Dear Parents,

With the end of the school year only a matter of weeks away, I’ve included dates of some of our school events to assist with your organisation. The following activities will take place over the next fortnight:

- Year 6 will be attending an Orientation Day at Tomaree High on Wednesday, December 3;
- Our Christmas assembly will be held on Wednesday, December 3, from 10:25-11:00 in the hall. All students who are eligible to attend weekly scripture shall be attending;
- Our band will be performing at the Twilight Bandstand on Thursday, December 4;
- Student Recognition Assembly will be held on Friday, December 5;
- We’ll be recognising our Year 6 students at their Graduation Dinner on Thursday, December 11; and
- On Friday, December 12, we’ll be holding our 2014 Celebration Day.

Celebration Day is unquestionably the most significant of our annual school events. It is intended to be a reflection on the school year where we share the impressive talents of our students. Our Celebration Day assembly will be held in the school hall from 9:30AM. (See program items later in this newsletter).

Student Reports
On Friday, December 12, all students will be given their Semester 2 Student Report. The reports will be given to the children in a sealed envelope and it is expected that it will be delivered home to parents unopened. We encourage parents to read the report together with their child discussing the positives and possible goals for future improvement.

Book Packs
To assist with your organisation for next year I have included the anticipated cost of Book Packs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunity Class</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

What’s in a Book Pack?
Book Packs include stationery items your child will require throughout the year including: text books, exercise books and additional equipment, such as pens, pencils, glue, ruler etc. In 2015, Stage 3’s Book Pack cost also includes a subscription to Mathletics, which students will be using instead of a text book for mathematics.

As was the case in 2014, each Book Pack includes a $25.00 voluntary technology contribution. This voluntary contribution is included annually as it enables the school to sustain and improve our current technological resources.

Since introducing the voluntary technology contribution in 2013, we have been able to install wireless access points (Wi-Fi) across the school, purchase additional iPads, as well as replace 6 data projectors. In 2015 we aim to replace a further 4 data projectors and install a new interactive whiteboard (IWB) in the new library when it becomes operational in Term 2.

As always, any families finding it difficult to meet these initial expenses are encouraged to apply for Student Assistance.
**Term Dates**

**Term 4 – Week 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 1st December</td>
<td>OC @ Thinkfest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2nd December</td>
<td>年6 Orientation @ THS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3rd December</td>
<td>Scripture Assembly @ 10:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 4th December</td>
<td>Twilight Bandstand – Anna Bay PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5th December</td>
<td>Student Recognition Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 4 – Week 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8th December</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9th December</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10th December</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell at Soldiers Point BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th December</td>
<td>Celebration Day Assembly commencing at 9.30 am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 4 – Week 11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15rd December</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>Talent Quest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17th December</td>
<td>Term 4 Concludes for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th December</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th December</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

**Friday 5th December – 1.30pm**

Student Recognition Assembly

**Friday 12th December - 9.30am**

Celebration Assembly

All Welcome

**Celebration Day Assembly – Friday 12th December 2014 9.30am**

Below is a draft of our **2014 Celebration Program** for your information. Please note that this is not the order of events and items may change.

**Welcome by Captains, National Anthem, Concert Band, Stage One Choir, Principal’s Address, Stage 2/3 Choir, Celebration Slideshow, Rock Band, Jnr Dance Group, Year 6 Recognition Awards, Snr Girls’ Dance Group, Induction of SRC, P&C Report, Early Stage 1, School Song**

We look forward to celebrating this important occasion with parents and friends.

**BUS PASSES – 2015**

If your child is in Year 2 (2014) they **MUST APPLY** for a new bus pass for 2015.

For children going into Yrs 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 in 2015 bus passes will be automatically generated.

Thank you

**Headlice**

We ask families to support the school in trying to minimise this problem by regularly checking your child’s hair and treating if necessary.
School Security
The school has been the target of malicious vandalism on numerous occasions throughout Terms 3 & 4. Vandalism has included windows being smashed in several classrooms (9), graffiti across the school and extensive damage to outdoor furniture. The tag STB has been associated with the graffiti. These latest attacks on the school have cost many thousands of dollars.

All incidents have been reported to the police and I have requested additional patrols, particularly as we approach the summer holidays. I would also like to request your support in keeping our school safe and secure.

You can support by calling the police on 13144 (Police Assistance Line) if you see anyone suspicious loitering around the school.

Students’ Medical Information for 2015
If your child has a current Asthma Plan, Anaphlaxis Plan, Allergies or any other known medical condition, can you please ensure that the school office has all the correct information.

Please ring Simone or Bronwyn to update or check what information we have.

Thank you
Upcoming meetings

Final meetings of the year
Come along to our final 2014 meetings to have your input – this is your chance to contribute your ideas and make a difference to your school and community.

SIFC meeting: Wednesday 3rd December
P&C meeting: Tuesday 9th December
@ 7pm in the school admin building.
All welcome.
Minutes from previous meetings can be found at http://sppspc.weebly.com/meetings.html

Twilight Markets

The markets were a success – the total profit generated, after all expenses was $6766.80.
At the last P&C meeting it was approved to donate $6500 to the school for literacy resources for classrooms to support the new English syllabus, and $250 directly to the music department (new music stands requested).

Uniform shop

The Uniform Shop is open:
- Tuesday from 8.30–9.30am and
- Friday from 2.15–3.15pm.

Special opening times for next year:
- Tuesday 27 January 2015: 9am–10am
- Wednesday 28 January 2015: 8.30am–9.30am

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

We have reduced our discontinued girls cotton and polyester bootleg pants to $5.00 each. Limited sizes available.

A big thank you to Karen Jones and Brooke Hill for all their help during the past year.

SPPS Tea Towels and aprons

Great Xmas presents!

Aprons: $20
Tea Towels: $12 each or $10 for 3 or more
Available at the Uniform Shop, or contact Ruth on 0412746084.

Canteen

Thank you to Rebekah, Deanne, Julie, Karen, Ella, Liz, Tammy, Casandra and Belinda for all their help over the last two weeks. A HUGE thank you to all the wonderful people including Year 6 helpers who gave up their time to make Hot Dog Meal Deal Day a success.

Roster:
- Wed 3/12 Cassandra Butterworth, Tammy Peach
- Fri 5/12 Lauren Fuller, Liz Dennison, Deanne Cosgrove
- Mon 8/12 Karen Jones
- Wed 10/12 HELP NEEDED
- Fri 12/12 Lauren Fuller, Rebekah Newell
- Mon 15/12 Ella de la Motte

This will be the last Canteen News for the year, if any volunteers have changed their circumstances can you please let me know by the first week back next.

During Celebration Day assembly the Canteen will be offering Tea, Coffee and Cake. If anyone can spare some time and help out please let me know.

The Canteen is in dire need of a little bit of attention. The flyscreens around the serving windows need replacing and a pest spray is definitely overdue. If there are any handy dads or mums who could help please let me know and I will purchase the necessary items.

Lastly have a wonderful, safe xmas and new year, thank you so much for all your help throughout the year and I look forward to working with you and your children next year.

Thank you, Paula
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Bush Skills Adventure
Wednesday 14 January 2015 9.30am – 12.30pm For 9-12 years
Tuesday 20 January 2015 9.30am – 12.30pm For 9-12 years
Have fun making a bush survival shelter, cook damper, learn knotting and other bush skills.
Cost: $20 per child Bookings Essential Ph: 02 4951 6466

Wriggly Wetlanders
Wednesday 14 January 2015 10.00am – 12.30pm For 5 – 8 years
Monday 19th January 2015 10.00am – 12.30pm For 5 – 8 years
Enjoy a wetlands wander, then get creative with craft activities.
Cost: $20 per child Bookings Essential Ph: 02 4951 6466

Bring the Family to the Hunter Wetlands Centre - a fun, environmentally friendly learning experience!
Opened every day
(Closed 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st December 2014, 1st January 2015)
Access
Car/minibus parking available onsite. Public Transport : Train - easy 15 minute walk from Sandgate Station. Bus – 107 & 106 buses go past the Wetlands. 10 minute walk from stop at Marton St & Sandgate Rd
Cost
$2 per primary-school age child (special school holiday rate). $5 general entry
Activities
Watch the Magpie Goose Feeding at 10.30 am & 2.30pm
Try dipnetting from the jetty
Follow the trail and become a "Wetlands Explorer" - go into the weekly draw for a prize.
Playtime at Discovery Playground
Check out the creatures in the tanks in the Visitor Centre
12 noon - Tank Talk (30-45 minutes) – opportunity for children to learn about reptile behaviour and care and actually handle some of the reptiles from the tanks in the Visitor Centre.
Facilities
Toilets available in Visitor Centre Undercover picnic tables and shelter
Cafe – meals, chips, icecreams, drinks Shop – gift shop

Hunter Wetlands Centre Off the roundabout, 1 Wetlands Pl, SHORTLAND NSW 2307
Phone 02 4951 6466 Email hwca@wetlands.org.au Web www.wetlands.org.au
Our school community is committed to providing a supportive learning environment which promotes success & equity.