COMING EVENTS

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<td>Wednesday 16 Feb</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting in Staffroom</td>
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<td>Wednesday 16 Feb</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Thursday 17 Feb</td>
<td>Mufti Day for Queensland Appeal</td>
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<td>Thursday 24 Feb</td>
<td>Scripture Classes commence</td>
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<td>Wednesday 16 Mar</td>
<td>AGM  P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>Thursday 7 Apr</td>
<td>Stage 3 Minnamurra Excursion</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

MINOR VISUAL CHANGE

You will notice that some of the items in our newsletter are in italics. These items are repeats from previous newsletters.

P&C MEETING

Just a reminder that our first P&C meeting for the year is on this Wednesday 16th Feb in the staffroom, starting at 7.00pm. This is a great opportunity for parents to get to know one another and to hear in detail what’s going on in our school. This meeting is not the AGM so you don’t need to worry about getting a job – but if you are interested in a position on the P&C, come along to the March meeting.

SETTLING IN

My thanks to you all for the help you have given us in the way our students have settled into the year. It looks like we are off to a very calm and happy start to 2011.

MONEY DAYS

As we will shortly be collecting money for textbooks, sport and voluntary contributions, it seems a good time to remind you as to when our money days fall. We are not permitted (for obvious reasons) to keep money on the school premises, so our money days need to coincide with our banking days. Therefore our two money days are Tuesdays and Thursdays. If a special activity requires money to be collected on a different day (for example BookClub), we will let you know via a note.

With all money sent to the school, please use the green envelopes we provide. They contain all the necessary information to fill out on the front of the envelope and also act as a back-up should any money get misplaced (which very rarely occurs). These envelopes are available from Alex in the Office.

MEETING AND COLLECTING YOUR CHILD IN THE AFTERNOON

Due to the fact that our school has no fencing at the front and back of the school, we are very conscious of people in our school grounds. Last year we had a number of parents tell us of adults ‘lurking’ around our buildings in the afternoons (only to find that these ‘lurkers’ were in fact parents picking up their children from their rooms). Now that the school has settled in for the year and children know their classrooms, I’m requesting that once again parents meet their children at the front of the school at 3.00pm. Please do not wait outside classrooms as it can be distracting for children when being given important information to take home. If the weather is not the best the seats in the COLA (covered area next to our Library) can also be used as a waiting area.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES - CHANGE

As I said in our last newsletter, our Assemblies have changed. We will no longer be holding a Thursday morning assembly (giving us more time with our class in the mornings) and our Afternoon assembly has moved to a Wednesday Afternoon.
Our first Wednesday assembly for 2011 will occur this Wednesday, 16th Feb at 2.30pm.

**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 (ie 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.

**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 - REMINDER**

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, (that’s this Thursday) 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.

Bob Long
Principal

**TEXTBOOK MONEY COLLECTION**

At your recent parent/teacher meeting some of you would have been told that we will be having a one off sale day for the purchase of textbooks. This has now been changed and we will be returning to the normal system of money collection for the books once again (i.e. silver box on money collection days).
SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR AUDITIONS

If your child is interested in auditioning for this dance program please ask them to place their name on the list outside Mrs Cameron’s office. Students must be in Years 3-6. An information sheet will then be given to them later in the week. Schools Spectacular is held in Sydney from Thursday 24 November to Saturday 26 November. All enquiries to Mrs Cameron.

NOTICEBOARD ITEMS

The following community information is available on the School Noticeboard:
Energymark – a CSIRO community program
Wollongong City Council’s Community Reference Panel

P&C NEWS 14.2.11

Coming Events
Wednesday 16 February - P & C Meeting 7.00pm – Staffroom
Wednesday 16 March – P & C AGM 7.00pm – Staffroom

Munch & Crunch Canteen open Wed & Thurs.
The good ladies working in canteen this week are:

WED 16-Feb. Rachel Kendon, Di Bowden, Rebecca Gibson, Vicki Belsito, Alison Giobbi.

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 2nd March 2.45 – 3.15 pm.
2nds uniforms and new school bags SOLD AT BARGAIN RATES outside hall. Items can also be purchased through the canteen Wednesdays and Thursdays or on other days by arrangement with Alex at the office. Uniform donations are gratefully accepted. Presently, we would appreciate small sizes in summer and winter dresses, winter jackets and polo shirts suitable for kindergarten children. Thank you to Kaylene Herald for agreeing to run the monthly Uniform stall after assembly this year. Future stalls will be held on 6th April, 4th May, 1st June, 3 August, 7 September, 2 November and 7th December.

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 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 President, Vice President (1 to 2 positions) Secretary, 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