



Murray Farm 'Everyone's included'

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to Term 3.

I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday. This term will be a busy term. This is a term where our students are ready to put into practice what they have learnt and they do this through performance, an important component of the curriculum. Performance shows the application of knowledge and skills and, in many instances, shows that our students are working beyond what is expected in the syllabuses.

Our students will be performing at the District Performing Arts Festival, the Sydney Opera House Concert (early Term 4), the State Band Competition, eisteddfods, the Orange Blossom Festival and Open Day. I look forward to seeing all of these excellent opportunities for performance.

HUMAN SWINE FLU

This year it is likely many more people will come down with flu-like illnesses than in recent flu seasons because few people have immunity to the human swine flu virus.

As the number of cases of flu increases, we all need to take steps to minimise the

transmission of the virus in school communities as some staff and students are at greater risk of severe illness from flu.

Staff or students who become unwell should stay away from school until they are well to minimise the transmission of the flu.

Any student who identifies that they are unwell, or is displaying flu-like symptoms at school, will be sent to the sick-bay area and their parent or carer will be called to take them home.

Please watch carefully for any signs or symptoms of flu-like illness in your child. If they are unwell please do not send them to school until their symptoms have gone.

These symptoms include fever, cough, tiredness, muscle aches, sore throat, chills or shortness of breath.

Some people are more likely to develop severe illness from both seasonal influenza and swine flu. NSW Health advises that this group includes people who:

- Are pregnant (particularly in the second and third trimester)
- Have chronic lung disease (including asthma)
- Are very obese
- Have chronic heart conditions
- Have chronic kidney disease
- Have chronic liver disease
- Have blood disorders (including sickle cell disease)
- Have neurological disorders
- Have metabolic disorders (such as diabetes)

- Have weakened or suppressed immune systems (which may be caused by cancers, medications or HIV/AIDS)
- Are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background (of any age).

If you or your child is in one of these categories, please **seek urgent** medical attention as soon as symptoms of flu appear because you may need anti-influenza medication and it works best if given early.

The Department has policies in place to support schools this flu season. I can assure you that the Department will continue to act on all advice received from NSW Health to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and students.

Additional health information is available from the H1N1 Influenza 09 section of the NSW Health website at: <http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/index.asp>

BUILDING PROGRAM

The continuation of the toilet refurbishment and the building of our new Library are underway. I will be meeting with the architects and surveyors this week to look at the plans and the siting of the new Library. I have been told that there is a very short turn-around time between the negotiation of the project and the project commencing. The building program will be taking place during school term and we will have very similar organisational structures as we had for the building of the school hall in 2006-7.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF MURRAY FARM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Planning is under way for the celebration of our school's 40th Anniversary. Our school community will be having a 'Back to Murray

Farm Weekend' on the weekend of 7 and 8 November.

There will be a 40th Anniversary Dinner on the Saturday evening and an Open Day barbecue on the Sunday. The organisation of these two events will be advertised in future newsletters and in the metropolitan and local newspapers.

BOOK WEEK / EDUCATION WEEK

Education Week is held at the beginning of Term 2 each year and it comes very early in the year. We have Grandparents Day during this week and traditionally we have our Open Day in Term 3 each year.

Our Open Day will be a celebration of the learning that takes place at our school. Open Day will be Wednesday 16 September. Please mark this in your diary as a date to be put aside to visit your child at their place of work. This day is always a very enjoyable and enlightening time.

Book Week will be held during Week 5 of this term (Monday 24 August to Friday 28 August). We will be having a Book Safari on 24 August and also a noted Australian author Libby Gleeson will be speaking to the children on Wednesday 2 September and Wednesday 9 September.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Last Monday, 27 July, our teachers learnt more about the use of a new teaching technology. They learnt how to use the Interactive Whiteboard in lessons and also how to incorporate it into the units of work studied each term.

We have ordered eight new interactive whiteboards to go into eight classrooms around the school and our teachers will be using the knowledge they gained from the

day to assist with the implementation of the new technology.

Staff also commenced an Occupational Health and Safety Audit of the classrooms, buildings and grounds of the school. The afternoon was jam packed with parent teacher interviews until 6 pm. This proved to be a very valuable learning day for all involved.

CHILD PROTECTION - TERM 3

Last term, I wrote in the newsletter about the Child Protection Curriculum that is taught in Term 3 every year. Our teachers will be teaching the Child Protection Curriculum that has been developed specifically to teach students strategies to recognise and prevent abuse. The types of abuse that are addressed are physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect.

Child Protection lessons begin, in each class, this term. Permission notes will be sent home to Kindergarten and new families. It is important that these permission notes are returned immediately, so that lessons can commence.

Parent permission for all other students is by exception; therefore if you do not want your child to participate in Child Protection lessons you must send a letter to your class teacher. If teachers do not receive a letter requesting non-participation it will be assumed consent has been given, following on from the previous year's permission.

For those children whose parents choose for their children not to take part, alternate arrangements will be made.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Every three years Murray Farm Public School supports the Heart Foundation by having the Jump Rope for Heart program. It has been four years since we have taken part

in this program. Our children will have time to learn and practise new skipping steps. This activity is excellent for cardio-vascular development.

Later in the term, once the children have had instruction and practice, we will be having a 'Jump Rope for Heart Day' on Thursday 24 September. Our children will be able to help raise money for the Heart Foundation for research into heart disease. Murray Farm Public School still holds the Australian record for raising the most amount of money for the Heart Foundation.

Kindest Regards
Colin Booth

MACQUARIE SCHOOLS DICTIONARY

The last day for orders for the Macquarie Schools Dictionary is Friday 31 July. If you are interested in ordering one please bring your order to the Office before Friday.

CANTEEN

Volunteers for week beginning 3 August.

Monday 3/08/09 – Susan He, Jenny Gu

Tuesday 4/08/09 – Melanie Michalos, Shelly Wong

Wednesday 5/08/09 – Jennifer Han, Michelle Azzo

Thursday 6/08/09 – Sarah Hassarati,
Help Needed

Friday 7/08/09 – Joanne Power, Maria Chiofalo

Help is needed on Thursday 6 August. If you can help out please see Ann or Kerri

Please note that a Canteen Survey will be sent home with your child this week. We appreciate your feedback.

Thank you
Ann and Kerri

COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 3 2009

TERM 3	
30/7/09	Hills Festival Choir
30/7 – 31/7	Year 6 Canberra Trip
03/08/09	Year 2 Excursion – 2P & 2B
04/8/09	UNSW English Competition
05/08/09	External OC Test, Jump Rope Rep. 9-1pm

THE 2009 CRACKER CARNIVAL

We have put the 2009 Cracker Carnival to bed and have given the P & C approximately \$24,000. Considering it was such a very wet carnival the result is fantastic. You all deserve a pat on the back for braving the wet weather.

I would like to say a big thank you to the fantastic Committee, who all ended up wet and cold, and who can claim that they were a part of the wettest Cracker Carnival ever.

Thank you to all the staff of the school who dealt with the interruptions of moving classes and parents pulling apart classrooms.

A very special thank you to Colin Booth for his continued support; his assistance leading up to the Carnival and for his organisation and running of Murraycinno on the night. Also, many of the items that were auctioned on the night were made and donated by Mr Booth, for which we were very grateful.

Thanks also to Terry Gorrie who accommodated us at every turn and to Ann and Kerry from the Canteen, who allowed us to store items for the week before the carnival.

I had a great time working with Val Hutchings. Thanks Val, I could not have done it without you.

We have already sent a thank you to all our wonderful volunteers and we thank every one

of you. If you require a certificate please contact me and we will organise one or you.

I am sad to say that this was my last Cracker Carnival as convenor. This is due to the fact that I am pregnant with my fifth child. We are therefore looking for someone to take over the role of Cracker Carnival Convenor. If you are interested in taking up this position, please contact me on one of the numbers below if you would like more information or you wish to discuss the role with me in more detail.

As it is my last year, the thank you list is long. Again, I would like to say a big thank you to the committee who have supported me at times even if they didn't agree; to all staff who have welcomed me into their classrooms at all time and the wonderful Admin staff who assist all the committees that are within the school. To the outgoing committee members whose children are off to High School, Leonie Schouten and Suzanna Chan we will miss you. To Kendall Pesavento who has decided to take a back seat next year, we are grateful to the time you have given us. My apologies if I have overlooked thanking you individually. Please know that I appreciate your valuable contribution to the school.

Thank you again

Sharon Brown

8005 7224 or 0431 428 235

White Elephant Toys

The White Elephant Toys Store thanks all the volunteers who assisted on the night and all the parents who donated toys to the store. Without you, our success wouldn't have happened.

Thank you to all the committee for their continued support and last of all, thank you especially to Susan Pan and Kathy Lau who

assisted us from the beginning to the end.

From Ivy and Nola (White Elephant Toys Store Co-ordinators)

Bears Birthday Bingo

Once again we had a very successful year with our soft toy game. Preparations for the Cracker Carnival take several weeks and we were helped again by a wonderful team of people.

Our sincere thanks to:

- Everyone who donated soft toys and especially those who went to the trouble of washing them first!
- Our wonderful team of toys washers: Danielle Blow, Cathy Nelson, Louise Ramjam, Helen Sutherland and Anne Houghton. Your help, as always, was invaluable.

We were staffed on the night by kids and parents from the 1st Murray Farm Scout Troop who did an excellent job and made the evening great fun for all. We would like to express particular appreciation to Philomena Henrikkson who has been a dedicated worker and supporter of our stall for the last four years. Thanks for all you help Philomena.

Regards,
Cheryl Worthy and Siobhan Doherty

International Food

This year's International Food Stall was a success! It would not have been possible without the helpers, so this thank you goes out to all of you!

I would like to especially thank the helpers whose children have already left the school. I would also like to thank Chaminda Adikari, Jasper Kim and Lulu Mei for preparing the beautiful variety of food for us. Special

thanks go to Helen Chan and Ivy Au-Yeung, for helping me along the whole way.

We'd also like to give our sincere thanks to those who donated food ingredients and fried rice. A special hand goes out to the Lu family and Top Taste Restaurant at North Rocks Westfield.

Sadly, this is my last year organising the food stall. We still need someone to take over this job for next year's Cracker Carnival. If you are willing to help please come forward. Don't wait for somebody else to raise their hand; that somebody will never appear! We already have a wonderful food team who are willing to organise the food, so we need people to organise the stall itself.

Once again, a big thank you to all those who contributed to this year's stall. It would not have been such a success without your efforts.

Suzanna Chan

White Elephant Homewares

Despite the terrible weather, the Homewares stall was a huge success. This is due to all the wonderful support I received from Murray Farm families.

Firstly thank you to everyone who donated goods to the stall. Again this year we had lots of quality goods donated – it always gets everyone excited! Particular thanks go to Del Nickols whose granddaughter no longer goes to the school. She donated five oil paintings and a box of ornaments, all of which created a lot of interest and many happy buyers.

Secondly, thank you to all the helpers who helped me price, sort and display the goods ready for the carnival, those who helped me out on the night and lastly with the huge job of cleaning up and packing on Sunday.

Particular thanks to my mum Jacqui Scholte and Maria Mewjork. Both spent hours turning 'junk' into bling.

Finally thank you to everyone who visited our stall and purchased something. Hope to see you again next year!

Moniek Borsovszky – Stall Coordinator.

The Staff of Murray Farm

I would just like to thank all the Murray Farm staff and their families for pitching in. Thank you to our glorious office staff for assisting in the Treasury; teaching staff for running the Tombola and Students' Photos; assisting in Murraycino's and volunteering for other shifts. Thank you to class teachers for preparing the photo displays and collecting money "post carnival". Thanks also to Val Hutchings, Mrs Mountford and the impressive band of parents who helped to prepare the photo display and take it down.

Also a big thank you to Mr Booth for his endless support and Mr Gorrie for attending a committee meeting and volunteering where he was required. Thank you to Ms Johnston and her immediate helpers for planning and implementing the Tombola. Thanks to Mrs Jeffries and her husband for helping pack up on Sunday.

Michelle Magee - Teacher 3M

Books

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out at the Bargain Book Store this year. With all the help, we raised money for our school and survived our wettest year of Cracker Carnival. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!"

May Lo and Donna Bain

Canteen

Thanks to all those ladies who worked in the Cracker Carnival Canteen. It was great to work in such a warm, friendly, efficient & DRY atmosphere. Special thanks to my co-coordinator Tina Lambert and to Susanna, Lou Lou & Ivy for helping us out with the purchases for the night. Thanks to the Cornwalls and others for helping tidy up on the Sunday.

Anne Houghton

Guessing Competition

As with previous years, the prizes offered this year were fantastic and well worth the price of a ticket. The winning tickets were drawn in the K-2 playground in front of a large crowd on the night of the Cracker Carnival by Mr and Mrs Priest, who were the convenors of the Carnival thirty-seven years ago - it was wonderful to have them join us.

I'm really pleased to advise that \$7,832 was raised by the families and staff of our school - Congratulations!

We'd like to thank again the businesses in Coffs Harbour who donated the first prize which was won by the Watts family (Lachlan 5N). Thank you to ORO Collections for donating the stunning TEDORA sterling silver bracelet which was 2nd Prize and was won by a neighbour of a school family; 3rd prize (Nintendo Wii) was won by Danielle (1V) and Liam Gosalas' grandparents; 4th prize (Nespresso Coffee Machine) won by Harrison (1F) and Isabella (4H) Blow's grandmother (!!); 5th Prize (Ipod NANO) was won by Jennifer Pack in Year 6 at Murray Farm; 6th Prize which was donated by Robert Cliff Master Jeweller of Castle Hill and was won by Wilson Hsu in 6E; 7th Prize (RipStik Caster Board) was won by Kelvin (4S) and Liam (2R) Fairclough's

family; 8th prize was donated by Pimarn Thai Restaurant at Castle Hill and was won by a friend of a school family.

The Incentive Prize which encouraged families to return their ticket stubs and money by the due date was a family pass to the National Maritime Museum and was won by Nicholas White (2W).

I'd like to thank the mums who assisted me with collating the tickets - the work was completed in a few hours (we've got it down to a fine art!) and earned a well deserved morning tea and natter - Val Hutchings, Sarah Hassarati, Carol Downing, Anne Houghton and Cathy Nelson. Thanks to the mums who assisted in the mornings to count money raised as well - your help was very, very appreciated.

Danielle Blow - Guessing Competition Coordinator.

WINTER ASTHMA WARNING

With the onset of winter and cooler weather, many people find that their asthma seems to flare up. If you or a family member has asthma the following things will help you manage your asthma as we approach the coldest time of the year:

- See your doctor and have your asthma reviewed
- Ensure that you have an up to date Asthma Action Plan
- Make sure you carry your reliever medication at all times
- Continue to follow a healthy lifestyle – exercise and watch your diet
- Stay warm
- Endeavour to have your home heated uniformly throughout
- Ensure you continue to comply with the treatment plan your doctor has devised for you

- If you have a child in long day care, ensure staff are aware of weather changes as a trigger for asthma in autumn and winter.

If you would like more information about the Asthma Friendly Children's Services Program or about asthma in general, contact Asthma Foundation NSW on (02) 9906 3233 or 1800 645 130 or email ask@asthmansw.org.au or visit the Asthma Foundation NSW website at www.asthmansw.org.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Epping Street Fair

Sunday 30 August from 10.00am to 4.00pm

This year sees the exciting return of the Epping Street Fair. Proudly supported by Rotary Club of Epping, the Epping Street Fair on Rawson Street will feature: Market Stalls, Food, Crafts & More Community Information, Live Entertainment, Talent Quest, Junior Art Show, Roaming Street Performers.

Something for everyone. A fundraiser for local charities.

There are still opportunities to promote your business by sponsoring the Street Fair. To find out how you can be further involved call Melissa Gillooly, Marketing Manager at The Epping Club on 9876 4357 or email melissa_gillooly@eppingclub.com

Carlingford – Jnr Oztag - Summer Registrations are being taken at Roselea Oval, Carlingford from 4.30 to 6pm on Monday 10 & 17 August. Cost - \$55 a player Or don't wait in queues send registrations to:

202/8 Applebee St, St Peters 2044.

Team registrations can be found at <http://www.oztag.com.au/carlingfordjuniors>.

* Competition 10 weeks and 2 weeks of Finals Runs Sept-Dec

* No play through school holidays

* Boys and Girls

* Ages range between 5-16 years old

Contact: Melissa Russell 0424 853 706
sydneyjnrs@oztag.com.au

Centrecare – Broken Bay Men & Family Relationships Program

Hey, Dad! for Separated Fathers is a six week group exploring the role of the fathering in post separation parenting.

* Understanding the impact of separation upon your children

* Communication

* Dealing with strong emotions

* Child Development

* Building children's self esteem

* Understanding your children's needs

Dates and Venue:

Brookvale Family Centre – Tuesdays 11, 18 August 1,8,15, 22 September, Tuesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 November & 1, 8 December 2009 (6.45pm – 9.30pm).

Waitara Family Centre – Wednesdays 12, 18 August, 2, 9, 16, 23 September, 4, 11, 18, 25 November & 2, 9 December 2009 (6.45pm – 9.30pm).

To speak to our Men and Family Relationships Workers please call: Sean Williams on 9488 2523 (Mon-Fri) or Greg Stock on 9488 2532 (Mon & Wed) or 8968 5100 (Tues & Thurs).

Baulkham Hills Cricket Club Inc - 2009/2010 Season

Junior Registration Day – Saturday 1 August – 9:00am to 2:00pm

Baulkham Hills Sports Club, Renown Rd, Baulkham Hills Junior training and grading commences on Sunday 9 August

Senior Registration, Grading and Practice commences on Sunday 2 August from 10:00am-1:00pm

Charles McLaughlin Reserve, Crestwood Drive, Baulkham Hills. Training and Grading Sunday 9, 16, 23 & 30 August. Teams for all ages and abilities. New Players welcome.

A Grade plays on Turf.

For further information contact: Phil Waddups (Jnr Secretary): 0421 272 267, Tony Senior (Senior Registrar): 0414 614 216.

Email: secretary@baulkocricicket.com.au

Website: www.baulkocricicket.com.au