School Merit Awards

I have been made aware that there is some confusion with the student Merit Award system. In consultation with the staff a small change has been made in the way certificates and pennants are collated.

- The staff will no longer keep student Merit Certificates at school. Students will now take them home on the day they are received.
- Once a student has collected 4 certificates they will present those certificates at school and a Pennant will be awarded.
- When the student receives their pennant the 4 merit certificates are returned to them at the same time to take home.
- The merit certificates presented are signed on the back to denote they have already been presented.
- A letter home to notify and invite families to upcoming Pennant Awards presentations remains the same.
- Teachers still operate a system of collection and recording for any student requiring support to manage their awards and ensure correct allocation occurs where required.

4 awards = Bronze Pennant  8 awards = Silver Pennant  12 awards = Gold Pennant

Positives for Students

- Improved organisational skills
- Improved responsibility skills
- Improved self esteem

Please don’t hesitate to contact me at school if you would like further clarification.

Please note: our award system does not carry across a calendar year, so only awards presented this year can be used towards pennants.

Staff News

Our lovely librarian, Gaynor Connor recently had a fall at home. Unfortunately Gaynor has broken her foot in three places. Mrs Peta Mosely is currently filling in for Gaynor during her absence. We hope Gaynor has a speedy recovery.

School Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday, 23rd February, Years 3-6 and some Year 2 students attended the annual School Swimming Carnival at Engadine Leisure Centre. It was a perfect day for a carnival with the sun shining bright all day. The students participated in 100m races, 50m races, 25m races, relays and novelty events.
A big thank you to the teachers for their help on the day, and to the students for their outstanding behaviour and participation. Congratulations to the students who have progressed to the Zone Swimming Carnival to be held on Thursday, 3rd March.

**Cronulla Sharks Visit**
On Monday 22nd February representatives from the Cronulla Sharks Rugby League team visited our school at a special assembly. First grade player Chris Heighington and the Cronulla Sharks development officer spoke about the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle with hydration, sleep, nutrition and regular physical activity being key to personal health and well being. Later in the afternoon, Sharks player Ricky Leutele and local coaches ran a coaching clinic at our school oval in the ‘try with me’ rugby league clinic. Over 50 children from Sutherland North Public School had a fun time learning the skills of the game, winning prizes and meeting rugby league stars.

**Sports News**
Congratulations to Josh K who has been selected in the Sutherland Zone basketball team. We wish him all the best at the Sydney East trials to be held on 14 March.

**P&C News**
The first meeting of the P&C was held on 10 February and it was great to see some new faces.

We have a busy year ahead so we thought a quick update would be helpful:

- At the 10 February meeting a Budget Plan tool was presented for review and comment. This is available by emailing suthnthpandc@gmail.com. This plan will be formally voted on at the next meeting on 16 March and will assist the P&C in providing funds to the school and long term planning for a large investment. Feedback is welcomed by email.
- Term 2 meetings will focus on discussing the tender process of the Canteen and to start discussions and consultation on what the school community would like to make a large investment in ie air-conditioning, sun shelters, playground equipment etc.
- There are a number of Fundraising events that are coming up:

**Easter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mufti Day</td>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Easter eggs to be brought in as payment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrapping</td>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>If you can assist in wrapping the Easter baskets, this will take place in the hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raffle Tickets return</td>
<td>18 March</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raffle drawn</td>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>During the assembly for the Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mother’s Day**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mufti Day</td>
<td>28 April</td>
<td>$5 payment or a $5 gift wrapped in cellophane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother’s Day stall</td>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>Gifts will be available for purchase for $5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A number of other fundraising activities will be taking place during the year.

- Federal election BBQ and cake stall
- Father’s Day stall
- Christmas raffle
- Chocolate drive
- School disco

If you have any other ideas or would like to get involved, please email the P&C or get in touch with Lindsay Smith.

P&C meetings are held in weeks 3 and 8 on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Library. Everyone is welcome!!!
**Easter Baskets**

If you have any unwanted baskets at home that could be used for the Easter Basket Hampers, please bring them to Mrs Minogue’s room during the weeks leading up to Easter.

**Canteen**

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have come forward to fill the spots and swap when things have come up – greatly appreciated!! If you see a day that you could help out and need training then please do not hesitate to contact us and we will try to look for someone experienced to show you the ropes. Please remember the DEP require you to complete a Working with Children Check to be able to volunteer – the forms are available at the office and the staff are able to sign off on the form. With the relevant paperwork, it should be a relatively quick process. Remember, the children love to see a familiar face behind the counter and it will be great to be open to offer ice blocks on those hot days in the summer heat.

Thank you

The Canteen Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUES</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THURS</th>
<th>FRI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>29/2 - 4/3</td>
<td>Jean Barrett</td>
<td>Narelle Allen</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Naomi Hamilton</td>
<td>Margaret Bradford &amp; Kate O’Brien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>7/3 - 11/3</td>
<td>Narelle Allen &amp; Sam Sandford-Johnson</td>
<td>Natalie Skinner</td>
<td>Belinda Hackett &amp; Vanessa Home</td>
<td>Fiona O’Brien</td>
<td>Nicole Morgenson &amp; Kerry Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>14/3 – 18/3</td>
<td>Jean Barrett</td>
<td>Emma Hall</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Alison Barry</td>
<td>Cath Banovic &amp; Susanna Helmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>21/3 – 25/3</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Katie Corbin</td>
<td>Lauren Steven &amp; Marilyn Stevens</td>
<td>Naomi Hamilton</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>28/3 – 1/4</td>
<td>EASTER MONDAY CLOSED</td>
<td>Natalie Skinner</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Leanne Pullen</td>
<td>Alison Mijkonja &amp; Sonya Bradford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>4/4 – 8/4</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Emma Hall</td>
<td>Lindsay Smith HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Alison Barry</td>
<td>Lesley Wells &amp; Belinda Bonnett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Parenting Teenagers for Busy Parents

This course presented by experienced family therapist Yvonne McDonell, and is designed to assist busy parents with the skills and information you need to parent your teenager.

We will take a little time out of our busy lives to meet other parents, and have fun as we discover:

- What makes the Teenage Years so difficult? Modern theories of adolescent development will be covered.
- How to Communicate with your teenager - maybe difficult but not impossible.
- Raising the Self Esteem of everyone in the family. Yes. We can!
- Teaching Teenagers to take on more responsibility. Let’s face it. It’s time!
- There are some tricky things we need to cover like social media, drugs, teenage anger and lying.

We will meet at Orana, 3a Stapleton Avenue Sutherland on Wednesday 9th March from 7 p.m. to 8.30. with refreshments and a chat available 8.30 to 9 p.m.

The basic course will run for five weeks. For those parents who are interested in further developing their skills, an advanced course will be offered in Term 3 and attendance at the Introductory Course will be an entry requirement.

Cost $75 includes a book for parents and refreshments. Numbers are limited. To book or access further information, phone Orana on 95218280 or Yvonne McDonell on 95215130. (If the cost is prohibitive, please contact us to discuss)