From the Principal …

2014 Presentation Day Assemblies – Our formal presentation day assemblies will occur in Week 10. These are an opportunity to recognise students for their hard work, commitment and dedication to learning throughout 2014. The assemblies are as follows:

Wednesday 10 December - Year 5 and 6 assembly starts at 9am
    Year 1 and 2 assembly starts at 11.45am

Thursday 11 December - Year 3 and 4 assembly starts at 9am
    Kindergarten assembly starts at 11.45am

Friday 12 December - Sports Assembly 9am

Wednesday 17 December - Year 6 Graduation Assembly

Please be aware that these assemblies are formal occasions. Toddlers and young children need to remain seated and quiet and the expectation is that all mobile phones will be switched off at the start of the assembly. We are looking forward to seeing lots of parents and family members at our presentation day assemblies.

Social Media – I am asking all parents to be vigilant in checking and monitoring the Facebook accounts of students. Unfortunately we have had a number of recent incidents involving unpleasant comments and posts being made, as well as some behaviour that verges on bullying. I understand that students utilise social media to connect with family and friends, however, as has been stated on numerous occasions there are a number of items included in the statement of Rights and Responsibilities for Facebook use. I have listed these below (directly from the Facebook site). Please note that point 5 states that students will not use Facebook if they are under the age of 13. This is an agreement entered into when a Facebook account is established. If as a parent you chose to ignore this recommendation and allow your child to use Facebook or any other social media site and they are under the appropriate age, you can, as a parent, be held accountable for their comments and actions. We receive complaints from parents regarding Facebook activity of students from time to time. I will continue to put responsibility for social media activity back to parents. I will also redirect parents to Fairfield police for issues regarding bullying or inappropriate content. Please ensure you check the content of your child’s Facebook and other social media accounts.

Parliament Elections – Students and staff will be voting to elect our 2015 parliamentarians. Congratulations to all nominees on delivering great speeches and being effective role models for our school. I wish each nominee the best of luck. Parliamentarians, Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister will be announced at the Year 5 and 6 Presentation Day Assembly.

A Night of Stars - Don’t forget to buy your tickets for this fabulous GPK talent show. There are 2 shows: Monday, 1 December and Thursday, 4 December. Remember, there are limited tickets. So, buy your tickets early to secure your seat.

Tickets are only $2.50 (per person). All children must be accompanied by an adult! We hope to see you and your family there to support our wonderfully talented students at GPK.

Active Challenge – Active Challenge will finish this Thursday except for Karate which will finish on Tuesday, 2 December.
South Western Sydney Public Speaking Finals - Last Tuesday I attended the South Western Sydney Public Speaking Finals. The standard was very high. The impromptu topic was "Journeys". Our School was represented by Shylia Kumar. Her presentation was excellent and the adjudicator was extremely impressed by her prepared speech on "Challenges". Mrs Jones. Public Speaking coordinator.

Attendance - With 4 weeks of school left for this year it is timely to remind parents that students are expected to attend school each day. School and classroom programs continue to operate until the end of the year. If a student is absent a written note must be provided to the classroom teacher.

Different Types of Writing - Your child may be asked to present an assignment in a particular text type. Text types mean writing according to a purpose or an audience. For example, factual texts inform and literary texts entertain. This fact sheet gives several examples and the purpose of different types of writing. Find out more: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/eppcontent/glossary/app/resource/factsheet/4108.pdf


Does cartoon violence make kids more aggressive? - Lots of parents question the violence in many of today's cartoons and video games, but many of us grew up watching cartoons where violence was also a key ingredient. What does the research indicate about exposure of our kids to violence? Find out more: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/using-technology/does-cartoon-violence-make-kids-more-aggressive

Library News - Parent Borrowing - There will be no further parent borrowing for the remainder of the year. Please return all books as soon as possible as we have commenced our stocktake. Thank You. Ms Halabe.

2015 Enrolments - We have started looking at structures and staffing for the 2015 school year. We are requesting any families with students who will start Kindergarten next year to collect an enrolment form from the front office.

Values Education - The value for Week 8 is Thankfulness/Gratitude. Thankfulness is an expression and feeling of gratitude. It is an appreciation and acknowledgement of our family, friends, community and environment and their contribution to our well-being. When we are thankful we validate the good of others verbally and non-verbally. Children need to be able to show gratitude and be thankful for lots of things. Please discuss what your child/children can be thankful for. Encourage them to appreciate what they have and ask them what they have learnt in school about gratitude. Mrs S Kumar. Student Engagement.

Safe, Respectful Learner Program - The focus for Week 8 is 'Be a Learner - Be a problem solver'. When we are young, we rely on our parents, family and teachers to look after us and to solve any problems that we may encounter. However, as we grow older, we must learn to find answers and solutions for the many problems or questions that we might be faced with. Help your child/children to become a problem solver by encouraging them to take on small responsibilities at home and by giving them simple things to problems to solve at home. Ms A Dolz and Student Engagement Team.

P&C News - The next P&C Meeting is on Tuesday, 2 December and this will be the Annual General Meeting where the new committee will be elected. I urge all parents to come along and take part in the group that supports your children’s education and learn what goes on in the school. The Meetings are relaxed and informative evenings. We always have an enjoyable time at the events throughout the year. Get to know other parents and have fun supporting our children. Your children will spend over 70% of their early life at school and most will stay at the one primary school for all seven years. Please consider becoming a part of these vital years of your children’s school life. Come along and have your voice heard, be part of the school community and help support the education of your children. Looking forward to seeing you there.

We will be holding the last Second Hand Uniform stall of the year this Thursday, 27 November at 9am outside the office.

If you have a P&C enquiry please contact me on 0428 475 252 or email on gpks.pc@gmail.com, Mark Cavanaugh. P&C President.

Have a great week!
Jason Corcoran
Principal
FAIRFIELD’S CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

Please help GPK, help the Fairfield Uniting Church Diner to support the needy people within the Fairfield area this Christmas and in 2015.

DELIVER YOUR GIFT AND GROCERIES TO 2SM’s WET AREA
Tuesday 2 December

Please bring in at least one item each, to help feed hungry people in our local community.

ITEMS NEEDED

- TINS
  - vegetables
  - spaghetti
  - tuna
  - ham
  - baked beans
  - soups
  - fruits
  - cereals
  - soap
  - sauces
  - flour
  - jelly

- noodles
- juices
- all types of pasta
- long life milk
- tea
- coffee (jars)
- cordials
- biscuits
- lollies
- fruit cakes
- chocolates
- rice
- sugar
- pasta sauces
- cake mixes

- Toys for children- babies to 10 years- boys and girls and small gifts are also welcome

- NO PERISHABLE FOODS PLEASE

Advertisements

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Here in your school hall
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