School Captains and SRC Inducted at Assembly

At 10:30am on Wednesday we had a special assembly at which our new school captains and SRC reps were inducted and given their badges. They then shared in a delicious morning tea with the parents, grandparents and friends who attended. It was a great occasion and the first meeting will be held today.

Tomorrow the whole school is participating in the Annual Swimming carnival to be held at Morisset Pool. It commences at 9:30am and concludes at 2:30pm. Parents are welcome to attend. The two teams are Gamla and Masada and students can wear shirts in their team colours. Otherwise they are to wear their sports uniform. Students should bring goggles, towels and swimmers. Students should also wear shirts (maybe a rashy shirt) at least for the time they are not swimming, to prevent sunburn.

The canteen will be open at the pool for lunches should students require it. But students will need to let the canteen know in the morning so pies and sausage rolls can be heated.

If parents want to bring a shade shelter to the pool, please feel free to do so. You might also benefit from a folding chair to sit on. We will be asking for some parents to help with various officials positions and some parents/friends may be in a position to help us in this way.

Thank you to all the parents who attended the P&F meeting on Monday. We appreciate the help of all the parents and friends in so many ways.

Don’t forget that copies of the newsletter and other information can be found on the school’s website: www.cooranbong.heritage.edu.au

Parents of High School students, please regularly check your child’s diary to ensure they are completing all their homework. This is important if they are to achieve their best. Parents of Infants & Primary students should also ensure homework and home reading is completed each night. Thanks for your help.

The year 7-8 students will be sitting the statewide ELLA test on Tuesday 6 March. This is a literacy test given to students in NSW to test progress on literacy. A similar numeracy test will be held on Thursday 8 March. Please ensure your children are at school for these tests on the dates mentioned.

The Canteen will be sending home an amended menu and price list after recent government legislation was passed which limits what schools are allowed to sell, in the interests of student’s health. Many drinks and foods cannot now be regularly sold at school canteens. With this in mind, please don’t be surprised to see a slightly more limited range of items for sale. This is a positive move, however, because of the trend in child obesity. Parents might give consideration to what students bring to school to eat in their lunch boxes every day, to ensure that students are eating healthy meals and are able to function at their best each day.

See you tomorrow at the swimming carnival.

Simon Dodson—Principal

From the Principal:

“Glorify God in Your Body” -
Be Careful What you Let Your Eyes See

Parents of High School students, please regularly check your child’s diary to ensure they are completing all their homework. This is important if they are to achieve their best. Parents of Infants & Primary students should also ensure homework and home reading is completed each night. Thanks for your help.

The year 7-8 students will be sitting the statewide ELLA test on Tuesday 6 March. This is a literacy test given to students in NSW to test progress on literacy. A similar numeracy test will be held on Thursday 8 March. Please ensure your children are at school for these tests on the dates mentioned.

The Canteen will be sending home an amended menu and price list after recent government legislation was passed which limits what schools are allowed to sell, in the interests of student’s health. Many drinks and foods cannot now be regularly sold at school canteens. With this in mind, please don’t be surprised to see a slightly more limited range of items for sale. This is a positive move, however, because of the trend in child obesity. Parents might give consideration to what students bring to school to eat in their lunch boxes every day, to ensure that students are eating healthy meals and are able to function at their best each day.

See you tomorrow at the swimming carnival.

Simon Dodson—Principal
This weeks winners are the "SHARKS"

Thank you for all the get well wishes I received last week and the very kind parcels delivered to my door (I discovered choc cookies have many healing qualities!). How blessed we are to live in such a compassionate community. Thanks to the infant class who had a lovely set of cards & pictures delivered to me last Thursday (via Wolstencroft post). I rattled and croaked with joy at receiving them!

Today we caught up on some SPORT that we ran short of time for yesterday. Children enjoyed an obstacle course that included stilts, hula hoops, bouncing balls against the wall, squat ball (you sit on it and bounce), skipping ropes and beam-jumping. It was very hot and we needed lots of water at the end!

This week we have looked at Length in MATHS. We have measured all kinds of things using paddlepop sticks or strings measuring 1 metre. We found there are some special rules for great measuring … 1) Always begin at one end of the thing you are measuring (and remember to stop when you get to the other end)! 2) Always measure the length of things using a straight line.

We read a funny story this week about an ‘Avocado Baby’. He was so strong because he ate avocados and veges instead of junk food. All his healthy food made him so strong and clever that all the other kids began to copy him. We made up our minds to copy him too. Please remind us of this when we are next faced with our veges at the dinner table … (big smiles)

We are looking forward to the HCC Swimming Carnival tomorrow. In fact, we are such good swimmers that if you look very closely… you’ll find we’ve got gills!

See you tomorrow everybody!

Carrie.

The Primary class has done so much work this week that I don’t really know where to start? I’ll just hand it over to a couple of my students to tell you all about it…..

"On Monday we did a map of all the rainforests in the world and we labeled the continents, equator, tropic of Caner and the tropic of Capricorn. We coloured the rainforests in a dark green."

By Lori Stretton

"On Tuesday we did a description on rainforests in our English books. I did three paragraphs about a parrot, a jaguar and a koala.

On Wednesday afternoon for art we painted our windows like a rainforest.

Year four and five painted one window and year three painted the other one. Year four and five had a really bright one, while year three had a really dark one. We also published our Descriptions on a leaf."

By Grace Madden

The students did a fantastic job painting our classroom and really enjoyed this activity! Some wonderful images were illustrated and now the room has a ‘rainforest feeling’ to it!

In Maths, we worked on Subtraction. Students used different strategies then check their answers by using addition.

Felisa

Don’t forget it’s the Swimming Carnival tomorrow.

School buses will run to/from as normal.

Lunch can be purchased from the Pool Canteen.

If you haven’t already done so please send in the Permission Note with money.

Students are to wear sports uniform but may dress in their house colours as well.

Remember to bring your HAT, TOWEL AND GOGGLES AND TO APPLY SUNSCREEN.

Some mums will be required to help out with timing, recording, etc.

Please help out where you can.
**Induction Ceremony for School Captains and Student Council:**
Last Wednesday a special assembly was held in honor of the newly elected School Captains and Student Council. The students received a badge and advice from Uncle Rick reminding them that they were elected as “servants” to the school. Parents and some grandparents also came along to witness the ceremony and enjoy a morning tea with the students. Thanks to Aunty Priscilla for organizing the delightful morning tea. The Students held their first meeting today. See the report on the insert page.

**Trivia Night:**
Saturday 24th March
NCYC Hall—6pm
Come along and join the fun.
Cost: $30 per person
Or make up a table of 10 for $250
(must be booked in and paid for by 16/3/07)
A great meal is guaranteed! - if you have special dietary requirements please tell the Office when you book in.
Child minding available—book your child in when you book your seat. Children need to have had their meal before arriving. Please send along a plate for supper.
Thanks to Auntie Chris Ryan and helpers!
This week’s practice question:
What was the name of Tonto’s horse?
(Tonto was the "Lone Ranger's" assistant)
Last week’s answer: The Mediterranean is the biggest sea in the world.

**STUDENT BANKING:**
BANKING WILL BE EACH WEDNESDAY.
Contact Anna Stretton for details: PH: 0410594441

**10th Anniversary Celebration**
12th May— join us for a night of Reflection, entertainment and celebration!
$20 includes canapés, dinner and fireworks display.
Limited seating—bookings essential.
Separate activities for children organized.

**2007 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS**
A note about these Competitions went home earlier. Responses are due in next Monday 26th Feb. If you would like your child to enter the competitions we need the form and money sent in asap. If you did not receive the note please ring the Office.

**Bronze Awards:**
Asher Carroll X 3, Jena Bradley X 3, Johanna Dangerfield, Elle Mitchell
SILVER AWARD: Asher Carroll, Jena Bradley
WELL DONE TO THESE STUDENTS!

**Inspiration Corner:**
Auntie Meg’s Words of Wisdom

**PLAY WITH YOUR CHILDREN.**

**DON'T JUST PROVIDE THINGS FOR THEM TO DO—ACTUALLY DO IT WITH THEM**
Future Events:

- Thurs 1st March  School Council Meeting—4.30pm
- Sat 3rd March  Working Bee
- Wed 7th March  HRIS Secondary Swimming Carnival
- Thur 15th March  HRIS Primary Swimming Carnival
- Sat 24th March  Trivia Night
- Fri 30th March  Interim Reports Issued
- Mon 2nd April  Parent Interviews
- Thur 5th April  Last Day of Term
- Tues 24th April  Students Return

Assignments Due:

- HSC Biology  23/02  Theories of Evolution Assignment

Happy Birthday to:

- Jacquie Spark  17 tomorrow
- Abigail Dangerfield  6 on Saturday
- Phoebe Tappouras  8 next Monday 26th Feb
- Mike Pogson  14 on Tuesday 27th Feb

Congratulations that’s a lot of cake this week!
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS:

With the increased number of students at the school the buses are very full. Unfortunately, extra children cannot fit on the buses. If your child does not usually catch the bus and you wish them to get on one of the buses to go to someone else’s house etc. you **MUST RING THE OFFICE TO CHECK IF THERE IS ROOM ON THE BUS** and to notify the school of the change of details, to cover the “Duty Of Care” obligations for schools.

It may be possible to accommodate extras on the Newcastle bus, but will not normally be possible on the Gosford bus unless a regular family is away or some children normally on that bus are also going elsewhere etc. Please understand that the buses have only a certain number of seats and the drivers are only licensed to carry a stipulated number of passengers.

It is both dangerous and illegal to overcrowd the buses.

REGULAR BUS USERS:

If your child usually catches the bus and is not travelling to/from school on a certain day by the bus— please let the bus driver know in the morning and ring the Office so it can be noted to cover the “Duty of Care” obligations imposed on schools by the Government. This minimises confusion and delays while everything is checked. We cannot allow a child to change their travel arrangements unless the parent has confirmed that it is as they wish.

If your child is getting off at a different bus stop it is imperative that you let the bus driver know so he doesn’t waste time AND PHONE CALLS while waiting for you at the bus-stop.

LOCAL FAMILIES:

Due to the increased number of children on the Gosford bus run it may be necessary that some of the families who live closest be asked to transport their children to/from school or organise a car pool. While we would like all children to be able to catch the buses, under the present circumstances it is becoming impossible to fit everyone on the two buses.

There is another bus available for use and parents are urged to consider obtaining their bus licence and organising drivers for a **LOCAL BUS RUN**. This will alleviate the pressure on the other two buses and their drivers.

For information on obtaining a bus licence please ring the RTA or ask at the school office. Briefly— you have to attend the RTA (or go on-line) and obtain a booklet with rules relating to driving heavier vehicles. You have to sit and pass a knowledge test on the computer and then you are allowed to practise with a qualified driver on board.

A bus and a driver to give you practice lessons is available most times during school hours. Please check with Morrie when available. When you feel confident you book a test with the RTA and go for a drive with the Inspector (same as getting your car licence).

Another alternative is to book a lesson with a driving school that caters for heavy vehicles—they can issue you a bus licence when they consider you adequately trained without you having to sit the driving test with the RTA.

If financial pressure is a problem the school is prepared to help out with the cost of obtaining your bus licence. Please see Mr. Dodson.

**IT WOULD BE GREAT TO HAVE MORE BUS DRIVERS— EVEN IF YOU CAN ONLY HELP OUT OCCASIONALLY. EXTRA DRIVERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO GO ON EXCURSIONS AND DRIVE TO SPORTING VENUES**
ADMINISTRATION MATTERS:

Swimming Carnival: Friday, 23rd February.
Could the following families please send in permission note WITH money by TOMORROW:


DATA BASE FORMS:

We are still waiting on Family Data Base Forms. The following families please send in by Monday, 26th February:

Blacket, Bradley, Crompton, Duperouzel, Elton, Madden, E. Ryan, Shorter, and A. Tappouras.

DUTY OF CARE OBLIGATIONS:

Parents are reminded that any change to their child’s regular transport arrangements need to be recorded at school as part of the “Duty of Care” obligations imposed by the Government YOU MUST PERSONALLY RING THE OFFICE REGARDING ANY CHANGES TO TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.
Children will not be allowed to change their regular arrangements unless we have written or verbal permission from THEIR PARENT.

Administration Staff

First meeting of the S.R.C!
The S.R.C held their first meeting today. The group is going well and has started on a very positive note.

They discussed some issues involving the Canteen. They sampled new food suggestions for the canteen provided by David and Kathy French that they obtained from the recent School Canteens Expo they attended.

If you have any suggestions for an updated canteen menu please don't hesitate to approach your S.R.C Representative for your class. There are guidelines set out by the Government as to what can be sold in school Canteens so some suggestions will not be possible, but we will try our best.

They also discussed changes in the school grounds, that were requested by students. School excursions, and activities were also discussed.

Jessica Ginn—Secretary