Dear parent/caregiver

Term 3 Week 10

Despite the extreme weather conditions last Wednesday, our school managed very well. Many parents took the opportunity to keep their asthmatic children home for the day which proved to be a very wise move. Despite low class numbers the teachers did a great job keeping their classes running and making sure the students were out of the horrendous weather.

Staffing News

Ms Smith (Mrs Berwick) gave birth to a little boy on Tuesday 22 September. Her son, who is yet to be named, weighed 2.79kg and was 48cm long. We wish Ms Smith (Mrs Berwick), her husband and new son all the best for the coming years.

Mrs Sullivan will be taking maternity leave at the beginning of Term 4. 3/4SO will be taken by Mrs White on Thursdays and Fridays for the rest of the year.

Spellathon

Heartfelt thanks to all the students, their families and friends who supported the school in the recent Spellathon. Thanks to you generous sponsorship, the school has raised $11,525.95. This is a fantastic effort and we are extremely appreciative. Prizes will be distributed on Wednesday morning. Funds raised will enable the school to purchase another electronic whiteboard for classrooms. We currently have three on order and will look forward to the extra purchase the spellathon has provided.

Reach Concert

Last Wednesday, despite terrible weather conditions, the students from the Learning Neighbourhood schools launched the inaugural performing arts concert. Rehearsals were held during the day in preparation for the evening performance on Wednesday and the matinee and evening performance on Thursday. Our students performed brilliantly and showed their many talents—singing, dancing and performing in the concert band. It was fantastic to see how many parents attended the performances and marvelled at the talent of the students.

Tremendous thanks to Mrs Helen Anderson who has coordinated our school’s contributions along with teachers from the three other Learning Neighbourhood schools. Sincere thanks also go to the teachers who worked with students to get the various items ready for performance—Mrs Bartlett (Mary Poppins dancers), Mrs Booth (djembe drummers), Mrs Rolfe and Mrs Guerin (choir) and to the many teachers who attended the concerts and helped to supervise students between items. The concerts were a true celebration of both the talents of public school students and their teachers.

Talk to a Literacy Learner

Last Thursday we concluded the very informative Talk to A Literacy Learner course for parents on reading. The course was well supported by parents and provided great insight into how parents can support their children while reading at home. A huge thank you to Mrs Heywood, Ms Rendes, Miss Nafe and Mrs Lietch who all presented sessions. We hope to provide further information courses for parents early next year.

Public Speaking Competition

The school final of the public speaking competition will be held on Wednesday this week. Parents of participating students have been invited to attend along with their respective classes. It should be a very entertaining morning and we wish all students the best of luck during their speeches.

Issues at School

From time to time problems arise between students. On most occasions, students are able to sort these problems out for themselves. Sometimes, parents may be concerned that the problem is not being settled as quickly as possible or it is getting more serious. When these difficulties persist, parents should always contact the school so that we can help students work through the problems and come up with an appropriate solution. Parents should never approach other children involved in issues with their child themselves. This could be misinterpreted as intimidation or harassment and could lead to further more difficult problems.

Should you think your child could benefit from some help to solve problems, please contact their class teacher if it is a classroom issue, or the appropriate stage supervisor. They are:

Early Stage 1  Mrs Umback
Stage 1      Ms D’Arcy
Stage 2      Miss Donegan
Stage 3      Mrs Jamieson

Mr Holstien and I are also available to discuss any concerns with you. Please ring the office to make an appointment.

Afternoon Dismissals

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Parents are also reminded that they are not to take other children home with them if a parent has failed
to come to school. Sometimes parents are a few minutes late and although distressing for students it is equally upsetting for the late parent to find their child is missing. If you come across a child whose parents are late in collecting them from school, please take them to the teacher supervising bus students or to the office. We will then contact the parents concerned.

**Arrival at School**

A number of students have not been coming directly to school in the morning. We have come across students walking past the school gates to the shops to buy lollies for their recess or cans of coke to drink before school. Parents are asked to talk to their children about going directly to school in the morning and they should perhaps monitor what is being bought for recess. Nutritious food is available from the canteen and can be ordered for recess and lunch. There have been some very concerning incidents that have occurred at the shops previously – armed hold-ups, assaults and indecent exposures. It is for the children’s wellbeing that we discourage students from going to the shops unsupervised before school.

### Peanut Allergies

Parents are urged to consider **not sending** peanut products to school for their children to eat. This includes peanut butter sandwiches. We have more than 12 students with peanut allergies requiring the administration of an ePipen in the event of eating or coming in contact with peanuts. This would greatly assist in managing potential life threatening situations.

### Kindergarten Enrolments 2010

We are currently seeking enrolments of students into Kindergarten in 2010. We have an excellent Kindergarten program and need to establish how many students we can accept next year. It is important to complete enrolment forms early so that a place can be reserved for your child. Make sure you have contacted the office so that you and your child don’t miss out on the orientation program that will start next term with the information evening for parents on Wednesday 11 November and then the visits for new Kinder children that will follow on Thursday – 19, 26 November, and 3 December.

If your child turns five by 31 July 2010, then he/she is eligible to start school next year. Parents are urged to get enrolment forms from the school and complete them now, ready for next year. You might like to share this information with your neighbours. Please contact the office for enrolment forms.

### Lies and fibs

When children don't tell the truth it can be very worrying for parents. It is easy to become upset about the lie and to overlook what it means to the child.

**Remind yourself:**

- Telling the truth is something that children learn over years, not something they know from birth.
- Young children want to please parents more than anything else. They may avoid telling the truth if they think it will make parents cross.
- Teach children the difference between truth and untruth, but remember that it takes time before children are able to really understand.
- Explain why telling the truth is important to you.
- Set a good example by telling the truth yourself.

### Definitions

**English**

**Interrogative Pronouns:** are used to ask questions.

What is the right answer?

The interrogative pronouns are:

- who
- whom
- whose
- which
- what

**Maths**

**Chord:** a straight line in a circle that goes from one point on the circumference to another point on the circumference but does not go through the centre.

- chord

**Technology**

**Application, or application program,** is a software program that runs on your computer. Web browsers, e-mail programs, word processors, games, and utilities are all applications. The word "application" is used because each program has a specific application for the user. For example, a word processor can help a student create a research paper, while a video game can prevent the student from getting the paper done.

In contrast, system software consists of programs that run in the background, enabling applications to run. These programs include assemblers, compilers, file management tools, and the operating system itself. Applications are said to run on top of the system software, since the system software is made of "low-level" programs. While system software is automatically installed with the operating system, you can choose which applications you want to install and run on your computer.
Term 4
The spring vacation starts at 3.00pm on Friday 2 October and the school will be closed for two weeks. School resumes for both students and teachers on Monday 19 October. Please note there is not a ‘pupil-free day’ on the Monday and students are expected to be at school on this day.

Food for Thought
"A vacation frequently means that the family goes away for a rest, accompanied by a mother who sees that the others get it". Marcelene Cox

Pauline Baker 29.9.09
Principal

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Recipes Wanted!
Have you got a favourite recipe you like to make? Is there a special meal that everyone in your family loves? Yes! Then send a copy to the office for inclusion in the P&C school cook book. We are looking for all kinds of great recipes to include in the cook book which we hope to sell to our school community next term. Get thinking and send in your favourite recipe now!