Dear Parents and Carers,

A big thank you to all of our parents for supporting last week’s Book Parade Week. It was great to see all of our students dressed up as their favourite book character. We even had pre-school siblings join us in a dress up! All of our staff dressed up as well, making the day a fun celebration of literacy. We had a fun filled assembly with students on stage showing off their costumes. We had our regular presentations with lots of awards and recognition. We even had a special guest reader, Pat Richards, a key player with the West Tigers Rugby League team. Thank you to all of our parents and friends who attended the assembly to share in our celebrations!

South Circuit Road Safety

Thank you for your ongoing assistance to keep our students safe on South Circuit. As I have stated previously we need to work together to keep our children safe. By abiding by the road signs, not making illegal U turns on South Circuit and by not parking in the Bus Zone, you are following road rules in place to keep pedestrians and other road users safe.

Thank you for encouraging your children to use the designated crossing area, with orange crossing flags on South Circuit.

Please remember that our staff car park is a designated staff car park only. When parents park in there they are putting their own and others’ children at risk. This is a car park only. There is a Kiss and Drop/Pick Up loop around this car park. Mrs Duffield or myself will now monitor this area and supervise the students who use this each afternoon. The students remain with us near the stairs at the back of the hall, until it is their parent’s turn to stop and pick up.

Please do not park in this area. The loop is designed for movement, cars drive in an orderly fashion behind each other. Drivers stop, student gets in the car and the driver drives out. If a car parks in the loop it is an obstruction. Other cars cannot move forward to pick up their child. Your assistance and support is paramount to ensuring your child’s safe departure.

The first car park is designated for our Support staff only. Parents are not to park in this car park. It has been observed that some parents are using
this car park to drive through as a U-turn, instead of driving to the end of the road. This is highly dangerous and is putting our special needs students at risk. We have Assisted School Transport vehicles regularly accessing the car park to drop off our students in the support class. This car park is not to be used, it is putting our student’s safety at risk.

**Athletics Carnival Queries**

There have been some questions asked about the Athletics Carnival this year. Here is some information to hopefully answer those questions. In all public schools, students in years 3-6 participate in athletics in various forms. It may be a carnival or separate events. The students need to equal or pass qualifying times and distances to earn a place to compete at the Zone Carnival, which involves other schools in our area. Therefore times and distances are recorded for students 8 years and older.

Generally the age groups are 8, 9, 10 years = Juniors, 11 years and 12 & 13 years = Seniors. Shorter running events are divided into ages. It is widely accepted that 1st to 3rd place ribbons are awarded to those students achieving the top 3 places in each event, regardless of whether their time qualifies for zone or not. Only the time and distance qualifiers will be invited to compete at zone level. Not all students who have received a ribbon will go to zone. This year 4th place ribbons were also awarded where applicable.

Some schools offer a K-2 Athletics Carnival, athletics practice events or a round robin style sports day. This year, our K-2 students were able to participate in athletics type events with our 3-6 students. Some were modified to suit the ability of the younger students. Distances and times were either not recorded or recorded only for our own data collection purposes to help us for future event organisation. K-2 students received stickers for encouragement, to recognise participation and for trying their best.

The purpose of K-2 student participation in the Athletics Carnival is to promote a healthy lifestyle and to encourage and sustain levels of fitness and activity. It allows students talented in the area of athletics to shine, develop gross motor and coordination skills and to develop athletics skills for running and associated events to give younger students skill preparation for competition. We are also developing ideas of resilience in not winning or being the best before competitive places are awarded in years 3-6.

The emphasis on all K-2 sports days and carnivals is participation, delivering the message that being active is fun and that competition can be light hearted and enjoyable. This helps to build the foundations for resilience in competition, as the students mature and begin to participate in competition for prizes.

Again I'd like to congratulate all of the students on their high levels of participation and trying their best in all events. A big thank you to all the parents who assisted in various jobs, provided food and drinks and came along to see their child/ren participate. I hope you saw the dozens of happy faces and memories being made. Lastly, thank you and congratulations again to Mrs Bailey and Mrs Duffield who spent a number of hours preparing for this successful event in their own time.

**Thank You P&C**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hard working and productive P&C. Recently they have liaised with Narellan Coles to provide fruit for all of our students, parents and staff at the Athletics Carnival. Also Gregory Hills McDonalds who supplied the large drink containers and ice. They then received a donation from Camden Coles to provide fruit and drinks for last week’s Book Parade. This is a great accomplishment, as not all businesses are always willing to donate. Next time you shop at Coles in either Camden or Narellan please say thanks for their generosity.

The P&C have also been busy working with Bunnings at Narellan for fundraising opportunities. A group of hard working parents worked on the BBQ last Saturday. It was a great day, with lots of sausages cooked and lots of laughs! All of these fundraising efforts are to raise funds for air conditioning, a COLA
and to subsidise Life Education. Mrs Murphy, our President has a great support group around her. Thank you to those parents who worked a shift on the day. Also thank you to the parents who supported us and came to buy a sandwich on the day. Your unbelievable ongoing support is very much appreciated by all of us.

Coming up is a Cake Stall at Bunnings and another BBQ! Also the P&C will have a Father’s Day Stall. Obviously there is no down time with this group, all are keen to provide comfort and education for all of our students! Please come along to our next P&C meeting, next week on Tuesday 2nd September, at 6.30pm in our Library. They are a friendly and welcoming group.

**Oracy Competition**
In Week 10, we will hold our annual Oracy Competition. This will be on Monday 15th September, from 11.45am in our school hall. Parents of student finalists will be notified and invited to attend. I look forward to your company.

**This Week’s Assembly**
Due to the Science Excursion this Friday, our Assembly has been rescheduled to this Thursday. It will begin at 2.40pm. This will be a special assembly, as 1/2C are performing. We will also be acknowledging our Year 6 students as our seniors. Parents are more than welcome.

Have a wonderful week everyone!

*Donna Shevlin*

**Library News**

**Children of Defence Force Families**
We have been lucky enough to receive some books on the travels of "AB Pepper Penguin" and "Sapper Pat". These books are on display in the library which is pictured below.

AB Pepper Penguin became a member of the Royal Australian Navy and Sapper Pat is a member of 3 Combat Engineer Regiment based in Townsville. Both have travelled extensively overseas, and the books have been designed to assist children in gaining a better understanding of what life is like as a soldier or sailor in an overseas posting and as a sailor living on board a ship.

By reading these books children will be able to see AB Pepper Penguin and Sapper Pat's adventures and find out a little bit more about defence force life.
Stage 3 Camp
A reminder to parents that all money for camp needs to be paid by this Friday

P& C News

Father’s Day Stall
The P&C will be holding a Father’s Day Stall on Thursday 4th September 2014 for students to buy gifts. We are asking for donations of new items that can be sold at this stall. Donations can be left at the school office.

Shopping Bus Trip Fundraiser
A Shopping Bus Trip has been organised for Saturday 1st November 2014. The day will begin at 7am and return at 6.30pm approximately visiting more than 10 outlet stores ranging from manchester to shoes, handbags to clothing. It is a great opportunity to purchase Christmas presents, make great savings on purchases and enjoy the company of great people! The cost is $35 per person and you need to book your seat by paying and placing your name on the list at the school office. Bookings close on Friday 29th August 2014.

Athletics Carnival
Wednesday August 13th was a sunny, winter’s day for our very first Athletics Carnival. It was terrific to share the day with so many parents and family members. We hope you enjoyed watching the students compete and have fun.

We wish to acknowledge the assistance received from students from the University of Western Sydney, Baxter T, Hana G, Jenny C, Katie K, Lauren A, Scott M, Nicole H, and Toni. Thank you also to our wonderful parents who assisted on the day and to Mr Bland who helped officiate the High Jump. Your help contributed to making the carnival a success. Thank you.

Students who will be representing Oran Park Public School at the Razorback Zone Carnival have been notified and school training has started. Parents could you please ensure your child’s permission note and money is returned to the front office as soon as possible so we can arrange transportation for students who require it.

School records will be posted on the school website shortly.

PSSA Gala Days
Due to wet weather the PSSA Gala day was cancelled last week. The new dates of the Summer PSSA Gala Days are Friday 12th September (W9) and Friday 19th September (W10) and Friday 17th October (T4, W2). Training has commenced for these teams. Thank you to all the students that have returned their permission note and paid the carnival fee. Students that haven’t need to return their notes and money by this Friday 29th August.

School Disco
On Thursday of Week 10, there will be a K-2 disco and a 3-6 disco during school hours. Children can wear mufti clothes on this day, but must not wear singlets or midriff tops as sun safety is paramount. Thongs and sandals are unsafe at school, so enclosed shoes such as joggers should be worn.
Please start saving around $5 for the disco. This should cover your child’s entry, chips and a popper drink. All funds raised from the disco will be contributed to the Year 6 Farewell.
Mrs Duffield
Canteen News
The canteen will be holding a Red Food Day on Thursday 11th September 2014. More information will be sent home later this week.

Made Fresh Canteens in association with Sydney Fresh Markets and Healthy Canteens are running a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month. The canteen will have free stickers and giveaways for each fresh fruit or veg purchased to encourage healthy eating habits. After purchasing two products each child receives an entry to win some fantastic prizes, which are advertised on the posters at the canteen. This promotion will run from 25th August to 19th September.

Made Fresh canteens also have a website that contains information as well as menus. Their website is www.madefresh.net.au

PBL – Positive Behaviour for Learning

This week, (Week 7), our PBL focus is “Welcoming new students to our school”

The value focus is; Be Proud

How can we welcome new students to our school?
- Learn a little about the new person. What is their name? What do they like to do? Where are they from?
- Talk to the new person about yourself. Talk about what you like and see if you have some things in common.
- Help the new person to get any notes they might need.
- Tell them some things they may need to know. Where is the canteen? What time does the bell go? Where is it safe to play?
- Invite him or her to sit with you at lunch or in your learning groups
- Introduce them to your friends and other students. They will need as many friends as they can get. This will help them if you are away.

In week 8, our PBL focus is going to be “Speaking appropriately and respectfully”
The value focus will be; Productive and Proud
At Turning Point let us connect you to service providers in your community, and support you along the way.

OPEN 5 days a week

- Monday: Home Visits Appt. only
- Tuesday: Chaplain/Advocacy Appt. only
- Wednesday: Community 10am – 2pm
- Thursday: Women’s Support Network 10am – 2pm
- Friday: Community 9:30am – 2pm

Free BBQ Breakfast 9:30am – 10:30am

Services include:
- Pantry Support
- Tea / Coffee & Chat
- Referrals
- Advocacy
- Internet/Computer access
- Chaplaincy

If Nothing changes, Nothing Changes
The simplest way
...to manage fussy eating

Here are some of our top tips for dealing with fussy eaters:

Stay positive and don’t react: when your child refuses to eat, respond calmly, so they don’t get attention for behaving badly.

Keep on serving it: research shows kids need to be given a new food an average of eight times before they will accept it.

Eat as a family at the table: turn off the telly, and eat together – this will help improve the whole family’s eating habits.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit