Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Making a Difference Together

Last Thursday we held a mufti day / crazy hair day to support Brendan and his family. Brendan is one of our wonderful Year 4 students who is currently going through treatment for Leukaemia. I know I say this a lot but I am so humbled to be a part of such a caring and compassionate community. Together we have raised an astonishing $1450. This included:

- A parent donating $200
- 3 parents donating $100 each
- Two workmen who just happened to be working at the school on the day donated $20 each

These are examples of how wonderful and giving people can be. Of course money isn’t the only way we can support Brendan. I know Mrs Upsall’s friends have been helping her in any way they can, students have been writing cards, teachers have been visiting him at home and generally everybody has been offering their love and positive thoughts.

Thank you to all the community for rallying together to support the Upsall Family.
Lightning and Thunder Storms

As you are aware we had quite a nasty storm on Wednesday afternoon at home time. If there is lightning close by please feel free to come and wait in a safe spot inside the school. We will do everything we can to make sure that all parents / carers and students remain safe.

School Planning

Next week the school executive will meet to look at staffing and classes for 2015. This is the first in a series of planning sessions that will occur between now and 2015 and will provide a scaffold that can be adjusted and amended as the need arises. The things the school executive considers in the process are teacher experience, matching student need, numbers in each stage/grade, distribution of boys and girls and available resources. Our additional resources include our Learning and Support Teacher and School Learning Support Officers, our English/ Additional Language/Dialect (EALD), our counsellor, Reading Recovery Teacher, Librarian and Administrative staff. Many of these positions are based on school numbers and we plan on predicted staffing levels.

The executive will also look at roles in 2015 and the areas of curriculum they will lead for the school. As the new syllabuses continue to be implemented over the next few years it is critical that adequate planning and professional learning is provided.
to all staff to ensure quality delivery to the students.

Planning 2015

There are a number of requests we make of you to assist us with planning for a smooth transition to the next school year:

- If your child is not returning to Sherwood Grange in 2015, we would appreciate this advice in writing so we can plan our classes effectively.
- If you will be missing the start of the school year, (due to extended holidays, unavoidable commitments) and if you know your child will be returning after day 1 of Term 1, 2015 (28/1/15 for years 1-6 2/2/15 for Kindergarten) please send a note to the office letting us know as this unavoidable absence could potentially affect our enrolments.

P&C AGM

I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to Mrs Suzie Williams, Mrs Julie Collins and Mrs Vanessa Kerr who have stepped down from their executive P&C positions. They have and I know will continue to work tirelessly to support our students. Together with other P&C members, they have not only managed to install whiteboards across all our classrooms but also provide our students with great opportunities such as discos, icy poles and many sausage sizzles. What an amazing effort! Congratulations though must go to our new P&C executive:

- Leah Archer (President)
- Nancy Keasbery (Vice President)
- Danielle Achikian (Secretary)

Of course we must also thank Mrs Karen Yadran and Mrs Sue Salem who are continuing with the very demanding job of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. Thank you also to Vanessa Kerr and Julie Collins who will be continuing their fabulous work in the uniform shop.

It has been so fabulous to work with such a dedicated group of parents who like the staff want the very best for each and every child.

Camp Quality Puppet Show

We are so appreciative of Camp Quality coming out to present a puppet show on Wednesday. The puppets had a unique way of building trust and engaging children quickly so they could address the real issues and dispel concerns regarding contact with children who have cancer. Importantly, the characters in the show helped children understand how their actions impact other
children by reinforcing anti-bullying and providing practical things children can do to be a supportive friend or classmate. At the end of the show children were able to ask questions and discuss their concerns and emotions.

XO Laptops

You would have received a note this week regarding the school giving parents the opportunity to buy an XO laptop for their child to use as part of our Yrs. 3 – 6 BYOD policy. Just a reminder that all K-2 students will have access to a device as we are purchasing one per K-2 child. My apologies as it did not have a due date on the note but we need to finalise our order numbers by Wednesday 19th November so all payments will need to be made by this date. No payments after this time will be accepted.

Road Safety – Cumberland Highway

I have had some parent concerns regarding the crossing lights on the Cumberland Highway. One of the issues is that the green walking light does not seem to go for very long and for some of our children with little legs this does not give them enough time to cross the double road. I am currently working with Nicole from Holroyd Council putting together a submission for RMS to extend the length of time the green walking light flashes. I will keep you updated on this matter.

Twitter

Sherwood Grange now has a twitter account to showcase the wonderful things we are doing at the school. Please feel free to follow us @Sherwood_Grange
Mrs Suzanne Matherson

Thursday 20th November will signify one year since Mrs Matherson sadly passed away. In honour of her memory Mrs Chisholm organised the school to donate to Mrs Matherson’s favourite charity ‘Operation Christmas Child’. Thank you to all parents who contributed to this fabulous cause.

We will also be holding an extended morning assembly on Tuesday 18th November to say a few words about Mrs Matherson. A tree will also be planted in her honour on this day.

Upcoming Events – Term 4

Week 6

Monday 10/11
Tuesday 11/11
Wednesday 12/11

Year 5 to Merrylands HS
Remembrance Day
Jump Off Day
Holroyd City Council to work with Stage 3

Week 7

Tuesday 18/11

Responsible Pet Ownership K-2
Extended morning assembly in honour of Mrs Matherson.

Wednesday 19/11
Friday 21/11

Stage 3 Camp begins
Stage 3 Camp finishes

Week 8

Wednesday 26/11
Thursday 27/11

Year 5 Speeches
Disco

Week 9

Monday 1/12

Swim School Starts
Book Swap

Week 10

Tuesday 9/12
Wednesday 10/12

Presentation Evening
Year 6 Farewell

Week 11

Monday 15/12
Tuesday 16/12
Wednesday 17/12

Picnic Day
Talent Quest
Last Day of School

Education is not the filling a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

Ms Karen Macphail
Relieving Principal
Here are our Readers of the Week, Alexia and Aiden, reading for fun.

Alexia

When do you read?
Reading is my favourite thing to do so I read all of the time. I read before bed every night and I sit with my mum on the weekends and read my books when she’s reading hers.

What do you enjoy reading?
I love reading chapter books. The one I’m reading now is the Baby Sitters Club: Karen’s Sleepover. We bought a whole set of Baby Sitter’s Club books at a market today. Matilda by Roald Dahl is my favourite book ever!!! I dressed up as Matilda for Book Week this year.

Aiden

When do you read?
I read at night time. First mum and I read together then I read independently before I go to sleep. I also read to my baby sister.

What do you enjoy reading?
I enjoy reading the Weirdo series by Anh Do. Weirdo was so good I read the whole book in one night. I have also been reading the Rascal series by Paul Jennings.

2015 Student Leadership Team

At Sherwood Grange Public School, all of our senior students are seen as leaders and are expected to set the standard of behaviour across our school.

In 2015, the Student Leadership Team will consist of the top 8 students as elected by the student community: 2 captains and 6 prefects (irrespective of gender). This is in line with our Student Leader Policy (which
can be accessed in full on our school website).

The 2014 Student Leadership Team

Jump Rope Skipping Workshop

On 28<sup>th</sup> October, Mel from the Heart Foundation came to teach us some skipping techniques. It was a blast. We learnt Criss Cross, the Double Jump and the Pretzel. Thanks to Miss Shearer for organising this great event. Written by Sadaf and Lucia.

Zooper Doopers

Year 6 will be selling Zooper Doopers for 50 cents at lunchtime whenever there is a particularly hot day. This may not always be possible, but we will endeavour to do so to the best of our ability. These are a water based ice block in a variety of flavours.

Wherever possible we would appreciate if the children have the correct money.

Library news

Term 4 is here once again and the end of year is fast approaching.

Congratulations to the many K–2 students who have filled their orange borrower cards and earned a lucky dip prize and don’t forget to try to return your library books each week to earn a pink certificate and be entered onto the Library Borrowers’ Wall of Fame.

As usual the first 4 classes to have all their books returned at the end of the year will earn a special treat for the school picnic, so if you have an overdue book, search EVERYWHERE to find it and return it to the library!

Yours in reading,

Mrs Parnis Teacher Librarian
League Tag day

On Thursday 23rd October 4 teams participated in the Parramatta Area League Tag Gala Day. The 4 teams (Senior Boys, 2x Senior mixed and Junior mixed) all played fantastically on the day and showed great sportsmanship with true Sherwood Grange behaviour and values.

It was a scorching hot day but we all had a lot of fun and managed to win quite a few games.

The senior boys team played in a fierce competition and managed to win one of their games. The senior mixed (a) team won 2 games and lost 2 games. The senior mixed (b) had one win, one draw and one loss. The highlight of the day was the junior mixed team who managed to win all of their games and finish top of their pool.

Well done to everyone who participated.

Mr D. Shearer and Miss Yousif

P&C News

P&C AGM Meeting

The P&C held our annual AGM on Tuesday 21st October. The Executive Committee was elected and is as follows:

President – Leah Archer
Vice President – Nancy Keasbery
Treasurer – Karen Yadran
Assistant Treasurer – Sue Salem
Secretary – Danielle Achikiian

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th November at 6:30pm in the Staff Room. If you are interested please come along to the meeting to have your say. We would love to see any new faces. A meeting agenda will be available on the P&C Facebook page.

School Community Survey for 2015

A survey went home seeking your input into the P&C’s strategic plan for 2015. Thank you to those families who have already returned it. The information you provide us in this survey allows us to make better informed decisions as to how we can better serve the school community. All questions are optional. Please return the completed surveys to the front office prior to November 17th to allow for the data collection needed prior to the next P&C meeting.
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.

Facebook Group
If you aren’t already a member of the P&C’s Facebook page be sure to join. It is a great way to keep up to date with events at the school as well as get to know other Sherwood Grange families. The group address is https://www.facebook.com/groups/673141799436361/

FREE Book Swap
Due to the overwhelming success of the book swap held in October, the P&C will be holding another on Monday 1st December. This book swap is not a fundraising measure, but has been organised to promote reading and literacy amongst students. Simply bring in an old book and swap it for a new one.

Christmas Raffle
A note will be sent out regarding the Christmas Raffle asking for donations and also for families to support by purchasing tickets. Boxes will be placed in each classroom for children to place their donations into. We are trying to make this as big as last year with hopefully around 40 prizes.

Dates to Remember
Family Portrait Day – Sunday 16th November
P&C Meeting – Tuesday 18th November
School Disco – Thursday 27th November
Free Book Swap – Monday 1st December
Christmas Raffle – Friday 12th December

School Disco
Our School Disco is going to be held on Thursday 27th November. The entry fee is $10 per child or $25 for three or more children (from the same family) attending. Entry fee covers a sausage sizzle, drink, entry to the disco and unlimited water. The P&C will also be selling ice blocks, extra drinks and various glo items on the night.

The disco is split into two parts:
• K-2 starts at 4.30pm until 6.00pm
• 3-6 starts at 6.30pm until 8.00pm
We will also have the photo booth set up and students can purchase a photo on the night if they wish for $1.
6/5W writing lesson
BYOD implementation in 6/5W

Gymnastics Program

Year 5 Leadership Training