Dear Parents and Carers

I am happy to announce that Mrs Cheryl Armishaw was successful in the recent teacher selection panel. Cheryl has been working at Passfield Park School all year as a release from face to face teacher two days a week, and has been a valuable and very enthusiastic member of staff. Cheryl has a wealth of experience in teaching students with special needs and I am sure that you will join me in welcoming her to the school community. Cheryl will take up her appointment officially next term, but will be with us from the start of week seven as the full time teacher of Orange Class. I would like to thank Glenda Solway for working so well with Orange Class after Belinda left last term. She has done a great job following through with the class program. May I also thank Naioi for being a fantastic aide for the class who has helped the students and teachers to continue with the established programs. Naioi will continue to work with many of the students in Orange Class and across the school.

New School Learning Support Officer
Julie Bonfield is now the School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) for Orange Class and has been a great addition to our staff. Julie was worked previously at Les Powell School but has been known to our students for years as a taxi driver. We are really pleased to welcome her to the school community.

Chilly mornings and bus dangers
We are all finding it cold first thing in the morning at school – it’s good to see all the students arriving rugged up against the cold weather. I would also like to remind all parents and carers to bring their children to school via our main entrance, through the office area. Coming through the gates each morning as the taxis are trying to leave is very dangerous for pedestrians. I ask all families to ensure student safety by using the main entrance near the bike track. Thank you for your support.

Staff development day on Wednesday, 6th June
Just a reminder there will be no school for students on Wednesday 6th June as all the teachers and SLSOs are attending conferences. The change of staff development day this term allows staff to attend high quality professional development courses to meet individual needs. Many thanks for supporting this. School will return on Thursday, 7th June.

McDonald’s in Macarthur is proud to support local schools through the McDonald’s Encouragement Awards.

Hungry Jack’s in Minto is proud to support local schools through the Hungry Jack’s Junior Chocolate Fundraiser
Our hard working and enthusiastic P&C still have a number of chocolates for sale. Last term we raised over $700 to support our school through the generosity of family and friends purchasing Freddos and Caramels. I was inspired to write this through chocolate power! Please contact Bianca or send a message through the office if you would like to support the students by selling chocolates.

Julie Raciborska

Check out our school website
www.passfield-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
Pink Class hit the shops

Pink Class students participated well in Anzac celebrations, adapting to the change in routine and enjoying the variety of activities which ranged from making Anzac biscuits to dressing up. As the classes rotated around the nine set up activities, students not only had the opportunity to engage in the various activities but also had the experience of visiting other classrooms and participating in a whole school celebration.

In Week 3, Pink Class recommenced gymnastics for sport at Yotala Gym Club, but this term we are attending on Thursdays rather than Mondays. In Week 3, we also started shopping at the local shopping centre.

Each Tuesday, we walk to the local supermarket and buy grocery items for our cooking session. Each student wears a lanyard with a photo of the grocery item they are to locate or the duty they are to perform such as carrying the shopping basket around the store or paying the cashier. During our shopping excursions, we practise recognising the pedestrian crossing, holding hands, staying with the group, stopping at the roadside, looking for traffic and waiting until it is safe to cross. So far each student has been exceptionally well-behaved while shopping and a pleasure to take shopping.

Silver Class has been a very busy class. We have been working on our ‘me’ books and learning about our community places.

In creative arts the students have been making replicas of themselves and the special people in their families. They look great!

Silver class has been very active and are having fun at gymnastics where they are building their core strength, balance and flexibility.

In class we have been using the iPads and computers and practicing our fine motor skills.

Kindergarteners are enjoying their time at the library where we have story time, singing and get involved in some craft.

The students have been practicing their spreading skills during cooking and enjoyed the yummy outcome.

It’s all about “ME” in Silver Class

Cheryl, Sonia and Rob

Sarah and Sharon
Red Class are cooking up a storm
Red class is working hard at improving their literacy skills. Each student is engaging in text at their own level. While some are enjoying reading and writing and are starting to spell new words, others are more comfortable using visual prompts to read familiar text. In numeracy our focus is on hands-on experience when dealing with numbers. Some students are working on place value of numbers while others are practising ‘one more’.

Red class took keen interest in the ANZAC Day activities, listening to talks, making poppy flower to wear and holding and looking at the war medals.

For sport we are going bowling this term. Red Class looks forward to these sessions. The students are very competitive and at the same time supportive of theirs peers. They love watching the scoreboard and comparing scores. We enjoy hot chips after practising our bowling skills.

Red Class is improving their shopping skills. They are able to read their shopping list with minimal support and will locate ingredients for cooking in the aisles comfortably. Everyone is on their best behaviour in the food court of Minto Mall while practising eating in public. Back at school Red Class is cooking mini pizzas. They choose their own topping of cheese, ham and pineapple and we are learning not to waste food. Red Class is getting better at washing up and putting away dishes after cooking.

Kicking goals in White Class
Term 2 has had a great start with the students of White Class participating in Anzac Day celebrations, having AFL coaching, making their toasted sandwiches and working well in class.

Mrs Perry organised Anzac Day with the students participating in various activities: dressing in military clothing; making Anzac biscuits; learning about the history of rosemary and pinning a sprig to wear; listening to a story about the ANZACs; making poppies; listening to a Vietnam veteran and trying on his slouch hat and holding his medals; colouring in an Anzac poster. The school then participated in an Anzac memorial ceremony.

For sport we have been fortunate in having AFL coaching. The students are learning how to pass an AFL ball and are participating in various ball skill games. They look forward to sport every Tuesday.

As sport has encroached on our cooking time, the students are making their own toasted sandwiches for lunch. They choose their filling, make the sandwich and take it over to the toaster. Some are coming back for seconds.

Olena and Kris

Sukhraj, Anna & Julie
Outings galore for Purple Class

Purple Class finished last term with a bowling party to celebrate Guemil’s birthday and a great (but long) day at the Easter Show. Daniel has written a short report on our day.

Daniel’s Report
When we got to the show Purple Class went to see the High Dive show. After that we went to see the animals and went to the milking show. Some of the class went on the Giant Slide. All of Purple Class went on the Dodgems and some of us went on the Psychedelic. After that we went to get showbags. Then we had dinner.

This term, we are enjoying different outings for community access. This week we are attending a commemoration service honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Servicemen and Servicewomen at the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park. Next week we are heading to Trainworks at Thirlmere and later in the term, we will be visiting the Museum of Fire at Penrith. Footy tips are up to round 11. The girls from White Class are leading the way, with Shada on top with 116 points, followed by Denae on 112, Terry on 108, Daniel on 104 and Mr Fleming on 100. For sport this term, we have been playing some games that develop skills for AFL.

Anzac acknowledgement in Green

Green Class has quickly settled back into all class activities. Students joined in the school’s ANZAC celebrations and assembly and had a great day. The class especially enjoyed making ANZAC biscuits with Mrs Perry and crepe paper poppies, as well as dressing up in different military uniforms and examining other wartime artefacts. Ronnan and Chance were particularly interested in Bruce’s life as a soldier in the Vietnam War and asked lots of questions.

We are very pleased to see each student working well in Reading and Maths groups and look forward to another productive term.

Di, Narelle and Rob
Blue Class is ‘showing off’

Blue Class is continuing our canteen program and have started our winter menu. Chips and sultanas are still available for 50c, and drinks, pies and sausage rolls are all $1. Thank you for your continued support—the canteen program is an excellent opportunity for students to practise their money skills.

High school have been identifying their favourite places or activities in school as part of our “Great Schools Show Off” technology project. Below are some pictures of our favourite places, activities and people!

Blue Class has been bowling as part of our sport program this term. Everyone is improving fast—and all students have managed to score a strike, professional bowlers look out.

Exciting times in Orange Class

I have enjoyed my time with the energetic Orange Class. This term we started bowling and already many of us are bowling unaided.

We love making a variety of fruit flavoured pancakes in our cooking lessons.

We welcome our newest student to Orange class, Aaron, also Mrs Cheryl Armishaw who will commence as class teacher in Week 7 and Ms Julie Bonfield will be the School Learning Support Officer for the remainder of 2012.

A big thankyou to Naiomi for all your help and dedication in Orange class.

Glenda, Julie & Naiomi

Yellow Cass is learning about the senses. This term we have been exploring our sense of touch. We have walked around the school touching different surfaces and finding some are rough even though they look smooth and some are prickly. We have even noticed that some feel cold while others are hot.

In art we have been making hands with different textures. Also we have been using our sense of touch using different sensory play activities. We really enjoyed working with shaving cream and with ‘goo’.

We have found that when we do cooking we use nearly all of our senses – touch, sight, taste, smell and even hearing as we wait for the bell to ring when our muffins are cooked.

For sport this term we are visiting the gym.

Some of us are very adventurous while others are more cautious. Our instructor is stretching us and is encouraging us to try new things.

Alison and Kris

Mat and Michele

Being sense..cible in Yellow Class
10 Things to tell/ask your doctor

Parents should tell their doctor as much as they can about their child's asthma in order to discuss and agree on the best and most appropriate treatment. Here's a handy guide for parents to help discuss their child's asthma with their GP.

**Ten things to ask your doctor**
1. What is the overall severity of my child's asthma?
2. How do I recognise a severe asthma attack and what do I do if this happens?
3. What medications does my child need to take for asthma?
4. What is the difference between reliever, preventer, symptom controller or combination medications used to treat asthma?
5. How should I give the medication to my child? Do I need to use a spacer device?
6. How do I use the inhaler? Can you check that the technique is correct?
7. Can I have a written Asthma Action Plan that tells me what medications to take regularly and how to recognise if my child's asthma is getting worse, what to do if this happens and how to get help quickly? Can you go through it with me so I understand it?
8. What things might trigger my child's asthma?
9. (If exercise is a trigger) How can I prevent and manage exercise-induced asthma, so that I can keep my child as active as possible?
10. When do I need to come back to have my child's asthma reviewed?

**Ten things to tell your Doctor**
1. How often your child has symptoms of asthma.
2. Any changes to your child's asthma that have happened since the last visit. If you think the preventer is/is not working, tell your doctor this.
3. What things trigger asthma symptoms in your child, and if your child has asthma symptoms when exercising or doing activity.
4. If your child has days off school or your child is limited in the activity they can do because of asthma.
5. How often your child needs to use reliever asthma medication.
6. If you have trouble remembering to give your child's preventer medication regularly.
7. If you have difficulty giving the medication to your child (ie using the device that has been prescribed).
8. If your child is using any other medications or treatments, including complementary (non-medical) treatments.
9. If your child uses a peak flow meter and you have a record of readings, or if you keep a diary of asthma symptoms – show this to the doctor.
10. If you are worried about your child's asthma.

Find a doctor you are comfortable with and trust. It is important that you find a doctor who can help you by explaining how you should manage your child's asthma and who can answer your questions. If you are not happy with your doctor, ask friends if they have someone they could recommend.

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**MACARTHUR TEMPORARY FAMILY CARE INC.**

"KIDZ CLUB"

**After School Activities**
**For CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY & their siblings**

**Age:** 5 to 14 years old

**Why:** To have fun
Develop social skills and make new friends
An opportunity for parents to meet other families

**When:** Thursday afternoons 4pm to 5pm
**Where:** PCYC Minto Rd Minto

**Cost:** $5 per child

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CONTACT**
Kathy McMahon (Coordinator)
Macarthur Temporary Family Care Inc
(02) 4648 5041

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**School A to Z - tips, tools and resources**
Join the conversation at our exciting new online school community for parents where you can also get expert guidance on a range of issues facing your child, or look up the great list of homework and assignment starters.
School-Link

School-Link is a state-wide initiative funded by NSW Health working in partnership with Department of Education and Training and other services. This collaboration aims to improve mental health for children and young people, as well as enhancing partnerships between child and adolescent mental health services and their local schools and TAFE colleges.

Get in Touch—we can help education and health staff with:

- Finding the right service for a child, young person and their family
- Consultation on complex cases—we are experienced clinicians and happy to help
- Ideas on supporting mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention
- Accessing training to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Accessing information on evidence-based practice

We also welcome your suggestions and contributions—drop us a line if you’d like to share information on your service, project or other initiatives.

Belinda Cooley
School-Link Program Manager
www.icamhs.com.au

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Street Address: Area Mental Health
Level L1,
Liverpool Hospital, Liverpool

Subscribing to Newsletter

If you would like to receive your own copy of the School Link newsletter:

email
vivian.benjamin@sswhs.nsw.gov.au

Include
Name
Job Title
Organisation
Address
Phone number
Email
Congratulations to our students of the week

Ronnan

Deneae

Connor

Molly

Cassandra

Mikayla

Geumil

Phillip

Joseph