The Surveyor
A Newsletter for the Surveyors Creek Public School Community

Term 4  Week 10  Wednesday 10 December 2014

Dates to Remember
11/12/14  Catholic Scripture 3-6 9:15am to 9:45am. K-2 9:45am to 10:15am in Library
11/12/14  Anglican Scripture 9:15am to 10:15am in Hall
11/12/14  2015 Class Roll Over (Students to go in their new classes for 2015 for half a day) Years 1-6 from 11.30am and Kindy from 2pm
15/12/14  3-6 Bowling & Movie Day
K-2 Party
17/12/14  Last day of Term for 2014

2015
27/01/2015  Staff return (Tuesday)
28/01/2015  Years 1-6 return
02/02/2015  Kindergarten for 2015 start

ATTENTION
Unfortunately “Carols at the Creek” has been cancelled due to the inclement weather this week.

PAYMENT/PERMISSION REMINDERS
All money should be placed in a clearly marked envelope in the secure box outside the Administration Block.

No late payments will be accepted.
Spare notes in the rack in the admin office foyer or on the school’s website

Stage 3 (Yrs 5 and 6 in 2015) School Diary.
Money $7.00 and permission slip due by 9:10am Friday 12 December 2014.

Stage 3 (Yrs 5 and 6 in 2015) Canberra Excursion.
Cost approximately $210.00. A $50-00 deposit is due by 9:10am Friday 12 December 2014 if you are wanting your child to attend. The rest of the monies by 9:10am Friday 6 March 2015.

Receipts for school payments are issued by teachers to students each Friday.

CANTEEN NEWS!!!
Overcounter sales only available on 12th and 17th December 2014.

Could our existing mums who are going to volunteer again in 2015 let Cherie know asap. If any of our new mums would like to volunteer in 2015 on Wednesdays and Fridays could you please contact the school office so we can pass on your details to Cherie the Canteen Manager. Thanking you.

Notes Home last week
AMF Bowling Leaflet

Notes home this week
Cancellation of “Carols at the Creek” note

All notes are on the Website

ANNOUNCEMENTS
OFFICE HOURS 8:40am to 3:25pm
School Banking will be every Tuesday finished till 2015
Clothing Pool will be every second (even weeks) Thursday in the Terms 11/12
ASSEMBLIES FOR 2014: K-2 Even weeks Friday afternoons at 2:15pm
3-6 Odd weeks Friday afternoons at 2:16pm
From the Principal’s desk

Reports and Classes
You should have all received your child’s Class Report along with a letter outlining who their teacher will be in 2015 as well as where their class will be located. Today we will be placing children into their new Classes for 2015 so that they can get to know their new teachers and class peers from after recess. This arrangement will only be for the Wednesday. The school will return to normal from Thursday until the following Wednesday when it will be the last day for the students.

Special Assemblies, Year 6 Graduation and Parent Thank You Morning Tea
By the time you have received this newsletter we will have had our Sports Assembly, End of Year Presentation Assembly and Year 6 Graduation for 2014. I was most impressed by the behaviour of the students as we celebrated these prestigious events in the school calendar. The performances of our school choir and school band were outstanding and I would like to thank the children and teachers for their efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children for their effort and hard work this year! Well done everyone.
Parents who attended our ‘Parent Helper Morning Tea’ on Monday were treated to an extravaganza by our fabulously talented teachers Mrs Uhlig and Mrs Blackwell on behalf of all of our staff. The hall was beautifully decorated and colour coordinated and the food, which was provided by staff was delicious! Thank you Mrs Uhlig and Mrs Blackwell.

Carols in the Hall Friday 12th December
Due to the Carols by Candle Light wash out we all be singing carols in the hall from 11:30. You are all welcome to attend and children are able to dress up in mufti Christmas attire. There will be a gold coin donation. Children who do not celebrate Christmas will be supervised with activities in the library.

Community Aid Penrith
Thank you to all the families who donated to our Community Christmas Food Drive. Mrs Blackwell delivered all the hampers of food to Community Aid Penrith yesterday. They were ecstatic and very appreciative of our efforts. A big thank you must go to Mrs Blackwell for her fabulous effort in the coordination of the drive on behalf of our school.

Merry Christmas
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful staff, community and students for your support and hard work in 2014. On behalf of myself and all the staff at Surveyors have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year!

Mrs Christine Brennen
Below is the excerpt from my Principal’s speech last Friday for those that were unable to attend.
Mrs Brennen has been at Surveyors Creek since it opened in 2002. She is the person parents and teachers have relied upon time and time again. She has given comfort to the students and some TLC when they have found their way to the sick bay. She has pulled them into line when they monotonically have forgotten their manners! Her distinct voice is the one we have come to hear at 3pm each day as she reminds you and us of all the things that need to get paid or notes that need to be handed in and out. She has helped many a new staff member and has gently guided us as we have learnt the right way to do things at Surveyors, even me! I am sure I can say this on behalf of everyone here that we will miss you terribly Mrs Brennen and the school will not be the same without you.
I have tried hard to coerce her from retiring! I even tried to get her to work in the canteen once a week… No good! I think the lure of adventure and travel a wait! Thank you for all that you have given to make our school great Mrs Brennen you will be greatly missed by all!

We look forward to seeing everyone when we return on Wednesday 28th January, 2015

School Security
1300 363 778
P AND C NEWS
On Monday night 1 December the P and C had their AGM and the following parents were voted in for the Executive for 2015:

President: Belinda Rushbrook
Vice Presidents: Cherie Lilley (Canteen), Deb Scott and Kelly Duffy
Secretary: Paula Rowe
Treasurer: Lisa Cammans
Fundraising Coordinators: Nicole Hancock and Lisa Cammans
Uniform Coordinator: Karen Rowe

Thankyou to the outgoing committee for all their fundraising efforts in 2014 and congratulations to the new committee for 2015.
The first P and C meeting for 2015 will be Monday 23 February 2015 at 7:00pm in the staffroom.

P AND C POLO SHIRT SURVEY
Just an update regarding the Polo Shirt survey. It was a resounding “yes” to the change. The P and C are still in discussions with the supplier. Further details will be given when the new shirts are available for purchase but it will be a two year process similar to the change of sports shirt.

PBL AWARDS FOR WEEK 9 AND 10

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CHRISTMAS HAMPERS
The kindness of our Surveyors Creek families is incredible! We have filled over six large boxes with food and drink. Thankyou so much for everything you have donated so far to our Christmas Hampers appeal. You are providing a great support to families in the Penrith area.

Each week we will continue to collect a different type of food:

- Week 10: Tea, Coffee, Milo or other instant powdered drinks.

Also if you own or are a manager of a business or a shop and would be interested in donating something non-perishable for these hampers or you can help in another way please see Mrs Blackwell.

We are also looking for anyone who owns a ute or a van and would be willing to help transport these goods locally during the last two weeks of school. If you can help in this way please see Mrs Blackwell.

The SRC thanks you for your support in this.

STEWARTE HOUSE HIGHT BOUNCE BALLS
We will be selling high bounce balls to help raise money for Stewart House on Wednesday morning and afternoon over the next two weeks. The balls are $3 each and will be available under the COLA.

Thankyou SCPS SRC

GLENMORE PARK ANGLICAN CHURCH
Invites you to Carols in Glenmore Park, at Blue Hills Oval, Sunday 21st December 2014.
5pm: BBQ, Kindy Farm, face painting and more!
7pm – 8.30pm: Christmas Carols
Bring your friends, family and a picnic rug – no alcohol please.
(in case of wet weather join us at cnr William Howell Drive and Pritchard Place)
Also help celebrate Christmas at Glenmore Park Anglican Church cnr William Howell Drive and Pritchard Place, Glenmore Park.

Christmas Eve: Family Carol Service @ 6:00pm
Christmas Eve: Candlelight Service @11pm
Christmas Day: Celebration Services for the whole family @ 8am and 9:30am

ALL WELCOME!
Rev John Lavender 4733 1635

GLENMORE PARK ANGLICAN CHURCH
Real life parenting course for parents of babies to teenagers and beyond for next year 2015.
Please call the church office on 4733 1635 or office@glenmorepark.anglican.asn.au.

PENRITH LIBRARY
Penrith Library has a number of activities during the holidays for more information please phone Penrith City Library on 4732 7891 or www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.
TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

As you may be aware I am retiring on December 19th and this will be my last opportunity to say farewell through the newsletter. I started working at Surveyors Creek Public School in January 2002 and the school had less than 120 students, 7 teachers, 2 admin staff, two SLSO’s and Mrs Kemp the school cleaner. I have seen the school grow to what it is today, over 490 students and along the way seen many children start their wonderful school journey from kindergarten and leave as early teenagers in Year 6. I realised very quickly the hard working and dedicated staff then and now wanted to make this school the best it could be and that is what it has become.

It is always a pleasure to meet ex-students from the school who are now working and they talk about what they are doing now and their future plans and I see how much they have grown and matured into young adults.

The school landscape has changed so much since 2002. One of the many reasons is because of the tireless and hardworking P and C’s that the school has always had over the years.

The volunteers in the Canteen giving of their time making lunches and serving the students and the fundraising committee with their Cake Stalls, Discos, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Stalls. I would do anything the P and C asked of me and I admire these mums, dads, grandparents, aunties and uncles etc who gave their time so freely for the benefit of the students and the school.

One of my duties is looking after students in the sick bay. It sometimes reminded me of a Doctor’s waiting room with so many different injuries. One of the most common injuries was when a student had an injury to or something in the eye and of course I would always wash the eye and then put on an eye patch to make them feel like a pirate. (Captain Jack Sparrow).

I will miss the Monday morning analysis of the footy that had been played over the weekend with Mrs Sequen, Mr Chan, Mr Lister and Mrs Browne who would always say “how are those tigers going Chris”, I would just be humble and say ok because most times they had lost. Mr Myerscough and I always had our talks regarding our beloved Wests Tigers and hope next year will be a better year for the team.

I would like to thank Mrs Browne and past Principals, Mrs Poli, Mrs Clark, the SLSO’s, Mr Jones, the teaching staff past and present for their kindness and friendship over the years.

I will miss the school, as it has been a big part of my working life. The friendships I have made I will always remember. Now it is time for my husband and myself to pursue other interests and to do some travelling.

Thankyou all, I have loved being a part of your children’s education at Surveyors Creek Public School.

Mrs Chris Brennan
School Administration Officer
Stocktake

Borrowing has finished for 2014, so if you still have any library books at home, please bring them in tomorrow before school. Stocktake begins tomorrow and will be a very busy time in the library. Therefore there are no more library lessons this year, and the library won't be open for lunchtimes. If any mums, dads, or grandparents would like to volunteer to help during stocktake, please see me. You’ll be gratefully welcomed!

Lost property

We have a plethora of unclaimed, unnamed lost property in the library tubs. Please come and check through the items and find any jumpers, jackets, hats, lunch boxes or any other items you have lost. After this week any remaining unclaimed, unnamed lost property will be donated to the clothing pool or charity as appropriate.

Children’s Author Roadshow

On the 1st December, the Library Monitors went on an excursion to participate in the Children's Author Roadshow at Penrith City Library. We met and did writing workshops with Belinda Murrell, Tony Flowers, Libby Gleeson and James O'Loghlin. It was an amazing opportunity and we all enjoyed the day very much. Thank you to Ms Hanman and Mrs Smoth for helping with transport, and thanks to Mrs Smith and Mrs Browne for their permission to take the excursion.

Overdue, lost and damaged books

Thank you to everyone who returned books or paid for lost or damaged books so promptly after the overdue notices went home.

Goodbye

As many of you will have heard by now, this is my last term at Surveyors Creek Public School. I am very saddened to be leaving the school, the library, and especially your bright, joyous, inspiring, exasperating, amazing, cheeky, talented, delightful children.

Thank you to everyone who has worked with me during my time at SCPS: the staff, volunteers, community and students. Thank you for using the library and for giving up your own time to help in the library; and for participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge, the Premier’s Spelling Bee, Write On, KOALAs, Great Book Swap, Book Club, Book Fair and Book Parade.

It has been an honour teaching, helping and occasionally even inspiring SCPS students over the past four and a half years and I will very much miss you all. I have learnt a lot and I hope I have helped you to learn too.

I hope you have all well and truly caught the reading bug, and that you keep reading for your own enjoyment - not just because you have to! - your whole lives.

Cathy Lamond