



# GUILDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

APIA STREET GUILDFORD NSW 2161

PHONE: 9632 9675 FAX: 9892 1325

## NEWS UPDATE

22 MARCH 2012



### Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Term 1 is certainly flying by with us already into Week 9. School will break up for Easter and Autumn holidays on **Thursday 5 April**.

### EASTER MUFTI DAY AND RAFFLE



On **Monday 2 April** students are asked to wear Mufti in exchange for an Easter egg donation. This event has been part of the schools culture for many years. Parents from our Parents in Partnership will wrap and basket all the eggs on Tuesday in readiness for our Easter egg raffle on Wednesday 2pm in the hall. Please donate eggs on the mufti day as well as any baskets you may have and no

longer require. Raffle tickets are now on sale for \$1 each or a booklet for \$10.

### HARMONY DAY

Thanks to all the students and teachers who dressed in ORANGE clothing to help celebrate Harmony Day. It was short notice I know, however the majority of students got into the theme.

Every class had individual lessons or activities in line with the Harmony Day theme. Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21 March each year. It is a day when all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The day is also the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

For Guildford Public School with 91% students from a non English speaking background the promotion



of anti-racism is particularly important. I am tremendously proud of our students and community as although we have over 30 different nationalities represented in our school I find racism to be virtually non-existent. I hope this is the case for all of us! We are all Australian regardless of our ethnic backgrounds as we call Australia home. Happy Harmony Day!

## MULTICULTURAL DAY

As it is two years since our last Multicultural Day it's now time to start planning for this year's celebration. It will be held on Wednesday 30 May. As in past years we will have the following:

- **Food Fair in the courtyard** It is hoped that each family will donate food to be sold from their cultural store on the day. Get out your recipes! We need lots of food! All cultures: Australian, Arabic, Chinese, Turkish, Vietnamese, Lebanese, Tongan, Samoan, Fijian, Pilipino, Afghanistan, Iran, African, Maori, Cook Islands, Croatian, Italian, Indian, Somalia and all other nationalities. (too many to mention all)
- **Entertainment:** High school students will perform cultural items. We also hope that our own **parents and students K-6** will entertain us with dance, music or song from their own cultural background. Start practising. An audition will be held the week before the Multicultural Day.

**NB.** There will be a meeting in the school hall on Thursday 29 March at 10:30 am (next week) at **9am for parents**. This will be for general information and questions, as well as **coordinating parents to work behind the food stalls** for each cultural food group.

I hope to see the hall full if possible and all cultures represented. Tea/coffee/ biscuits will be available. Let's make this a great celebration of the Guildford Public School Community?



## PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM SURVEY

Thank you to all the parents who completed the PSP Survey that was sent home to all families from kindergarten to Year 4. Congratulations everyone! We received 98.5% return which is outstanding.

The classes returning all their surveys first went to 4 Wallaby and 3 Tasmanian Devil. These classes will have a Pizza Party before the end of term.

Return of the surveys was very much appreciated. We will be informed in a few months as to whether we remain on this program. Continuation on the PSP Program will provide additional funding for our school in the area of Literacy and Numeracy resources. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

*Have a great fortnight!*



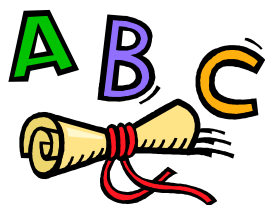
*Mr Peter Lawless.*

*Principal.*

TERM 1	DATES TO REMEMBER
23/3/12	Book Club Orders Due Back Today
26/3/12	Parramatta Eels Gala Day K-6
29/3/12	NAPLAN Workshop
1/4/12	Daylight Savings Ends.
5/4/12	Last Day of School Term 1
6/4/12	Good Friday
8/4/12	Easter Sunday
23/4/12	Staff Development Day Term 2
24/4/12	All students return to school Term 2



**SPECIAL STUDENTS sent  
to SHOW GOOD WORK  
to the PRINCIPAL  
THIS FORENIGHT**



**KK Rosabel Gyan, La-teesha Maisema**  
**1D Hasan Farhat, Yasmine Zreika**  
**1B Nicole Van Derles, Muhammad Anwar**  
**Yousef Nabizadeh**  
**1/2P Ali Hamden, Jimmy Fu,**  
**Fatima El Kassab**  
**2K Katherine Tran**  
**3ED Crystal Howell**  
**3C Rokya Al Jebori, Rayyan Arbess**  
**4W Nassar Hasna**  
**4/5N Dylan Wallace, Augustina Asabra**  
**5/6D Sonia Lingad, Sayed Moosawi**  
**5/6P Paul Charbel**  
**5/6Q Hassan Al-Shamari,**  
**Mohamad Hamdan**

**Community Languages:**

**Sarah Tarabiya, Mayset Elhaj**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.**

**Mr Lawless**

**I HOPE to see YOU next week!**

**ASSEMBLY  
STARS**

**Ruvimbo Sitima 1/2P**

**Dylan Wallace 4/5N**

**Akenesi Matakaiongo 2K**

**Rokya Al Jebori 3C**

## **2012 University of New South Wales Competitions and Assessments for Schools**

Your child is invited to enter the International Schools Competitions. **Students in Years 3 to 6** may enter into the following competitions: English, Mathematics, Spelling, Science and Computer Skills competitions. The cost for students entering any or all of these competitions is as follows: English \$8, Mathematics \$8, Computer Skills \$8, Science \$8, Spelling \$11.

Computer Skills	Wednesday 24 May	\$8
Science	Tuesday 6 June	\$8
Spelling	Tuesday 19 June	\$11
English	Tuesday 31 July	\$8
Mathematics	Wednesday 16 August	\$8

The aim of the competitions is to provide students with worthwhile and challenging experiences in English, Maths, Science, Spelling and Computer Skills. The practice provided by these assessments is also helpful for students doing the National Assessment Program in Years 3 and 5.

All students will receive letters identifying their correct responses and a certificate of achievement. The school also receives valuable data to help us compare our students as a group and as individuals to others across the state/country. The question booklets are retained after the competitions and serve as a valuable resource for students and teachers. If you would like your child/children to enter the English, Maths, Science, Computer Skills and/or Spelling Competitions, please complete the permission note and send it to the payment letterbox with the correct amount of money **by Thursday 5 April 2012** to ensure your child is registered for the competitions by the due date. **No late entries will be accepted.**

*Ms S Lazrus Coordinator*

### **Singing Lessons**

- \* Experienced teacher
- \* All ages
- \* \$15 per half hour
- \* Granville area

**Please phone 0437 622 057 and leave details.**



## FEATURE CLASS 2012

### 5/6 QUOKKA

5/6 Quokka have been visiting the computer lab and the library to research information about Australian native mammals. Students have then used their research to write information reports about an Australian mammal of their choice. 5/6 Quokka have enjoyed writing and publishing their information reports.

Here are some interesting facts that students have researched about our wonderful Australian native fauna:

- \* The name "Koala" comes from the Australian Aboriginal word meaning "no drink". (Ricky)
- \* The Marsupial Mole has claws bigger than its head and they do not have ears. (Allen)
- \* Bilbies eat insects and their larvae, seeds, fruit and fungi. (Yasemin)
- \* The Spotted Cuscus is rare and they exist in small numbers. (Mahmutjahn)
- \* The Sugar Glider can fly through the air for up to 100 metres. (Mariam)
- \* Sea Lions can live up to 20 years of age. (Aneeka)
- \* The Quokka was one of the first Australian animals seen by early Europeans.
- \* The Dingo is the largest mammal predator in Australia and was introduced some 5000 years ago from South East Asia. (Mohsin)

*Pictured below are 5/6 Quokka students publishing their information reports on the computer.*



## Website of the Week

[http://www.copacabana-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/Get\\_Smart\\_Pages/Get\\_Smart.htm](http://www.copacabana-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/Get_Smart_Pages/Get_Smart.htm)

A free website that contains a collection of links to activities to support Stage 1 to Stage 3 in all KLAS

## Whispers From

## The Library



## Overdue Notices.

As always, I will be issuing overdue notices in the coming week. This is simply a reminder that your child has a book that needs to be returned to the library. If books are lost or badly damaged, please pay for the book.



## Library Bags

It's been wonderful to see so many students buy library bags and borrowing this year. Borrowing has increased by 70% since last year. Let's hope students will continue to borrow (AND bring their books back), throughout the year.



Unfortunatley some parents have come to buy library bags while I have been teaching on class. Please remember that I also teach classes and at times can't be leaving my class to sell library bags. If you would love to come to buy library bags please come on this days/times.

Monday: 8:30am to 9:00am

Tuesday: 3:10pm to 4:00 pm

Wednesday: All day (Mrs Cullen will be in the library office).

Thursday: 3:10pm to 4pm.

## Library Lessons.

It's been great to see how much the students are keen to learn about new and challenging things in the library. As always, students from Kindergarten to Year 2 always show great enthusiasm and have learned about stories and the functions of stories. The Year 3 and 4 classes have shown interest in our topic about Explorers and Pioneers. It's a difficult concept for students to think about the



days of the 1800s, but our students have found this fascinating. It's one thing trying to think about what things were like in the past, but it's another skill altogether to think about 100 years in the future and Year 5/6 classes have been doing just that! These students have been developing their high order thinking skills by accepting and solving challenges given to them every week plus having to pretend they live in the future. The higher order thinking, the inquiry thinking, the negotiating and cooperating skills and writing, reading and research skills have just come naturally to them. Over all I've been very pleased with how our students have embraced the library lessons this term.



Mr Norambuena. Teacher  
Librarian

## Choir News

Auditions have been completed for the choir and there are 31 student members in 2012. This term we are learning some Australian songs for enjoyment and to learn to sing as a choir rather than an individual.



Early next term we should receive the music for the Opera House and then it may be necessary to organise after school sessions for those chosen to represent us at the Opera House.

D Hemming Choir Teacher

## Parents in Partnership

Over the last few weeks the parents attending Parents in Partnership have been very active in covering books for student use in the classrooms. There are still some to be covered for Mrs McGrath for student use in the computer room. In addition to this, parents have been organising for the Easter Raffle, making up the raffle booklets to ensure that each student would get one to take home.



On **Monday 2 April** when students are invited to wear mufti if they bring in an Easter egg, Parents in Partnership will have a wrapping day to create the prizes for the raffle. If you have any baskets or containers which could be wrapped for this, please leave them with Mrs Coaldrake at the office.

D Hemming Parents in Partnership Coordinator.

## PARENT WORKSHOP THURSDAY 29 MARCH – NAPLAN

On Thursday 29 March from 9 – 10am, we will be holding a **Parent Workshop on NAPLAN** in the school hall. This workshop would be excellent for **parents of students in Year 3 and Year 5** this year. Fatima Amr who is a Partnership Officer from Regional Office will be presenting. We will have interpreters for Arabic, Samoan and Farsi languages. Please come and enjoy a cup of coffee whilst you learn more about this important assessment that will take place in Term 2. The multicultural day meeting will follow this session.

## PARENT CAFE LAUNCH THURSDAY 29 MARCH

We are very excited to be opening our **Parent Cafe**. The Parent Cafe will be a drop-in centre where you can have a chat with our *Community Liason Officers* Asenati Mareko and Zena Zamerli, access parenting and community information, share a coffee and meet other parents. The launch will take place outside the school Assembly Hall from



2-4pm on the 29 March. **Murat Dizdar, the School Education Director for Granville will be opening the cafe.**

The cafe will be open every **Thursday from 2-3.30pm** from that day forward (excluding school holidays).

*Ms Sheri Evans Deputy Principal.*

### Learn Music on Keyboard at

#### Guildford Public School



- \* Music theory
- \* Instrument not required initially
- \* Instrument playing
- \* Fun music games
- \* Ensemble practice
- \* Music material included
- \* 45 mins lesson weekly, small group



**Smart Kids Love Music!**

Call to enrol: **9411 3122** (VIP Music est. 1984)



[www.learnmusicatschool.com.au](http://www.learnmusicatschool.com.au)

## News from the SRC

On **Thursday 29 March**

the SRC will be labelling school hats, jumpers and jackets **outside of the library at lunch**

**time**. If you have any school clothing that you would like the SRC to label with your name, please bring them to school on this day.

*Miss De Marco SRC Coordinator*



## HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF ONLINE

1. Install and renew your security software and set to scan regularly.
2. Turn on automatic updates on all your software, including your operating system and other applications.
3. Think carefully before you click on link attachments, particularly in emails and on social networking sites.
4. Regularly adjust your privacy settings on social networking sites.
5. Report or talk to someone about anything online that makes you uncomfortable or threatened – download the Government's Cybersafety Help Button.
6. Stop and think before you post any photos or financial or personal information about yourself, your friends or family.
7. Use strong passwords and change them at least twice a year.
8. Talk within your family about good online safety.

The Cyber Security Alert Service is a free subscription based service that provides information on the latest computer network threats and vulnerabilities in easy to understand language

It also provides solutions to help manage these risks.

You can sign up for the free Cyber Security Alert System at

[www.staysmartonline.gov.au/alert-service](http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/alert-service)