February 2012

STAGE 2 NEWSLETTER: TERM 1 2012

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome back to school! We are all looking forward to another busy, exciting year at our wonderful school! Welcome, also, to all the new students and their families.

Your child's teacher will inform you of the class routines as soon as the school timetables are finalised.

Thank you to those parents who have already sent their child's requirements to school, clearly labelled. Would you please ensure that as things run out, or are lost, they are replaced?

STAGE PRIORITIES THIS YEAR:

Stage 2 teachers are particularly concentrating this year on increasing the writing skills of our students and on problem solving strategies. The programs are the same for each class in their grade.

DIARY DATES:

Cultural Assembly 9:30 am 23rd February. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Harmony Day: 21st March

NAPLAN testing: 15th to 17th May

OC test: 25th July

Information about these events will be published closer to these dates.

For all school information, parents should frequently look at the school website: http://www.eastwood.nsw.edu.au/

Information about NAPLAN can be found at http://www.nap.edu.au/

Information about OC can be found at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/ocplacement.php

Any questions? Please ask.
OUT OF SCHOOL EXCURSIONS THIS TERM:

Last Thursday the children attended the annual Swimming Carnival. We trust that they swam their hardest and enjoyed supporting both their peers and sports houses.

This term we are taking advantage of the NSW Art Gallery’s Pablo Picasso exhibition to learn about this famous artist. Year 4 will be visiting the Gallery on Monday 20th and Year 3 on Tuesday 21st February. A permission sheet with information has been sent home.

2011 PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION EVENING:

When: Monday 13th February from 5:00 pm until 6:00 pm

Where: We will begin in the hall, and then move to individual classrooms.

Why: So we can introduce ourselves to you, inform you of our stage routines, rules and expectations. Class teachers will then add any extra information specific to their class.

We hope to see as many of you as possible.

ENGLISH:

Encourage your child to read and discuss topics that are of interest to them. It is important to talk and encourage them to form opinions about a variety of subjects. The NAPLAN writing task is persuasive text so it is a good idea to help your child with this type of text. This is the type of text also used in public speaking and debating.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE) and GYMNASTICS:

Stage 2 classes are all lucky enough to be doing gymnastics for sport this term. These lessons will be held each week on Thursdays. Children should wear their sports uniform on this day.

Individual teachers will inform you of their class PE day, when your child will also need to wear their sports uniform.

HUMAN SOCIETY AND SCIENCE TOPICS FOR TERM 1:

This term, after learning about their classmates, the Year 3 and 4 classes will be learning mapping skills and studying the Australian Aborigines.
In Science, the Year 3 students will be learning about the properties and uses for different materials.

The Year 4 classes will become experts at the human body as they increase their Science Investigative skills.

**CSIRO SCIENCE EVENTS:**

Your child may wish to hone their science skills by attending one of the CSIRO’s investigation days. An information sheet is attached.

**REQUIREMENTS**

At this very hot time of the year, children can easily become dehydrated or sun burnt. Please ensure that your child brings both their hat and a water bottle, clearly labelled, each day.

As they grow and develop, many children also require more food. Would you please make sure that your student brings both morning tea and lunch daily? Please work with them to find out which healthy food they’d prefer to eat and the correct quantity.

**Lunch orders** from the canteen need to be submitted before school. Children shouldn’t be using their lunch money to buy snacks.

**CONTACTING US**

Please feel free to contact your class teacher if you have any queries or concerns. You could send a note with your child or ring the school to leave a message. We will return your note or call as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support. We are all looking forward to working with you for the benefit of our children.

**HELIX MAGAZINE PUZZLE:**

Draw lines to join the matching symbols. Lines can go from one empty box to the next: up, down, left or right. They can change direction, but they can’t go diagonally. No two lines can go in the same box and lines can never cross.

Kind regards,

Lyn Farrant (Editor) for the Stage 2 Teachers

Jackie Slaviero

Assistant Principal