The Grapevine

Allambie Heights Public School
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Your Community School of Excellence

Term 1, Week 6
5 March 2013

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Zone swimming
Congratulations to all 38 Allambie Heights students who participated so positively during the Zone Swimming Carnival yesterday. I was extremely proud of the efforts of all students who represented our school and the way in which they were supportive of students from all schools. My thanks to Boyd Aikin and Mareena Jesson for taking on official roles for the day, to Jane Chubb and Petra Morrell for being our team managers and to all parents who stepped in to assist with time keeping. My thanks also to the many parents and grandparents who came along to support our swim team on the day.

A special feature of the day was the outstanding performance of Tyler K. Our congratulations to Tyler for his amazing efforts in breaking two zone records and taking out Junior Boys Zone Champion – a huge achievement!

Congratulations to Tyler and the Junior Girls, Junior Boys and Senior Girls AHPS 4x50m relay teams who will go onto the Regional carnival as representatives of the Warringah Zone. Good luck!

Term accounts
Term accounts were mailed to all families on Thursday 21 February 2013. Appearing on the term 1 account are expenses incurred by parents in relation to educational programs such as excursions, incursions and sports costs. Parents are billed at the beginning of each school term, rather than being asked to send small amounts to school throughout the term.

Prompt payment of these accounts is vital as the school is required to pay for such costs. Failure to settle term accounts is a great financial drain on the school budget, ultimately resulting in reduced resources for all students.

The term 1 account for 2013 also includes a voluntary general school contribution. This is a voluntary way for parents to support the ongoing educational environment of our children at Allambie Heights Public School. This contribution is tax deductible.

Library fund contributions go towards purchasing beautiful new books for our children to borrow, continual upgrade of library research/resource materials and purchase of technologies to support our teaching and learning programs.

Building fund contributions go towards the upgrading of the school’s buildings and surrounds. The current focus of the building fund is to replace the ‘weather shed’ with a Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). The aim of this project is to further open the playground up as a K-6 playground.

Cost: $90 per child – maximum of $270 per family

If you have any questions in regards to your term account please contact the school office.

Leadership Camp
On Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 March our Student Leadership Team – School Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects – attended our Middle Harbour and Peninsula networks leadership camp at the Collaroy Centre, Collaroy Beach. During the 2 day camp, participants worked with student leaders from other schools to further develop their leadership skills, discuss the importance of student leaders in schools and work at ways to become leaders in high school and beyond. I had the privilege of joining our students for an amazing session with Jann Pattinson, Principal of Davidson High School. Congratulations to our students for their enthusiasm, effort and commitment during the camp.
School Banking Day Reminder

Don’t forget that Wednesday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great, exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Allambie Heights Public School.

CRUNCH & SIP

Our school now has a regular Crunch&Sip break every day for our students to refuel on fruit or vegetables and rehydrate on water. You can help your child participate in the following ways.

Please provide your child with a clean, clear plastic water bottle (with their name clearly marked). This can be any clear bottle, such as an empty water, sports drink or juice bottle. Make sure you wash the bottle each night!

Students will also need a small piece of fruit or vegetable to eat at their desk. The fruit can be any variety of whole or chopped fruit (such as apple, chopped melon, fruit in tubs in natural juice or sultanas*), or vegies such as celery or carrot sticks or cherry tomatoes.

No other food or drinks are permitted for Crunch&Sip.

Thank you for your support of Crunch&Sip!
SCHOOL WEBSITE
Our school has a fantastic website which is updated regularly. Have a look at www.allambieht-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. Photos from the Sydney Swans visit can be seen on the front page in the Photo Gallery.

STUDENT BANKING
Our student banking day is Wednesday. An attachment has been sent home with The Grapevine today advising parents about the Commonwealth Bank student banking program. A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be at the school to assist parents with opening accounts on Monday 25 March from 8:40am to 9:10am and Wednesday 27 March from 2:30pm to 3:10pm.

PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION
Please return your parent contact information details to the office. It is very important that we have up to date contact information for you if we need to contact you in an emergency.

LIBRARY NEWS
This year all the students from Allambie Heights Public School will have the opportunity of taking part in the Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC). It runs from March until the end of August.

What is the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge?
The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is an initiative of the NSW State government and is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten–Year 9.
The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.
It will not replace the MS Readathon or other home reading programs but is simple another opportunity for students to be exposed to wonderful books.
The children in K-2 will be reading the books during class time and library lessons and their books will be automatically added to their PRC record. The students in Years 3-6 will be doing the challenge individually and will need to enter the books online themselves. They are all being shown how to do this in library lessons this week.

Where can I find information about the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge?
The Premier’s Reading Challenge website is the main place for information so it is important to check the website regularly for new information and updates. For more information on how to log on to the challenge please read attached file.

YOGA AT ALLAMBIE
Yoga has commenced in the school hall on Monday afternoon’s after school. Your children are more than welcome to join. Following is a testimonial on how the classes are going:

Nathalie Bensaid (Yoga Teacher): One of the Mums came back to me on a Monday and said she was trying to do homework with her son during the week and he had difficulties concentrating - so he asked her to stop, said he needed some yoga, got himself into a few postures known to relax and help with concentration and then said to her: “Good, we can continue with homework I feel better now!” He was a year 1 student! And I thought it was amazing!

Nathalie is happy to escort (Kindergarten) children to the Hall upon school finish at 3:10pm. Otherwise classes are straight after school on a Monday 3:20 - 4:40pm. Cost is $15 per class.

SCHOOLKIDS BONUS
HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.
The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.
Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

**Warringah Zone Swimming Carnival**

**SRC FUNDRAISER - FUNKY HAIR DAY**
On Friday 15 March 2013 the SRC is holding a funky hair and mufti (out of uniform) day to raise money for cancer. Show your true colours and go wild and wacky with your hair...Get creative with your curls in return for a donation towards the World’s Greatest Shave. All students are asked to donate a gold coin on the day. The money raised from Funky Hair Friday will help the Leukaemia Foundation to look after people with blood cancers. (These are diseases like leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma). More information is available at http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/take-part/schools-funky-hair-friday/.

**iPhone 4 FOR SALE**
The school has a 16GB black iPhone 4 for sale. No longer required by the school, the phone is second hand but in as new condition. This phone has been unlocked and is ready for use. We will accept the best offer over $300. Offers will close at 3:10pm on Tuesday 12 March 2013. Offers can be made marked attention to Chris via email to allambieht-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or in writing to the school office.
SNACK SHACK NEWS

The Snack Shack is a volunteer based service for your children. Volunteering in the Snack Shack is a fun and rewarding way to spend a few hours and your children love to see you at school for part of their day. We work on a term roster, so only need you for 4 ½ hours once or twice a term. We are very close to filling the term roster for the remainder of the year, however we are still looking for 15 more volunteers.

If you are looking forward to volunteering and are wondering what the experience will be like, have a look at our Snack Shack Video. Kindly put together by Jessi R and her colleague Peter. As you will see the children love it and you may recognise some familiar faces! J

To see our new video click http://www.allambieht-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/p-c/canteen

The video can also be accessed directly from our school website.

Lisa on 0409 994 809 / ahpscanteen@gmail.com.

Snack Shack Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Wednesday 6/3</th>
<th>Jakki T</th>
<th>1 volunteer please 9:30 am to 1:30 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 7/3</td>
<td>Bridget B</td>
<td>Nicole B</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 8/3</td>
<td>Louisa C</td>
<td>Jill L</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 11/3</td>
<td>Andrea R</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Tuesday 12/3</td>
<td>Lyndsay Buening</td>
<td>11:00 am – 1:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 13/3</td>
<td>Jane C</td>
<td>Donna L</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thursday 14/3</td>
<td>Fay H Until 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Belinda D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 15/3</td>
<td>Sarah K</td>
<td>Sally B 12:00 – 2:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Monday 18/3</td>
<td>Sharron B 11:00 am – 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Skye C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 19/3</td>
<td>Lisa at Canteen Expo</td>
<td>2 Volunteers please 10:00 am – 2:00 pm</td>
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Dates for which we are looking for volunteers, in priority order:-

Tuesday: 19 March
Wednesdays: 6 March, 3 & 10 April, 1 May
Thursdays: 21 & 28 March, 4 & 11 April, 2 May
Fridays: 28 June (1 more needed this day)
BAND NEWS

Upcoming Event—Band Camp
The 2013 Band camp will be held on Saturday and Sunday 23rd and 24th March. The camp commences on Saturday morning at 7.30 am with breakfast provided at the venue. Thank you to all parents who have returned their notes and made payment. The organisers are in the process of collating all roster requests and you will be advised of your allocated roster slot in the next week or so.

Stage Band
We are pleased to announce that we are again able to offer year 5 & 6 students the opportunity to join the AHPS stage band (students must be currently in the Concert Band). Depending upon numbers we may be able to extend the opportunity to Year 4 students. Unfortunately, the stage band is unsuitable for flutists. Rehearsals will take place on Wednesday lunchtimes. Could you please advise your child's interest by emailing AHPSband@gmail.com by Wednesday 6th March.

Parent Roster and Working with Children Check
Band parent volunteers are required to complete the "Prohibited Declaration Form" and "Working with Children Identity check".

Band Fees
Band invoices will be emailed in due course. The band fees can be paid in one or two payments, with the first payment not being due until the end of April.

Dates for Your Diary
Allambie Bands in Concert: Friday November 15th from 7 pm
Both bands perform at this concert so please put this date in you diary.

P&C WELCOME BBQ:
Thanks to everyone for their understanding in having to cancel/reschedule our Welcome BBQ. As disappointing as it was there's always some good news to come out of things.....I'd really like to thank Stuart and crew from Wiseman's Meats and Carlo & Julie Marchione from CTM Bread on the Run - both suppliers let us out of our order for the BBQ when they found out we had to cancel. So, when you're thinking of, "What's for dinner?", think of popping in to Wiseman's Meat at Allambie shops! Or, if you see Julie around make sure you give her a big supportive smile, it's this kind of support that makes our school as wonderful as it is. THANK YOU BOTH.

Lyndall Pamp - On Behalf of P&C

TERM 1 DISCO
Our first disco of 2013 is on Friday 15 March in the School Hall for years 3 to 6 only. Please return the permission slip to the school office by Wednesday 13 March. We always need parent helpers – it is a great experience to see your children and their friends enjoying themselves and it is more enjoyable for all if everyone helps out! It is now compulsory for all parent helpers to complete a "working with children identity check form". Please see the office for a form & also complete the volunteer form on the disco permission slip.
ENTRY COST - $5
DRINKS - $1
CHIPS – 50c
ICY POLES – 50c
THE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT
Will be held on Wednesday 13 March at 6:00pm.

THE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL GATS (GENERAL ACHIEVEMENT) TEST
The Test will be held on Saturday 16 March from 9:00am to 11:30am in the school hall. Students wishing to be placed in our Gifted and Talented class for Year 7 2014 must sit for this test. The cost of the test is $20.00 payable on the day. If you would like your child to sit for this test please ring The Forest High School on 9451 5111 and register your child’s details. Please register before Friday 8 March.

NORTHERN BEACHES SECONDARY COLLEGE OPEN DAYS 2013
Cromer Campus Open Day Monday 4 March 1:30pm-7:30pm
Enquiries 9981 1155
Freshwater Senior Open Day Tuesday 5 March 4:00pm-7:00pm
Campus Open Day Tuesday 21 May 3:00pm-5:00pm
Enquiries 9905 2634

MOSMAN HIGH SCHOOL
Open Night is being held on Thursday 7 March from 5:00pm—8:00pm. Displays and student performances, information on special programs, sausage sizzle and drinks provided.

ALLAMBIE NETBALL CLUB
Players wanted: 2 x 9 years (born 2004), 2 x 10 years (born 2003), 2 x 12yrs (born 2001)
Please contact Veronica on 0419 264 938 or email allambie.netball@people.net.au if you would like to play netball.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE
The mobile blood service is visiting Warringah Mall, located near HCF off Pittwater Road, on Friday 1 and Saturday 2 March from 9:00am—2:50pm daily. Every blood donation saves three lives so please consider donating blood.

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You’re invited to Davidson High School Open Night!

Tuesday 5th March 5.30-8.30pm

5.30 pm Presentation in school hall
6.30 pm School tours

Talk to students and teachers about our school
See displays in History, Geography, English, Languages and ICT
Watch demonstrations in Science, Timber, Automotive, Performing Arts and Multimedia
Solve mathematical puzzles and problems
Taste food prepared by our Hospitality, Food Technology and Science students

Mimosa Street
Frenchs Forest
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www.davidson-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

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