NAREENA HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOL
HILLS HIGHLIGHTS
Email – nareenahil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Week 3 Term 1 7 February, 2011
Ph: 4226 3867

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10 February</td>
<td>Stage 2 &amp; Stage 3 Parent Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16 February</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting in Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17 February</td>
<td>Mufti Day for Queensland Appeal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16 March</td>
<td>AGM P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17 March</td>
<td>Stage 3 Minnamurra Excursion</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

WELCOME.

Welcome back to our existing families and a very warm welcome to families new to our school in 2011. Finally, after a couple of years of nearly reaching the mark (and ending up with very large classes), this year sees us being able to form 12 classes. The result is that our largest classes this year have 27 children, up to 5 children less than we have had to endure in previous years.

Our classes for this year are –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten (KC)</th>
<th>Kindergarten (KM)</th>
<th>Year 1 (1B)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Cameron</td>
<td>Mrs Morgan</td>
<td>Mrs Barrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1/Year 2 (1/2HB)</td>
<td>Year 2 (2T)</td>
<td>Year 2/Year 3 (2/3G)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Bradley/Mrs Hick</td>
<td>Mrs Thompson</td>
<td>Mrs J Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3/Year 4 (3/4K)</td>
<td>Year 3/Year 4 (3/4F)</td>
<td>Year 3/Year 4 (3/4M)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Kerin</td>
<td>Mrs Fraser</td>
<td>Mr McGuinness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5/Year 6 (5/6C)</td>
<td>Year 5/Year 6 (5/6L)</td>
<td>Year 5/Year 6 (5/6JP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Cherubini</td>
<td>Mrs Larkin</td>
<td>Mrs Jordan/Mrs Parker</td>
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</table>

At present Mrs Cameron is supervising Stage 1 (K-2) classes, Mr McGuinness Stage 2 (3-4) and 2/3G, and Mrs Jordan is supervising our Stage 3 (5-6) classes. If you have any issues about your child, please arrange to speak to your child’s teacher or the appropriate Assistant Principal as your first point of contact.

WELCOME MRS FRASER

On behalf of our community I would like to welcome Mrs Fraser to our school as our new classroom teacher. Mrs Fraser comes very well recommended and I’m looking forward working with her in 2011. If you get the chance please give her a warm Nareena Hills welcome as you have always done with any new addition to our staff.

KINDERGARTEN 2011

My thanks to the families of our newest, youngest students for 2011. The ‘Best Start’ Program, which we ran last Monday to Wednesday, meant a delay to the actual fulltime start of kindergarten (Kindergarten started last Thursday). Your support has allowed us to undertake the bulk of the required ‘assessments’, and hopefully minimised the impact of this ‘testing’ on the kids.

ROAD SAFETY - REMINDER

With the beginning of the New Year, new families joining our school and the continued construction traffic around our school (although this is coming to an end), I need to remind parents of the appropriate places to park when dropping off and picking up children and where to cross outside our school.
Injuries to children outside schools continue to be of concern to us all. I hope that, with your help, none of our children will ever be added to these statistics. Ideally, all children should be dropped off and picked up on the school side of Jacaranda Avenue, in the parking areas above and below the school. However, reality is that this is not always possible and there are times when children will need to cross Jacaranda Avenue. During these times, please cross the road at our crossing area that is just down from the Staff Car Park entrance. Crossing flags are posted each day, and I urge all parents to take the extra time and use this flagged crossing as their crossing point. We still have parents that take children across the road without using the crossing. When this happens, a bad example is set to both those children and others who see these adults acting, I believe, irresponsibly. I have been informed that Council Rangers will again be patrolling school zones so if you do the wrong thing you will be the recipient of a considerable monetary fine. The below website has a huge amount of information you may find interesting (including the penalties you may incur).


KEEPING US UP-TO-DATE WITH YOU
The beginning of the year is an opportune time to ensure we have current contact information from you. Our current communication systems seem to work pretty well while we are actually at school, but falls down when phone numbers and contacts change (as they do from time to time). To help us we need two things from you (if possible) –

1. Please keep your contact details (i.e. phone numbers and emergency details) up to date. If they change, please let the school office staff know, and
2. please provide us with a current email address we can use to notify you at short notice.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Our school’s swimming carnival is on this Friday 11th February and involves the children who will be 8 years or more this year. A note went home last week about this. One of the changes you may have noticed is the requirement for you to sign off on a number of ‘ability’ statements. Please make sure you do sign these sections (if appropriate) as simply placing a tick or circling next to the various statements will not allow us the option of involving your child – we must have your signature.

WOLLONGONG ACADEMICALLY GIFTED CLASS
Application forms and packages have arrived regarding this class (this class has a very competitive selection process and usually only the brightest of children gain selection). If you have a child in either Year 5 or Year 6 and believe they have the ability to benefit from this class, please contact the office for an application form (there is a small administration fee - $10, which is required). Give me a ring if you would like more information.

MAROON FOR A DAY
All of us have been shocked and moved by the devastation caused by the Queensland floods. Along with hundreds of other schools around NSW we want to lend a hand. So, on Thursday 17 February, we’re going to be Maroon for a Day. Your child is encouraged to wear something maroon and make a gold coin donation. All the money collected will go towards assisting Queensland public schools affected by the floods. The floods damaged more than 90 Queensland public schools. As well, six TAFE institutes and more than 80 government child care centres have been flood affected. We hope you’ll join us in this worthwhile effort.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES - CHANGE
During the last two teacher days of 2010 a number of issues were discussed. Those that affect families etc will be published over the next couple of weeks. They include a revised award system and a rationalisation of our ‘extra-curricular’ involvements.

One significant change has been to our Assembly days. This year we will be holding our afternoon assemblies on a Wednesday (2.30pm) and we will not be having a small assembly on Thursday morning. The reasons for the change will be detailed at our next P&C meeting, but in general we have tried to look at maximising our class time and routine efficiencies.

The first Wednesday assembly for 2011 will occur next week, 16th Feb at 2.30pm.

Bob Long
Principal
K-2 PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS

Class teachers in Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 will be hold Information Sessions in the next 2 weeks, this is a chance for you to meet your child’s teacher, and will be organised as follows:

Week 3 - Friday 11 February  - Mrs Cameron  KC, Classroom
Week 3 - Friday 11 February  - Mrs Barrett   1B, Staffroom
Week 4 - Wednesday 16 February - Mrs Bradley  1/2HB, Classroom
Week 4 - Thursday 17 February - Mrs Hick  1/2HB
Week 4 - Thursday 17 February - Mrs Morgan  KM, Staffroom
Week 4 - Friday 18 February  - Mrs Thompson  2T, Classroom
Week 4 - Friday 18 February  - Mrs Gray  2/3G, Staffroom

NOTICEBOARD ITEMS

The following community information is available on the School Noticeboard:
Wests Netball Club Registration Day – Saturday 12th February.
Figtree Kangaroos AFL Registration Days – Saturday 12th February
Therapeutic Group for Men & Women experiencing anxiety and/or depression
Wollongong Eisteddfod dates

2011 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This week Years 2 to 5 will be electing class representatives to the 2011 Student Representative Council (SRC). Your child may wish to nominate for the opportunity of being voted as their class representative. You could assist by supporting them in organising a brief speech (1 to 2 minutes) highlighting their attributes. The class teachers have given them some guidance and support in this. The representatives will have various roles, responsibilities and tasks that need to be carried out throughout the year. They are as follows:-

- Representing their class at two to three lunch time meetings each term.
- Taking active roles during Anzac Day.
- Participating in discussions, giving their ideas and voting on issues. This could include fundraising for worthy causes, enhancing the school, etc.

Year 6 parents please note that some students have already been elected to the SRC Executive and therefore will represent their class, Kindergarten and Year 1.
The names of the candidates elected will be posted in next week’s newsletter. Parent letters will also be sent out at that time giving you further information on the date and time of the formal induction.
Wishing everyone good luck.

Mr Cherubini
SRC Coordinator

OFFICEMAX ONLINE ORDERING SCHOOLS FUNDRAISER

Last year your child would have received a brochure detailing OfficeMax Craft Factory products for sale. OfficeMax has extremely competitive prices, so why not take a look you might be pleasantly surprised! Please consider ordering products online as the school receives a 7.5% donation on any goods purchased at any time of the year.
BOOK CLUB
The May issue of the Scholastic Book Club will be distributed to students this week. Orders can be returned on Friday 11 February and Monday 14 February. Orders are to be placed in the Silver Collection Box in the foyer before 9.30am on these days.
To avoid your child’s disappointment, please ensure the order is in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with the child’s name, class and Bookclub on the front, with the correct money, or a cheque made payable to ‘Scholastic Australia’. Credit card payments can now be accepted for any amount. (Fill out the slip on the back page with appropriate details). Orders received accumulate points that go towards new books for our great Library.

P&C NEWS 7.12.10

Munch & Crunch Canteen open Wed & Thurs.
- By now, children are probably aware that they are being served canteen from outside (NOT inside) the hall.
- Thank you to all the extra parents who have agreed to work in canteen this year. You are the reason we have a canteen.

The good ladies working in canteen this week are:


Wednesday 16th February – 7 pm.
P&C meeting in the staff room.
You are most welcome to come to this meeting. The other meetings this term are on 16th March and 6th April. Minutes of meetings are on the noticeboard near the office and they can also be emailed if you leave your address - nareenahillspandc@hotmail.com.

Wednesday 16th March – 7 pm
P&C AGM in the staff room.

Vacancies on P&C Executive Committee
At this meeting, parents on the P&C executive committee vacate their position to allow nominees to join the new committee. Any parents can be nominated to fill the positions which are President, Vice President (2 positions), Secretary and Treasurer. During the AGM, sub-committees are also endorsed. The Sub Committees operating within our P&C are Fundraising and Canteen. In saying that, the Canteen Subcommittee, the P & C President and the P & C Treasurer would be happy to continue in their current roles if unopposed. However, there are other members of the P & C committee who do not wish to be nominated again including Secretary, Vice President (1 to 2 positions) and the Co-ordinator of the Fundraising Committee. Anyone interested in filling any of the positions can contact us for more information at nareenahillspandc@hotmail.com or 0418 163 002. We are happy to share our knowledge and experience.

With thanks,
P & C