



# SUNBURY HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

EVERY CHILD - EVERY OPPORTUNITY - HELPING CHILDREN SHINE

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July 18<sup>th</sup> 2013

## Important Dates

JULY		AUGUST	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Term Three Commences	Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Book Week
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Curriculum Day – NO SCHOOL	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 6 Camp
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Casual Clothes Day	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Casual Clothes Day
		Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Father's Day Stall

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### Welcome back to Term Three

Thank you to all the students and families who have been keen to ask me about my trip overseas and welcome me back.

The cold weather was certainly a little bit hard to get used to after the sunshine on Santorini, the Greek Island where I spent my last week.

Sunbury Heights has certainly had some exciting events happening in my absence.

The XO Laptops are the big thing on everyone's lips and the children are bubbling over with enthusiasm as they wait for their delivery. On your behalf, I know you would want me to pass on your thanks to Cathie Morcom for working tirelessly to ensure that this could come to fruition for our students.

This Term we welcome back Donna Payton from family leave. Donna will continue in the Science role she helped establish before taking family leave. Donna will take Science for the students from grade Prep -2 as well as providing support in classrooms.

In Term Three Jane Xuereb is on leave and for the term Nicole Portelli will take on the role of classroom teacher for 1/2X. Nicole began working at Sunbury Heights earlier this year and has proved to be a very dedicated and enthusiastic young teacher and we welcome her to our staff.

### Parent Opinion Survey

Each year the school (in line with DEECD guidelines) conducts an opinion survey of 15 per cent of the school community. Parents are randomly selected to participate and we use the information to support future school planning and improvement. The survey is designed to take **no more than 20 minutes to complete** and your feedback and opinions play an important role in making our school the best it can possibly be.

If you are randomly selected please be assured that your responses are completely confidential. The survey is conducted anonymously and it is important to us that you complete the survey as honestly as possible. I ask if you receive a survey you to take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school. In the past, feedback from our parents has helped us to make changes to what we offer and the way we organise things. Examples that have recently occurred as a result of feedback include reports being written in more parent friendly language, the introduction of a weekly homework club for senior students, a commitment to provide more technology for our students, guitar and keyboard being introduced as extracurricular activities and our prep and secondary school transition programs,

If you are randomly selected expect the survey to come home on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**.

Surveys need to be returned to school by **Friday, 2nd August 2013**.

### Curriculum Day

The school will be holding a Curriculum Day on **Thursday 25 July**.

The focus for the staff will be threefold:

- We will continue with professional development about how best to engage our parents in their learning of their children
- Professional development about the English component of AusVELS
- Professional development about how XO laptops can be used to the best advantage both in the classroom and for home learning

**PLEASE NOTE: STUDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY**

### Winter Uniform

Please ensure your child is dressed warmly and appropriately for winter conditions. There is a uniform policy that School Council has approved and it states for winter that girls will wear either a school pinafore or tracksuit pants. Summer dresses with leggings, shorts or netball skirts are not appropriate for the weather conditions.

Boys should be wearing tracksuit pants with either a jumper or jackets. Wherever possible we send students out into the fresh air during recess breaks. They need to be dressed appropriately and in warm school uniform items of clothing. As we do not have a school winter coat students may wear their own coats, jackets or parkas outside during recess breaks outside.

### Grade Five Science Program – Partnership with Sunbury Downs Secondary College

This term in Science, students in grade 5 will have the opportunity to use the laboratory equipment and facilities at Sunbury Downs Secondary College. The lessons will have a chemistry focus and will be facilitated by Mr Andrew Blackburn (Sunbury Downs Secondary College Science teacher) with the support of his year eight science class and Mrs Jenny Adams our Science Specialist.

The feedback from the students on their return to school on Wednesday suggests that they are looking forward to an exciting term of Science. They were very excited about being in the "laboratory" and learning about all the safety aspects they will need to undertake to make the most of their time in the secondary school science environment.

Thank you to Mrs Adams for organising these sessions for us and Sunbury Downs Secondary College for the opportunity.

### Abbey McDonald Off to the State Cross Country Championships

Our best wishes go with Abbey McDonald today as she competes in the State School's Cross Country Championships. Abbey, from Mr Knight's grade, is proving to be a young champion. Only nine, Abbey is competing the ten year old age group which means that next year she is still eligible to compete in this age group. Congratulations Abbey. Sunbury Heights is proud of you

### Public Forum on Drug Awareness

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August at 7.00 pm

Venue :Sunbury Bowling Club,

A number of speakers will discuss alcohol and drug abuse in our own and wider community. Speakers will include law enforcement and support professionals as well as parent representatives from our local community. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive printed support materials aimed at increasing your knowledge

### ICAS Science Results

Congratulations once again to the students who were selected to represent the school in the ICAS science competition. Jet Bastos performed exceptionally well and received a credit. Well done Jet!

### XOs – They Really Are Coming!

We have been told that the XOs will arrive next week so we are busy organising how they will be named, stored, used and distributed. Every effort will be made to get them out to students as quickly as possible.

At this stage, 75% of our students will be receiving an XO they can bring home. This is an amazing result and we are most appreciative of the support families have given this exciting program. Over the next few days, teachers will be reminding students about payments and we will endeavour to contact all families to ensure every child has the opportunity to be involved.

It is extremely important to keep children safe when using technology, especially when 'online'. To remind students of their responsibilities in this area we will be distributing a new 'technology agreement' which will clearly outline our expectations. When this comes home, we ask that you read through it with your child/ren, and following that, continually remind them of their responsibilities. This will include an updated permission form for student work, photograph, video to be published in various forms.

Cathie Morcom

### Fundraiser Event

Sunbury Heights Shopping tour with Tartan Tours

**When:** Saturday 7th September 2013

Depart school at 7.30am return approx 6pm.

**Cost:** \$70 per person including lunch, with \$35 deposit asap.

Full payment due by Friday 9th August.

Contact Kylie Gifford for more information ph: 0448 44 0075 or [kyliejifford@bigpond.com](mailto:kyliejifford@bigpond.com)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To the following students, until the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2013 – Erynn Bulmer-Smyth, Kristen Matenga, Emma Bridges, Will Uili, Zachary Lynch, Jordan Williams, Evan Woolford-Fleming, Justin Taylor, Cedric Schwalger, R-Jay Bartlett, Arran Garner, Marcus Tancevski, Sian Crowe, Cody Walton, Jak Maddox, Natarsha Maddox, Tyler Chakley, Ciaran Garner, Skye Atkinson, Hollie Maxfield, Cillian Quirke, Alexeen Banting, Hayley Rooney, Ruby Ryan, Ryan Hazelman, Declan Corcoran, Ethan Rooney, Taylor Bartlett

### PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Grade	Student	Reason
1/2R	Carmel Ross	For settling well back into the grade.
1/2H	Taylor Hardstaff	For unstoppable progress with reading.
3/4K	Lachlan Gilpin	For a brilliant Class Captain speech.
3/4K	Hannah Watkins	For a brilliant Class Captain speech.
3/4W	Alex Braun	For a settled and enthusiastic start to Term 3.
5P	Justine Galvez	For a well-structured recount of her holiday.
P.E.	6L	For a focused session in PE.
ART	1/2H	For a great start to Term 3.
SCIENCE Mrs Payton	Emilee Palser	For being focused in Science.