



SUNBURY HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

EVERY CHILD - EVERY OPPORTUNITY - HELPING CHILDREN SHINE

Charter Road East
 PO Box 243, Sunbury 3429
 Telephone: 9744 3377
 Facsimile: 9744 5721

Email: sunbury.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
 Website: www.sunburyheightsps.vic.edu.au

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 1st November 2012

TERM CALENDAR

DATE	DETAIL
NOVEMBER	
Thurs 1st Nov	Second Hand Uniform Shop 2.45pm-3.15pm
Tues 6th Nov	Melbourne Cup Day No School
Thurs 8 th Nov	Sunbury Music Festival
Mon 12th Nov	School Council Meeting 6.30pm
Tues 20 th Nov	2013 Prep Transition Afternoon
Tues 27th Nov	2013 Prep Transition Afternoon
Wed 28 th Nov	Prep Aquarium Excursion
Fri 29th Nov	Non-Uniform Day Gold Coin Donation
DECEMBER	
Fri 7th Dec	P-2 Athletic Day
Tues 18 th Dec	Grade 6 Graduation
Wed 19th Dec	P-2 Concert
Fri 21 st Dec	Last Day Term 4 1.30pm Dismissal

PLEASE SIGN UP TO RECEIVE YOUR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE (ADDRESS ABOVE)
(Limited printed copies are available from the office.)



RSVP: 25th November
 Debbie Daks at
sga@ngiv.com.au
 or 0413 575 964

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Chess Tournament

All schools in Sunbury are invited to send a team of students to compete in the Sunbury Chess Tournament being held at Diggers Rest Primary School on Tuesday 13th November. This competition will be run by the "Chesskids organisation." All players play seven matches during the day and the tournament software ensures that all players are matched against players of similar ability. Advice and coaching will be available on the day. Mr O'Keefe is busy organising chess play offs so he can decide on the Sunbury Heights Chess Champs we will send. The chess tournament is a fun and friendly day. Students do not play against students from their own schools, so there is a great opportunity to mix and meet other people. Thank you to Paul Yeatman (Principal of Diggers Rest) for organising what will be a great day for our "chess minded" students

Garden Awards

We were very excited to receive our official invitation to this year's Victorian Schools' Garden Awards Presentation Day on Thursday 29th November. Mr de Waart will attend the awards with the Class Captains from each grade 3-6 class. It is hoped that Sunbury Downs Secondary College will once again lend us their school bus, so that we are able to keep the cost down.

If the weather is nice, parents may like to head in to the Botanical Garden for a picnic lunch to also support SHPS on the day.

Grade Placement 2013

In the near future, we will begin organising our classroom structure for 2013. Our final structure will depend on our student enrolment numbers, available classrooms, teacher schedules and possible changes to government policy that may impact on our decision-making. Regardless of these factors there is always some very relevant information that parents convey to us that we take into consideration when arranging student groupings. Some examples of parent requests we consider have included:

- *If there were composite classes' siblings may be in consecutive year levels e.g. a year 5 and a year 6 and the parent wishes that they are not placed in the same class.*
- *The separation of twins or alternatively parents may prefer the twins to be placed in the same class.*

Each year, we ask parents to inform us in writing of relevant information. Please note: that this is **not** a teacher selection opportunity, but one which may influence the children's social and academic grouping to ensure all students' need are met. I often have parent requests about placing students with long standing friends. This is not always in the best interest of the child. We all need to develop emotional resilience, learn ways to make new friends and develop independence. Please be assured that your

child's best interests are always at the forefront when planning. While we cannot guarantee your requests will be met, we assure you that the information you present will be carefully considered.

Requests must be made in writing and should be addressed to the principal as follows- 'Confidential – 2013 Grade Placement'.

Requests for grade placement should be lodged at the office no later than **Friday, 9th November**. Any parent, who has lodged a request in a previous year, should resubmit their request in writing even if their circumstances remain unchanged.

Canteen

When Cathie Morcom and I surveyed the students a few weeks ago we found our canteen and its friendly staff came up as something that they love about Sunbury Heights.

They like the fact that Jo Miller our Canteen Manager is accommodating, friendly, kind and always trying out new recipes to tempt them.

For occasional food today Jo and her helpers Maria Morbey and Kerry Scott have made an assortment of Halloween biscuits and cakes. Very scary! This is just a small example of the effort Jo and our volunteer mums put in and I think as a school we are very lucky to be able to provide such a low cost service to our students and families.



Snakes

As parents and staff it is important to remind our students that snakes are more likely to be encountered on warm, sunny days, especially in grassy areas and along creeks. In classrooms we will be talking about snakes and safe practices. Please remind your child if they see a snake in your garden or house, do not try to catch or kill the snake. Walk away from it slowly and keep an eye on it from a safe distance (several metres away). Keep your pets safely away from it and the snake will usually move on in its own time. Snakes don't want to be near humans any more than humans generally want to be near snakes.

As in other first aid situations, prevention is better than cure. That is why we recommend that students should wear solid shoes and socks even when the weather is warmer.

Drink Bottles:

With the warmer weather creeping in we encourage students to stay hydrated and make sure they bring a water bottle to school for use within the classroom. Individual teachers have classroom rules about whether bottles are on tables, on the sink or kept in a bag. We encourage you to send along water for your child to drink from during the day. Students wanting to leave the classroom for a drink interrupt their own and their classmates learning.












Non-Uniform Day Wear

Please remember on Non Uniform Fridays, students must wear closed toe shoes, shirts or t-shirts with sleeves and a broad brimmed hat

Uniforms

Parents are fortunate at Sunbury Heights that School Council have allowed a great deal of choice when it comes to uniform.

Please don't add pieces to the uniform (eg long pants or leggings under summer dresses or skirts) School Council Uniform Policy is included for your reference:

-  navy windcheater, hooded windcheater, navy bomber jacket
Grade Six students have the option of purchasing a 'special' jumper each year.
-  red or pale blue polo shirt, pale blue polo with navy trim for students
-  school tartan skirt
-  school summer dress
-  navy shorts (no stripes, pictures or logos)
-  navy track pants (no stripes, flairs, logos etc.)
-  navy netball skirt or skort (no stripes, pictures or logos)
-  navy or white socks (may be long or short)
-  navy, broad rimmed or bucket hat must be worn in terms 1 & 4
-  blue, white or red beanies may be worn outside in terms 2 & 3
-  blue, white or red scarves may be worn outside in terms 2 & 3

Jewellery

Stud earrings or small sleepers worn in the ears, plus watches are the only acceptable jewellery.

Hair Accessories

Hair accessories must be in the school colors (red, white or navy blue) and should be unobtrusive.

Hair

Extreme hair colors (eg. green, pink or purple) and/or extreme hair styles (e.g. patches of color, Mohawks or shaved designs) are not permitted.

Cosmetics

Other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school.

Footwear

Shoes may have Velcro or laces, however must fully enclose the foot.

Sports shoes must be worn on days children will be involved in PE or sport.

Regards

Kaye Mills

Principal

WANTED: TOY CATALOGUES

The Year 1 and 2 classrooms are in need of **TOY CATALOGUES** to support our writing program.

Please send *any toy catalogues* to Carmel Ross in Room 3 so that class sets can be created.

If you could spread the word amongst your neighbours and other family members, we would be very grateful.

Thank you for not sending other catalogues.

Carmel, Liz, Penny.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To the following students til the 4th November

Connor Johnson, Caleb Bertram,

**PUPIL OF THE WEEK – WEEK ENDING
2nd November 2012**

Teacher	Student	Reason
Junior Danaher	Corey Greenwood-Davis William Vergara	For great sentences they wrote about the helicopter visit.
Junior Ross	1/2R Zachary Lynch Wiford Sasulu	For being a great group of students who are keen to learn and who look after each other and their teacher. For an improved effort in writing.
Junior Wilson	Laura Hunt	For working hard to solve shared between problems.
Middle Pianura	Kasey Scibberas	For showing confidence and respect, ALWAYS!
Senior O'Keefe	50	For acting responsible and helping others while Mr O was away.
Senior Andersen	Cruz Noonan	For an improved attitude towards his learning.
Senior Langmaid	Letitia Fernandes	For her enthusiasm towards multiplying fractions.
Miss Ratkowski PE	1/2R	For a great PE session.
Mrs McIntyre Library	6L	For being a sensational grade and having no overdue library books.

News from the Artroom
Calendar fundraiser reminder

All orders for the calendar fundraiser are due by Thursday 8th of November. Examples of both art and photo calendars are on display on a noticeboard in the atrium.

Enquiries: Jenny Caddaye (Art Room) after 3:15pm Tues-Fri.

GIANT CAR BOOT SALE AND FAMILY DAY!

Saturday 17th November from 8.30am - Village Green and Sunbury Uniting Church.

Ring Helen on 9744 3031.

- Over 60 cars and also inside craft stalls - a chance to do some Christmas shopping! Outside sites still available but be quick!
- Devonshire tea/coffee, sausage sizzle, sno-cones, coffee van.
- Huge second-hand book stall inside - cheap!
- For the kids - jumping castle, Thomas the Tank ride, lucky dips, craft table!

Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school.

The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, \$62 million over four years will be redirected to the State's most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- **Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account**
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection
- **Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses**

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Payment Amounts - 2013:

	Prep	Years 1 - 6
Instalment One	\$140	\$105
Instalment Two	\$60	\$45
Annual Total	\$200	\$150

