Our ‘School Purpose’

The purpose of Sherwood Grange Public School is to meet the academic, social, physical and emotional needs of every child in our care.

Quality teaching is the focus of every classroom as we strive to maximise outcomes within a supportive and engaging learning environment.

Our school promotes and fosters the important social values of: respect and tolerance; care and compassion; integrity; fairness; excellence; and responsibility.

We strive to prepare our students to be active, informed and responsible citizens of the 21st Century.
Bedtime

Our teachers have noticed that many children appear to be very tired, even at the start of the day. A school day is “full on” and children should be well rested when they come to school in order to participate in a day full of learning and fun.

I strongly suggest that you have well established evening routines and clear expectations about ‘bedtime’. Of course there will be exceptions such as family celebrations and other outside commitments, but as much as possible children should have a set time when they go to bed on ‘school nights’. Sharing a book together is the perfect way to settle a child and spend some special time together before your child drifts off to sleep.

Staff Changes

A number of weeks ago we embarked on the Merit Selection process to fill a vacant teacher position at our school. I would like to thank Mrs Edwards for taking such good care of 5/4E while we undertook this important process.

I am delighted to announce that Miss Esther Kim was the successful applicant and has now been permanently appointed to our school. She is full of enthusiasm and her passion for teaching is clearly evident.

Miss Kim has quickly settled in as the new teacher of 5/4E. She will also be looking after our school choir with Mrs Chisholm.

Morning Assembly and Routines

The Morning Assembly routine plays an important role in helping students settle down in preparation for the day. It is expected that students move to their lines in a calm manner at the first bell and then wait silently for the second bell. Once the announcements are made students follow their teacher to classrooms in an orderly manner so they can begin their lessons as quickly as possible with a minimum of fuss.

To help this routine run smoothly I ask parents who are present in the morning to say their final goodbye to their child before students move to lines at the first bell. Please do not follow the class as they move towards their classroom or wait at the steps to make eye contact or say goodbye.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Parking and Safety Concerns

We ask that you **show consideration** and **follow road rules** when dropping off and collecting your children from school.

Many concerned parents have approached me to express dismay at what they have seen. Actions that have been reported to me include:

- parking in or across driveways
- doing u-turns over unbroken lines
- speeding through the 40km zone
- stopping in a “NO STOPPING” zone to drop off or collect a child
- stopping in a “BUS ZONE” to drop off or collect a child
- stopping at the crossing for a child to get into the car
- parking in the designated drop off and pick up zone

**All of the above are illegal and put children at risk.**

Please, please, please do the right thing …. It might take you a little longer, but could save a child’s life.

Holroyd Council parking officers and local police regularly monitor and patrol surrounding streets. I know that no one likes to be issued with an infringement notice/ticket, but the parking officers and the police have my full support because student safety must be our highest priority.

**Student Leadership Team**

Our Student Leadership Team received their badges at an Induction Ceremony at a recent Morning Assembly. They then welcomed members of their family into the Staffroom for a special morning tea. They are already busy with their assigned duties including ringing the bell, raising and lowering the Australian Flag and collecting the mail. You will have noticed that our School Captains are doing an excellent job hosting our Morning Assembly. Congratulations Ryan, Kalliope (School Captains), Aleena, Chad, Daniel, Elizabeth, Haris and Kate.
House Captains

Our House Captains also received their badges recently and wore them proudly at the Swimming Carnival. Not only did many of them compete in races, they also led their house team in ‘war cries’ and helped out wherever needed.

Well done Nathan, Hannah (Kenyons); Conor, Claudia (Woodpark); Lara, Abdullah (Bruce); Bailey and Asha (Sherwood).

Voluntary School Contributions

All Public Schools in NSW can request Voluntary School Contributions to enhance their educational and sporting programs. Some people might use the term ‘School Fees’, however, Voluntary School Contributions are as the name indicates …voluntary.

I am aware that we have organised a number of ‘outside of the classroom’ activities this term that incur a cost. I have allowed these to go ahead because I believe they will be engaging experiences for our students and represent value for money.

For this reason we have not officially asked you for the Voluntary School Contribution this term. When you are in a position to pay, the requested amounts are:

$35 one child  $55 two children  $70 three or more children

Please do not feel any pressure as we will happily accept payment at any time.

Assessment and Reporting

We have reflected on our processes regarding reporting to parents and this year we will be holding our Student Progress Meetings in Week 11 this term.

Student Progress Reports will be sent home as usual in Term 2 and Term 4.

You will receive a note with details about our Student Progress Meetings very soon.

Vicki Robertson
Principal
To parents, from a parent...

It’s almost exactly a year since I was fined by traffic inspectors in Bruce Street, near Sherwood Grange Public School. It was a Thursday morning. As usual, we were running late and I was stressed. As well as my children being very hard to manage in the mornings, I was not very disciplined about our morning routine.

Anyway, I got caught stopping in the wrong place to let the kids out. The rangers saw exactly where I stopped and one of them ran over to issue me with a fine. I was pretty annoyed and told him so. He told me what road rules I had broken. I didn’t swear but it was really not a very nice conversation!

Here, I need to say that I am certainly not a perfect driver. Just like everyone else, I sometimes make mistakes and bad driving decisions and make up my own road rules if I think they make more sense!

This week, as I saw other parents being caught like I had, I knew how they might have felt. But after getting and paying my own fine, I’d been thinking about what happened last year and about my terrible attitude.

Instead of thinking about delivering my children safely to school, I was usually thinking about the time. Instead of making sure my children arrived in the right frame of mind for learning, I often used that morning trip to tell them how cranky I was. And instead of obeying the law, I’d be looking for where I could dump my kids and make a quick getaway.

So what lesson was I teaching my children in all this? Safe driving, good time management, patience, respecting rules? No, I was teaching them to break as many rules as you want to - and don’t get caught!

Time to put a stop to that lesson!!!!!

I am actually glad I got that fine (although I didn’t enjoy the experience). My attitude is better, our morning routine is working better, our trips to school are much better and I park safely. I even get exercise walking from the car to the school, and I hear a lot more news at the morning assemblies.

Things are never perfect of course and I’ll keep working on doing things better. As one parent to another, could I ask you to do the same?

Lea Carswell
Year 3 parent
ROAD SAFETY FACT SHEET
School Zones

This fact sheet provides an overview of some of the penalties that apply to School Zones.

**NO STOPPING**

You must not stop your vehicle on a length of road or in an area in which a NO STOPPING sign applies.

No Stopping includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Penalty $298 + 2 Demerit Points

**BUS ZONE**

You must not stop or park your vehicle in a bus zone for any reason.

This includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Penalty $298 + 2 Demerit Points

**You must not make a U-turn without giving way to pedestrians or vehicles in a school zone**

Penalty $397 + 4 Demerit Points

**You must not use a mobile phone whilst driving. Using your mobile phone whilst driving is distracting and dangerous, and is putting lives at risk.**

Penalty $397 + 4 Demerit Points

Parking and driving unsafely can put children's lives at risk.

Take care when in School Zones

For more information visit www.rta.nsw.gov.au

Or Contact Holroyd City Council's Road Safety Officer on Ph: 9840 9880
Safety Spotlight

Asthma
We have a number of students enrolled at Sherwood Grange who suffer from asthma. Parents who have returned their asthma plans, we say thank you, but if you have not returned them please do so as soon as possible. These plans are copied for the Administration Office and well as the student’s classroom. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Administration Office.

Asthma Australia website: https://www.asthmaaustralia.org.au/

ANAPHYLAXIS

As we have students enrolled at Sherwood Grange who have been diagnosed as being at risk of having an ANAPHYLACTIC reaction to certain foods we seek your assistance and ask that you do not send the following things to school with your children:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Nutella sandwiches
- Bars or biscuits that contain nuts

Thank you for your support.

Late Arrival = Partial Absence

All students are expected to be here before the first bell at 8.53am.

All late arrivals are recorded on the class roll as a partial absence.

All late arrivals must report to Administration Office for a late note before going to class.
Birthdays … Cup Cakes Only

We would like to remind you that we are happy to celebrate birthdays within classrooms by singing “Happy Birthday” and handing out cup cakes (enough for each child in the class) supplied by parents or caregivers. Anything else, however, is not appropriate within the school setting.

We ask that you do not send candles, party hats, cakes that need to be cut, balloons, lolly bags etc. Please remember, cup cakes only.

Crunch & Sip

Every class at Sherwood Grange participates in the ‘Crunch and Sip’ program. At approximately 10am every morning children are able to munch on fresh fruit and/or vegetables and have a drink of water.

Please ensure that the fruit and vegetables your child brings to school for ‘Crunch and Sip’ are cut up, ready to eat and not too messy.

No Dogs On School Grounds

As we can’t always be sure of how dogs and children will respond to each other …

Dogs are not allowed on the school grounds at any time, even if the dog is on a leash.

P&C School Uniform Shop

Our P&C Uniform Shop is run by hardworking, dedicated parent volunteers.

We are open on Fridays between 8.35 to 9.15am.
Fun, families and friendship at your local Baby Community Playgroup

The Baby Playgroup at Sherwood Grange Public School is up and running again this year and welcomes new members.

The Baby Playgroup meets in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) at the school on Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 during school terms and is for any families with a baby newborn to 18 months old.

Playgroup provides a stimulating, safe environment for children to play and learn about the world, while making friends and developing social skills.

Being part of a Playgroup also gives mums, dads, grandparents and caregivers the opportunity to make new friends, discuss ideas, learn about childhood development and share parenting experiences.

There is an additional Playgroup session on Thursdays 9am-11am for children aged newborn to 5 years old. Please contact Rita for more information about this Playgroup on – 0416 088 452

P & C News

We happily welcomed some new parents at our first meeting this year and look forward to seeing even more at our next meeting. We are an inclusive, friendly bunch so why not come along and get involved in your child’s school.

We already have many exciting plans for this year and extra ‘helping hands’ are always needed.

Chima Ferguson Skate Deck Raffle

The P&C are extremely lucky to have received a donation of a signed skate deck from the world famous Australian skater – Chima Ferguson. We will soon be holding a raffle so one lucky Sherwood Grange student can win this awesome prize.

Tickets will be sent home early next term.
Harmony Day

The P&C will be selling orange Krispy Kreme doughnuts in conjunction with our school celebration of Harmony Day on Thursday 20th March. Students will be able to purchase doughnuts at recess.

Dates for your diary

P&C Meeting – Tuesday 18th March
Discussion will include plans for fundraising this year

Harmony Day celebrations – Thursday 20th March

P&C Meeting – Tuesday 8th April
Main order of business will be preparation for the Easter Fair

Easter Fair – Thursday 10th April

As always, all funds raised by the P&C are used to pay for our Interactive Whiteboards and we appreciate all the support the Sherwood Grange community provides in assisting with fundraising.

Suzie Williams
P&C President

Website News

Sherwood Grange permission notes are now online. If you need another permission note for any reason, you can now find it on the school website. Click on the 'Our School' tab and then click on the ‘Permission Notes’ link.

You can then download and print the permission note at home.

Why not take a look at our website to see what else is on there.

Danielle Montgomerie R/AP
Website Coordinator
Bicycle / Scooter Riding Policy

Aim

Riding a bike / scooter to school is a useful way for children to develop independence and self reliance. Children need to learn the skills to ride a bike / scooter safely within the local traffic situation and act as responsible road users. To promote safe bicycle / scooter riding behaviour and an awareness of road behaviour necessary to enhance riding safety.

Students must understand:

- Safe riding on the road requires more than the ability to control a bicycle / scooter – a knowledge of traffic and road rules is essential.
- A helmet must be worn when riding a bicycle and scooter (Department of Education recommendation).
- It is a legal requirement that riders wear an approved helmet at all times. Chin straps should be adjusted for correct fitting.
- Safe riding involves more than having the skills to ride. Bicycle / scooter components, maintenance, clothing and behaviour are as important.
- It is not considered safe for children under the age of ten to ride to school unless they are with an adult (Federal Office of Road Safety, Canberra).
- Children under the age of 12 are permitted to ride on footpaths.
- When students ride on the road they become part of the traffic system. They must know and obey the road rules and understand how other vehicles use the roads.
- Parents and carers are responsible for how their child travels to and from school.

Bicycle / Scooter Management at School

Students must:

- Walk their bicycles / scooters through the school grounds. Under no circumstances should students ride bicycles / scooters through the school.
- Not allow other students to ride or walk their bicycles / scooters within the school grounds.
- Place bicycles / scooters and helmets in the bicycle rack. It is recommended that children have a chain / locking system to lock their bicycles / scooters (students are responsible for keys and / or lock combinations).
- Be responsible for the security of the bicycle / scooter and bicycle safety helmet in the school grounds.
- Bring in a signed permission note handed into their classroom teacher prior to riding to school.

If a student is found to be riding in an unsafe manner the parent will be notified and the student warned about withdrawal of the privilege.
Sherwood Grange Public School

Uniform Expectations for 2014

Reviewed December 2013 in consultation with the P&C

We ask that items in red be purchased from the P&C Uniform Shop so as to ensure uniformity across the school.

Summer Uniform (Term 1 and Term 4)

Girls

- Short sleeve white shirt with school crest on the pocket
- Bottle green culottes (also called a ‘skort’)
- Short white socks (no tennis/low sports socks)
- Black shoes with laces or velcro
- Bottle green, white or black hair accessories only
- Bottle green fleecy v-neck jumper (school crest) or bottle green fleecy zip up jacket (school crest)

Boys

- Short sleeve grey shirt with school crest on the pocket
- Grey shorts
- Short grey socks (no tennis/low sports socks)
- Black shoes with laces or velcro
- Bottle green fleecy v-neck jumper (school crest) or bottle green fleecy zip up jacket (school crest)

Girls’ and Boys’ Sports Uniform

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2

- Sherwood Grange PS Sports polo shirt and black Sherwood Grange PS sports shorts
- White socks (no tennis/low sports socks) and predominantly white joggers with white laces
- Bottle green fleecy v-neck jumper (school crest) or bottle green fleecy zip up jacket (school crest)

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

- Sports polo shirt and black Sherwood Grange P S sports shorts
- White socks (no tennis/low sports socks) and predominantly white joggers with white laces
- Bottle green fleecy v-neck jumper (school crest) or bottle green fleecy zip up jacket (school crest)

* All students are expected to wear a school hat (school logo) or cap (school logo) when outdoors.
* Jewellery is to be kept to a minimum. Students may wear a watch – no bright colours.
  Earrings must be studs or sleepers.
* Nail Polish or makeup should not be worn.
* Head scarves should be white or bottle green.
**Sherwood Grange OOSH**

**Before School Care:** From 6.30am (30 students)

**After School Care:** Until 6.00pm (60 students)

**Vacation Care:** 7.00am – 6.00pm (60 children)

High quality staff strive to cater for all children’s needs, likes and interests through play and physical activities. A nutritional, multicultural and delicious menu is provided.

Phone: 9892 4207   Fax: 9632 0879                           Email: belinda.rixon@holroyd.nsw.gov.au

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**Entering School Premises**

Please be aware that it is not appropriate for parents or carers to enter the school grounds during class time, at recess or at lunchtime without first going to the Administration Office. There have been occasions where parents have entered classrooms and disturbed lessons, gone into the bag room to put something into their child’s bag and walked directly into the playground to speak to their child.

**If it is necessary for you enter the school grounds during class time, at recess or at lunchtime you must first report to the Administration Office.** There are a number of reasons for this including: student safety and security; and Work Place Health and Safety requirements.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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**Lost Clothing***

If your child has lost or misplaced a piece of clothing or his/her hat please check in **the lost property baskets** in the canteen area.

Please ensure that all **hats, jumpers and jackets** are **clearly labelled with your child’s name**. This makes it much easier for you to locate lost items and saves you the cost of purchasing replacements.
Go 4 Fun

Go4Fun is a ten week healthy lifestyle program for kids aged 7 to 13 years, run by qualified health professionals. Sessions are two hours long and held after school, twice a week running parallel with school terms.

The program aims to achieve weight loss, as well as educating and positively effecting kids' attitude to food and exercise.

Come and join in the fun every Tuesday and Thursday between 4pm and 7pm ......in our school hall.

A reminder to parents and carers to notify the school about your child’s health

We welcome information from parents and carers about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Schools ask for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the Administration Office. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and well-being.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school Administration Office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Thank you for providing us with the information we need to help ensure the physical well-being of your child.
From the Cancer Council NSW

The Athlete’s Foot – Merrylands and Parramatta

Parents and Friends Incentive Program

$5 FOR EVERY PAIR OF SHOES PURCHASED

The Athlete’s Foot Parramatta and Merrylands are excited to introduce our new Parents and Friends Incentive program. Each time you, your family or your friends purchase a pair of shoes from The Athlete’s Foot Parramatta or Merrylands, we will contribute $5 from your purchase to your school through our sporting goods! This offer is available at anytime during the year! It will certainly help you raise much-needed funds for a great cause.

Our team is dedicated to ensuring the correct fit for your child’s feet. We care that much, we guarantee it!

...and don’t forget to ask about our ClubFit® program which rewards you with vouchers, competitions, giveaways and exclusive services (ask for details store).
COMING UP…

**P&C Meeting:** Tuesday 18th March

**Year 3 - 4 Excursion to Blue Mountains:** Wednesday 19th March

**6/5M and 6/5W Class photos:** Wednesday 19th March

**Harmony Day Mufti:** Thursday 20th March
Mufti: gold coin donation    Doughnuts: $2

**National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence (官方Harmony Day)**
Friday 21st March

**Yr 6 2015 High School EOI forms to be returned:** Friday 21st March

**K - 6 African Drum Beat Incursion:** Monday 24th March

**Publicity Photos in classrooms & playground:** Tuesday 25th March

**K - 2 Farm Excursion:** Tuesday 1st April

**P&C Meeting:** Tuesday 8th April

**Student Progress Meetings:** Wednesday 9th April

**Easter Fair:** Thursday 10th April (Parents, Carers and Grandparents welcome)

**Last Day of Term:** Friday 11th April

**School Holidays:** Monday 14th April to Friday 25th April

**School Development Day:** Monday 28th April

**Students return:** Tuesday 29th April