**P&C Meeting – Last Tuesday**

Our first P&C Meeting for the year was held last Tuesday evening and it was great to see some new faces at the meeting. Parents who attended met Mr Ian Short, our Deputy Principal who also gave an informative presentation on our 2012 NAPLAN results. Our next meeting is a combined AGM and regular meeting which will be held on Tuesday 26th March in the staff room. All welcome!

**Parent/Teacher Interviews – NEW Online Appointments**

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be conducted in the week starting the 18th March. We believe that it is important for parents and teachers to meet early in the year to discuss each student’s progress so far and raise any issues or concerns.

This year we are changing the method in which parents book an appointment with their child’s teacher. A new online booking process is being introduced. The booking site is live as of 7.30pm on Thursday 7th March. A parent information sheet is accompanying this newsletter and explains the simple process for booking a parent/teacher interview. Also see p6.

**Uniform Review - Update**

As part of our uniform review, parents were asked to complete a survey at the end of last year. Our P&C President, Belinda Schuster has written a summary of the process so far which includes the results of the last survey and the next step in the process. Please read the update on page 6 of this newsletter.

**Have You Received the Schoolkids Bonus?**

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468. 

Maxelle Matthews

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Page 3: PSSA Sport, Environmental Education
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Page 5: P & C News – Canteen, Uniform Shop
Page 6: Special Report – Uniform Review
Page 7: School Accounts, SRC Fundraiser, PBL Update
Page 8: Class of the Week - 5/6W

**CALENDAR**

**Week 6**

Wednesday, 6th March    Hills Performing Arts Festival (HPAF) – Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, 7th March    Uniform Shop - open 6-7pm
Friday, 8th March    District Swimming Heats

**Week 7**

Monday, 11th March    District Swimming Finals - evening
Wednesday, 13th March    Year 6 Charity Fundraiser – Black & White Mufti Day
Thursday, 14th March    Selective High Schools Test
Thursday, 14th March    Primary Assembly 5/6M item

**Week 8**

Tuesday, 19th March    Parent/Teacher Interviews
Tuesday, 19th March    Kinder Excursion – Fagan Park
Wednesday, 20th March    Zone Swimming Carnival
Thursday, 21st March    Support Unit Swimming Carnival

**REMINDER - NO SCHOOL**

Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd April

**WHAT’S DUE?**

Friday, 22nd March    Term 1 Account

**ACCOMPANING NOTES**

- Parent Teacher Interview – Booking Online Sheet
- Best Start Reports – Kindergarten Parents
- Kindergarten Parent Note
- High School Enrolment forms Year 6(in the next week)
- Dr Shoe – information sheet
- AFL flyer
- Family Portrait Weekend (repeat – email only)

**Community Flyers (email only)**

- Northmead High Auditions
- Baulkham Hills Football Club
- Benefit Evening for Amber
- Junior Birdwatching
- Home for Kittens
- Iphone App UWS Observatory
FROM THE DEPUTY

SRC and Library Monitor Induction

Last Thursday saw fifty very proud students accompanied by their equally proud parents at our annual student leader induction assembly.

At this assembly the successful applicants committed to a year’s tour of duty in their chosen roles and promised a high level of commitment. All were more than happy to take their pledge and sign the relevant contracts and have now officially started their journey.

The Library monitors for 2013 are as follows:


And our SRC representatives are:


Extra Large Playground Games

To extend out structured play program, the school has purchased a series of extra-large games, such as a huge game of Connect 4, an enormous set of Pick-up sticks and an oversized game of draughts, to name just a few.

These will be played under the Primary COLA at lunch time and will provide a structured environment which allows students to practise their social skills away from the frenetic nature of the open playground.

This program will also become an important part of our student leadership program, with the SRC and prefects becoming the managers and leaders of these new and exciting activities.

The games will be rolled out (almost literally) over the next two weeks.

A Winston Winner

Congratulations to Liam Connelly who was successful in being accepted in the district PSSA AFL team. A huge achievement!

Ian Short

SPORT CONGRATULATIONS

PSSA

Congratulations to Liam Connelly 5/6R who has been selected to represent CHPSSA at the Sydney West Regional AFL Trials. This will be held on Wednesday 20th March at Wright Reserve, Pye Road, Quakers Hill.

Regional Little Athletics

Congratulations to Jy Windle (2R) who achieved 3 medals: U8 boys – 70m – silver, 100m – silver, 400m – bronze at the Regional Little Athletics Carnival on the 16-17th Feb at Blacktown International Sports Park.

Melissa Johnston

ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The CHPSSA Zone swimming carnival is on Friday the 8th March at Waves Pool Baulkham Hills. The finals will be on Monday night on the 11th March. Good luck to the 37 students who will be representing WHPS.

Melissa Johnston

3-6 WINTER PSSA TRIALS

The trials for winter PSSA sport will be held this Thursday and Friday. The PSSA sports that we play for winter are: netball, newcombe ball, football (soccer) & rugby league.

Melissa Johnston

HARMONY DAY

Celebrate Harmony Day on Thursday, 21st March

Harmony Day is celebrated on the 21st March each year. Harmony Day is a day to celebrate the cultural diversity of Australia. The 2013 theme is ‘Many Stories – One Australia’. This gives us the opportunity to share the importance of diversity with others in our school and community.

On Thursday, 21st March, we would like to encourage all students to wear one ORANGE item of clothing to celebrate harmony in our school. Ideas might be orange socks, an orange head band, an orange shirt or an orange hat. The remainder of the uniform will stay the same with only one item being replaced by something orange. We will also be running a variety of activities in the classrooms to celebrate diversity and harmony in our school.

Have a look at the Harmony Day website for more information:

http://www.harmony.gov.au

A Winston Winner

Congratulations to Liam Connelly who was successful in being accepted in the district PSSA AFL team. A huge achievement!
SCHOOL NEWS

PSSA SPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> Friday, 22(^{nd}) February</td>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> Friday, 1(^{st}) March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cricket</strong></td>
<td><strong>Round 2 cancelled due to wet weather.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnr’s Vs North Rocks PS</td>
<td>Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>won 0/13 – 10-12</td>
<td>T-Ball, Girls Touch Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr’s Vs North Rocks PS</td>
<td>- Thursday mornings at 8.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lost 5/18 – 5/57</td>
<td>Softball and Cricket – Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Softball</strong></td>
<td>mornings at 8.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr Boys Vs Winston Heights PS lost 1 - 14</td>
<td><strong>Draws &amp; Tables</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr Girls Vs Winston Heights PS lost 5 - 14</td>
<td>Can be located on Castle Hill PSSA website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>T-Ball</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.chpssa.com/">http://www.chpssa.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnr Boys Vs Winston Heights PS lost 7 - 24</td>
<td><strong>Earth Hour 2013</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnr Girls Vs Winston Heights PS lost 6 - 20</td>
<td>Last year 152 countries participated in Earth Hour. Seven (7) million people switched off their lights in Australia – where Earth Hour began – to show support for a more sustainable world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Touch Football</strong></td>
<td>Earth Hour 2013 will be held from 8:30pm on Saturday 23 March. We will once again be encouraging our students and community to participate in Earth Hour by marking the date on a calendar and turning off their lights for one hour. The focus this year will be on renewable energy and connecting with students about the power of the future. If you’d like to know more please visit <a href="http://earthhour.org.au/">http://earthhour.org.au/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnr Boys Vs Northmead PS draw 5-5</td>
<td><strong>The Green Team</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnr Girls Vs Northmead PS</td>
<td>If you’ve happened to wander past our veggie patch recently you may have noticed that the Green Team has been busy replanting the garden with a variety of new stock, most of which was donated by one of our corporate sponsors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>won 4-2</td>
<td><strong>HEALTH TIP</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr Boys Vs Northmead PS lost 2-4</td>
<td>Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr Girls Vs Northmead PS lost 7-0</td>
<td>Tap water makes the best drink!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PSSA IS CANCELLED - WEEK 6</strong></td>
<td>Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here’s what water has to offer:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There will be no summer PSSA rounds played this week because of the CHPSSA Zone swimming carnival on Friday, 8(^{th}) March.</td>
<td>- it is cheap and readily available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- it doesn’t contain any kilojoules or sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- it encourages optimal function of the body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you!
A great big ‘Thank you’ from the Green Team to Mr. Scott who kindly donated a heap of potting mix for our veggie garden.

Andrew Lade.

EARTH HOUR 2013

Thank you for your support. © Andrew Lade.
P&C NEWS

FAMILY PORTRAIT WEEKEND
P&C Fundraiser - 16th & 17th March 2013
- Cost: $50.00 per family to book a photography sitting with a free framed "8x10" image of your choice with each booking.
- Details were sent home last week on a note and has been included today with the email.
- $25.00 of the booking fee is donated to the school.

A perfect Mother’s Day gift!

BAND NEWS
Latest band news and updates were sent out in the Band Term 1 News last week via email. If you did not receive this email please contact us.

TERM ONE FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE, PLEASE MAKE A PAYMENT ASAP OR SEE MICHELLE ON WEDNESDAY.

Another reminder regarding times for TERM ONE.
TERM 1
No Training Band rehearsals.
Monday pm:
- 3-4pm Senior Concert Band rehearsals (#1)
- 4-5pm Intermediate Band rehearsals

Wednesday pm:
- 3-4pm Senior Concert Band rehearsals (#2) in new hall
- 3-4pm Training Band tutorials
- 4-4.45pm Senior Concert Band tutorials
- 4.45-5.30pm Intermediate Band tutorials

*Senior Concert Band - don’t forget to bring a quick snack and drink to have in between sessions on Wednesdays.

Sue Bryant

P&C

Next Meeting
Usually our P&C meetings are Week 4 and 8, however this term they will be Weeks 5 and 9, so as not to clash with teacher information evenings and interviews.
Our next meeting will be our AGM on Tuesday 26th March at 7:30pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome. Please bring 50c to this or the first meeting you attend this year for your Association membership.
At the AGM, all positions will be declared vacant; however we are particularly looking for a Secretary. Please consider this and contact me if you are interested. Main responsibility is minute taking.
If you have anything you would like to discuss at P&C, please email me on bdschuster@optusnet.com.au or phone me on 9688 6664 by the Friday before the meeting. This enables me to construct the agenda and research your request.
Belinda Schuster

SRC and LIBRARY MONITOR

INDUCTION

REMINDER TO PARENTS!!!
CHANGE TO SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS
There will be no school on Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd April as our school has swapped the SDDs in Term 2 & 3 so the teachers can attend a 2 day workshop.

Living and learning together
**P & C NEWS**

### CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 6th March</td>
<td>Ariana Hale, Kylie Baker, Jany Nguyen, Erin Hennessy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 7th March</td>
<td>Rinku Singh, Sivayini Arulkumararan, Anca Eriksson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 8th March</td>
<td>Sue Bryant, Jane O'Donnell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 11th March</td>
<td>Kareena Best, Amanda Radford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 12th March</td>
<td>Natasha Stewart, Heidi Juhart, Michelle Ly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 13th March</td>
<td>Carly Kirk, Libby Davis, Amy McGuckin, Julia Maguire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 14th March</td>
<td>Janelle Dunk, Julie Walsh, Kaelene Davis, Rinku Singh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 15th March</td>
<td>Rachel Beledham-Collins, Melissa Johnson, Kathryn Boxall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 18th March</td>
<td>Jennifer Harrison, Kelly Chapple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 19th March</td>
<td>Robyn Scorr, Rhonda-Lyn Urcanki, Jodie Maestri, Kathy Blair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CANTEEN NEWS

**Thank You**

Thank you for the feedback that we have received so far and your patience is appreciated as we continue to fine tune & update the timing schedule signage within the canteen.

Hopefully everyone who has volunteered has now received a copy of the roster and to minimize delays in the future of this information being relayed , we are now in the process of compiling an email contact list so we can bypass the need to send out paper copies. If you have not already advised us of your email address please send this through to us at whpscanteen@yahoo.com.au

**Contacting the Committee**

For those who don't have access to email we will continue to contact you via the current process. For roster enquiries, if possible could you please text us rather than calling us as this is much more ‘work friendly’ if we respond to your text when we are at work. Contacts are:  
- Carly Kirk 0414 427804 &  
- Jenny Bradfield 0412 321447

**Volunteers Needed**

We would also like to send out another SOS for any more volunteers that would like to join one of our Tue/Wed or Thurs teams. An extra pair of hands would be gratefully appreciated by many of our teams & your children will love you even more sushi orders have now doubled, so well done to all those who have supported this lunch option!

Please Note: If you have missed out getting soy sauce with your sushi please just return to the canteen & ask for some. It gets very busy when packing all the lunch orders & is easy to forget!

Thankyou  
Jenny W, Janelle, Carly, Michelle & Jenny B

### UNIFORM SHOP

**Opening Times**

Open during the school term every Thursday morning from 8:40am to 9:30am and the first Thursday evening of the month from 6pm to 7pm.

- **next evening open:** 7th March 2013

**DUE TO LACK OF ATTENDANCE, THE AGM WAS CANCELLED. WE NEED TO RESCHEDULE IT AND WE NEED AT LEAST 6 VOLUNTEERS TO ATTEND. PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR THE RESCHEDULED DATE SHORTLY.**

One of our lovely ‘evening’ volunteer helpers is leaving so we need to replace her. Please contact Michelle if you are interested in volunteering once a month in the evenings.

**Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th Feb</td>
<td>Michelle Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar</td>
<td>Michelle Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Michelle Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Michelle Kirchberger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Janine Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Belinda Schuster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Margaret Collier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Fiona West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar (PM)</td>
<td>Carolyn Pentecost</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Uniform Shop Contact Details**

Please email Michelle at: chelly_anderson@yahoo.com or phone her on 0407263686.

**Alterations**

For all alterations to school uniforms, please drop your clothes off at Uniform Shop on Thursdays. Finished alterations will be available for pick up the following Thursday. Thanks to Bernice Harker for this service who is also donating 10% of sales back to the school.

**Sale made on 21st February**

If you bought boys shorts, a short sleeve shirt and 3 long-sleeved shirts in a $100 credit card sale on Thursday 21st February, could you please contact Michelle Anderson on chelly_anderson@yahoo.com or 0407 2630686.

Michelle Anderson
SCHOOL UNIFORM REVIEW – AN UPDATE

2011
In 2011 Winston Hills Public School P&C started the process of a uniform review. It is a long process and the DEC guidelines are being followed. The first step was asking parents, students and staff what they didn’t like about the uniform.

- The parent survey found the most disliked items were the hats and the boys’ white shirts. Next most disliked, but with a lot fewer responses were girls’ winter pants and the sports tops.
- The students did not like the boys’ white shirts, hat, the girls’ uniform (all), sports uniform and boys socks.
- Of the 10 staff who responded; 4 wanted to keep the uniform as is, 4 wanted House names on sports shirts, 2 stated they wanted to keep the yellow hat for safety reasons, 2 wanted a green hat, 2 wanted culottes for girls to be able to sit / play in more comfort, 2 did not like the girls’ winter pants and 1 wanted a total revamp of the uniform.

2012
The uniform committee, consisting of staff, parents and students met and analysed the results.

- They decided that a ‘new look’ one uniform for everything, would address all the things that were disliked about the uniform.
- They got a prototype made but it wasn’t quite as requested, but was used it to get a general feel about a new style of uniform.
- At the end of last year a referendum style vote was conducted to see whether it was worth pursuing this style of uniform or not.

2013
The results of the vote were collated.

- The results showed that more people preferring the new look uniform than the current uniform. The committee will now go one step further and get a better sample and story board made up for another vote. There will be culottes or a similar summer option for girls and the winter option will also be included.
- If this vote results in the new look uniform being the preferred option, then the change will occur. If not, it could be used as our sports uniform and a vote can be made on the boys’ shirts and hats.
- The advantages of the revamped uniform are:
  - that most staff and students think that it will make playing / sitting easier for girls
  - it is simpler and easy to wash
  - sport can be participated in at any time on any day
  - the girls will be more comfortable.
- The common concerns mentioned by parents are that:
  - the new look uniform is too informal
  - the boys and girls not being easily identified.
- They are asking two companies to do better samples and as soon as they are received they will be displayed.

Belinda Schuster
Uniform Review Committee

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

- Monday 18th March - Stage 2 (Years 3&4)
- Tuesday 19th March - Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)
- Wednesday 20th March - Stage 3 (Years 5& 6)
- Thursday 21st March - Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)
- Friday 22nd March - Support Classes

Please see accompanying information sheet on how to make on-line bookings.
Please see your child’s teacher if you do not have internet access.
SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Your Term 1 school account was sent home last Friday with your child.

- Your term 1 account is required to be paid by 22nd March, 2013. We accept cash, cheque or credit card (Visa & M/Card). If you are unable to meet this deadline, you will need to contact Judy Jones, Administration Manager to request an extension of time.

- Accounts which are not paid and we have received no communication from you, unfortunately will be placed on the PAY-AS-YOU-GO system. You will need to finalise all overdue accounts before we will be able to process payments for future activities.

If you have any questions or concerns in regards to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 9639 8518.

Judy Jones – Administration Manager

BLACK AND WHITE MUFTI DAY – CHARITY FUNDRAISER

Next Wednesday, 13th March we will be having a black and white mufti day to raise money for Ronald McDonald House. This is a not-for-profit organisation that supports seriously ill children and their families, and is located at Westmead hospital.

This charity and mufti theme was chosen by the Stage 3 students. We hope that all children will be wearing black and white mufti clothes and bringing a gold coin to raise money for this wonderful organisation.

Stage 3 students

READING WITH YOUR CHILD AT HOME

When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.


POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL) – TERM 1 UPDATE

This year will be our second year of implementation and we are looking forward to building on the tremendous success of 2012. Our focus for 2013 will be reinforcing the school rules – we are safe, we are respectful and we are responsible – in the playground and classroom and rewarding students for positive behaviour with Winnie awards. We will be purchasing large signs to be displayed in each playground which reinforce this behaviour and these will be up towards the end of Term 1.

This Wednesday, 6th March, our PBL mascot, ‘Winnie’, will be making a guest appearance at lunch to announce the house with the most Winnie awards from Weeks 3-5. The house with the most Winnie awards over Term 1 will receive a reward in Week 11.

Winnie will also be ‘talking’ with the students about our focus area for the next two weeks: ‘playing the right game in the right area’. Starting this week, students will receive Winnie awards for playing appropriate games in concrete areas (handball, passive games) and grass areas (games with larger balls, running games).

We look forward to another successful year of PBL.

David MacSporran
PBL Team

NSW Department of Education and Communities

Living and learning together
5/6 Watermelons
Hanging with our buddies in KH Bugs

Lego

Playdough

Art and Craft

Reading together

Dress up!