Principal’s Message

Welcome back to all of our students and families returning and of course a big welcome to our 2013 Kindergarten who last week completed their Best Start assessments and have now had 3 full days of Kindergarten. We have an exciting year ahead for all. Initially the first meeting between staff and parents is our exchange of information on Wednesday 13th February. The booking for this is online. If you go to the school website there is a tab to take you to the information and the link. A code is needed to enter your booking which is YYNTY. This should make seeing the teachers that you wish to see a lot easier when we get to half yearly and other events.

For most of the school Wednesday 30th was the first day of school but for Lacey, one of our school leaders her first day in uniform was representing the school on Australia Day. I had the honour of attending the event and listening to Lacey speak which she did clearly and confidently.

Our last Interactive whiteboard for classrooms will be installed tomorrow in the 3S classroom. They are looking forward to its use. This means with the help of the P&C, the school now has an interactive whiteboard for every classroom. This is quite an achievement in just 3 years to have managed this great leap in use of technology from where the school was.

There are a few changes to when school events are occurring this year, our scripture continues on a Tuesday first thing in the morning. Library is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, School Sport for all years will be on Friday: 3-6 in the morning, 1-2 in middle session after lunch and Kindergarten in Middle session just before recess from 1.20 -2.20. Whole school assemblies will be on Friday from 2.45. This is when Blue ribbons and medallion awards are presented. Additionally, classes will perform items for the whole school assembly.

We have some exciting things happening throughout this year, Year 5/6 will be trained as Peer Support leaders and will conduct short lessons which help to develop social skills in all students, develop relationships and provide older buddies to the younger students. Peer Support is very successful in many schools and we look forward to its implementation at The Oaks.

One of the first experiences will be leading up to Harmony Day on Thursday 21st March. More details will follow about this event.

To give you some early warning the school Photo day will be held on Wednesday 20th March. Students will be in summer uniform for the photos. As in the past there will be an opportunity for siblings to have a family photo. Photo notes will come out once they have been printed by The School Photographer. A Standard Photo package with class group and individual start from $32.00

Finally last week I sent home a one page note outlining the class structures across the school, highlighting the reason we needed to structure in this way. During the week I had around a dozen parents have an
interview to explain the structures and how their child will be catered for. All left with an understanding behind the decisions. I hope that any other families, who still have concerns, having read last week’s note, will also contact me to get the correct answers rather than ill-informed gossip.

Welcome to 3 new staff members
I would like to introduce and welcome three new staff members to the Oaks PS. On 4/5/6H, we have Mr Hyslop, on 2E Miss Edwards and on Fridays for 1B Mrs Hoffman. As you are aware Mrs Price took up a new teaching position, Mr Pitt is on Long Service Leave as is Mrs Erskine and Mrs Sirol.

Welcome BBQ
Our welcome back BBQ will be held on Friday 22nd of February from 5.30 – 8.00. This is a P&C organised event with jumping castle and inflatable obstacle course for entertainment of the kids. Everyone is welcome to come and socialise with the school community. The event will be under the COLA and on the grass.

Anaphalaxis in school – We are a NUT FREE SCHOOL
We have a number of students attending our school with peanut allergies. To avoid any of these students having an allergic reaction, I am asking parents to help by not sending any food to school which contains peanuts. Your co-operation with this request is greatly appreciated.

NOTES COMING HOME
A questionnaire for the Parent / Teacher Exchange of Information will come home today with the newsletter. This provides a framework to discuss your child with the class teacher. Meetings will be held on Wednesday 13th February between 3:40 and 5:30. Bookings are made by going to the School Webpage and following the links. The code needed is YYNTY

Swimming Carnival
Our Annual Swimming Carnival will be held on Monday 18th February. A permission note is also out this week with all details. Students who turn 8 years or older in 2013 are eligible to compete in races.

Pancake Day
Next Tuesday, 12th February is Pancake Day at The Oaks PS. The cost is 50c a pancake. Pancakes are available from the canteen in the morning before school. On this special occasion students may come into the playground from 8.30. A staff member will be on duty to supervise however students will not be able to play. The early arrival is for them to buy and eat their pancakes.

SPORTS HOUSE LEADERS
Last week elections were held for House Captains and Vice captains. There were several candidates in each of the 4 houses making the choice difficult for the students. Congratulations to all who raised their hand to take on a leadership role. On Friday at the Whole School Assembly the 2013 House captains and Vice Captains will be presented their badges. Congratulations to:

Grevillea
Beau Burke, Georgie Boys
Thomas Reid and Rikki Boys
Hayley Stark and Ellen Stucki

Banksia
Zane Dal Bianco, Claire Jones
Brodie Day, Quin McVey

Waratah
Byron Davis, Emily Thompson
Jacob McLeod, Karla Giacovani

Acacia
Jacob Skinner, Kiya Smith
Jason Watt, Niamh Quigley
CANTEEN NEWS

CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 1 – WK 3

Wednesday 13th – Friday 15th February, 2013

2nd Wednesday: Karen Graff, Thi Bennison, Rita Atkins
2nd Thursday: Amanda Biffin, Evelyn Walker, Karen Graff
3rd Friday: Julene Rose, Danielle Sousa, Jenny Hackett

NB. If you are unable to do your duty day you need to find your own replacement. Phone Rita Atkins as a last resort. Phone numbers cannot be put in the newsletter, a copy of all numbers are available in the Canteen

BOOK CLUB

Welcome to our first book club for 2013!
All orders that are placed through the school for books earn us points (which we use to purchase new books for the library). Age appropriate book brochures are distributed to each class. There are usually two book club issues per term.

Orders will be taken in the library on Thursday the 14th of February between 9 and 10am (or they may be posted into the frog’s mouth in the office at any time prior). If you can, please bring a re-useable bag (clearly marked with your child’s name and class) so that the books can be brought home with your child. There is usually a two week wait between orders and the books being available. Let’s get reading!

The NRL Development Unit is visiting our school on 8th February, Term 1, 2013. They will be doing a number of running, passing, kicking and catching drills.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

As part of our PD lessons this year, primary students will be looking at bullying and issues that surround the bullying of others.

Our first topic will be Cyber bullying. This includes comments made on social media sites such as Facebook, but also hurtful comments written as notes which can be physically handed between children and verbal comments said to or about others.

Approximately each fortnight, we will include in the newsletter a mini poster of strategies that we will be referring to at school. These strategies could be beneficial at home and it would be appreciated if you discuss these strategies with your children.

Thank you
Ms Watling (A.P. Stage 3)
THE OAKS JNR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

2013 Registrations - U6 to 16 (U6 must be 5 by 31\textsuperscript{st} Dec 2013)
- Saturday 9\textsuperscript{th} February 8am – 12pm At Dudley Chesham Oval
- Friday 22\textsuperscript{nd} February 4pm – 7pm At Dudley Chesham Oval

A PARENT MUST ATTEND TO SIGN.

Cost: $110 per player – $100 2\textsuperscript{nd} child, $90 3\textsuperscript{rd} child

Includes: Gear Bag (training shirt, shorts, socks & more)

All New Registrations are $85
(If you have never played for The Oaks)

New players must bring the following:
- Birth Certificate ORIGINAL PLUS A COPY
- Passport size photo
- Electricity Bill (proof of boundary residence)
- Medicare Card

Enquiries: Sharon Smart 0408 572 977 OR Email: theoaksjrlfc@hotmail.com

ST LUKES READING AND WRITING FOR KIDS

Tutoring for children with Literacy needs (no cost involved).

Mrs Parker and Mrs Pleskun are two teachers retired from The Oaks Public School who are Reading Recovery trained. They are interested in helping students from Years 1 – 6 with literacy needs.

Mrs Parker and Mrs Pleskun want to provide tutoring in reading and writing for students on an individual basis on Thursdays between 4 – 6 pm at St Lukes Anglican Church, Merlin St, The Oaks. The first sessions will run from Week 5 Term 1 to Week 5 Term 2. This will be organised according to need and availability. Sessions will run for approximately 30 minutes.

If you feel that they could be of help to your child, please fill out the Expression of Interest form and return it to your school office. You will then be contacted by Mrs Pleskun or Mrs Parker to discuss the necessary arrangements.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE ST LUKES READING AND WRITING FOR KIDS

Parent/Guardian Name: ____________________________

Address: _______________________________________

Phone number: ________________________________

Child’s Name: _________________________________

Child’s Date of Birth: ___________________________

School attended: ____________________________ Class: ___________

Teacher’s name: ___________________________ Current Reading Level: _______

Area of need:

I give permission for Mrs Parker or Mrs Pleskun to discuss my child’s reading and writing progress with their teacher. ____________________

ST LUKES READING AND WRITING FOR KIDS

Girl Guides meet in your area!

Laughter, learning, friendship and fun... come along to find out what Guiding is all about!

When
- Wednesdays
- Time: 6pm – 7:30pm

Where
- Camden Guide Hall
- Elizabeth Street
- Camden

Who
- Girls 7 – 10yrs

Please Contact
- Name: Leslie Meiklejohn
- Ph: 0417 407 799
- Email: leslie.meiklejohn@gmail.com

www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
Uniform Shop News

Your input is needed in regards to bringing in a new style sports gold polo. The new polo (pictured below) will have our school crest printed on the front left chest, The Oaks printed around the collar and royal blue inserts and trim. An unprinted sample can be viewed in the front office. As with any introduction to a change in the regular uniform a transition will take place over the next two years to phase out the existing style.

Please take the time to complete the survey and pop it in the pink P&C box located in the front office no later than Tuesday 12th February, 2013.

Our uniform shop is in need of some more volunteers to enable the opening times to remain the same. Once a month for 1 hour on a Monday from 9am-10am or Friday from 3pm-4pm, please leave your contact details in the pink P&C box if you are able to help. Thank you.

☐ Yes, I would like to change to the new sport polo
☐ No, keep the original design.

I would like to volunteer in the Uniform Shop
Name: ........................................
Contact no: ..................................
Preferred day: ..........................