Mothers’ Day - Mums play such an important role in our lives, from childhood through to being grown adults, we always need our mum. This special day is about celebrating and recognising all of the wonderful things mums do for us all. This Sunday is our opportunity to say thank you and spoil our Mum, Grandmas, Aunts and anyone in our families who is an amazing mother. Mothers’ Day is about spoiling mum with some special gifts that you bought or made and making sure she has a relaxing and enjoyable day. It might be as simple as letting mum have her cup of tea/coffee in peace, or watch her favourite show without being interrupted, washing the dishes, tidying up your room, helping to make lunch or dinner, being on your best behaviour, any gesture that helps mum to have a nice day. We would like to wish all of our Mums and Grandmothers a very happy Mothers’ Day on Sunday. We truly appreciate all of the amazing and wonderful things you do.

2015 Kindergarten Enrolments - We have already had a large number of parents making enquiries and completing applications for enrolment for Kindergarten in 2015. Please be aware that the DEC is currently in the process of changing school enrolment forms. This means we are unable to hand out enrolment forms to parents. However, parents are still able to come in and complete the expression of interest form and provide all of the usual documentation for their child to start Kindergarten in 2015. This will ensure you and your child is included in all important Kindergarten information sent out, particularly for Kindergarten Orientation. I would encourage families to have their child listed on our paperwork to ensure placement is available, particularly families seeking out of area enrolments. If you have family or friends whose child will be starting Kindergarten next year, please make them aware of the expression of interest process for enrolment at Governor Philip King.

Approaching Students - From time to time issues and disagreements occur between students. These are promptly resolved by our staff. Parents are reminded that under no circumstances should they approach another parent’s child or another parent to discuss or resolve an issue. This includes discussions or any type of intimidatory behaviour. Parents are urged to make an appointment with the classroom teacher or grade supervisor to seek clarification or to discuss an issue that may be of concern.

School Photos - School photos will take place this Thursday (8 May). All students are expected to come to school dressed in full Summer uniform. Parents are asked to send students along with their money in the photo envelope on the day. Please note: Year 1 and 2 sport will not be held on Thursday, students will not need to be dressed in their sports uniform.

Cross Country - We are hoping (weather permitting) to be able to hold our Years 3-6 School Cross Country Carnival this Wednesday 7 May. Please ensure your child has returned any relevant permission notes/medical notes to their classroom teachers.

P&C Meeting - There will be a P&C meeting held this Wednesday evening (7 May). The meeting will commence at 7pm in the staffroom. All parents are welcome to attend.

Kids, Social Media and Privacy - Regardless of your child’s age, the world may already know a lot more about them than you suspect. According to recent research:

- 92% of children under the age of 2 have a digital shadow (- it starts with proud parents posting newborn baby photos on Facebook or Instagram)
- a quarter of Australian children 8 - 12 years old use Facebook, but the minimum age for a user is 13 years.
- more than 20 per cent of tweens publish photos of themselves on Instagram
- young people 14 - 19 have an average of 453 fans, friends or followers on social media.

2014 Privacy Awareness Week, 4 - 10 May 2014, is a good time to review your family’s privacy settings and discuss online security. You’ll find lots of practical information and resources to share with your kids at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au
PSSA Sport Payment Reminder – Payment is to be made by 16 May.

Printable planners for homework and study - School A to Z has printable monthly planners which include school holidays and the numbered weeks of each Term (for example Monday 19 May is the start of Week 4, in Term 2). Print one for each child to stick on the fridge or on their noticeboards. It's a great way to teach them how scheduling their time means they'll to fit in the fun activities as well as their other commitments and responsibilities. Download May 2014 at http://bit.ly/UbmQz8

Is your child’s backpack damaging their spine? - A recent Australian study has shown that approximately 25% of school-aged children suffer from back and/or neck pain at any one time. It's believed to be due to a combination of factors such as poor posture, everyday load carrying and the use of computers. The Children’s Hospital at Westmead suggests young people should:

- not carry more than 10% of their body weight
- use a backpack with the straps over both shoulders and a waist strap
- load gear so that the heavier objects are nearer to the spine, with the lighter objects towards the front of the pack
- lift a backpack properly - bend at the knees and lift the pack with both hands

More tips at http://bit.ly/1iB4OBo

Opportunity classes for Year 5 in 2015 – Applications have now opened if you would like your child to apply for the Year 5 Opportunity Class in 2015.

As stated in the note sent home at the end of last term, these classes are not located at Governor Philip King Public School. Applications opened on Monday 28 April and close on Friday 16 May 2014. They will not accept late applications.

Online applications are preferred. You can go online now and apply for these classes. You will need an email address, access to the internet and a printer. Detailed instructions can be found at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplactment. Please let Miss Thomas know if you do so, so she can follow up the application and submit further information on behalf of the school.

Students must sit a test on Wednesday 23 July 2014 and parents are responsible for arranging transport to and from the venue.

Last week, students who returned the last term’s expression of interest note have received the required information to complete their applications. See Miss Thomas if you require any further details.

Book Club – Book Club forms have been handed out to students. If you would like to place an order, fill out the form with your child’s name, class and order. Clearly label an envelope with your child’s name, class, book club and amount of money included. Drop your envelope in the money slot located in the office. These are due back NO later than Monday 12 May. Orders take up to 2 weeks from the closing date to be returned to students.

Values Education – The whole school approach to values education is continuing in Term 2. We hope you have been engaging in meaningful discussions with your child/children about the values covered in Term 1. We encourage you to continue having discussions about the following values which will be covered in Term 2:

| Weeks 1 & 2 | Integrity | Weeks 3 & 4 | Responsibility |
| Weeks 5 & 6 | Freedom   | Weeks 7 & 8 | Forgiveness    |
| Weeks 9 & 10| Respect   |             |               |

Integrity is the expression that reflects honesty, beliefs in core values, commitment and sincerity. It is truth in action with no false pretences. Integrity is more than telling the truth to others. It is being truthful to one self, and being able to do the right thing when no one is watching. Parents will agree that children need to be able to live life with integrity. This will be impossible if they are taught to practise truthfulness and be honest at all times. This will ensure that they are trusted and dependable. Parents and adults are requested to practise living with integrity in order to provide the role model that children need. You are encouraged to have discussions about the benefits of living with integrity. Mrs S Kumar. Student Engagement.

Canberra - Snow Excursion - Students who paid a deposit for this excursion need to ensure they are making regular payments to ensure they have the paid in full before the due date. Thanks Mr Hamilton.

Sydney South West Rugby League Team - Congratulations to our Senior Rugby League Captain, Samuel Iese who yesterday was selected to represent Sydney South West at the NSW PSSA Rugby League Championships in June in the Far North Coast town of Kingscliff. Well done Samuel!
Safe, Respectful Learner Program - Once again we begin to focus on a particular rule each fortnight. The rule is discussed and revised in classrooms throughout the two weeks. It is added to the newsletter and the electronic sign at the front of the school so that families and the community are also aware of the focus and can discuss the rule at home.

The focus for weeks two and three is ‘Be Safe, Move around quietly’.

We should be respectful of others and move quietly within classrooms, as well as other areas of the school, so that we do not disturb the learning of others. Ms Dolz, Student Engagement Team.

P&C News - Welcome back for Term Two. The School Cross Country will take place this Wednesday morning. As usual, the P&C will be providing a refreshing cold drink for the students at the end of their run.

P&C Meeting is this Wednesday 7 May at 7pm in the Staff Room. All are welcome. This will include a Special Meeting to vote on becoming an Incorporated Association. Please come along and help us help the school and the students.

Mothers’ Day Orders will be coming home this week. Thank you for your support.

Thank you to the families who have donated second hand uniforms, keep them coming in. The next Second hand uniform stall will be on Friday 16 May from 8.30am near 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

STEWART HOUSE DONATION

Remember to help with the Stewart House Donation Drive - Donate a $2 coin and you have the chance to win a $4000 family holiday to a destination of your choice.

Fill in your details and return the ENVELOPE to the front office by Friday 9th May 2014, to enter the draw. Thank you for your support.

Advertisements

Free Kittens – 1 male and 2 female, 8 week old Tortoiseshell kittens. They are dog friendly, toilet trained and very lovable. See Ms Mackay as soon as possible.

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