Dear Parents,

**Community Spirit Soars at SIPPS!**

Last fortnight we have focussed on community clean-up projects. The first event involved student participation in our ‘Clean Up the School Day’. After a delay due to wet weather, students took the opportunity last week to clear litter and rubbish from around our buildings and playgrounds.

Yesterday was our second big community event. This was our first working bee for 2014 and what a wonderfully successful day it was. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the families who attended and worked hard to clear rubbish, weed gardens, prune trees, trim garden edges, shift materials and much more. It was a great turn-out and we now have a tidier, less cluttered environment where students can enjoy their learning and play.
I was particularly impressed with the number of students, who gave up their Sunday playtime to participate by working in our eco-garden, which is now free of weeds and rubbish. The chickens look a lot happier too!

Special thanks to our P&C President, Mr Keith Oliver for coordinating the event, Mrs Carla Wilson for coordinating the catering, Mr Ian Wilson for use of his van and Mr Laurence Yip for use of his trailer and Mrs Linda Croft for designing the publicity flyer. Participating yesterday was:

- The Peiser-Oliver family
- The Churchouse Family
- The Bright Family
- The Vince Family
- The Wilson Family
- The Acton Family
- The Yin Family
- The Russell Family
- The Lien Family
- The Siva Family
- The Littlewood Family
- The Carey Family
- The Cooper-Driver Family
- The Contos Family
- The Ramakrishran Family
- The Yip Family
- The Keane Family
- The Lamont Family
- The Geddes Family
- The Kelly Family
- The Sivaloganathan Family
- Mrs Byatt
- Mrs Anderson
Another great occasion of community spirit was our special Korean lunch last week. Many mothers from our Korean community prepared a delicious lunch for our students to enjoy. Thank you to Mrs Colley and Mrs Wilson for coordinating this event.
Student Wellbeing – Values Education

Values are taught explicitly in SIPPS classrooms and through the activities and relationships across the whole school community. The core values influence how people communicate, work together and make decisions. They are reflected in school and DEC policies. The following examples illustrate the core values in school community and classroom contexts.

- Integrity
- Excellence
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Cooperation
- Participation
- Care
- Fairness
- Democracy

**Values are taught in the classroom to help our students to:**

- develop a love of learning
- pursue excellence and high standards
- develop care and respect for themselves and others
- take pride in their work
- exhibit a strong sense of fairness and social justice
- have respect for and understanding of Australia’s history including the cultures and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first peoples of Australia, and Australia as a multicultural society
- actively participate as citizens.

Formal Reporting Timeline

Formal reporting of student achievement will take place in the following timeframe at SIPPS in 2014:

- Term 1 – Parent/Teacher interviews – Tuesday 8th April
- Term 2 – Written Reports – Sent home on Monday 23rd June
- Term 3 NAPLAN – Written reports issued in September. See below for additional information.
- Term 4 Written reports – Written Reports – Sent home on Friday 12th December

What is NAPLAN?

NAPLAN tests are held in May each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Parents or carers of students who sit for the NAPLAN tests will receive a written report of their child’s achievement in September.
The NAPLAN student report will show your child’s results in the key areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show the national average, the range of results for the middle 60% of students nationally and your school’s average for each test. That means you will be able to compare the performance of your child against other students in the same year of schooling. The dates are:

- Tuesday 14 May
- Wednesday 15 May
- Thursday 16 May

The additional student report will list all the questions in each test, along with a brief description of each question. This report will show you which questions your child answered correctly. A common assessment scale is used on each NAPLAN report so that you can track your child’s progress through the years. It is recommended that you make an appointment with your child's teacher to discuss your child’s results and how to interpret the NAPLAN reports.

**Sport News**

Congratulations to Anastasia in 5S who is representing Kuring-gai Zone in the North Sydney Area Tennis Trials in Parramatta on Tuesday 11th March. She overcame a tough field of competitors to be selected as the number 1 ranked girl in our zone. The top players from these trials will become the North Sydney team to play at the NSW PSSA State Championships.

Congratulations and well-done to students who represented SIPPS at the Zone Swimming Carnival. There were many personal best efforts including 4th place overall for our Junior Boys relay team. Thank you to the parents who transported our swimmers to and from the pool at Lane Cove.

**SIPPS becomes a Sunsmart school**

St Ives Park takes sun safety seriously and implements a range of strategies to support school environments that protect students and staff from the damaging effects of the sun. Having a SunSmart policy ensures schools are addressing key areas of sun protection:

- Scheduling outdoor activities outside of peak UV times whenever possible.
- Provided shaded areas
- Wearing sun-safe hats as part of the school uniform
- Wearing sun-safe clothing
- Encouraging students to wear and providing SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen
- Role modelling by teachers
- Teaching about sun protection
- Providing information to the school community
- Reviewing the sun protection policy every three years

Best wishes for a great week.

Gillian Tegg
Principal
Notes from Office

- Permission note for Grade 5/6 Excursion to the Birdlife Discovery Centre at Olympic Park on Thursday 13th March PLUS a permission note for the Grade 5/6 excursion to CARES for bicycle education on Thursday 27th March – all notes to be in by Tuesday 11th March.

- Moving into Year 7 – Expression of Interest forms for all Grade 6 students (excluding International Students) are due back by Friday 21st March.

- A reminder is being sent home for outstanding woodwind tuition fees.

- Permission note for Yr 1 & 2 excursion to the Australian Maritime Museum will be sent home early this week.

P&C

SIPPS Tennis Courts available for permanent and casual hire. To arrange a booking please call Vera Dedijer 0403 500 301 or sippstennis@gmail.com

Our next P&C meeting for 2014 is on Wednesday 19 March, and will be held in the Library. Refreshments from 7.15 pm, meeting 7.30 - 9.00.

Please come along if you can, especially new parents and carers. It’s a great way to meet other members of our school community.

Please let me know if there are any items you wish to raise for inclusion under ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Agenda

FORMALITIES
Attendees (present/apologies)
Approval of previous minutes
Communications

REPORTS
President’s report
Principal’s report
Treasurer’s report

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Uniform Shop
Canteen
PR
Tennis Courts
Class Parents
Environment

FUNDRAISING
Bare Creek Trail Run update
Fundraising opportunities
**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
School rules and policies which apply to us all

**Working Bee Sunday morning 9th March**

I would like to add my personal thanks to all who came along yesterday to take part in our Working Bee. It was truly a school community event, with parents, students and staff all helping on various fronts. The night before, the weather forecast was totally pessimistic, so the enthusiastic response was quite amazing, with happy, smiling faces all around. We set a number of records for a Working Bee - the highest turnout, the greatest amount of work achieved, and the best catering.

If you missed out, don't despair. We will do it again!

Keith Oliver
P&C President
keitholiver@hotmail.com

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**Uniform Shop**

I have just ordered more girls winter tunics in preparation for the winter terms - I already have some in stock, so if you would like to come in and beat the rush, I would be happy to see you.

I have plenty of boys long sleeve shirts and ties already, and I am excited that the new winter unisex Polar Fleece jackets are probably arriving in a couple of weeks - watch this space!!

I would again like to thank my lovely band of volunteers - they do a great job!!

Thankyou also to the wonderful office staff who act as my 'go between' - particularly Trudi Morris. Just as a reminder, you are able to order uniform items using the form in the office, or sms me on 0417 083650 or email on sippsuniforms@yahoo.com.au, and Mrs Morris will happily take cash or cheque upon uniform collection.

See you in the red and green!

Amanda Vince
Uniform Shop Coordinator
sippsuniforms@yahoo.com.au

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**Uniform Shop Roster for Term 1, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Roster</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 12 Mar</td>
<td>Amanda, Mijeong Na, Monica Shin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26 Mar</td>
<td>Amanda, Kerry Balmanns, Daniella O’Leary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 April</td>
<td>Amanda, Jemima Sharpe Holdich, Matt Churchouse, Anima Rajbhandari</td>
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Thank you to everyone who has sampled some of the new offerings at the Canteen. We’re pleased with the response so far and hope you’re enjoying some of the new goodies available.

Just a reminder to everyone that there has been a price increase for most items. Our suppliers have raised their prices and we felt it was time to pass these costs onto the school community. (From the records found, we haven’t had a significant price increase since 2009!) Please check the menu on the website for current prices and send the correct change whenever possible.

Of special note to the kindy parents. Standing in the queue at Canteen can be a daunting task when you’re only 3 ft tall. It may help your little ones to bring along a brown paper bag with their name, class and recess order (with correct change whenever possible) with them to Canteen. We use this system for the lunch orders ... it really speeds things up and gives the children some confidence when they finally reach the counter. It also helps the Canteen volunteers learn the children’s names and those new faces really light up when we can address them by name.

Thankfully, the roster is full for the remainder of the term. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, it is greatly appreciated. An email will go out to the Canteen Volunteers shortly and published as soon as possible. If your name isn’t on the roster for Term 2, please email me on <carlawilsonsipps@gmail.com> and we'll slot you in.

See you in the Canteen!
Carla Wilson

Please join us in the Canteen at recess on Monday, 17th of March to celebrate St Patty's Day. Bring along a gold coin to try the luck of the Irish. If it can be green, it will be green! See you there!

Community Notices