Dear parents,

The Advertising for the Annual School Concert will begin very soon. As in past years, the concert will be at Rooty Hill RSL. There will once again, be two shows on the night. As we get closer to the time, we will send home other details about waiting rooms, collection points and so on. We are aware that there is a clash of dates with at least one local high school and their orientation night and hope you understand that whilst there is a set date for high schools to have their orientation activities, there will always be individual schools that have to organise alternative times.

PSSA Sport

A very big thank you to all students who participate in PSSA and to their parents for supporting the activity. It has come to my notice that there are other PSSA districts close by who organise their sport sessions a little differently (eg there is one where there is no weekly summer sport but one or two gala days a term, where students spend the entire day involved in various sports and the students at school, likewise have an entire ‘sports’ day). The school’s leadership team will discuss this at next week’s meeting and probably seek the views of parents (and students) to the options we might have for 2016, through a survey.

Student Representative Council, School and Sports House Captains

The voting process for the SRC has now been implemented. The SRC members will now move into the interview process to select the captains and vice captains. Very soon, the election process for sports captains will begin. Congratulations to all of our students who have contested these positions – the standards have been set very high in all areas and it is clear that the incoming group of school leaders will be outstanding. Thank you to the Stage 3 teachers for their fine efforts in coordinating this process.

School Maintenance

Plans are currently being drawn up to undertake carpeting, concreting and general maintenance issues around the school. The budget is set at around $41000 but the funds will see improvements in a number of areas.

Ballroom Dancing Competition

Miss Summerell and Miss Bedwell will be taking a group of students to a ballroom dancing competition next Tuesday. Thank you to the teachers – and especially to the students who have taken on the task of learning the dances and then being willing to compete against other schools. All the best for a successful day!

Have a safe and enjoyable week,

D Meaney

Principal.

### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Sydney West Dance Sport Championships – leave school 8.20am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kindergarten 2016 - Transitions visit K-2 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12.30 - 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>October 29</td>
<td>Year 3-6 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2016 - Transitions visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.00- 11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>November 3</td>
<td>Guitar and Keyboard Concert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summer PSSA SCORES
Friday 9 October, 2015

Summer PSSA Venues:

Cricket, Softball and Tee Ball will be held at Kareela Reserve, Eastern Road, Doonside.

AFL is held at Marayong Park, Marayong.

CanTeen’s National Bandanna Day

Our next fundraiser is for CanTeen to show our support and help raise funds for young people with cancer. During Week 4, the SRC will be selling bandannas for $4, before school between 8:30-8:55am and Lunch 1 between 11.30-11.50am. Bandannas play a significant role as a symbol of hope and empowerment for people who are affected by cancer and are worn during their cancer journey. National Bandanna Day (NBD) is on Friday 30 October, 2015 and students are encouraged to wear their bandanna to school. The class with the highest percentage of students wearing bandannas on the day will each receive an ice block.

Miss Milledge
Charities/SRC Coordinator
Day for Daniel

The Day for Daniel will be held on Friday 30 October, 2015. It is a National Day of Action to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm prevention. The theme of the day is to wear red and educate, however, as our school uniform already includes red, classroom teachers will be reminding students of the child protection strategies.

Miss Milledge
Charities/SRC Coordinator

Information about Applying for Year 7 entry to Selective High Schools 2017

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 entry in 2017?

Information booklets have arrived! Booklets are available from the front office.

All applications must be made online. Parents are welcome to approach the school to use the computers in the library if unable to access the internet. Please approach the front office staff to obtain a booklet or to organise a time to use the computers. The library will be available between 8:30am-9am and 3:10-3:40pm.

Key dates

Tuesday 13 October 2015 - Application website opens

Monday 16 November 2015 - Application website closes

Late applications will not be accepted

Thursday 25 February 2016 - Test authority letter sent by mail and email

Thursday 10 March 2016 - Selective High School Placement Test

Early July 2016 - Placement outcome information.

There is more information at:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

The selective high school placement process for Year 7 entry is administered by the

High Performing Students Unit

Contact details:

High Performing Students Unit
NSW Department of Education

Email: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au Telephone: 1300 880 367 Fax: 02 9266 8435

Postal address: Locked Bag 53, DARLINGHURST NSW 1300

Facebook:https://www.facebook.com/Selectivehighschoolplacement
Griffin Awards process 2015

Instead of completing PBL goal sheets at the end of the term prior to giving out reports, students will have the opportunity to be nominated by their peers, during a weekly class discussion on Friday, where the teacher will review the PBL goals specific for their stage, and students can nominate 2-3 students from their class that are demonstrating all of the goals. If the teacher agrees, they will receive their Griffin Awards the following week.

Process:

1. Class nominates 2-3 students who are demonstrating all of the PBL goals. The discussion will encourage students to share WHY/HOW these students are demonstrating goals.

2. Names of students, who receive the Griffin Awards, will be included in the newsletter each week.

3. Once the PBL Coordinator has been informed of the students, their class teacher will be provided with the Griffin Awards, to give to the students the following week. E.g. Students successfully nominated on Friday Week 3, will be given their awards early Week 4.

4. This process continues weekly until the end of term.

Important points:

- A Griffin Award does not have to be given. If a class cannot nominate 2-3 students, (or can only nominate 1 student that week), then that is acceptable, (though highly unlikely as we have many, many students deserving of a Griffin Award!).

- The last opportunity students will have to receive their Griffin Award, is up until their report portfolio is sent home.

- If your child receives a Griffin Award, please encourage them to wear their badge/patch with pride, for the rest of 2015, and for 2016 and beyond. They are students who have been observed by their peers and teacher, consistently demonstrating all of their PBL stage goals, and should be recognised and congratulated!

- Like last year, students who do not demonstrate all of the PBL goals, but have shown an improvement since Semester Two, will receive an encouragement award at the end of the term.
Our current Griffin Goal has been extended until Wednesday Week 4:

**I am respectful when I play, and move to lines safely.**

ALL students are working towards this Griffin Goal. Our data shows us, that our areas of concern within the playground, are students who are still learning to consistently demonstrate positive sportsmanship, and, whilst moving from the playground to lines at the end of each play break. Please chat to your child/ren about WHY they should follow the Griffin Goal!

Caught you Being tokens – Whole School Reward

Once the school reaches 1000, students will be rewarded with a longer lunch time! If you want to keep track of how many tokens we have, look for the chart in 5F’s window (room 2).

Griffin Awards

Commencing this week, students will have the opportunity to start receiving Griffin Awards, specific to their grade level. A small number of students each week, will be able to be nominated by their classmates to receive their Griffin Award. This process will continue weekly until the end of T4. We can’t wait to see our students begin to wear their Griffin Awards with pride. More information on this process is within this newsletter.
Parents & Carers,

As a school, we are striving to equip students with the skills to become 21 Century learners. As part of our planning for 2016 the GPS Technology Committee would like your valuable feedback, opinions and suggestions. If you have the time, please complete the following survey. If you have any questions regarding the survey, or possible suggestions please speak to Mrs Lindsay.

If you wish to complete this survey electronically please go to the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/technologygps

If you complete the paper version please return it to your child’s teacher.

1. Do you regularly use the Skoolbag App, or website?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If you DO NOT use the APP or website, is there a reason for this?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

2. Are there any improvements, or additional information that you would like to see on the website or Skoolbag App?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

3. At home, does your child have access to …...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desktop Computer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptop</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablet (iPad, Android, iPod etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Does your child use an electronic device (computer, laptop, tablet etc) to complete homework?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If your child DOES NOT use technology to complete homework, is there a reason for this?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

5. Does your child use Skwirk, Study Ladder, or any other learning websites at home?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Are there any websites, or software you would like the school to subscribe to, or purchase for 2016?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

7. At GPS we have a class set of computers in our library and a bank of laptops for classes to borrow. What would you like to see in regards to technology at GPS?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for your time. Your thoughts are greatly appreciated.
How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps"; your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open".
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.
Skoolbag App

Have you downloaded the GPS Skoolbag App yet?

The app has been up and operational since the beginning of the year. On the app you will find information about upcoming events, our school calendar and weekly newsletters. Alerts are sent as push notifications to inform parents and community members of last minute changes to school activities, e.g. if PSSA is cancelled due to inclement weather. You will also be able to select what information you receive.

Additional information about how to download and install the APP has been included in the newsletter.

A note for those using the school App on an Apple device: Apple has released the new version iOS 9.0 on the 16th September and we are pleased to confirm that the Skoolbag App will function fine on this iOS 9.0 update. However for the first time ever, Apple has also released a public Beta version of iOS 9.1 which is due for release in a couple of months’ time. However, the Skoolbag App will NOT work on this Beta version. We encourage you not to install this update, if you wish to continue to use the App.

---

**Nutrition Snippet**

**The simplest way**

to pack the five food groups!

Follow our easy guide to pack the healthiest lunch box that features the five food groups — and don’t forget a bottle of water!

**Fruit.** It’s high in fibre, vitamins and minerals. Serve fruit in fun ways: try fruit kebabs or fruit in small containers, and remember kids are more likely to eat it if it’s cut up into small pieces.

**Vegetables.** Pack carrot and celery sticks with hummus or salsa, or even a veggie slice.

**Bread + cereals.** Try wholemeal bread, wraps and pita, or rice and pasta leftovers.

**Reduced-fat dairy.** A slice of cheese, yoghurts and custards are all great lunch box items.

**Lean protein.** Cooked chicken, tuna, egg, roast meat, or legumes such as red kidney beans and chickpeas.

For more information visit [www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au) or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](http://facebook.com/eatittobeatit)
Looking for child care?
Secure your spot for 2016!

KIDZSPOT is a boutique child care centre
located right behind Glendenning Public School
at 6 Ordella Ave, Glendenning!

We offer:
- Long Day Care, Casual Care and Vacation Care for 2 - 5 year olds
- Before & After School and Vacation Care for primary school students
- Centrelink rebates for Before & After School students
- Nutritious meals provided by specialists in child care catering (including afternoon tea for After School children)
- Daily online feedback on your child’s activities

Come and see our difference,

Contact Sue (02) 9832 9055

contact@kidzspot.com.au www.kidzspot.com.au
REMINDERS

PAYMENTS
When sending payments to school please ensure the CORRECT AMOUNT of money is enclosed in a separate envelope for each activity. PLEASE PUT ONLY ONE ACTIVITY IN EACH ENVELOPE. (If more than one activity is placed in an envelope your child may miss out on participating).

Clearly mark each envelope with:

• your child’s name
• your child’s class
• name of activity please put the permission note inside the envelope.

A separate permission note is required for each child in the family.

Please do not fold or staple banknotes.

Please make payments before the due date as paying late will result in your child missing an activity. All money is to be deposited in the payment slot in the door at the Admin Office. If additional envelopes are required, they are available at a cost of 20cents each.

MESSAGES REGARDING LATE COLLECTION OF STUDENT
Please phone before 2.30pm with any messages if you will be late picking up your child.

SCHOOL CANTEEN
The canteen operates on Monday to Friday each week.
Any payments or orders for the canteen should be taken directly to the canteen.

LUNCHES
If parents need to bring lunches to school after 9.00am, we would ask that you wait until 11.15am, when you will be able to gain a pass to your child’s class and then be able to take the lunch to your child.

EARLY LEAVERS
When signing children out early of an afternoon, for appointments etc, parents are asked to do so before 2.45pm. Students will not be signed out after this time.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
Mondays: 8.30am to 9.00am
Fridays: 8.30am to 9.30am

SCHOOL CAR PARK
Parents are reminded that the school car park is for STAFF PARKING ONLY. Parents are asked not to drop children off in the car park, park in or walk through the car park. There is a gate near the administration office for pedestrian access.