Principals News

The end of term has crept up on us quickly. The last day of school will be Friday 12th April.

**Students will return to school on Wednesday 1st May.** This year all public schools have an additional school development day to ensure staff participate in vital professional learning to support the introduction of the new Australian Curriculum in 2014.

Students in Year 6 needed to have returned their **High School Expression of Interest Applications** by 22nd March. There are a number of outstanding applications. Parents are asked to carefully complete the applications and return to our office immediately to ensure their child has a position available to them at high school in 2014. Parents please note if you are considering applying for enrolment in Talented Sports Programs at Westfield’s Sports High in 2014 for your child you will need to fill in **SECTION C - PLACEMENT AT OTHER GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS** (specialist government school). In addition you will need to contact the school directly on 02 9604 3333 for an application package. Applications will close on Friday 10 May, 2013.

Unfortunately due to the weather last week we had to postpone our Family Fun Day. **We have rescheduled Family Fun Day for Thursday 2nd May 2013 from 11.30am-2.30pm.** We look forward to sharing a wonderful day of fun with everyone.

Our P&C will be holding our annual **Mother’s Day Stall on Friday 3rd May 2013.** Gifts will be available for students to purchase starting from $1.00. There is a large variety of gifts including beautiful umbrellas for $10.00.

**Our Stage 3 students will be off to Myuna Bay for their camp** from Monday 6th May to Friday 10th May. I know they are all very excited and looking forward to enjoying lots of great activities. If you have not finalised payments for the camp could we ask that all payments are finalised by Friday 12th April unless otherwise arranged.

This year our school is again taking part in the **Woolworths Earn and Learn community program.** We’d like your support. We ask that when you shop at Woolworths you keep the stickers, attach them to the sheet we have sent home to you and when the sheet is filled return to school. There will be a collection box for the sticker sheets at the office. Last year we accumulated a great number of points with our Woolworths stickers which allowed us to receive some wonderful Educational Resources from “Modern Teaching Aids”!. This is a wonderful opportunity so please help us by bringing in all your Woolworths stickers. Thank you for your support!

During Week 3 of Term 2 (Tuesday 14th May, Wednesday 15th May and Thursday 16th May) our Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in the National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy. Students will be assessed in Language and Writing, Reading and Numeracy.
Our School Cross Country Carnival will be held on Monday 13th May. Information and notes will be sent home in Week 1 of Term 2.

On Wednesday 15th May our school’s Occupational Therapist will be presenting a parent workshop to our parent community. This will be a wonderful opportunity to hear about how you can support your child with their learning and learn some great strategies that you can use at home. Information will be sent home early in Term 2.

A big thank you to the following students for their consistent volunteering in our Breakfast Club that was offered to students during Term 1. Thank you to Zali Furness, Natasha Goundar, TJ Furness, Chelsea Kaua and Amanda Elitawi along with Mrs Cimijotta for ensuring that breakfast is available to our students of a morning. Also thank you to John and Elizabeth Brodie for their generous donation and support of our school.

A reminder to all parents that driving into the school car park is not permitted. Access onto school property is not open to parents or the public. We ask that you park on the street at all times. We are extremely lucky to be situated on a large block with parking available right around the property. Please remember to encourage your child to follow road rules. Modelling safe behaviour is very important when teaching children about road rules. Please remember not to walk along the school’s access road when entering and leaving the school via Princes Street. The access road is used by delivery trucks and special taxi services and we are concerned about everyone’s safety.

One in four kids over 12 has symptoms of depression. Would you know what to look for and how to help? Don’t be afraid, ask your child how they are feeling and keep communicating with them. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/managing-depression-in-children

A copy of our newsletter can be found on our school website at www.guildfordw-schools.nsw.edu.au.

The School Security phone number is: 1300 880 021. If you notice any security issues during the evenings or on the weekends please support our school by ringing School Security and reporting your concerns. Your support is appreciated.

I’d like to wish everyone a safe and relaxing school holiday and look forward to seeing everyone again on Wednesday 1st May.

Yours sincerely,
P.Cassimatis
Principal

P & C News
We hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break and have not had too much chocolate.

Our General Meeting was held at 6.45pm, 20th March straight after the parent workshop for Focus on Reading. This enabled at least one new parent to attend the P & C meeting and become involved with what we do for our school. We would love to see more parents, new and old, come along and be a part of the good that the P & C does for the school and our kids.

Easter Raffle
The Easter Raffle was drawn on Tuesday 26th March. Thanks to all of the GWPS families that made donations for our prize baskets and also to all the students that sold tickets. We made $1083.00 profit for our school. The Winners of the raffle prizes baskets are:
1st - Mark Afoa 5/6 A
2nd - Fiona Lam 3G
3rd - R Johnson c/o 1T
4th - Bernie Dawson c/o Amy Hardy
5th - Joey Huynh 1/2 L
6th - Simon Alame KF
7th - Jasmine Issa 3W
8th - Zack KH
9th - Tara Dunwoodie - KF
10th - Jasper - k-3W
11th - Patricia Colvin c/o Kindergarten
12th - Jorja Pettit 2B

Please return any/all unsold raffle ticket books to the school office.

Mother’s Day.
P & C will be holding their Mother’s Day stall on Friday 3rd May which is the third day that students are back at school in Term 2.

As always we need Volunteers to be able to help put together these stalls. We assist the students with their purchases and make sure that the stalls are fully stocked for each class when they come to the hall to purchase.

If you can spare even 1 hour on Friday 3rd May please let the office ladies know and they will pass your details on to the P & C President.
Belinda O’Brien. We are always very grateful for help no matter how much or how little.

There are lots of exciting things that will be on sale with prices ranging from $1 to $10. On the day, students will need to bring in their money in a zip-lock bag and have a carry bag in which to take their purchases home. Notes have been handed out and posters are up around the school. Over the holidays, ask Mum what types of things she might like. This will help you to shop at the stall. Teachers and the stall helpers will assist students on the day with their selections. Remember don’t tell Mum!

5 Cent Fortnight
5 Cent fortnight is returning in Term 2 so start saving those 5 cent pieces and you could help your class to be the lucky one in your stage and to be one of the winners to enjoy a “PIZZA DAY LUNCH” and have a “5 cent Winners Certificate” for your classroom. Last year we had a close battle in Term 4 between classes. Let’s see how we go in 2013!

Note: We will gladly accept any denomination of Australian coins from 5 cents up to $2 coins. The original idea for 5 cent fortnight was to gather any loose change that you could donate to build up the amount for your class to help win! Start saving now!

PARENT WORKSHOP
This workshop explores the symptoms displayed by children and adolescents with depression and/or anxiety. It examines treatment, diagnosis, causes and related risk factors. There is a focus on what parents can do to support these children.

Date: Tuesday 14 May, 2013
Time: 6.00pm-8.30pm
Venue: Learning Links Mt Pritchard– Level 1, 46B Reservoir Rd, Mt Pritchard 2170
Cost: FREE*
Suitable for: Parents and Carers ONLY

For enquiries and bookings please phone Dana on 8568 8200
* This workshop is funded by the Department of Education and Communities.
10 WAYS TO PROMOTE GOOD MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING IN KIDS

1. Model good mental health habits
2. Make sure they get enough sleep
3. Encourage kids to exercise
4. Give them creative outlets
5. Provide a space of their own
6. Talk about their troubles
7. Help them to relax
8. Have two routines - weekday and weekend
9. Foster volunteering and helpfulness
10. Bring fun and playfulness into their lives

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