Farewell … for the moment

As I will soon be leaving temporarily to relieve as Principal at Croydon Park Public School, I have been reflecting on what makes Sherwood Grange such a special place.

I believe there are many ‘pieces’ to the puzzle that combine to complete the ‘big picture’ of a great school. These ‘pieces’ include, but are not limited to: strategic and proactive planning; the delivery of Quality Teaching in the Key Learning Areas; the meaningful engagement of students; high quality professional learning; a supportive and involved parent community; a range of experiences in the creative and practical arts; support programs to meet individual needs; comprehensive physical education programs ….

The most important ingredient, however, is people. At Sherwood Grange we have absolutely delightful students, amazingly talented staff, an incredibly supportive parent community and a volunteer network that extends beyond families within the school. Everyone works together within an atmosphere of mutual respect and collective pride in our school.

Stepping out of our school to relieve elsewhere has been a huge decision. Being the principal of Sherwood Grange is a privilege and a source of great joy to me. I will miss all of you, but I know that I am leaving the school in great hands. I truly believe that we are a model of excellence in Public Education and this will continue to be the case under the leadership of both Mr Peter Shearer and Ms Karen Macphail.

I will definitely be back for a visit during Education Week in Term 3 as plans are already underway for a day of celebration to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Sherwood Grange Public School.

Until then, best wishes and take care.
Staff Changes

New Assistant Principal

This term we undertook the Merit Selection process to fill the Assistant Principal position left vacant by Mr Joseph’s departure at the end of last year. Merit Selection is a transparent process through which positions are filled within the Department of Education and Communities (DEC).

In line with these procedures we formed a selection panel which comprised the Principal; a parent representative (nominated by the P&C); an Assistant Principal from another school (nominated by the Director, Public Schools NSW); and a teacher representative (nominated by the staff).

As a panel we wrote an advertisement detailing the criteria wanted for this specific position in our school. Interested individuals then submitted an application; referees were contacted; candidates shortlisted and the best applicants were then invited for an interview.

I am delighted to announce that as a result of this intensive process Mr David Shearer will be joining us next term as our new Assistant Principal. He is a dynamic, innovative teacher and a talented, strategic educational leader. Mr David Shearer will be the class teacher of 6/5W and will supervise Stage 3 classes.

I would like to thank Miss Amanda Wilson for teaching 6/5W while we conducted the Merit Selection process. The students have enjoyed their first term and she has provided them with quality teaching and learning experiences. We look forward to Miss Wilson returning to our school as a casual relief teacher.

Vicki Robertson
Principal

Safety Spotlight

USE THE CROSSING OUTSIDE OUR SCHOOL

and

LOOK, LISTEN and THINK
Our Student Representative Council (SRC) members for 2014 have been elected and recently received their badges. They are busy organising fundraising events with the help of our school captains, Ryan and Kalliope. Their first fundraiser of the year, an orange mufti day to celebrate Harmony Day, was a great success and raised $329. Congratulations Anthony D, Siosefa S, Alexia A, Gabriel P, Nicola C, Luke W, Brendan U, Zoe E, Madlen D and Arya A.

Miss Fares and Mrs Khouzam
SRC Coordinators

Sydney West Swimming

On Thursday 20\textsuperscript{th} March Michelle T and Aleena C represented the Merrylands/Parramatta Zone at the Sydney West Area Swimming Carnival. Aleena competed in the 50m freestyle and Michelle competed in the 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly as well as the 200m Individual Medley.

Michelle was also named Merrylands/Parramatta Zone Junior Girls Champion at our recent Zone Carnival.

We are so very proud of both of these students who not only exceed in swimming, but also show great sportsmanship when they compete at such a high level.

Late Arrival = Partial Absence

\textbf{All} students are expected to be here before the \textbf{first bell at 8.53am}.

\textbf{All} late arrivals are recorded on the class roll as a partial absence.

\textbf{All} late arrivals must report to Administration Office for a late note before going to class.
**Opportunity Class Applications**

Government schools use a range of strategies to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students. One strategy is opportunity class placement.

Offers for opportunity class placement will be made on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 23 July 2014.

Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an application by 16 May 2014. Parents will be able to apply for up to two schools of their choice. Parents are strongly encouraged to give careful consideration to the time taken and modes of transport involved when deciding which schools with an opportunity class to apply for.

Parents of students currently enrolled in a NSW public school with access to the internet, a printer and their own email address (not the student’s) should apply online for opportunity class placement for their child by going to this internet website: [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement).

Online applications open on Monday 28 April 2014. All other applicants must complete an official printed application form which can be collected from the office from the 26th April 2014.

**Late applications will not be accepted after the closing date of 16 May 2014.**

Danielle Montgomerie R/AP

**ANZAC Day Memorial Service**

On Wednesday 30th April we will be holding an ANZAC Day Service at 9:15am in remembrance of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps soldiers who have fought and died in war time.

Parents and Carers are welcome to attend this short service.

Danielle Montgomerie R/AP

**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.
Our P&C Uniform Shop is run by hardworking, dedicated parent volunteers. We are open on Fridays between 8.35 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 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.

Website News

Important dates and events are on our school calendar which can be found using the ‘calendar’ tab on the homepage of our website. This is a handy way to keep up to date with events that are happening in our school.

You will also find photos of students engaging in different activities both in and out of the school by clicking on the ‘gallery’ tab on the homepage.

Make sure you have a look at the exciting activities Sherwood Grange students have been up to!

Danielle Montgomerie R/AP
Website Coordinator

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 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 labeled 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

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**P & C News**

It’s been another busy term here at Sherwood Grange.

Our focus this term has been on the Easter Fair. Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets. We know that the winners will enjoy their prizes which included yummy Easter treats, Lego kits, Loom Band kits and ten pin bowling vouchers.

Next month we will be holding our Mother’s Day Stall on Tuesday 6th May. Items for sale will range from 50c to $10.

We hope everyone has a great holiday and we look forward to working with you again next term.

*Suzie Williams*
P&C President
Congratulations to the 2014 Library Monitors who have been working hard during their lunchtime duties. They are: Matthew, Megan, Alyssa AH, Sarah, Alyssa K, Chanele, Alex, Sandra, Madison, Mya, Amani, Gia, Kai, Noor, Sadaf, Louise, Lucia and Amelia. All of these students are in Year 5.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is on again this year and many students have already started reading. Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students complete the challenge in their class reading times. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 students will need to complete a Reading Log card listing the 20 books they have read. The cards are available from the library. Further information about the PRC is available on their website- https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

Borrowing finished in Week 10 this term and hopefully all books have been returned before the school holidays. Please encourage your child to return their library books each week. If you have lost a book, please tell me so I can inform you of the replacement cost and I can buy another copy to keep the school library collection up to date.

Happy Reading everyone!

Mrs Parnis   Teacher Librarian

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**The Athlete’s Foot – Merrylands and Parramatta**
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.
COMING UP...

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

**Last Day of Term:** Friday 11\(^{th}\) April

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!**
Monday 14\(^{th}\) April to Friday 25\(^{th}\) April

**Term 2 School Development Day for **staff only:** Monday 28\(^{th}\) April

**Students Return for Term 2:** Tuesday 29 April

**ANZAC Day Service:** Wednesday 30\(^{th}\) April at 9.15am

**Athletics Program:** Every Thursday during Term 2

**P & C Mothers’ Day Stall:** Tuesday 6\(^{th}\) May

**Cross Country:** Wednesday 7\(^{th}\) May

**NAPLAN for Year 3 and 5:** Tuesday 13\(^{th}\), Wednesday 14\(^{th}\), Thursday 15\(^{th}\) May

**P & C Meeting:** Tuesday 20\(^{th}\) May