PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Some Sad News

One of our former staff, John Saunderson, passed away on Sunday following a long and courageous battle with brain cancer. John was Assistant Principal at our school from 1989 to 2007, and was well known for his dedication to a wide variety of pursuits, both within and outside his profession. He was extremely proud of his Irish heritage, and I never heard him use the word “Yes”, it was always “Aye”. I’m sure that many of our families with older children will remember John fondly. His funeral was held on Wednesday, attended by a group of our staff.

Work Health & Safety

The school’s WHS Committee held its term meeting last Friday, with agenda items including:

- Emergency drills, which are to be conducted before the end of term
- Parking restrictions, particularly the lack of observance of the 2 min limit in Oaks Rd, and the bus bay limit in Goodlet St being incompatible with school times
- Bag hooks outside the Kindergarten rooms, which are to be replaced
- The state of our rear fence.

Parents are welcome to inform us if you identify potential hazards on our school site.

Working with Children Check

As of 15 June 2013, all people involved in child-related work (which includes those volunteering in our school) must either apply for a Working with Children Check Clearance, or complete a Working with Children Check Declaration. The implications for both are as follows:

- A WWCC Clearance, if granted, allows child-related work or volunteering across all organisations, including schools, sporting clubs, scouts/guides, etc. Applications are made online at www.kids.nsw.gov.au. There is no cost for volunteer clearance.
- A WWCC Declaration can be made by any person wishing to volunteer in the school, and includes a 100 Proof of Identity check. It is only valid for the place where it is lodged.

Either one of these is necessary for all volunteers in our school. This includes canteen, classroom assistance, sports coaching and any activity where there is contact with students.
Rugby League 7’s
Four teams (2 boys, 2 girls) represented our school on Tuesday at Kirkham, near Camden. Results will be in next week’s newsletter.

Oaks Road Parking
Please observe the parking signs in front of the school, especially during peak morning and afternoon times. Cars should not be left unattended during these times, as it compromises the safety of other students being picked up or dropped off by their families.

P&C
Don’t forget the Annual General Meeting is next Tuesday, 18 March. Notices of Motion have been made for constitution changes, including:
- The AGM to be held in November, and
- Meetings to alternate between evening and day each month.

2014 Homework Planner
The best homework help you can give your child is to teach them to be organised. Print out the 2014 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays. Stick them on the fridge and above their desk. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

Maths A to Z
Brush up on some of the maths terms your child uses in the classroom. The Maths A to Z glossary provides straightforward explanations and illustrated examples. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics/math-a-to-z

Great books for tweens to read
Favourite books from the Premier’s Reading Challenge team that will inspire kids aged between nine and 13 to read read read! Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/hu/homework-and-study/english/my-book-club/helping-tweens-to-love-reading/ideal-books-for-tweens-to-read

Science Assignment Starters
Not sure where to go to help your child find out about electricity, natural disasters, the solar system or other science projects? Have a look at our project starters. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/science-project-starters

I normally finish off by wishing everyone a good week, but this time I offer something in memory of a treasured colleague.

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Rest in peace Saundo.

Stephen Lord

Swim Scheme Reminder
Swim scheme starts next Monday 17th March 2014. All children need to wear their swimming costume under their school uniform and bring a change of underwear and a towel in a waterproof bag.

Students who forget to bring their swimming costume will not be able to participate in the program that day. No refunds will be provided for absences.

All clothing and towels must be labelled with child’s name.
Students must wear full school uniform/shoes and socks. NO THONGS!
Premier’s Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition
This year students at Thirlmere Public School will be given the opportunity to participate in the Premier’s Multicultural Public Speaking Competition. This will be optional for all students in Years 3 – 6. The school competition will be held in Term 2 (Week 2).

Students will present both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. For their prepared speech, contestants must choose a topic from the list of multicultural topics provided. The prepared speech must have multicultural content. The impromptu speech is chosen by the adjudicator on the day, and will be on a general, non-multicultural theme. Students are to prepare their speech at home. Mrs Byrne will meet with interested students to provide them with assistance on how to plan their speech. Further information is on the information sheet that will be sent home with students.

Co-ordinator – Mrs Byrne

Band News
The invoices for Term 1 Band fees have been sent home for all children who have joined the band. The fees are $135 for the term and must be paid as soon as possible.
Miss Gurnett has sent home a contract which students and parents must sign and return to the office. Students will need to ensure they bring their instruments on the day of their lesson as well as their music book and manuscript.

Thirlmere Student Joggers Club
Last week notes went home inviting students to join our Joggers Club. The club started Tuesday 11 March from 8.30am to 8.50am and will continue each Tuesday and Wednesday (NOT Thursday as stated in the note). Come along and join Mrs McLachlan, get fit and have fun.

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 1 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 14th March</td>
<td>Mel Moroz, Christie Henry (til 1pm), Millie Achis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 17th March</td>
<td>Lisa Williams, Jo Chivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 19th March</td>
<td>Shannon Apps, Diane Hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21st March</td>
<td>Mel Ruddiman, Tania Willett, Lisa Boyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 24th March</td>
<td>Helle Juske, Tammy Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26th March</td>
<td>Leonie Schlosser, Vicki Barrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28th March</td>
<td>Lisa Fava, Monique Liddle, Nicole Lewry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 31st March</td>
<td>Amanda Lee, Amy White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2nd April</td>
<td>Diane Hunt, Vanessa Zahra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 4th April</td>
<td>Mel Moroz, Christie Henry (til 1pm), Michelle Jobson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 7th April</td>
<td>Lisa Williams, Vicki Barrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9th April</td>
<td>Lee-anne Armstrong, Deb Parker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Friday 11th April LAST DAY OF TERM – CANTEEN CLOSED

Expression of Interest 2014 Year 6 - Year7 Enrolment
I would like to remind parents of Year 6 students about the Expression of Interest that went home a couple of weeks ago for enrolment in High School for 2015.

The Expression of Interest is to be returned to Thirlmere Public School by Friday 21 March. Please be sure to make that deadline, as there is a considerable amount of preparation for students transitioning into Year 7.

Please be reminded that the SRN number at the top right hand corner of the form will be done at school. Parents do not need to complete that part.

Mr Berwick
Assistant Principal

Uniform News
A big thank you to everyone who provided unwanted shopping bags to the uniform shop for reuse. I now have a large amount of bags that should be suffice for a while and no longer require anymore. Thank you again to everyone for their support.
SCHOOL FINANCE & OFFICE NEWS

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that all permission notes must be returned to the office with payment by the due date. Our new system will not allow us to take payments after the due date. This is not negotiable.

To avoid disappointment please pay upcoming excursions and events before the due date. If you need to discuss financial assistance please contact the school.

Our new Statements of Account were a success!

Change of office hours – 8.30am to 3pm

The new programs implemented recently have required the administration staff to make substantial changes to our day-to-day duties and procedures. Consequently, for the office run efficiently, we will not be receipting money from 2.30pm. If you are paying by cash, money can be placed in a clip lock bag or an envelope and placed in the Frogs Mouth, a receipt will be issued to the child the following school day for your records.

We also take this opportunity to inform you that the office will be closed from 3pm each day in order for us to complete the end of day requirements by the required timeframes. The office will be open from 8.30am each weekday. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Whole Absences

We are happy to advise that we are now in full use of using the new Finance, Student Administration and Student Wellbeing Program.

With these new programs came a change in the way rolls and whole absences are marked. The rolls and absentee notes are now entered directly into the system by the classroom teacher and not by administration staff.

Absentee notes can still be placed in the Frogs Mouth and will be forward on to the class teacher.

We also take this opportunity to advise that the new program only allows 7 days for absentee notes to be presented to the school. After 7 days from the first day of absence the Department harvests this information and will consider the absence as unjustified. All absences are counted at the end of each semester and noted on the students report card.

To assist parents with explaining absences, a standard Absentee Notice is available to complete from the office or can be downloaded from the School Website under the Permission Notes tab.

Please note that the new program does not allow us to generate absentee letters for an unexplained absence as yet. Access to send these letters to parents may be available in the near future.

Partial Absences

All partial absences (late arrivals and early departures) are entered directly into the new program through the office. We thank parents for their patience as the program is quiet slow at present.

Should your child be late to school, they will need to come to the office to get signed in and obtain a late pass to give to the class teacher. The student needs to inform administration staff of the reason for being late and this information gets noted in the system.

If you need to collect your child from school early, you are required to sign the student out through the office before collecting the student from the classroom. A reason will need to be explained and again will get recorded in the system.

The Department’s Home School Liaison Officer requests partial absence and whole absence reports on a regular basis and is authorized to contact parents to discuss the child in questions attendance patterns.

All partial absences are counted at the end of the semester and noted in the student’s report card.
SCHOOL FINANCE & OFFICE NEWS

Merit Awards
Attached to the newsletter is a Merit Certificate Information sheet for your information. The information sheet explains the requirements and Merit Card process. Please see further instructions in this newsletter. We also take this opportunity to remind parents that 4 Merit Awards are needed to receive a Principals Award. These Merit Awards need to be placed in the frogs mouth by Tuesday for the student to receive the Principals Award on the following Monday morning assembly. A note will be given to the child to remind you of the upcoming assembly that the student will receive their Principals Award. 4 Star Awards need to be given to the class teacher in exchange for 1 Merit Award.

Swim School and Water Safety Program
The Swim School and Water Safety Program is now full. No more payments will be accepted for this program.

Afternoon pick-ups
We would like to remind parents/carers that school finishes at 2.55pm and ask that parents make alternative arrangements with the student prior to coming to school if you expect you may be delayed in the afternoon. Please confirm with your child/ren that they understand your pick-up instructions or alternatively advise the class teacher in the morning.

Thank you
Administration Staff

FUNKY HAIR DAY
FRIDAY 14TH MARCH
Make sure you bring your funkiesh hair and full school uniform
Make sure you bring a gold coin

Year 6 would like to invite you to a
Sporty Disco
Thursday 20th March
K- 2: 5:00pm–6:00pm
3-6: 6:30pm–8:00pm
Tickets are $5 per child, $10 per family.
Tickets on sale from Monday 17/3/14
Excursions, Notes and Payment Due Dates

**Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)**

Last Day to Pay:
- Sporty Disco – Thu 20 Mar
**Notes sent home this week**
- Sporty Disco
- Joggers Club

**Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)**

Last Day to Pay:
- Camden Show – Fri 21 Mar
- Sporty Disco – Thu 20 Mar
**Notes sent home this week**
- Sporty Disco
- UNSW ICAS Competitions
- Joggers Club

**Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)**

Last Day to Pay:
- Botany Bay – Wed 7 May
- Sporty Disco – Thu 20 Mar
**Notes sent home this week**
- Botany Bay
- Sporty Disco
- UNSW ICAS Competitions
- Joggers Club

**Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)**

Last Day to Pay:
- Full Payment Bathurst camp-Fri 14 Mar
- Sporty Disco – Thu 20 Mar
**Notes sent home this week**
- Sporty Disco
- Joggers Club

NO PAYMENTS FOR EXCURSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER “LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT” DATE.

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**Footsteps Dance Program**

The Footsteps Dance Program will start tomorrow Thursday 13 March. This program will form an important part of our Fitness and Performing Arts program. Dance is an essential movement skill that contributes positively to the growth of all students. The program is taught by qualified dance instructors on a weekly basis.

Please note that students should come dressed as they normally would for a Thursday. That is K-2 in their sports uniform and Years 3-6 in their normal school uniform.

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**Bug Reading is alive!!!**

www.pearsonplaces.com.au

Staff are currently in the process of setting up student accounts and reading groups. Your child will soon bring home a username and password to access this site. Books at a level appropriate for your child to read independently will be allocated by the class teacher. Within each text there are activities directed at all areas of comprehension for students to work through. Please remember that books will be set below your child’s instructional reading level in order for them to work independently through the tasks. This is not the level reader your child is working on in the classroom.

Mrs Gandy will be providing a small presentation on this program at the next P&C meeting.

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**FIRST BREAK-FRIDAY, FUNKY FRUIT SALE.**

In support of the wonderful work of our Student Representatives, we are selling Funky fresh fruit salad and frozen yoghurt at the canteen this Friday 14th March. Get funky with your hair and feast on the best fruits. All proceeds go to people living with cancer.
Thirlmere Public School Student Award System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 AWARDS</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>1 PRINCIPAL’S AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>1 BANNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 BANNERS</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>1 GOLD MEDAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once a student has received 4 awards, they may be handed in to the Office in order to receive a Principal’s Award. Parents are notified, via a note, when these awards are to be given to students. This is usually Monday morning assembly.

When a student has 4 Principal’s Awards, they must take these and the attached merit awards to the office. Their name will then be entered in the register to receive a banner, or if their second banner, a Gold Medal. We hold the Medal assemblies twice a year and parents will be notified of the date and time for these assemblies.

The following is a list of eligible awards:

- Merit Awards - given fortnightly at K-2 and 3-6 Assemblies
- Writer of the Week Award
- Mathematics Award
- Oracy Competition Awards
- Artist of the Week Award – recognizing students in dance, drama, music or art
- Aussie of the Month Winner and Nominations
- Merit Award for 100 nights reading K-6 (Home Reading and Ribit)
- Sportsmanship Awards – 4 for a Merit Award
- Star Awards – 4 for a Merit Award (playground/assembly awards/project award)  
  To go to Class Teacher
## THIRLMERE PUBLIC SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

**PRICE LIST/ORDER FORM 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>SIZES</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>QTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wide brim hat</td>
<td>XS/S, S/M, M/L, L/XL</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Summer dress</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Winter tunic</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14</td>
<td>$44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polo shirt short sleeve</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20,22</td>
<td>$16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polo shirt long sleeve</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfibre jacket</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip cardigan</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emblem jumper</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey cargo shorts</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls skorts</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport shorts</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports shirt short sleeve</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfibre track pants</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleecy track pants (with cuff)</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleecy track pants (straight leg)</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey trousers</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls bootleg pants</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls dress pant</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skivvy</td>
<td>4,6,8,10,12</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball skirts</td>
<td>6,8,10,12,14,16</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tights</td>
<td>4-6yrs, 7-10yrs, 11-14yrs</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polar fleece scarf</td>
<td>One size</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ankle socks (pack 5)</td>
<td>9-12, 13-3, 2-8</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art smock</td>
<td>One size</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football socks</td>
<td>9-2, 2-7, 7-10</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School badge</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursion Bag &amp; Drink Bottle</td>
<td>Sold as a set ONLY</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** $  

**Child’s Name**_________________________ **Year/Class**__________

**Contact Name**_________________________ **Phone No:**__________

Please tick option for collection: *Payment options are cash/cheque*

- I will collect from school [ ]
- Please deliver to my child’s class [ ]
- I will collect from the uniform shop [ ]
# 125th MEMORABILIA ORDER FORM

**LIMITED QUANTITIES**
ORDER WILL BE SENT HOME WITH STUDENT WITHIN FEW DAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student:</th>
<th>Class:</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cook Book</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Cotton or Calico Bag</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>Qty Black – <strong>Sold Out</strong> Qty Calico</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pen</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea Towel</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterbottle</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursion bag &amp; Waterbottle Set</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>To be purchased through Uniform Shop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125th Book</td>
<td>Includes pictures of all current students and our schools history – focusing on last 25 years $20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total $</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

You can view all above items in the school office.

Payment by cash only until further notice to the school office.
School Newsletter

To embrace the technological nature of society, our newsletter is now being delivered by email. In the space provided below, please indicate the email address/es you wish to use to receive the newsletter.

1st Parent/Guardian Email: …………………………………………………………………………………

2nd Parent/Guardian Email: …………………………………………………………………………………

3rd Parent/Guardian Email: …………………………………………………………………………………

Extra School Reports

In some households there is a need for a second report to be sent to another parent not permanently residing with the student.

Reports go home at the end of Semester One and Semester Two.

If you require a second report, please provide us with the following details.

Name:____________________________________________________________________________________

Address:__________________________________________________________________________________

Relationship:______________________________________________________________________________

Email address:_____________________________________________________________________________

*If you have any updated Court Orders/AVO’s that you have not provided to the school yet, could you please arrange a copy as soon as possible.*

*We also require you to advise the ladies in the office if the structure at home has changed so that we can update our records accordingly.*
Are you interested in joining our Book Club?

We are looking for family and friends of Thirlmere Public School who enjoy reading and may be interested in joining an over-18’s book club.

The plan is to meet informally one evening a month to discuss a book that has been voted on by the group. Book Club works best if we have around 10-13 members. Days/dates/times/books will be put to a vote once we know who is keen to join us!

Joining a book club is a great way to show our children that reading is an enjoyable, social event. We read for fun. It is not something that just happens at school!

If you would like to be part of Thirlmere’s Book Club or have any questions please email Gaby on gabrielle.gutjahr@det.nsw.edu.au.

Come to Playgroup and meet others in a relaxed and friendly environment.

A Playgroup is a place for you and your children aged 0-6 to have fun, make new friends and develop skills through play.

Thirlmere Playgroup
Thirlmere Public School Hall
Cnr Goodlet & Mason Streets
Thirlmere
Mondays 10am

PATRICIA YVONNE
ACADEMY OF DANCE,
DRAMA & THEATRE ARTS

THIRLMERE
THIRLMERE PUBLIC SCHOOL HALL
MONDAY & THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

BALLET - DRAMA - TAP - JAZZ
MODERN - LYRICAL
HIP HOP - MUSICAL THEATRE

Students trained for E.D.T.A.
Examinations & Stagcraft
Beginners from 3yrs to Advanced

ENQUIRIES & REGISTRATION: contact Miss Patricia
(02) 4647 7728 or 0418 273 115 (Mornings best)
Email: pyaditta@bigpond.com

STADS Agency
Sarah Schols - Managing Director
m 0415 995 225
p 4683 0193 e s.t.a.d.s@bigpond.com www.s-t-a-d-s.com