From the Principal ...

Too sick for school?
As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.
School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E

Mental maths strategies
We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here: www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

Does speaking another language at home confuse children?
Are your children fortunate enough to be growing up in a home where two or more languages are spoken? Many parents worry that bilingualism can cause confusion and even delays in learning for their children, but according to the Raising Children Network, that’s not the case at all. A good knowledge of your native language can actually help your child with learning English. Bilingual children who are read books and spoken to in their native language find it easier to learn to read and write in English when they get to school. More information is at www.bit.ly/1m0agnk

Peter Shearer
Relieving Principal
**Online Payments**

It is now possible for parents 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 school's website by selecting **$ Make a payment**

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called ‘Other’ this is to cover items not covered in the previous headings. ‘Other’ can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

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.**

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

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.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

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

Sydney West Softball Championships

Congratulations to Alex F, Matthew H and Trey H who recently represented the Merrylands / Parramatta Zone at the Sydney West Softball Championships. They looked the part and played with pride throughout the day, having some very close encounters with the opposition. Thank you also to all of the parents for your support and help on the day.

Miss Shearer / Miss Reinhard

Sydney West Soccer Championships

Congratulations to Amelia W and Alyssa A who represented the Merrylands / Parramatta Zone at the Sydney West Soccer Championships. The girls spent several Friday afternoons giving up their time to attend training sessions. They played five games on the day and won 2, lost 2 and drew one. Well done!

Athletics / Gymnastics Programs

Every Thursday, our students take part in a structured Athletics program, run by Dance Fever - Multisport, to ensure they have the adequate skills to participate confidently in the School Athletics Carnival (to be held in Term 3). Students have been learning to run in relay races and leap and bound for the long jump event. Staff and students have expressed the enjoyment they get out of each lesson and we look forward to the continued success of the program.

We would encourage parents / carers to ensure students participate in both the Athletics and Gymnastics programs. Total Cost = $40 ($20 for each program).

Please note that the Gymnastics program will run in Term 4 and not in Term 3 (as printed on the permission slip).
Cross Country Carnival

On Wednesday 7th May our students competed in the school Cross Country Carnival. Students in the 8/9/10 years age group ran a total distance of 2000 metres and students in the 11/12 years age group ran a total distance of 3000 metres. It was an action-packed event and we are sure many students slept well that night. A special thank you to Miss Montgomerie and Mrs Bisignani for organising the day.

32 students have been selected to compete at the Zone Cross Country Carnival to be held on Tuesday 20th May. Good luck to all involved.

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 the School Administration Office for a late note before going to class.

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.

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.

P&C School Uniform Shop

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

We are open on Fridays between 8.35am and 9.15am.
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 carers. 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.

Sherwood Grange is turning 50!

This year we are celebrating 50 years of fabulous education at Sherwood Grange Public School. The Sherwood Grange 50th Committee is looking for school memorabilia to borrow for the history displays at our 50th celebrations on Wednesday 30th July 2014. We are seeking items from any era during the last 50 years, including:

- Photographs
- Newspaper articles
- School uniforms, badges, hats, jumpers etc
- School Magazines, programmes and other publications
- Sporting medals, trophies, shields, uniforms etc
- Text books, exercise books and stationery
- Student projects
- Historical information

If you have items that you can loan or donate, please drop them into the school office. Please make sure all items loaned for display are labelled so that we can keep track of who they belong to and ensure that they are returned to their owners after the 50th celebrations.

Many thanks,
Sherwood Grange 50th Celebrations Committee
Reforms to P&C Federation

The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations.

Each school’s P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department’s website at: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php.

Our Mother’s Day Stall was a great success and we hope that all the ladies from Sherwood Grange enjoyed receiving some special gifts from their children. We also had our very first Mother’s Day morning tea which proved to be very popular. Thank you to those who helped out.

Our next fundraising activity will be a raffle of the personally autographed ‘Chima Ferguson’ skate deck, plus wheels and an autographed sign. The P & C will be selling raffle tickets from Week 4 before morning assembly on the top playground. Tickets will cost $1 and you have the chance to win this awesome prize.

We are holding our next P & C meeting on Tuesday 20th May at 6.30pm, if you can spare an hour we would love to see some new faces. We will be discussing activities for Term 2 and 3.

As always, all funds raised through the school community are going toward paying for the Interactive Whiteboards. Thanks to all those families who support all our fundraising efforts.

Please note: Correct change would be greatly appreciated when paying for things to the P & C and office, as we don’t keep spare change on the premises.

Suzie Williams          P&C President
Library News

It is great to see all the students borrowing books to read for the Premiers Reading Challenge.

Primary students have until 1st August to complete their reading logs and hand them into the library.

Infants’ teachers have been reading in class to help their students complete the challenge.

If you do not have a library bag yet, school library bags are available from the uniform shop so you can borrow books each week.

CLI software

Don’t forget, if you wish to purchase some of the computer software that we use at school, order forms and money need to be placed in the blue box near the office by Friday 16th May. Only cheques or credit card payments can be accepted. Extra order forms are available at the school office.

Yours in reading,

Rhonda Parnis  Teacher Librarian

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
Sherwood Grange Public School

Uniform Expectations for 2014

Reviewed in May 2014 in consultation with the P & C

Items in red are to be purchased from the P & C Uniform Shop so as to ensure uniformity across the school.

Winter Uniform (Term 2 and Term 3)

**Girls**

White shirt (short or long sleeve) with school crest on the pocket

Bottle green trousers (no jazz/dance pants)

**Bottle green fleecy zip up jacket with school crest**

Short white socks (no tennis/low sports socks)

Black shoes

School wet weather jacket or bottle green wet weather jacket

**Boys**

Grey shirt (short or long sleeve) with school crest on the pocket

Grey long pants

**Bottle green fleecy zip up jacket with school crest**

Short grey socks (no tennis/low sports socks)

Black shoes

School wet weather jacket or bottle green wet weather jacket

Sports Uniform Girls and Boys

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

**Black microfiber tracksuit pants**

**Bottle green fleecy zip up jacket with 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 and earrings must be studs or sleepers.
COMING UP…

Athletics Program: Every Thursday during Term 2

P & C Meeting: Tuesday 20th May

Zone Cross Country: Tuesday 20th May

Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday: Monday 9th June

Term 3 School Development Day for staff only: Monday 14th July

Students Return for Term 3: Tuesday 15th July