Well done to all of the students who represented the school at the Merrylands/Parramatta Zone Athletics Carnival. Our representatives had a fantastic time doing their best in all events and proudly wearing the Sherwood Grange colours.

Congratulations to the following students who will be representing the zone at the Regional Athletics Carnival on the 10th of September:

Isabella C – 8yr 100m

Aleena C – 11yr 100m and 11yr 200m
  11yr High Jump, Long Jump
  11yr Shot Put

Alex F – 11yr Discus

Papi A – Jnr Shot Put

Dominic Y – 11yrs Shot Put

Trey H – Jnr Shot Put

Good luck to these wonderful athletes!

Miss Shearer

Cupcake Stall Success

Our Year 6 students would like to thank all the boys, girls and community members from Sherwood Grange who came and bought a cupcake during our cupcake sale on Tuesday 26th August 2014.

A very special thank you must also go to all the mums, dads and carers who baked or supplied the delicious cakes. We would also like to thank the Year 5 students who also generously donated cupcakes.

We are proud to announce that we were able to raise $472.00 which will go towards our end of year celebrations including the Year 6 Farewell.

Mr Shearer and Miss Montgomerie

(Year 5 and 6 Teachers)
Reader of the Week

We are introducing a ‘Reader of the Week’ at Sherwood Grange to encourage children to read at home as well as at school to promote a life-long love of reading. Did you know that reading at home is just as important as reading at school? It’s also a lot of fun. Do you come from a family of readers?

Here are our Readers of the Week, Kalliope and Harry, reading for fun with their family.

Kalliope

When do you read?
Usually I would read independently at home on my bed. I love reading at home because you get to do it as long as you want.

What do you enjoy reading?
Some books I like reading are: the Percy Jackson series, the Heroes of Olympus series, Dork Diaries and so many other books.

Harry

When do you read?
At home every night before bed, mum reads me a chapter or two of ‘The World’s Greatest Underachiever takes on the Universe’, and sometimes I read to my older sister. I love reading because I learn new words that I can then use in my writing.

What do you enjoy reading?
Some books I like reading are: the Timmy Failure series, Zac Power and Boy vs Beast.

It’s good to read because nobody in a book will judge you of who you are, and they can make your imagination grow bigger.

What parents can do at home to help their children with reading

- Read aloud to your child. It helps them to learn about the language of books and will encourage them to enjoy books and reading.
- Read to your child in your home language if your first language is not English.
- Make reading enjoyable and talk about books, magazines and computer stories that you have read together.
Try not to let television intrude on reading time. Make a special time for reading with your child, away from interruptions.

Listen to your child read as often as you can, every day if possible, even if only for a short time.

Give books in print or electronic form as treats and presents.

Things to remember about reading

- The goal of reading is always to make sense of what is read.
- Try to be interested, supportive and enjoy the time together.
- Read with your child anywhere and at any time; don’t forget that many everyday experiences provide opportunities to put reading and writing into action.
- Visit and use a library near you. Borrow books for yourself as well as for your child.
- Talk to your child’s classroom teacher or the principal for further help and advice.


Multicultural Public Speaking Regional Finals

On Wednesday the 27th August, I competed in the regional finals of the Multicultural Public Speaking Competition. I practised my speech every day to make sure it was perfect. On the way there I had lots of butterflies in my tummy. I knew that it was going to be a very tough competition.

When the speaker before me finished and everybody clapped I walked up the aisle.

The first word came out of my mouth and I got more confident and finished off with a strong ending. When my name was called for the impromptu speech, the butterflies were flying like crazy, but when I saw the topic, ‘facing your fears’, I knew what I was going to talk about. Everything was going to be fine. I even made up a joke and everybody laughed. I got a big clap at the end and my mum was very proud of me. Even though I didn’t win I was very proud of myself. I can’t wait for next year’s Multicultural Public Speaking Competition.

By Elianna

Library News

What a fantastic Book Parade we ended up having! Even though the rain tried to beat us, we managed a great day with some fantastic costumes from the students and staff! Thank you everyone who participated. I hope you all enjoyed yourselves.

The Book Fair was a great success, raising a lot of money for the Library with which I can purchase many new books. I hope everyone managed to visit and find a book to buy.

The colouring competition winning entries are on display in the library so try to visit to see the beautiful work. The winners were Lucas, Ali, Chelsea, Navid, Wai Yu, Elianna, Laura, Jollee, Temaleti, Chad and Amelia. I hope you all enjoy your prizes.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge has finished for this year. Certificates will be handed
out in December. Well done to all the students who completed the challenge!

It has been a very busy term in the library but I hope it has been a fun one for everyone!

Mrs Parnis Teacher Librarian
Judging from the smiley faces of our audience, we could tell that they had an amazing time watching us perform astoundingly. Overall we had an outstanding night at the Opera House!

Zoe and Alyssa

A huge thank you to Mrs Chisholm, Miss Kim, Miss Reinhard and Miss Bradshaw for their talent, dedication and commitment.

Our Spectacular 2014

On Tuesday 2nd September 2014 the choir and dance group went to the Opera House. It was a remarkable night of excitement where the choir sang 12 songs 100% perfectly while the dance group danced flawlessly through the night.

It was a long journey to the Opera House on a bus and a train but we got there in no time. When we got there the dance group got to watch some of the astonishing performances while the choir walked tirelessly to and on the Harbour Bridge, it was like a mini excursion.

Later that day both the dance group and choir had to do their rehearsal before they went for ice cream at Gelatissimo and an ice cream stand.

At five o’clock, we all went to eat dinner at Appetitos, some people had scrumptious tomato pizza and others had the delicious chicken schnitzel. We thanked the chef Tim for our delicious meals and our waiters for looking after us.
Debating News

On Thursday 28th of August the debaters went to compete against Guilford Public School in a challenging debate. The topic was ‘All schools should give every primary student an iPad’. The debaters prepared some rebuttals and excellent speeches which led them to victory. Well done debaters!

Ms D Montgomerie

P & C News

Father’s Day Stall

Thanks to all the wonderful helpers who gave up their time to help run the stall at school. We hope that all the Dad’s and Grandad’s enjoy their gifts.

Coin Line

Our major fundraiser for Term 3 will be the annual Coin Line, this is going to be held on Wednesday 17th September. Please ask mum or dad if you can start collecting some spare change and gold or silver coins, maybe offer to do some extra jobs to help raise some more pocket money. There are two trophies awarded for classes with the longest coin line length, one for K-2 and one for 3-6. There are also two parties for the classes who raise the most money. So please start collecting your coins.

Payments to the P & C

The P & C cannot accept any payments through the school’s online payment system. Please ensure that payments are still made through the Blue Box and also with exact money as we are not able to give change.

Uniform Shop

Just a reminder the Uniform Shop operates on Friday morning from 8.30am till 9.15am and can only accept cash or cheque for payment. Credit Cards cannot be accepted. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Family Portrait Fundraiser

The P & C are trying to organise a Family Portrait Day, notes have been sent home recently. If you are interested please send the form and payment to the office by Friday 19th September, 2014. The sitting would take place in Term 4 on a Sunday (date to be confirmed if we have the numbers). The fee for this sitting is $15 and you
will receive a 15” x 8” photograph. Any more photos will be at an extra cost.

Important Dates to Remember

P & C Meeting - Tuesday 16th September
Coin Line - Wednesday 17th September
P & C AGM - Tuesday 21st October

Help care for our environment!

Sherwood Grange is committed to helping the environment. We are encouraging parents / caregivers to use our website to view such things as notes as well as our monthly newsletter.

In our pursuit to save paper we are giving parents the option of opting out in receiving a hard copy of our newsletter. Our newsletter will always be available on our school’s website at:


Please indicate this by returning the slip below.

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| Name: _______________
| Eldest Child: _______
| Class: ______________|

I wish to opt out of receiving the hard copy of the Sherwood Grange newsletter.

I will be accessing the school’s website to view the newsletter.