Dear Parents,

Amazing as it may seem, we are now almost halfway through the 2014 school year. The past two terms have been a very positive & productive time for our school with students experiencing success in many of their learning opportunities.

Importantly, a great deal has been achieved by our students with most of these feats occurring quietly and incrementally in the classrooms as children develop and refine their skills. Additionally, some have experienced success outside the classroom learning their musical instrument, competing in chess, debating another school or in their chosen sport.

Each child’s progress will soon be reported to parents via the Semester 1 report which teachers are busily preparing at the moment. It is intended that each child’s report provides parents with information explaining how their child is performing against the NSW Board of Studies outcomes i.e. strengths and / or skills they may need to work on. The report will also outline your child’s social development, organisational skills, attendance, as well as their involvement in co-curricular activities.

The Semester 1 report will be forwarded home to parents on Wednesday, June 25.

Supervision @ SPPS
The staff and I have noticed an increase in the number of students arriving at school before 8:25AM. Arriving at school this early is discouraged unless the student is a member of our concert or rock band. I remind parents that children should not be arriving at school before 8:25AM. Any student arriving prior to 8:25AM is to go directly to the steps under the COLA where they should remain seated until the first duty commences at 8:25AM.

Each afternoon, parents electing to pick their child up from school should do so from the dedicated Student Collection Area, which is adjacent to the school’s canteen. Parents should not wait outside classrooms to collect their child. Parents should also closely supervise younger siblings whilst at school.

Your support with these matters is necessary to ensure the safety of all our children.

Student Attendance
Each term I carry out an analysis on our students’ attendance as it is such an important factor of every student’s success. In undertaking my analysis last week I was pleased to note that 276 students have been absent fewer than four days, and of these 40 students have not missed a day.

I congratulate these students and their parents for imparting such a valuable lifelong lesson as being at school on time and prepared.

Sports Uniforms
At present we are missing a number of team shirts (touch & soccer). We ask parents / students who have participated in a sporting event this year to check their draws at home for these shirts and return them to school ASAP.

This Friday, June 13, is going to be a Crazy Hair Day® SPPS.

Your gold coin donation goes toward our Year 6 fund-raising.
**Term Dates**

**Term 2 – Week 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th June</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting in staffroom from 7:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11th</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Touch V Anna Bay PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12th</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Crazy Hair Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13th June</td>
<td>Rugby league V Dungog PS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infants Disco</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Primary Disco</td>
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</tbody>
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**Term 2 – Week 8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16th June</td>
<td>UNSW Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th June</td>
<td>UNSW Spelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Radio Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th</td>
<td>Kinder Excursion – Shark &amp; Ray Centre &amp; Nelson Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th June</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Term 2 – Week 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23rd June</td>
<td>SDD Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th June</td>
<td>Students return K-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26th</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27th June</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Term 3 – Week 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14th July</td>
<td>Kindergarten, Concert Band, Rock Band, School Leaders, House Captains, Library Monitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15th July</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
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<td>Thursday 17th</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th July</td>
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</tbody>
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**School Speciality Photo Groups**

Are now available on-line from Newcastle School Portraits. All photos are on display in the school foyer.

- Kindergarten
- Concert Band
- Rock Band
- School Leaders
- House Captains
- Library Monitors

Go to website [www.newcastleschoolportraits.com](http://www.newcastleschoolportraits.com) and follow the on-line ordering tabs to **School Speciality Groups** and then your password is 38422AF or ring the Broadmeadow office on 4965 4114

Thank you

**Skoolbag Absences**

For parents who use the **Skoolbag App** for students absences, if you indicate you have a doctors certificate please remember to send the certificate into the office.

Thank you

**SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

**Friday 13th June – 1.30pm**

K-2 Assembly ~ Hosted by KS

**Friday 20th June – 1.30pm**

Yrs 3-6 Assembly ~ Hosted by 5/6G

All Welcome

**Kinder Enrolments for 2015**

We are now taking names for children starting Kindergarten in 2015.

Please come to the office and complete the **Expression of Interest** so your child can be added to our data base.
Sports Update
Congratulations to our Under 10 rugby league team who had their first taste of competition in the 2014 All Schools Knockout. The team competed well in all 4 of their games and came away with 1 win, 1 draw and 2 losses.

Thank you to all our parent / grandparent helpers for their support on the day. Special thanks to Soldiers Point Bowling Club for allowing us to borrow their minibus to transport the team to and from Newcastle.

Our Under 12 rugby league team played their first PSSA knockout game last week against Tomaree PS. The team came away victorious with a 24-12 win. Their next game will be against Dungog PS on Friday, June 13.

We wish both our boys’ & girls’ touch football teams well as they come up against Anna Bay PS in the Round 1 of the PSSA Knockout this Wednesday.

Book Club
Book Club orders must be in by Monday 16th June

The Uniform Shop will not be open this Friday afternoon

The Uniform Shop will instead be open this Friday morning, 13th June from 8.30-9.30am
Soldiers Point SRC
May 2014 Edition

SRC News Week 3
In our SRC meeting today, we discussed the GRIP Leadership Conference. All of our SRC leaders will attend on Wednesday 21 May. At this meeting we also talked about some fundraising ideas to raise funds for our school, including the Year 6 gift to the school. We talked about a crazy hair day, a ‘my junk your treasure’ sale and the $20 challenge. We also discussed supporting the Rise for Alex Day, which would raise money for spinal research. More details about these exciting ideas will come soon!
Tess
Vice-Captain

SRC News Week 4
On Wednesday the 20th of May the SRC (and 3 year 5 students) went to the GRIP Leadership conference in Newcastle. The people there talked about some things like being a schoolyard superhero. A superhero is like a leader and the traits of a school HERO are; Helper, Encourager, Role model and Organiser. We also learnt about leading like a strawberry not a watermelon. Strawberries are the same on the inside and the outside. Someone who is the same on the inside as how they act and speak on the outside and a watermelon is different on the inside to the outside as for a person. Finally we learnt how to bring ideas forward and succeeding in student leadership. During the conference we played fun games about loud noises, at one point Callum from our school went up on stage and danced the sprinkler! All in all everyone, especially me, enjoyed the conference. I know next year the SRC will enjoy it too.
Harry
School Captain

CRAZY HAIR DAY: Friday 13th June. Don’t forget to come with your craziest hair or have your hair cut up at school. Most importantly don’t forget your gold coin donations! All monies raised will go towards the Year 6 gift to the school.

SOLDIERS POINT SRC
MAY 2014
P&C NEWS

Canteen
Thank you to Rebekah Newell, Karina Patane, Lauren Fuller, Deanne Cosgrove, Ella De La Motte, Tammy Peach and Cassandra Butterworth for all their help over the last two weeks. Roster:

Wed 11/6 Belinda Lavers, Bekk Paradisi
Thu 12/6 Year 6: Lola, J.: Ashlee H.
Fri 13/6 Liz Dennison, Lauren Fuller
Mon 16/6 Jenny Jones
Wed 18/6 Tammy Peach, Cassandra Butterworth
Thu 19/6 Year 6: Isaac M.; Riley B.
Fri 20/6 Rebekah Newell, Lauren Fuller
Mon 23/6 Katie Nicholas

We now have some yummy home-made minestrone for sale in the canteen.

Upcoming events
Annual disco
Friday 13th June 2014. Mark your calendars! If you can help out on the night please let us know by texting Anna (0414 672 252) or Trish (0425 338 934).

Twilight markets
October Term 4 2014.
We are looking for volunteers to be a part of a fundraising committee to guide and help make this and other events possible. Roles may include:
- Promotion of event
- Helping to set up on the day
- BBQ operators
- Cakes/baked goods organiser/s
- Stallholder liaison.

Parent helpers are also required for assisting students and their stalls. Let us know if you want to be involved or hire a stall by emailing us sppspc@live.com.au.

Upcoming meetings
- P&C meeting is on Tuesday 10 June
- SIFC meeting is on Wednesday 2 July.
Both meetings are at 7pm in the School Administration building. Minutes from previous meetings can be found at http://sppspc.weebly.com/meetings.html
All welcome.

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

(Please note: The Uniform shop will not be open on the afternoon of Friday 13 June 2014, it will be open in the morning from 8.30am to 9.30am instead just for that day.)

If you need to purchase a Bomber Jacket for your child or any other item which we currently do not have available you will have to place your order with payment by Tuesday 17 June 2014 to ensure delivery early next term.

We still have the following Clearance Sale items:
(Please note: Not all sizes are available)
- Girl’s Cotton Bootleg Pants $10.00
- Girl’s Polyester Bootleg Pants $15.00
- ½ Zip Polar Fleece Jumpers $15.00
- Boy’s Double Knee Trackpants $10.00

We accept cash or cheque only for purchases.
Wondering what your SIFC does at Soldiers Point Public School?

The School Improvement and Finance Committee (SIFC) is a subcommittee of the P&C made up of parents who volunteer their time. The aim of the SIFC is to nurture community spirit and help the school with parent and community input. Below is information about SIFC activities.

2013

Six SIFC meetings were held during 2013. SIFC meetings are an opportunity for families to provide input and comment on changes to school policies, support the capital works program and assist in preparing proposals to obtain additional funding.

- The main focus during 2013 was on the school’s capital works and asset management program. Much of this was part of the Creative Play Spaces Project concept plan supported by staff and the broader school community in December 2012. We tried unsuccessfully to seek some volunteer assistance to project manage the Creative Play Spaces project. Simon Parson has managed to fill this gap for us so far.

- Works completed during the year included:
  - engineering/drainage plans
  - water tank, plumbing, pathways and covered walkways
  - the Remembrance Garden under the guidance of Rob Richards and Danielle Robinson
  - concrete terraced seating between the COLA and library.

- We were successful in gaining grant funding from the NSW Community Building Partnership Grants Program. A grant for $15,000 for a covered walkway was announced late 2012. This was followed by two further grants totaling $27,000 announced end 2013 for a second covered walkway and for sub-soil drainage and turfing as part of the playground upgrade.

- Other topics discussed during 2013:
  - Future school buildings including additional permanent classrooms and library. Tristen Cosgrove (P&C President) was successful in securing a meeting onsite with Department of Education Assets staff to discuss school buildings.
  - The voluntary technology levy was discussed and supported for implementation. This levy contributes to ongoing costs for providing technological student resources such as whiteboard, laptops and ipads.
  - Cyber safety within our school community continued to be a priority. Support given to host Project Rockit cyber safety workshops for students and families.
  - The conduct of scripture classes and ethics classes in the school were discussed. Additional information was provided to parents.

2014

- Focus for 2014 will once again be on securing funding and completing the Creative Play Spaces works 2.0 and 3.0 as per the Soil Conservation Service, NSW Department of Trade and Investment stages (see below). Support for directing available P&C funds to these works was confirmed at the P&C February 2014 meeting.
  1.0 Seating below COLA – completed
  2.0 Seating (above oval) and oval upgrade
  3.0 Earth mounds, drainage and mulching area above oval

- P&C fundraising activities during the year will aim to raise funds to finish the playground works and purchase equipment.

- Additional issues currently being discussed include:
  - review of the student recognition program
  - grounds and tree maintenance
  - school library.

We welcome your input into SIFC activities. Join us at our monthly meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month. All minutes from the monthly meetings are on the P&C website http://sppspc.weebly.com/

At this site you can find the information above and more.