Dear parents,

Compliments to Students - It is always rewarding to have compliments about our students – and it is always better when those compliments come from parents! Last week I received a phone call from one of our mums who witnessed GPS students and their behavior when the students were attending another venue to undertake a selective school test. The parent spoke to me in glowing terms about the GPS students, speaking of their sensible and safe movement, their rapid response to the requests of those present and most importantly, their overall display of cooperation and assistance to all who were there. Well done!

Ava Gunnulson of 2B had her lovely long hair cut in front of the whole assembly on Monday morning of this week. Ava was being supported by her family in raising money for the Cancer Council. Here at school, the SRC also collected money, raising $675. I would like to congratulate Ava, her family and all who donated to this most worthy of causes. Thank you also to all of the students and teachers who participated in Pyjama Day.

Little Fishes – AWESOME! This year we have tried something new with our learn to swim program. As parents are aware, instead of focusing on students in Years 2-4 in the local 10 day swimming school, we have started a program on each Monday for an extended period of time. It was my privilege to attend the swim school on Monday and I can only describe what I consider to have been an awesome start to the program. The students appeared to enjoy their walk there and within seconds of changing into their swim costumes were in the pool. All students were kept swimming for their entire time at the pool and watching their faces and seeing the improvements they were making in just that one session, it was obvious that it was very successful – especially for the Kindergarten and Year One students.

There was, however, one problem we encountered and that was to do with the younger students dressing themselves. Could I please ask all parents to teach or check that their children can successfully take off and put on their clothes. Whilst there was myself and Miss Pillen there assisting during the changing process, it is important that all students can dress themselves. Connected to dressing and undressing was a problem with clothes – specifically the lack of names on the clothes. Little students do get their clothes mixed up in the changing areas. Please ensure your child’s name is on their shirt, shorts/pants, underclothes and if you can, even socks! A texta mark is always the easiest way to do this, but I have also found that if parents sew a small sign such as a circle or initial somewhere where the child knows to look, this also saves confusion.

Thank you to Miss Pillen, Miss Rox and all of the teachers connected with the scheme for the success that is unfolding here.

GPS School Stamp Process - Feedback to Students – The school and our teachers have been implementing a new series of stamps to provide feedback to students about their work in school books. In next week’s newsletter, we will provide a brief explanation of the system. We will also show some examples of the system being used in some books.

Premier’s Spelling Bee (a special note from Miss Pillen) - This term students in Years 3-6 will be participating in the Premier’s Spelling Bee Competition. One finalist from each class will be chosen by Friday 7 August 2015. At this time notes will be handed out to finalists to invite their parents and caregivers to the Stage Finals which will be held on Thursday 13 August 2015.

If you wish to practice the words from this year’s list, with your child, then please ask your child’s teacher for the internet link and password.
Parents and the Law – I am providing a copy of the following guidelines received from the Legal Services of the Dept of Education, for your information. I would ask all parents to note the implications of points 4, 5, 6 and 7. Additionally, I ask parents to understand that these are directions to schools, principals and teachers and are enforceable through the duly authorised police and legal channels. As members of the NSW Teaching Service all teachers are united in terms of their responsibility to follow these directions.

- Parents/carers have a legal duty under the Education Act 1990 to cause a child of compulsory school age to:
  - enrol in and attend school; or
  - register with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) for home schooling.

“Attending school” means being present at all times when the school is open for the child’s instruction or participation in school activities.

- A parent/carer may commit a criminal offence if he/she fails to discharge this duty.

- While a number of defences may be available to a parent/carer whose children do not attend school, a parent/carer should only be permitted to remove a child from school in exceptional circumstances (e.g. to attend a specialist medical appointment). In such circumstances a parent/carer should be asked to sign the child out of the school and provide a reason for their being removed from school during the school day.

- Particular care needs to be taken when parents/carers have separated.

- It is only in exceptional circumstances that a non-residential parent should be allowed to remove a child from school during school hours (e.g. to attend a specialist medical appointment which has been agreed to by the other parent). It is important to have regard to any court orders that may be in force. If no court orders are in place the views of the residential parent should be sought.

- If there are no court orders in place, or no guidance is given in any court orders about the capacity of the non-residential parent/carer to remove the child, permission to do so should not be given and the parent asked to leave the premises if:
  - the residential parent/carer objects to the request for removal being made or cannot be contacted;
  - the child indicates he/she is not willing to leave with the parent/carer who is at the school;
  - the child becomes distressed when told the parent/carer is at the school seeking to take them away; or
  - the principal has reason to believe that the child’s safety may be at risk if removed by the parent/carer.

- Sometimes a parent/carer seeks to remove their child from school early on the day which the other parent/carer is due to collect them from school. Unless exceptional circumstances apply this request should be denied and the parent asked to leave the premises.

- In some circumstances principals may need to consider whether other reporting requirements apply and should refer to the Incident Reporting Policy and Procedures and the Mandatory Reporter Guide for information and guidance.

- If a principal is distressed after dealing with a difficult family law issue, consideration should also be given to reporting the incident to the Work Health and Safety Directorate on 1800 811 523. If the incident involved threats or violent or aggressive behaviour at school the Safety and Security Directorate should be notified of the incident on 1300 363 778.

Further information about the response provided to family law issues can be found in the Dealing with Family Law related issues in Schools and TAFE NSW – Guidelines for School and Institute Staff.
What a Busy Wednesday – Book Parade!!! Wednesday saw our annual Book Parade. I would like to thank Miss Porter for coordinating what has been a very busy week for her in the lead-up to Book Parade. The Book Fair has been a very busy time for Miss Porter and the teachers and office staff who assisted her with sales during the time. Thank you to everyone who bought books from the fair as your purchases earn the school bonus points that we then use to gain additional books for our library. The Book Parade was once again a big hit with students, teachers and parents and I thank everyone who was involved – the range of characters was outstanding – well done to everyone involved.

Have a great week,
Doug Meaney
Principal

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>July 31</td>
<td><strong>Payments due</strong> for both Netball Clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>August 4</td>
<td>K – 2 Assembly – 2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Years 3-6 Assembly – 2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>August 7</td>
<td><strong>Payment due</strong> for Visiting Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>August 10</td>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6 Netball Clinic at Sydney Olympic Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>August 11</td>
<td>Visiting Author – Aaron Blabey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>Years K-6 After school Netball Clinic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Wednesday or Thursday | August 19 – August 20 | Early Bird Transition Sessions for 2016 Kindergarten commence  
  -9.00am – 10.00am |
| Friday         | August 21  | Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes                                   |

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Cancer Council this week, by donating money and wearing their pyjamas to school. We raised $675.

Our next fundraiser will be in Term 3 Week 8. We will be hosting a Crazy Shirt/Loud Hair Day to support Cystic Fibrosis NSW.

Miss Milledge
Charities/SRC Coordinator
Our PBL Team has had an update, welcome to our new staff members!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBL Coordinator</td>
<td>Miss Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Rep</td>
<td>Ms Summerrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ES1 Representative</td>
<td>Miss Horner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Skills</td>
<td>Miss Pillen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1 Representative</td>
<td>Miss Pinski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1 Representative</td>
<td>Miss Waller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2 Representative</td>
<td>Mrs Lumley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growing Together</td>
<td>Miss Fenn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3 Representative</td>
<td>Miss Pillen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Mr Meaney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFF Teacher</td>
<td>Miss Seychell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>Laura Anderson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CYB @ School Winner
Well done to **Part of 4L** who was being a SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNER!

Griffin Awards
The PBL Team is exploring the possibility of rewarding the Griffin Awards – throughout the year. What are your thoughts? Please return the slip below to Miss Howard.

Please fill out this slip and return to Miss Howard or your class teacher (GRiffin AWards)

Please tick **ONE** box:

- Continue to hand out the Griffin Awards at the end of the year only.

- Griffin Awards should be handed out from the start of the year, once students consistently demonstrate their PBL Goals.

- Griffin Awards should be handed out during Term 3 and Term 4 only – that way students can use Term 1 and Term 2 to work towards their PBL Goals.

- I do not know enough about the Griffin Awards process and more information should be in the newsletter.

- **CYB @ School Winner**
Well done to **Lily of KS** who was caught being a LEARNER!
Glendenning PS - Kindergarten Transition 2016

Early Bird sessions (see separate sheet):

- Parents and new Kindergarten students participate in literacy & fine-motor activities
- Wednesday & Thursday mornings 9.00a.m.-10.00a.m. commencing Wednesday 19 August & Thursday 20 August
- RSVP – Tuesday 18 August

Kindergarten Transition Visits: during these visits, children will participate in a range of activities including story time, singing, fine-motor, visual arts

- **Friday 9 October** – 9.15-10.15a.m.– Open Classrooms – parents and children visit the Kindergarten classrooms together
- **Thursday 15 October** – 9.15-10.15a.m. – children visit a Kindergarten classroom; parent workshop – activities to help develop children’s oral language, reading and fine-motor skills
- **Wednesday 21 October** – 12.30-1.30p.m. – children visit a Kindergarten classroom; parent workshop – activities to help develop children’s skills in mathematics
- **Tuesday 27 October** – 12.30-1.30p.m. - children visit a Kindergarten classroom; parent workshop – activities to help prepare students for starting Kindergarten
- **Monday 2 November** – 9.00 – 11.30 - children attend assembly; visit a Kindergarten classroom; parent morning tea, Healthy Eating presentation and question & answer session

Kindergarten Orientation/Parent Information Session:

- **Tuesday 13 October** – two identical sessions (please choose ONE)
  - Morning session – 9.30a.m.
  - Evening session – 7.00pm

If you have any queries, please contact Poonam Suri on 9832 8555.

Safe Respectful Learners
Glendenning PS - Kindergarten Transition 2016
Early Bird Sessions

The aim of these sessions is to assist to familiarise students with the school setting. They will be run in the playgroup room (next to Room 20). Parents and children will be able to participate in literacy, numeracy and fine-motor activities.

The sessions will be run from 9.00-10.00a.m on Wednesday and Thursday mornings for four weeks commencing on Wednesday 19/Thursday 20 August and finishing on Wednesday 16/ Thursday 19 September, 2015. If your child is unable to attend on a Wednesday or Thursday please indicate your preferred day. (Days may be changed, added or removed depending on demand). Space is limited so prams will need to be left in the COLA.

In order to give all students an opportunity to attend and gain the maximum benefit from these sessions, we are asking parents to select one day/session on which they would like to participate each week.

Please complete the form below and return to school by Tuesday 18 August, 2015 to ensure that a place is reserved for you and your child.

If you have any further queries, please contact Poonam Suri on 9832 8555.

Please return to Mrs Suri by Tuesday 20 August, 2015

Kindergarten Transition – Early Bird Sessions

Name: ____________________________________________

Child’s Name: ______________________________________

Preferred Day:  [ ] Wednesday  [ ] Thursday

[ ] Other (please specify) ________________________________

Safe Respectful Learners
Uncle Wes Marne visit 15.7.15
at Glendenning PS
Staff and students really enjoyed listening to Uncle Wes Marne. Unfortunately due to time constraints, 2B, 2W and 2P were unable to be visited. We look forward to having Uncle Wes visit again later this year, and those classes that missed out will get to listen to him first!

A special thank you to Mr Gibson, who helped in the organisation of the day.
Schofields Scorpions

Feel the Sting...

Free “Try Baseball” Clinic

Inviting Boys and Girls!
Come see what our club is all about!
Juniors: 5-16 years
Seniors: 14+

This clinic is a “taster” of Tee-Ball and Baseball covering:
- Batting Techniques
- Base running
- Throwing Skills

Sunday 2nd August
Sunday 9th August

Schofields Public School
Junction Road, Schofields
2pm – 4pm

More Information:
Brad or Mel: 0414 460 950
Email: Schofields.Scorpions@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/SchofieldsScorpions
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 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.