From the Principal...

2013 Classes - Once again it has been an interesting week trying to finalise our class numbers. Whilst we do request that parents notify us before the end of the school year if they will be returning late at the start of the new school year, this can prove inaccurate. Last week we were still waiting for the return of 35 students. Such a large number has a major impact on the formation of classes. As parents would appreciate 35 students equals a whole class. However, we will be able to form our new classes late in the week. Parents should ensure they have an identified meeting point with their children. This avoids any confusion once classes change.

School Uniform - At the end of last year a large number of families completed school surveys. These surveys are used to identify areas for us to focus on and help to develop new initiatives and programs for our school. An interesting point came out of the data we gathered from the surveys. A number of families disagreed with the statement: The school promotes its uniform policy. This week I am including our uniform requirements in the newsletter, and I am challenging parents to be proactive in ensuring all students wear full and correct uniform to school each day. We can only enforce our uniform policy with the strong support of our parents and community. Our uniform policy clearly includes the wearing of a school hat and appropriate school shoes. Please take the time to read the uniform policy along with your child. Any uniform variations will be notified via the school newsletter. With parent support, this is an area we can make an immediate improvement in.

Anaphylaxis - As mentioned previously in the school newsletter, we have a number of students who have severe allergies to various food products. These students have specific health care plans in place to ensure their safety and appropriate medical care if required. These allergies are extremely serious, and as most of us can only imagine, worrying for parents. We are asking parents to be extremely mindful of the food products that are sent to school. It would be greatly appreciated if parents can avoid products such as peanut butter, nutella or any nut product. If we work together as a community and support these students and parents we can avoid creating a severe medical situation.

Tennis Superstar - As some of you may be aware, Miss Walter is a tennis fanatic! Recently she participated in the Australian Championships in Perth for people aged over 35. She had a very successful time. Miss Walter was awarded NSW Tennis Senior of the Year and won the teams event. She then participated in the individual events where she won the mixed and singles events and was runner-up in the over 35’s double’s event. She is currently ranked number 5 in the world! As a result of this Miss Walter has been selected to represent Australia in March this year. Unfortunately, these events do not attract funding or sponsorship, unlike the Tennis Tournaments we have recently witnessed over the holidays. We would like to show her our support by holding a mufti day on Wednesday 13 February. We are asking all students to come dressed as their favourite sports star, (a few tennis players would be great!), and bring a gold coin donation. The school will then present Miss Walter with a cheque to assist her to represent Australia and compete internationally.

Family Law Network Australia - recently a new website was launched called Family Law Network Australia. The website is a free information resource and referral service for family law matters. The information provided on our website could be very useful and of great benefit to some families in our community. This is a free service. You are invited to visit Family Law Network Australia at www.familylawmattersaustralia.com.au

P&C Second Hand Uniform Sale - The P&C will be holding a sale this Friday 8 February at 2pm outside the canteen.
**P&C Meeting** - The first meeting for P&C will be held next Wednesday 13 February. The meeting will take place in the staff room commencing at 7.00pm. All interested parents are welcome to come along. I’m sure the new P&C executive would love to see some new faces come along and be part of the discussions.

**School Uniform** - At Governor Philip King Public School we take great pride in our school uniform. The uniform is a reflection of our school. Please support our high standards and insist that your child wears their correct full school uniform each day. This includes the correct school hat and either black school shoes or black supportive joggers.

The school uniform policy states the following points in particular:

- Sports shoes which are not black can only be worn at sport times.
- Jewellery is not part of school uniform. Earrings should be studs or small sleepers. Watches are acceptable jewellery.
- As part of the ‘unsafe’ policy the school also has a ‘no hat no play’ rule. School purchased hats must be worn. This avoids a variety of colours and logos.

We are asking for parental support in upholding the uniform expectations of the school. Do **not** let your child convince you that alternative uniform items are acceptable. Please see below the full uniform requirements and expectations. If you are unsure or have any questions about our school uniform please contact the school office.

**School Colours**  Blue and Gold

**Uniform**

**Girls**

- **Summer**  Blue/white/gold check dress, white socks, suitable black footwear.

- **Winter**  Royal blue tracksuit with emblem on sloppy joe, long/short sleeve gold polo shirt underneath or an A-line school tunic, long sleeve gold polo shirt, blue tights/stockings or white socks. (The tunic does not take the place of the tracksuit but may be worn by students as an alternative).

**Boys**

- **Summer**  Grey shorts, blue polo shirt, grey socks, suitable black shoes.

- **Winter**  Grey slacks/shorts or royal blue tracksuit with emblem on sloppy joe, long/short sleeve gold polo shirt or blue polo shirt underneath.

  Zip front jackets with emblem on side front for both boys and girls.

**Sports Infants and Primary**

- **Girls**  Royal blue unisex shorts, gold polo shirt, white socks and suitable sports footwear.

- **Boys**  Royal blue unisex shorts, gold polo shirt, white or blue and gold football socks (Parramatta style), suitable sports footwear.

**Uniforms Available from School**

Sloppy joes with school emblem, track pants, zip front jackets with school emblem, sports socks, polo shirts, short (gold and blue) and long sleeved (gold), sports shorts, hats (boys and girls), metal badges, girls’ summer uniforms, checked tunics for Winter.

Boys grey shorts are readily available at any major department store.

**Hats**

The wearing of school hats in the playground and during all outdoor activities is compulsory. Children not wearing a school hat will be restricted to shaded areas only.

**Years 5 and 6 - The Collaroy Centre** - 3 day Excursion - Years 5 and 6 will participate in a 3 day / 2 night excursion to The Collaroy Centre. Students will be departing on **Tuesday 2 April 2013** and returning to school on **Thursday 4 April 2013**. **This excursion will not be offered in 2014. GPK will only be visiting The Collaroy Centre every second year.** The cost will be $270 which includes all meals, bus travel and accommodation. With all money needing to be finalised by the last week in **March 2013. Reserve your child’s place by returning a deposit to the front office by Friday 8 February 2013.**
Dear Parents,

On behalf of the P&C Association, I would like to welcome all parents to GPK. Like all schools, parents play a vital part in fund raising and organisation required to supplement school facilities. Please help your P&C by coming along to our meetings and adding your support. The first meeting for the year will be Wednesday 13th February at 7pm in the School office building (staffroom). All parents are welcome. Looking forward to an exciting 2013.

The P&C will be selling second hand uniforms on Friday 8 February at 2pm outside the canteen. If you would like to donate any old school uniforms, please bring them to the front office at any time. President P&C - Mark Cavanaugh - 0428 475 252.

Community Garden - This year we will be creating a community garden. We are planning to have a ‘Feng Shui’ themed garden area beside the netball court. To create this garden we need donations of small, old carpets or rugs. These will be used as weed mats. We will also need donations of old, coloured ceramic plates, bowls and mugs. These will be broken to create mosaic artworks to be displayed in the garden. Donations can be brought to the 4LT wet area on or before Friday 15 February. Thank You. Mrs Kumar, Ms McMahon & Ms Taylor.

Have a great week!

Jason Corcoran
Principal