Dear Parents,

Some of you will have heard the African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child.” I believe this to be so true and encourage you, as parents, to come together as the Soldiers Point ‘village’ and join us at Wednesday’s Parent Forum.

The purpose of the forum is to hear directly from you about some of the school’s current practices and share ideas for future improvement. We will also be discussing future directions, which will guide us in our planning.

The Parent Forum will be facilitated by Ruth McLeod in Room 1 (Mrs Wilson’s classroom) from 7:00-8:00 PM.

**Capable Mathematicians**

Congratulations to Harrison, Abbie, Ethan and Murray on receiving a high distinction in the Hunter Region Primary Mathematics Competition. The four students all ranked very highly (top 2%) making very few errors in their respective tests. It was also pleasing to note that a further 26 students received a distinction in the competition.

**Congratulations Pop!**

Earlier this year, the staff and I had the opportunity and pleasure of nominating Ken Harper (Abigail’s grandfather) for the award of NSW Community Grandparent of the Year 2014. Ken, who has volunteered to help in the classroom every day for the past 3 years, was one of three state finalists.

We sincerely thank and congratulate Ken for all he does for Abigail and many others each and every day at SPPS. Your committed efforts are a shining example to us all.

**Stage 2 Camp**

This week nearly 80 students from Stage 2 will travel north of Tea Gardens to the Great Aussie Bush Camp. For many, this will be their first school camp. While on camp students will participate in a range of team-building exercises, orienteering and other outdoor activities. We wish both students and teachers a great adventure.

We remind parents that you will need to have your child at school by 7:00 AM on Thursday morning.

**Library Upgrade**

In early 2015 Soldiers Point Public School will be receiving a new library facility to replace our current demountable library. The new library, which will be located below the two-storey building, is much larger in size and will be a welcome upgrade for the school.

I sincerely thank our P&C Association for their sustained efforts in securing this upgrade. It is anticipated that the library will be operational in the first half of 2015.
Term Dates

Term 4 – Week 5

Monday 3rd November
Tuesday 4th November Radio Visit
Wednesday 5th November Parent Forum hosted by the School Improvement & Finance Committee from 7:00 in Room 1
Thursday 6th November Stage 2 Camp
Friday 7th November Stage 2 Camp

Term 4 – Week 6

Monday 10th November Intensive Swimming
Tuesday 11th November Intensive Swimming P&C Meeting in staffroom from 7:00
Wednesday 12th November Intensive Swimming
Thursday 13th November Intensive Swimming
Friday 14th November Intensive Swimming

Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 17th November Intensive Swimming
Tuesday 18th November Intensive Swimming
Wednesday 19th November Intensive Swimming
Thursday 20th November Intensive Swimming
Friday 21st November Intensive Swimming

Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 24th November
Tuesday 25th November
Wednesday 26th November
Thursday 27th November
Friday 28th November Student Recognition assembly

Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 1st December
Tuesday 2nd December
Wednesday 3rd December Year 6 Orientation @ THS Scripture Assembly @ 10:20
Thursday 4th December Twilight Bandstand – Anna Bay PS
Friday 5th December

Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 8th December
Tuesday 9th December
Wednesday 10th December
Thursday 11th December Year 6 Farewell at Soldiers Point BC
Friday 12th December Celebration Day

Term 4 – Week 11

Monday 15th December
Tuesday 16th December Talent Quest
Wednesday 17th December Term 4 Concludes for students
Thursday 18th December
Friday 19th December

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Friday 7th November – 1.30pm
3-6 Assembly
Hosted by 5/6SB

Friday 14th November
K-2 Assembly
Hosted by 1/2C
All Welcome

Grounds Update

This week the top field had a significant transformation with the turf being laid. We will be busily watering the field for the next month or so to ensure the grass is able to establish.

The project still has about a week of work before completion.

Organisation for 2015

To assist with our preparations and organisation for classes in 2015, we need to ascertain how many students will be at Soldiers Point so we plan classes based on these numbers. If leaving, please complete the notice on the next page of the newsletter and return to school.
SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR 2016

Must be completed on line by Monday 17 November 2014.

On line applications are at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Library Update

Library borrowing will end in Week 7. We require all books back for library stocktake.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Mrs Merriman

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER!

Let's get organised early!

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2015 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan, the U.S.A and Canada will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Call your local coordinator today on: 0429406126 to request some student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Headlice

We ask that families support the school in trying to minimise this problem by regularly checking your child’s hair and treating if necessary.

To: Mr Parson

My child/children listed below will be leaving at the end of December 2014, and not returning in 2015.

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ Destination: ___________________________

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ Destination: ___________________________

Name: ___________________________ Class: _______ Destination: ___________________________

Signed: ___________________________
Canteen

**HOT DOG MEAL DEAL on Wednesday 19/11**

A note will be coming home with students soon.

Thank you to Belinda Lavers, Rebekah Newell, Lauren Fuller, Karen Jones, Liz Dennison, Tammy Peach, Casandra Butterworth and Ella De La Motte for all their help over the last two weeks.

Roster:

Wed 5/11  Cassandra Butterworth, Tammy Peach
Thu 6/11  Year 6: Izaak M.; Riley B.
Fri 7/11  Lauren Fuller
Mon 10/11  Karen Jones
Wed 12/11  HELP NEEDED
Thu 13/11  Year 6: Summah G.; Tess R.
Fri 14/11  Lauren Fuller, Rebekah Newell
Mon 17/11  Belinda Lavers

Parent Forum

**Wednesday 5th November 7–8pm**

Join us at the Parent Forum!

The Parent Forum is your chance to help shape future directions at SPPS.

*Bring along your ideas for how families and staff can work together to support our students, improve communication and achieve an even better SPPS.*

The Forum will be hosted by parents and staff from the School Improvement and Finance Committee. We look forward to seeing you there.

Upcoming meetings

P&C meeting:

Tuesday 11th November, 7pm in the school admin building. All welcome.

Come and hear the debrief from the Twilight Markets, and all upcoming plans.

Minutes from previous meetings can be found at [http://sppspc.weebly.com/meetings.html](http://sppspc.weebly.com/meetings.html)

Uniform shop

The Uniform Shop is open:

- Tuesday from 8.30–9.30am and
- Friday from 2.15–3.15pm.

We accept cash or cheque only for your payment. (There is NO EFTPOS available.)

2014 SPPS tea towels and aprons – great Christmas presents!

**LIMITED STOCK**

- **Aprons**: $20
- **Tea Towels**: $12 each or $10 each for 3 or more.

Available at the Uniform Shop, or contact Ruth on 0412746084.
Go4Fun
Healthy • Active • Happy • Kids

We all know how important it is for children’s health, growth and development to be physically active and to have a balanced diet, but with increasing technology in our lives and so much variety and advertisements for ‘unfriendly’ foods, this can sometimes be a real challenge!

Are you looking for ways for your kids to:

- Increase activity levels and build sporting skills and fitness?
- Learn more about healthy eating and having a balanced diet?
- Make new friends and develop their self-esteem and confidence?
- Reduce ‘screen time’ and learn fun physical activity alternatives?

We may have the answer for you!

Go4Fun is a FREE healthy lifestyle program for families with children aged 7-13. It runs after school across the term by a qualified Dietician and Exercise Leader. To see if your child qualifies for Go4Fun, or for more information regarding current and future programs, visit the Go4Fun website at [www.go4fun.com.au](http://www.go4fun.com.au) or call 1800 780 900.

DON’T MISS OUT! REGISTER NOW and help encourage your child to be HEALTHY, ACTIVE AND HAPPY TODAY!