



## *Murray Farm 'Everyone's included'*

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

### **OPEN DAY**

What a great day!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Open Day was a great success. It was very heartening to see so many parents and friends of the school visiting classrooms and watching the concert.

Our Library had many visitors and we thank you for your very generous donations of books for our children to read. The public speakers in the hall did a great job. It is a great experience for our public speakers to speak in front of such a large audience. Thank you to Mrs Stevens.

Our teachers were very pleased to see so many parents and grandparents in classrooms looking at our children's work.

The Open Day Concert was very entertaining and showed the wide variety of activities that our children get to do at school. A big thank you to Mrs Notley-Smith and Mrs VanderSluis, for coordinating the concert.

I know that our students were very excited about having their parents come to school to see what they do.

Thank you to Mrs Fothergill and the school Auxiliary for coordinating morning tea; it was very much appreciated by everyone.

### **THE REGIONAL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Yesterday a number of our talented athletes competed in the Sydney West Athletics Championships. All of our competitors represented the Castle Hill Area very well.

As a judge on the finish line it was very hard for me to be watching what the Murray Farmers were achieving, but I did. I saw Antonia Zhang come 2nd in the Junior Girls High Jump, Jordon Idiare come 1<sup>st</sup> in the 11 Year Boys 100 metres and 1<sup>st</sup> in the 11 years Long Jump, Methila Nanyakkara come 1<sup>st</sup> in the 9 Year Boys 100 metres and second in the 9 Year Boys 200 metres. The Junior Girls Relay and the Junior Boys Relay made it to the final of the 4 X 100 metres relay. The Junior Girls came 4<sup>th</sup> in the final and the Junior Boys won the final of the 4 x 100 metres Junior Boys Relay. All of the training put in with Mrs Kavanagh and Miss Russell paid off. Our relay teams ran beautifully.

Jordon Idiare, Methila Nanyakara, Antonia Zhang, Isaac Fisher, Adam Moussa, Patrick Idiare will all compete in the NSW Championships in October. A great effort.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS PLUMMER – SILVER WATTLE AWARD.**

I would like to congratulate Mrs Plummer our Learning Support Teacher for being honoured

with one of the top awards in the Scouting movement.

The Chief Scout of Australia, Her Excellency, Governor General Quentin Bryce AC, honoured a number of members of Scouts Australia, New South Wales, in late August. Mrs Plummer received the Silver Wattle Award for outstanding service. Mrs Plummer is a Joey Scout Leader at the 1<sup>st</sup> Carlingford Mob. Congratulations Mrs Plummer on a deserving award. Well done!!!!!!!!!!

### **IT'S OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY!!**

All past students, parents and teachers are invited to celebrate our school's 40th Anniversary on the weekend of Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 November 2009.

Saturday 7 November - Anniversary Dinner in the School Hall. Tickets for the dinner are \$25 per person and ticket order forms are available from the front office.

Sunday 8 November - Back to Murray Farm Day, Open School and free BBQ - 10am to 2.30pm.

Contact your current and past friends from your Murray Farm school days and join in the Celebrations!

For further details for either day, please call Sue or Helen on 9871 5952 or email on [murrayfarm-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:murrayfarm-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au).

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

#### **SEMONN OLEKSYN**

Congratulations go to Semonn for coming 1<sup>st</sup> in the 12 years Long Jump competition at the Castle Hill Area Championships. This was an outstanding achievement. Well done Semonn.

### **WEAR A COLOURED HAT OR COLOUR YOUR HAIR FOR LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH Last Day of Term**

Many of our families have been touched by having a member of the family contracting Leukaemia during the year. More research needs to be done to be able to better treat the problem. On Friday the 2 October we will have a gold coin donation day for Leukaemia research. I hope your child can get into the spirit of the day by either wearing a coloured hat or wearing coloured hair.

**IT IS NOT A MUFTIDAY – school uniform will still be worn.**

### **BEST WISHES TO LINDA HUANG**

Last week Linda Huang was the feature sports story on the back page in the Hills Shire times. Linda played in the National Championships for Tennis last week in Adelaide. I will give you an update as to how she went in next week's newsletter.

Kindest Regards

Colin Booth

### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

Anna Song – 1V

### **COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 3 2009**

<b>TERM 3</b>	
22/09/2009	OPSM Eye Check
23/09/2009	Yr1 – M Paterson Best Start
24/09/2009	K-Yr 6 Jump Rope Day
28/09/2009	Hills District Public Speaking Competition – Hall, 14 schools
29/09/2009	Bundeluk Visit - Mural

### **BAND PERFORMANCE**

On Sunday the Concert and Intermediate Bands were invited to play the Rotary Markets at North Rocks. Both bands played well and had a good time. Some band members helped out the other band by

playing with them also to boost numbers. I especially enjoyed playing "Click It" as I hadn't played it before. I think the best part of the day was when Mr Booth bought a soft drink for each of us.

David Nelson

## CANTEEN

Volunteers for the week beginning Monday 28 September.

**Monday 28/09 /09** – Janelle AhCann, Alison Dunsby

**Tuesday 29/09/09** – Edwina Fisher, Melanie Michalos

**Wednesday 30/10/09** – May Lo, Yuting Xing

**Thursday 01/10/09** – Sarah Hassarati, Jeffrey Tse

**Friday 02/10/09** – Joanne Power, Maria Chiofalo



## A NOTE FROM THE LIBRARY

Sincere thanks to everyone who so generously donated a book to the library on our Open Day. Your generosity added 133 new books to the collection. When the books are processed and covered your child will be informed so that they may bring their library bag and borrow them first. They may be ready by the end of Week 10 but certainly by the start of Term 4.

Again a reminder to anyone who joined The Children's Bookshop VIP Book Club, there is a meeting on the afternoon of Tuesday 29 September, at 4.30pm.

Hilary Guthrie  
Teacher Librarian

## FUN SPORTS DAY

Kindergarten to Year 2 Fun Sports Day will be held on the 30 September 2009 from 9.15am – 10.50am, on the grass area behind

the Kindy Block at school. Parents are invited to join their child for morning tea. You will need to bring your own chair and morning tea as the Canteen does not cater for adults. The event will be cancelled if it is raining.

Thank you

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 Teachers

## MURRAY FARM

### ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS

#### BOYS

Senior: Champion – Semonn Oleksyn  
Runner Up – Brandon Cornwall

11 Year Old: Champion – Jordan Idiare  
Runner Up – Ben Chalke

Junior: Champion – Adam Moussa  
Runner Up – Methila Nanayakkara

#### GIRLS

Senior: Champion – Qi-Ze He and Ingrid Supit  
Runner Up – Esther Chen

11Year Old: Champion – Renee Turco  
Runner Up – Dominique Lambert

Junior: Champion – Antonia Zhang  
Runner Up – Sophie Wehrmann

Winning House – Atholl.

Congratulations to Atholl and these talented athletes on a very successful carnival.

## NEWCOMBE BALL

Congratulations to our Junior Team, who reached the semi-finals last week. They were placed second in Group B after a count back of points scored for and against. They played Excelsior who was placed first in Group A. Unfortunately our team was defeated on the day. Our Senior Team was placed equal third but on a count back missed reaching the semi-finals.

Both teams, throughout the season, displayed outstanding sportsmanship, were a delight to train and a credit to the school.

Janyse Stevens and Karen Justin

### **AFL SEASON**

This year our AFL teams put in a lot of effort to improve their AFL skills and knowledge of the rules. This hard work paid off when the senior team just missed out on a place in the semi-finals. Mr Carman gave his time to train and umpire our games. The children learned how to work in a team and started to win games. The Senior Team came sixth out of fourteen teams, which was a great achievement as it is only our second year in the AFL competition. The Juniors also continued to improve and were very competitive. Congratulations to both teams on a great season!

Dylan Schouten and Rajeev Cassinader  
AFL Team Members

This year was a successful year as we continued to improve our skills, win games and display good sportsmanship in AFL. I would like to thank all the children who played AFL this year. You improved your AFL skills and were excellent representatives of Murray Farm. Thank you Mr Carman, for your time and effort ensuring our children had the skills to play competitively. Thank you to all the parents who came to the games and offered support and encouragement. Year 6 students, good luck as you continue your education at High School.

Margaret Hatley  
AFL Coordinator

### **RUGBY LEAGUE 2009**

The Junior and Senior Rugby League Teams have worn their Murray Farm jerseys with

pride. Although results have not always been in our favour, the players have never given up and have continued to work for each other. Skills, such as tackling, passing and kicking, have grown as they have tried new methods, combinations and practised hard.

We enjoyed participating in the Parramatta Knockout and playing each Friday in the PSSA Competition. Celebrations were great when we scored our tries and completed many of our grass-cutting 10,000 tackles. Thanks to Mr Brown and Mr Jeff for their help through the season. Congratulations guys!

Terry Gorrie

### **PSSA NETBALL**

This year has been great to see the skill development of all players. During the season players have learnt to throw harder, quicker and more accurately.

Players have learnt to follow their opponent in defence and break to spaces when attacking. Many other skills have improved.

It is pleasing to note that four players had never played netball before and seven players have only ever played school netball. A great effort girls.

Congratulations again to the two Junior teams for making the semi-finals. They came 4<sup>th</sup> and were playing 1<sup>st</sup> in their division. The Senior teams are also to be congratulated on their fine effort in their difficult grades. There are forty teams across the five grades and many seniors play representative netball. Well done girls.

K Maginnis

## **PSSA SOCCER**

This season the Junior and Senior PSSA soccer teams both did very well. The Junior soccer team played the whole season without losing a game, having only wins or draws. They came second on the table and narrowly missed out a finals place after a 1-1 semi final match that went into extra time. The Senior soccer team also came second on the table and made it all the way to the semi finals. They had some great games against very tough competition. Both teams showed great skills, teamwork and sportsmanship and played some very exciting games.

Troy Wurth

## **SKIPPING FOR A HEALTHY HEART**

This week, our school has another day to celebrate!

MFPS is proud to be a very successful fundraiser for the Australian Heart Foundation.

Over the years that we've been participating in the Jump Rope for Heart program, our school has raised an AMAZING \$81,243!!

The money raised by our students, and their sponsors, have helped fund some major achievements, which include:

- The development of the artificial pacemaker
- The introduction of intensive coronary care units in hospitals.
- The development of improved treatments for high blood pressure, heart failure and kidney damage.
- The establishment of Australia's first mobile intensive care ambulances.

Another great part about this achievement is that our students are not only raising worthwhile funds, but they are also

developing their skipping and coordination skills and improving their level of fitness.

Our students and staff are happy to be part of the "ACTIVE SOLUTION" to one of Australia's health issues.

Thank you for being a Jump Rope sponsor!  
The Jump Rope Committee

## **40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DINNER – REQUEST FOR HELP**

We are in need for a few men who would be free on Friday 6 November in the morning to help setup the hall for the dinner on the Saturday night. This will involve setting up tables and chairs.

We also need helpers on Sunday morning, 8 November at 8.30am, to replace tables and chairs so that the school is ready to open at 10am for Open Day.

We are also looking for two matching large waist high Vases or Urns to be used for flower displays.

If you are able to help with any of these requests, please contact the school office and speak to Sue or Helen.

Thanks for your help.

## **DISCO TICKETS**

Disco tickets are being issued to children each day this week. The receipt of payment is attached to the ticket.

Please note that the disco tickets need to be presented on entry to the disco. Therefore make sure that you keep the ticket safe.

Thank you  
Administration

## **CLOTHING POOL**

Many thanks to all our helpers at the Preloved Uniform sale! It was a very busy and successful day!

Don't forget our specials on new uniforms which are available until the end of Term 3:

Winter shirts - \$14 each or 2 for \$27

Girls bootleg trousers - \$22

Girls knee high socks - \$5.50

Tights – thick 2 pairs - \$20

Tights - thin 2 pairs - \$11

Summer uniforms are now in stock. Shop early and miss the rush at the start of Term 4!

Now is also the time to get your sunglasses (\$10) and hats (\$9 - \$14) ready for those hot sunny days!

We will open at the start of Term 4 on Monday October 19 and Tuesday 20, 8.30 – 9.30am

Sandy Luxton  
9873 3340

Karen Fothergill  
9873 6726

## **ORIENTATION – CLOTHING POOL**

We need many helpers to assist with fitting our 2010 Kindy children with uniforms on their Orientation Days on 23 and 28 October. It's not difficult work and we all have the basic knowledge of the school uniform to help the new families.

The 2009 Kindy parents especially, may like to help, and share your experiences of your first year! Even an hours help would be appreciated!

Please contact either Karen or Sandy for more information.

Sandy Luxton  
9873 3340

Karen Fothergill  
9873 6726

## **AUXILIARY NEWS**

It was agreed at the last P&C meeting that the Auxiliary as it is known will be dissolved at the end of the year. The Auxiliary has always been an integral part of the school community assisting at school events and fundraising for P&C, however next year the P&C would like to introduce the idea of "Class Parents" which is a successful concept in many other schools. If you would like to be part of the working group and share your ideas, we will be meeting in the first few weeks of Term 4 to design the program. We will also be looking for a Class Parent Co-ordinator which will be a new committee position under the P&C. If you have any comments regarding this concept or would like to be part of the working group please feel free to contact us directly on 0416 003 455 or [danielleb@timelessmoments.com.au](mailto:danielleb@timelessmoments.com.au).

Regards Colin Booth, Danielle Blow, Karen Fothergill and Sandy Luxton.

## **P & C NEWS – AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2009**

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped on Open Day. It was a great opportunity for family members and friends to see 'behind the scenes', and watch the talented children of Murray Farm perform.

With critical positions unable to be filled on the Art and Craft Committee, the Art and Craft Exhibition for 2009 will not be held.

The P&C is looking at options for holding the event in the future. The success of events like the Art and Craft Exhibition and the Cracker Carnival very much depend on volunteers from the school community. Volunteering brings a great sense of personal achievement and satisfaction. There are also great rewards for our children. Some are tangible but many relate to our children

witnessing their parents being actively involved at school. If you haven't helped at school yet, offer to do so and watch your child's face light up with excitement! There are a variety of roles that a parent can take on, with some requiring just a small level of involvement. Calls for volunteers are regularly posted in the school newsletter so please help out where you can.

The Cracker Carnival Committee contributed \$29,000 to the P&C and we are extremely proud of the school community for a great turnout despite this being our wettest carnival in memory! There are however various positions vacant for 2010 and these include Convenor, Guessing Competition, Canteen, Showbags and the International Food Stall coordinator. Anybody interested in these positions, either as a shared position or as individuals, are encouraged to contact Elena Shahla, current secretary of the Cracker Carnival Committee on [josephshahla@bigpond.com](mailto:josephshahla@bigpond.com).

A working bee will be held on Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup>. Please set aside some time in the morning to help - many hands make light (and hopefully quick) work! It is hoped that a range of tasks will be completed by lunchtime which will make the school shine for the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations planned during the following fortnight. The Orientation Days for Kindergarten 2010 are scheduled for 23 and 28 October.

The P&C has become aware of a pilot project to be run in Term 2 of 2010 involving an ethics-based option for non-scripture students. More than 30% of our children routinely attend non-scripture. Murray Farm will not be participating in the pilot but the P&C has written to the manager of the project expressing support for the pilot and

has requested that we receive more information about the project as it unfolds.

A letter has been sent to the Minister of Education requesting support for an Opportunity Class at Murray Farm. We lose a large number of students to North Rocks Public School each year because we don't have the same class available at our school.

NAPLAN results are now available and Mr Booth provided the P&C with a presentation on the school's results and how they compared with other schools in the area and NSW as a whole. We should feel very proud of our children and the teachers at Murray Farm. There is much to learn from these results and Mr Booth and the teachers will be analysing them in detail to help inform their future teaching strategies and priorities.

The P&C has approved the following motions:

- To support the purchasing of the Murray Farm House Banners to the value of \$2,000. The current ones are very old and in need of replacement.
- To support the purchase of a new Murray Farm PS "Welcome" sign to the value of \$600. The existing sign is faded and damaged and requires an update.
- To contribute up to \$1,400 towards the purchase of the Smartstack archival system, which is additional to the \$1,000 previously approved. Funds obtained from a volunteers grant will also be used on this project, which involves archiving the school's memorabilia. Good progress has been made on the archiving project, with a room dedicated to this purpose now set up.
- To contribute \$1,400 for the purchase of 35 chairs for the computer room.
- To purchase educational resources to the value of \$15,000 (\$1,000 for ESL

and \$2,000 per grade). The teachers have compiled a wonderful list of resources to be acquired for the classrooms.

At the next P&C meeting, the following motions are to be voted on:

- To support the purchase of blinds for the Year 3/4 block, the Year 5/6 block and the administration office up to the value of \$12,000. New blinds are required in the school blocks, whereas repairs are needed to the blinds in the administration office.
- To support the purchase of a waterproof barrel vault shade cover for the primary handball court to the value of \$28,000. Such a shade structure will provide welcome protection from the sun and the rain. The installation of a waterproof shade structure was a recommendation of the 2009 Cracker Carnival Committee.

Due to the Opera House Choir performance on Wednesday October 21, the next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday October 20. As usual it will start at 7:30pm in the staffroom (walk through main office). All welcome.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### NORTH ROCKS PRE SCHOOL - TEACHER FAREWELL

Tracey Wilson, a teacher at North Rocks Pre School, will be leaving the pre-school after 12 years service and moving to Brisbane with her family.

The Pre-School is holding an afternoon tea for Tracey on Wednesday 30 September at 2pm.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> MURRAY FARM SCOUT GROUP

1<sup>st</sup> Murray Farm Scout Group has been operating in Haines Avenue Carlingford (off Murray Farm Road) since 1972 and has been the scouting home to hundreds and hundreds of local children. We have enthusiastic male and female leaders in both cub and scout groups.

Cubs (7½ to 10½ years and Scouts 10½ to 14½ years) attend weekly meetings, camps, outings, bush walks and lots more.

It's a great opportunity for children to get away from the PC screen and the sofa, and enjoy some great fun and good exercise.

You are invited to come along and see for yourself. Bring a friend and have twice the fun.

For further information, check out our website [murrayfarmscouts.webs.com](http://murrayfarmscouts.webs.com), contact Cathy – 9894 8826

[cathynelson@bigpond.com](mailto:cathynelson@bigpond.com)) or

Peter - 0414 429 292

([peter@ossgroup.com.au](mailto:peter@ossgroup.com.au)) and come along on any Tuesday (not school holidays) for Cubs between 7.15pm and 8.45pm or any Wednesday night for Scouts between 7.30pm and 9pm.