Dear Parents, Staff & Students

This week was another busy week for all members of the school community. Wednesday morning all students in our school welcomed our visitors at our Kinder Open morning displaying as always respect, manners and a caring attitude.

Changes to Staff Development Day
Due to the mandatory implementation of the new NSW English Syllabus in 2014 two staff development days have been set aside for the professional learning of teachers. These staff development days are scheduled at the beginning of Term 2 – 29 & 30 April.

The staff at Alfords Point Public School will however be joining a Community of Schools Professional Learning Day on Thursday 28 March 2013 instead of Tuesday 30 April.

In other words -
Thursday 28 March will be a pupil free day so that staff can engage in professional learning.
Monday 29 April – Staff Development Day is a pupil free day
Tuesday 30 April – All students attend school for the commencement of Term 2

Our OOSH Centre Cindi Kindi will be open on Thursday 28 March as well as Monday 29 April for vacation care. Cindi Kindi – Cindy can be contacted on 0412 575 551. A note has been sent home.

Parents in Partnership Program
Again we are offering as a Community of Schools between the Rivers an opportunity for parents to attend a very valuable workshop run by Suzie Gorman from the Australian Early Development Index AEDI. This workshop emphasises the importance of a child’s early years. The workshop will be held at Bangor Primary School at 2.00pm and 7.00pm. Notes have already been sent home. Please come along to this very important and informative workshop.

Friday 15 March 2013
Term 1, Week 7

The Five Keys to School Success
Last week I wrote about the key Confidence. Our third key to children’s success and well-being is Persistence. Perhaps I could describe persistence as will power and like a TV add they refer to will power as a muscle and to use it like any other muscle.

- Finish homework before you go out to play.
- Stay on task.
- Continue to try even though it may be boring or tough, stick at it.
- Don’t give up (I can do it!).
- Use your muscle “Will power”. We all have it.

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
Today is the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. The focus of this day in 2013 is on parents and families taking a stand together with school communities and recognising the important role everyone plays. Today we have reminded all students of the ‘Power of One Oath’ that states;
I will not bully others
I will not stand by while others are bullied
I will report bullying whenever I see it because I have
The Power of One.

Kinder Open Morning 2014
What a very successful morning! Many parents and their pre-schoolers turned up to our morning. Our animal farm was a great success with 2013
and 2014 Kinders just loving it. Our interactive whiteboard display in the Kindergarten room showed how learning can be very visual and engage students of all ages. The Kinder 2014 children enjoyed matching farm animals to their babies, guessing animal noises and singing along with the animated ‘Old MacDonald Had A Farm’. Parents saw the value of this tool in teaching and learning. I would like to thank all our members of the school community who helped to make this Kinder Open Morning such as success:- P&C for funding our Animal Farm for this event, the Staff for distributing our pamphlets throughout the community, Kim Honeyman for her talk about our school community and the P&C and Parent Mentor, Barbara Bricknell, Megan Brice, Gloria Habkouk, Kelly Davies, the Senior Singing Group for their performance, the SASS and teaching staff who welcomed all into our school displaying as always their commitment, support and dedication. It was a great morning and a team effort.

Parent Interviews
This year we will again be holding our formal parent interviews early. Interviews will take place at the end of this term and the beginning of Term 2. Teachers now have a good knowledge of the children in their class and we feel that it is important to discuss individual progress now so that all students are working towards the outcomes expected over the next three terms. At the end of Term 2 a half yearly report will go home but there will be no formal interview unless requested by parent or teacher. Our interviews will take the same format as a three way interview involving teacher, students and parents for Stage 2 & 3.

For ES1 and Stage 1 our interviews will only involve parents and teachers. Notes have gone home.

KL & K-1D Wednesday 10 April 1.30pm to 6.30pm
1-2R, 1-2S & 2-3P Tuesday 9 April 1.30pm to 6.30pm
3-4B & 3-4M Wednesday 3 April 1.30pm to 6.30pm
5-6B & 5-6D Wednesday 1 May 1.30pm to 6.30pm

Grandparents & Grandfriends Day
This year we are holding our Grandparents Day on Wednesday 27 March. We are inviting all grandparents and friends to our school to spend one hour before recess in their grandchildren’s classroom to participate in Harmony Day activities and then to join their grandchildren for a morning tea. In the afternoon we have our Easter Hat Parade for Kindergarten and Stage 1 performing all in our school hall. It should be a great afternoon. In the middle session we have a very special whole school Easter Service run by our Scripture teachers. All are welcome. If grandparents are unable to attend we do welcome a grand friend or a special aunty or neighbour who is involved with your children. Parents of course are very welcome on this day. A special note has gone home.

The Bridge Playgroup
Our playgroup was a very successful event this week with lots of pre-schoolers and their parents coming along to interact with other parents from the school. Our next sessions will be on March 21 and April 11. Please come along. It is a great opportunity for pre-schoolers and their mums and families to get to know Big School. Thank you to Gloria Habkouk who is co-ordinating these sessions.

Regional Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to Lochie F and Julia J who represented the Engadine Zone at the Regional Swimming Carnival at Homebush on Monday 11 March. Both our students swam hard and fast and enjoyed the experience of a Regional Carnival. We are very proud of you both. Thank you to Mrs Rider who attended the carnival as well.

Robyn Dowse
Principal

From the library
I would like to thank all the generous parents who have donated small soft toys and other items for us to give away as incentives for consistent readers and borrowers. Kindergarten is thrilled with “Library Magic” and the older students will start receiving rewards for consistent borrowing next week.

Secondly if any parents purchased the “Reading Eggs” program on disc and no longer need it the kindergarten teachers would be very pleased to have them.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Years 3 to 6 have been making great progress in reading 20 books to complete the PRC. Students need to show Mrs Naoum their list of 20 books so that she can establish that all books have been read cover to cover. The first 20 children to complete the challenge and have their list verified by Mrs Naoum will have their names printed in the newsletter. Congratulations to the following students for being the first six to complete the challenge. Annalise T, Gemma L, Mia F, Rachael G, Harrison B and Olivia B.
SPORT NEWS
Cross Country Carnival
It’s only three weeks till our Annual Cross Country Carnival Thursday 4 April. The ES1 and Stage 1 carnival will commence at 9.30am and the Stage 2-3 carnival will commence approximately 10.30am. Family and friends are welcome to come along and spectate. Students should be upping the antics in the training program (of course always under adult supervision). Kinders run 400m, Yr 1 600m, Yr 2 800m, 8,9 & 10 yr olds run 2km and 11,12 & 13 yr olds run 3km. The carnival is a normal school day and all children are expected to participate. Notes will be going home next week.

Debbie Burke

THE POINT CAFE
Thank you to Bronwen Mackney for working extra shirts in the canteen.

Volunteer needed on Wednesday, 20 March (12.45pm to 2.00pm). Volunteers are always needed and very much appreciated.

Jodie Followes & Megan Brice (Canteen Coordinators)
Canteen Mobile: 0458 806 875

Volunteers for Week 8
Monday, 18/3
Jodie Followes & Pat Bardevski C/S
Wednesday, 20/3
Angela Riley & Michelle Cover C/S
Friday, 22/3
Ha Thanh Brard, Kelly Mcquhae, Cheryl Todd & Megan Feghali

SRC News—Easter Competitions
Today all students in K-2 have received their Easter colouring and decorating competition. Once students have finished please return them to their class teacher. Students in Years 3-6 will be able to create an eggcellent diorama and bring it in on our Eggciting Wednesday. Winners will be announced during our Easter Hat Parade which will be held under the COLA at 2pm.

Aaron McKrell & Maria Panourgias

Gifted and Talented surveys
Next week we will be sending out the Gifted and Talented surveys for parents to complete. Please complete only if your child has more than five of the following traits in each column. All surveys are to be returned by Friday 22 March.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intellectual traits</th>
<th>Personality traits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional reasoning ability</td>
<td>Insightful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual curiosity</td>
<td>Need to understand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid learning rate</td>
<td>Need for mental stimulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility for abstraction</td>
<td>Perfectionism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex thought processes</td>
<td>Need for precision / logic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivid imagination</td>
<td>Excellent sense of humour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early moral concern</td>
<td>Sensitivity / empathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passion for learning</td>
<td>Intensity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powers of concentration</td>
<td>Perseverance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytical thinking</td>
<td>Acute self-awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divergent thinking / creativity</td>
<td>Nonconformity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keen sense of justice</td>
<td>Questioning rules / authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity for reflection</td>
<td>Tendency to introversion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please remember that -
Gifted students are those whose potential is distinctly above average in one or more of the following domains of human ability: intellectual, creative, social and physical.
Talented students are those whose skills are distinctly above average in one or more areas of human performance.

G&T Committee

Achievement Awards
Stage 2– John R x 2

Banners
Stage 2 - James H, Rachael G, John R

P&C Meeting
Don’t forget the P & C AGM meeting to be held at 7pm Monday 18 of March in the school library. Everyone is welcome, including grandparents, aunts, uncles and community members. By having as many representatives of the school parenting community we can ensure that, together, we can provide the school with feedback, help fund additional resources to enhance learning and ultimately, be involved in our children’s education. Come and make your vote count.

Another way to help the P & C is by completing the survey that went out last week with the P & C booklet. Please pop it in the yellow mail box in the front office.

We look forward to working together to make 2013 a year for success.

Debbie Burke

Intellectual traits

| Exceptional reasoning ability        |
| Intellectual curiosity               |
| Rapid learning rate                  |
| Facility for abstraction             |
| Complex thought processes            |
| Vivid imagination                    |
| Early moral concern                  |
| Passion for learning                 |
| Powers of concentration              |
| Analytical thinking                  |
| Divergent thinking / creativity      |
| Keen sense of justice                |
| Capacity for reflection              |

Personality traits

| Insightful                           |
| Need to understand                   |
| Need for mental stimulation          |
| Perfectionism                        |
| Need for precision / logic           |
| Excellent sense of humour            |
| Sensitivity / empathy                |
| Intensity                            |
| Perseverance                         |
| Acute self-awareness                 |
| Nonconformity                        |
| Questioning rules / authority        |
| Tendency to introversion             |

Achievement Awards
Stage 2– John R x 2

Banners
Stage 2 - James H, Rachael G, John R

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - T1, Week 7
KL
K-1D Halle M
K-1D Thomas B
1-2R Aya M
1-2S Will J
2-3P Ella W
3-4B Gemma L
3-4M Natasha B
5-6B Brandyn L
5-6D Erica C

Honesty & Integrity, Friendliness & Acceptance, Excellence
Square Dance Classes
Have fun in a friendly atmosphere learning to square dance with happy people. Square Dancing is a great social, mental and physical activity for the whole family.

Friday Evenings 7.30-10.30pm
Beginner Classes Starting 5th, 12th & 19th April 2013

St Catherine’s Catholic Church Hall
Cnr Gymea Bay Road & President Avenue, Gymea

Enquires: Chris & Linda Froggatt
p: 9542 3518 or 0421 133 518
e: kneedeepsquares@gmail.com
www.kneedeepsquares.com

Silverleaf Counselling
Child, Adult, Relationship, Family
0408 876 282
Alfords Point Medical Practice

UNIFORM SHOP
In 2013 the uniform shop will be opening on Friday mornings at 8.45am - 9.30am in the hall.

Claudine Schoolwear
23 President Ave
Caringbah NSW 2229

10% Discount Off All Purchases made between Monday 25 March 2013 and Saturday 20 April 2013
At Claudine Schoolwear
23 President Ave Caringbah

SHIRE TENNIS ACADEMY
OFFICIAL MLC HOT SHOTS CENTRE
CALL 9576 6538 FOR A FREE TRIAL LESSON
AT BLAXLAND DRIVE ILLAWONG SINCE 1987

Dr. HAYFA HADI
Shop 2-3/61-63 Eton Street, Sutherland. Tel: 9542 2235
"Specialist dental care for ALL children and teenagers"

As a mother of two Dr. Hadi believes in a “Friendly, caring & gentle environment”

• Orthodontic treatment
  • Braces at competitive prices, easy payment plan, latest technology, faster working & fewer appointments
  • Expanders & early intervention appliances

• Laser technology for dental treatment & bleaching

• White fillings & white Crowns

• Preventative care and early detection of decay

• Sedation, happy gas & general anaesthesia available

• Emergencies and new patients welcome

• Ground level, parking at front

• Our patients enjoy DVD entertainment whilst being treated

Businesses advertising in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by Alfords Point Public School or the Dept of Education and Training