PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Parents who are at school in the morning will recognise that we are not lining up in the mornings anymore but instead going straight to our classrooms. The reason for this is simply, greater learning time. Teaching programs are developed for the sole purpose of increasing student outcomes and we are finding that with all the interruptions that a normal week can deliver it is often hard to fit everything in. Going straight to class allows students to be working from 9.00am, which we believe can only support their learning.

A bell will sound at 8.57am to indicate to the children that it is time to make their way to their class and then another bell at 9.00am means everyone should be in their rooms. Students arriving any time after 9.00am will be expected to go to the office for a late note.

In our last newsletter we put out a call for people to send in old gumboots as donations to the preschool. Outside play, especially in puddles, can be a great learning experience for young children and gumboots are very handy during weather like we have experienced this week. I’m happy to say that we had two wonderful families who when out and bought over 20 new pairs of gumboots for our preschool. Thank you to the Connors and the Dalmays for their much appreciated donations.

Don’t forget that dad’s special day is quickly approaching and as always our P&C will be running a Father’s Day stall as well as a Father’s Day raffle. The stall will be on Thursday, 4 September while the raffle will be drawn the following day on Friday, 5 September. Tickets for the raffle have already been sent home to families and only cost 50c. Families can ask for additional tickets at the office or purchase them from the canteen.

There are some terrific prizes on offer and remember, you’ve got to be in it to win it.

Congratulations to all of our P-2 students who participated in last week’s athletics carnival. It was a lovely day and was great to see all of the children giving their best and enjoying the competition with their friends. Thank you to Mrs Reilly for organising the day and to all of the parents, family and friends who came to help cheer the children on during the day.

As stated on a note home this week, due to the recent wet weather forecast and the amount of illness that has struck our students and staff we decided to postpone tonight’s Book Character Disco. It has been rescheduled for Thursday, 11 September. More information will be sent home in the next couple of weeks.

In recent newsletters I have encouraged families not to enter the school through the carpark gates but through the pedestrian gates provided. As I reiterate this message I also ask that during morning drop off and afternoon pick up times, parents do not park, or pull up in front of the carpark gates to drop off or pick up their children. I know that the lack of parking outside of our school and the absence of a pick-up, drop-off bay is frustrating for parents, but pulling up in the “No Stopping” zone in front of the gates is dangerous for our children.

Finally, we are currently taking enrolments for both 2015 preschool and kindergarten groups. If you know of any families in the area that have preschool or school age children for next year, please get them to make contact with the front office for an enrolment form.

I hope to see you at our next P&C meeting which will be held on Wednesday, 3 September.
NEPEAN DANCE FESTIVAL

The dancers are performing on two occasions at the Joan Sutherland Centre with Matinee performance on Monday 1st September 12.30pm and Evening performance on Friday 29th August 2014.

Children will be travelling by bus for the dress rehearsal on Thursday 28 August and the matinee performance on Monday, 1st September 2014.

Tickets for both the matinee and evening performance are on sale from Monday, August 18. Tickets can be purchased from the booking office at Joan Sutherland Centre by telephone on 47237600 or online at www.jspac.com.au. It is essential you know the exact name and date of the performance, as the festival runs for over a week. Our Matinee performance is the 12.30 concert. Ticket prices as follows $20 for evening performance and the matinee performance is $10 an adult and $5 per child.

BASKETBALL NEWS

Our senior girls basketball team played Faulconbridge PS at Blaxland High. The girls trained hard for the round 5 match and were ready for a tough competition. St Marys broke away early and established a good lead, which they held throughout the game. The final score:
St Marys 24 Faulconbridge 16

Yesterday we played round 6 where we faced strong opposition against Regentville PS. It was a great game, though defeated. Thanks girls for an amazing effort.

Special thanks to Mr Kieth and Mr & Mrs Terry for helping with transport, loud cheering and benching for the game!
Mrs Lee 😊

BOOKCLUB

Orders close today 21/08/14

CAKE DAY

Our stage 1 cake stall raised $209. Thank you to all that donated cakes and to those who helped on the day.

Invitation

Parents and caregivers are invited to attend a meeting to assist in the planning of a Multicultural Day for Term 4.
When: Tuesday, September 2, 2014.
Where: Community Room, E Block.
Time: 9.00 am

Preschool children are very welcome.
Learning Support Officer- Robbie was featured in the local paper this week. 
Well Done Robbie!
STUDENT NEWS
Parent Online Portal
- To Make Online Payments. Is Now Available

It is possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school's website by selecting $Make a payment.

Items that can be paid include excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called Other to cover items not covered in the previous headings, Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school. You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. Please supply the receipt number on the permission note required for the event.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Week 5

KD-Merit- Matthew & Bobby
PBL- Madison
KE-Merit- Deacon & Angela
PBL- Harlem
KG-Merit- Jayden & Kian
PBL- Sean
1/2C-Merit- Jak & Logan
PBL- Solomon
1/2L-Merit- Lena & Rachael
PBL-Riley
1/2R-Merit- Allerah & Mandla
PBL- Milad
3/4M-Merit- Troy & Avishek
PBL- Levi
3/4S-Merit- Tahira & Lourinel
PBL- Shay
5/6G-Merit- Claudia & Dayne
PBL- Jerrel
5/6T-Merit- Joel & Christopher
PBL- Joel

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES

www.stmarys-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Term 3

**Week 7 - Assembly**

**Tuesday, 26 August**
Junior Rugby League  
Selected Students

**Wednesday, 27 August**
Public Speaking Years 4 & 6  
Selected Students

**Thursday, 28 August**
Dance Rehearsal  
Joan Sutherland Centre
District Athletics  
Selected Students

**Friday, 29 August**
Dance Night Performance  
Joan Sutherland Centre
District Athletics  
Selected Students

**Week 8 - No assembly**

**Tuesday, 1 September**
Dance Matinee  
Joan Sutherland Centre

**Wednesday, 3 September**
P&C Meeting  
Community

**Thursday, 4 September**
Fathers Day Stall  
Whole School

**Friday, 5 September**
Fathers Day Raffle drawn  
P&C

**Saturday, 6 September**
St Marys Spring Festival  
Community

**Week 9 - Assembly**

**Tuesday, 9 September**
Junior Basketball  
Selected Students

**Wednesday, 10 September**
End of Term Assembly  
Whole School

**Thursday, 11 September**
P - 6 SRC Book Character Disco  
All Welcome

**Friday, 12 September**
White Balloon Day  
Whole School

**Week 10**

**Thursday, 18 September**
St Marys Under The Stars  
Evening Performance

**Thursday, 18 September**
Stage 2 camp final payment  
Stage 2

**Friday, 19 September**
Footy Colours Day  
Whole School
End of Term  
Whole School