Dear Parents and Carers

The Award Season
Last night, I attended the SWS Aboriginal Awards ceremony at UWS in Campbelltown. Di Smith, Narelle and I were so proud of Chance in Green Class who received a literacy award for all his hard work in reading in the classroom. Chance was supported by his mum and many other family members and was very proud of his medal and certificate. This is the second year a student has gained an award at this event and we should all feel proud of our students.

This evening, I am attending the SWS Director’s Choice awards ceremony, where I am proud to say we have won an award for excellence in using technology across the school. I am sure many of you saw the ‘60 Minutes’ program earlier this term that showed people using iPads to communicate and learn. I know that in each classroom, students are using iPads to communicate and learn just as effectively. It is fantastic to think all the hard work staff has put into using technology to increase student learning has been recognised. Congratulations to everyone.

School Camp
Many of our high school students attended the annual school camp at Teen Ranch in Cobbitty. A great time was had by all, with the students attempting many activities that were quite challenging – I know I was not the only staff member who was a little nervous on the giant swing! Many thanks to all the staff who gave up nights of family life to accompany the students at the camp.

School Spectacular
School Spectacular is nearly upon us again – our group of six enthusiastic students will be part of 150 plus students with disabilities performing at the Entertainment Centre. I am sure you will join me in wishing them good luck, and watch out for their performance when the show is broadcast later on!

Diary Dates.........
November 23/24th School Spectacular
December 11         Presentation Day
December 19         Last day T4 for students
January 30 2013 Students return to school

Peanut Allergy
Just a reminder not to pack peanut related foods for your child to bring to school. This includes nutella sandwiches. Some of our students have severe peanut allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Formal
We held our annual farewell and reunion of students last Friday night at a new venue, Lakeside Country Club. We had a great night and were so happy to have such a great turn out at the new venue. From feedback, we will make a number of small changes to ensure everyone has the best time possible. I look forward to seeing many of our current Year 12 students at the formal next year, as we have a number of excellent dancers amongst the group.

New Staff
I am delighted to announce that Sarah Clissold has been permanently appointed to Passfield Park School. Sarah has been teaching Silver Class with Sharon all year and has become the school’s computer coordinator too. We are delighted that she is now able to remain part of our school team.

Presentation Day
Just a reminder that our Presentation Day will be on Tuesday, December 11, in the small hall in Sarah Redfern PS. We look forward to all families and friends joining us to celebrate students’ work throughout 2012.

Best wishes

Julie

Check out our school website
www.passfield-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
A Very Hungry Caterpillar in Orange Class

As we enter our final term for 2012, Orange Class has produced many props during art to use in their assembly item ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ by Eric Carle and did a magnificent job in retelling the story. The students used the theme from this book to develop their number skills, days of the week sequencing, sentence structure, word recognition and have even assembled their own readers to enjoy the story at every opportunity and develop their reading. Orange Class has also been working hard on their balance and bike riding skills in PE over the last few weeks and are now able to ride the larger bikes on the bike track.

Cheryl and Julie

Christmas on the way in Pink Class

So that Pink Class students could consolidate the skills they were developing last term, we decided to do bowling for sport again this term and were pleasantly surprised by the skills students had retained. It was encouraging to discover that students remembered how to correctly place their fingers in the holes of a bowling ball and could competently pick up and carry the bowling balls with two hands without prompting. Their increasing independence when changing in and out of their bowling shoes is also commendable.

In Cooking, sandwich making skills are progressing well with some students knowing the routine for making a sandwich and attempting to make their own sandwich with minimal assistance. Although further spreading practice is needed to spread margarine evenly over the slices of bread, significant improvement has been made in this area. With the warmer weather, we have experimented with making fruit salad so that students can practise cutting and slicing soft fruits, such as, banana, watermelon, strawberries and grapes.

Christmas is the focus of our art and craft activities this term and we have already produced Christmas artworks, including stars, stockings and Christmas trees.

Cheryl and Sonia

Little Scientists in Green Class

Sport is proving to be very popular this term with everyone enjoying our ten pin bowling session each Wednesday. Students are building upon their skills learnt earlier in the year and it is wonderful to see students’ encouraging each other’s efforts and achievements.

In Science, Green Class has been learning about Living Things and is enjoying watching the seeds they have planted beginning to sprout and their tadpoles grow legs and transform into froglets. Each day students enthusiastically check on their seedlings’ and froglets’ progress and talk about the growth and changes they observe.

We would like to congratulate Chance on his recent Aboriginal Student Achievement Award to recognise his outstanding effort and achievements in Literacy this year. Well done Chance, we are very proud of you!

Di, Narelle, Mandy and Rob
Lots to do in Blue Class
Blue Class have had a very hectic start to Term 4. At the beginning of term, Blue Class students were invited to school camp at Teen Ranch with high school. We had the opportunity to try canoeing, a giant swing, bush tucker, horse riding, swimming and crate climbing! We also played cricket, went out for a night bushwalk and had a camp fire. The marshmallows and damper were a big success. We are so proud of the students trying all these different activities. They're a fearless bunch! Please see the Teen Ranch photo page for all our exploits.

We have also started swimming as our sport this term. We go swimming at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre every Monday—so remember your swimmers! Blue Class continue their canteen program—which is every Tuesday. Ice blocks (Zooper Doopers) have been added to the menu, to cool us down in the summer heat. Students in high school are just starting a new vegetable program to replace paper run as our work experience. Students are collecting orders for vegetables from staff, sorting the money and change, as well as counting, weighing and bagging the vegetables for delivery to staff. We have already started organising ourselves for Christmas with art and craft activities—Term 4 always flies by–so we’re trying to be as organised as possible! Blue Class would like to wish Ethan all the best for his operation in two weeks.

Mat and Michele

Great Fun at Camp for White Class
White Class has been busy this term. We joined Purple and Blue Classes for an enjoyable three days at Teen Ranch. For some students this was their first time at camp. Students who were old hands were able to tell them all the fun things to expect when they got there. Some of the highlights were horseriding with Zane particularly liking the grooming of the horses; the giant swing with Blair overcoming his fear of being hoisted up and swinging among the tree tops; and Norm always going back for seconds to satisfy his enormous appetite. Keeghan, Shada and Ben enjoyed the swimming and Brooke and Denae made delicious damper. Photos of our camp experiences are on the special high school camp page.

Keeghan, Ben, Mark, Shada and Denae made delicious damper. Photos of our camp experiences are on the special high school camp page.

Keeghan, Ben, Mark, Shada and Denae looked fabulous for our school formal last Friday. Everyone enjoyed the music and dancing, especially Gangnam Style.

Thank you to Rami for being our aid whilst Kris has had her broken ankle. He has done a great job!

Birthday wishes to Denae.

Olena

Yellow Class Criss Crossing
Yellow Class has been learning how to cross the road.
We know that we must ‘Stop, Look, Listen and Think’ before we cross the road. When we get to the curb we all stop and wait till it is safe to cross. We must hold the hand of an adult before crossing. We have been singing songs and rhymes about Road Crossing. Izzy’s Road Safety website has been used to test our knowledge.
On this website we have found the recipe for making ‘Traffic Light’ sandwiches. We made these as part of our cooking. Although we made them, not all of us enjoyed eating them. When we iced biscuits and used Smarties as traffic light that was far more popular.
Also this term we have been learning about the Life Cycle of a Butterfly. We have watched as our silkworms hatch, grow and now spin their cocoons. We look forward to watching the moths hatch and lay some eggs.

Alison and Kris

Multicultural Disability Advocacy Assoc of NSW
MDAA advocates for people from non English speaking backgrounds (NESB) with a disability, their families and carers. It aims to promote, protect and secure the rights and interests of people from NESB with disability, their families and carers in NSW.
The CALD Sibling Support Network is a pilot project providing networking opportunities for young people between 10 and 18 years of age who have a brother or sister with disability. The project will comprise three stages:
Creative ideas camp,
Intensive digital media workshops
Web based communication/leadership workshops.
For further information, please contact the association at PO Box 884, Granville NSW 2142
10-12 Hutchinson Street, Granville Telephone: 9891 6400
Silver Class has had a busy return to Term 4. For sport this term Ben, Vito, Daniel, Mayss, Phillip and Claire have been practicing their gross motor skills at Lollipop Playland. They have participated in a whole lot of climbing, balancing, and jumping and also enjoy the slides and the carousel. It surely wears them out and is fun for the big kids too.

This term we also began shopping to purchase our ingredients for cooking. We have been cooking some yummy lunch meals that everyone loves. The children enjoy walking to the shops as we practice road safety, check off our shopping list, carry our items in the basket, check out and carry our ingredients back to school. Lots of jobs get shared between all the students.

On Wednesday, Silver Class visited some farm animals at Sarah Redfern Preschool. The students interacted with the animals and saw animals they may have never seen before in real life. Claire and Phillip loved the pigs, Vito and Ben had fun with the goats, Daniel enjoyed patting the rabbits and the sheep and Mayss liked to watch the chickens and ducks play.

In our H.S.I.E. unit, the students continue to explore patterns in their special places and locations. We have traced different shapes to create houses and practice looking after our personal belongings and our school. Check out our hard work on display in the school foyer.

We are looking forward to Phillip’s birthday party this Friday at Hungry Jacks! Happy 7th Birthday Phillip!

Sarah and Sharon

Fruity Bites in Red Class

Red Class made a busy start to Term 4. We welcomed a new student, Dipta to our class. He has settled in and has started to initiate interactions with peers.

Students continue to shop for cooking ingredients. On Wednesday mornings we carry our own wallets, shopping list and bags to Minto Fruit Orchard. Students walk to the shops practicing safe road crossing. Each student selects a piece of fresh fruit of their choice and bags it. At the checkout, students look at the price on the screen, hand money, receive change and receipt and place these in their wallets. The staff at the shops are always happy and are very impressed with the way we do our shopping.

Back at school we make fruit salad, practice cutting and slicing. All students do a great job!

Red Class go swimming for sports to Eagle Vale pool on Thursday mornings. We are building upon our swimming skills learnt during Swimming Scheme earlier in the year. It’s great to watch students cool themselves in this warm weather and have fun too!

We enjoyed presenting our Wednesday assembly item, ‘We’ve Got the Whole World in Our Hands.’ It was wonderful watching the students’ coordinated singing and signing.

We are ready for Christmas craft, cooking, songs and stories.

Sukhraj and Naiomi
Term 4 started with camp at Teen Ranch which was lots of fun as usual. It was great to have so many of the high school students come to camp this year. The weather was lovely and the food was delicious. Our activities included swimming and pool games; horse riding and grooming the horses; canoeing - a few people got wet; bush cooking – we made damper with golden syrup; the challenge course where we had to work together to solve problems; crate climbing – lots of people made it to the top or higher than they have before and Mr Fleming, Rami and Mrs Davies all climbed the hard way; a hike and marshmallow roasting over the fire; the giant swing which was scary but nearly everybody had a go. We even had some spare time when we got to play volleyball, cricket and football or just sit, relax and enjoy the view. To have a look at the exciting time we had, please have a look at our photos on page 7.

We also celebrated at the High School Formal with our Year 12 students – Joe Sukkar, Joe Roach, Rhys Bunyan and Guemil Bandonill. It was lovely to catch up with past students and staff as well as the students and their families. We are sad that they will be leaving us this year but we would like to wish them all the best in the future. We will miss them all.

We are still working hard in class with English, Maths and other subject lessons continuing each week. We are no longer doing paper run but have begun a new program which involves all the students from the high school classes in buying, packing and collating orders of fruit and vegetables. At present we are only selling to staff but we hope to expand our market next year.

Alison, Jan and Jeanette

TUESDAY IS CANTEEN DAY!
Canteen— Summer Menu

Now that the weather is warming up—Blue Class are also offering zooper doopers as one of our canteen items. The canteen program is available to all students and practices skills learnt in the Clark Road Money Program. Students have the opportunity to choose from a visual menu, fill out an order form with their name and select the correct money to pay for the item. Blue class count all the orders, prepare the food and pack and deliver the orders. It gives all students an excellent opportunity to practice key skills including using forms, writing their name and money. We would like to thank you all for your continued support of our canteen program.

Mat, Michele and Blue Class

50c chips $1 can of drink 50c sultanas $1 sausage rolls $1 party pies zooper dooper $0.50
Highschool Camp—Teen Ranch, 2012