Principals Message

School Canteen
As foreshadowed in the last newsletter, our community needs to consider the future of our school canteen. Jean McAteer, our long serving, loyal supervisor of 26 years, has decided to retire in September. Jean’s outstanding service and commitment to Smithfield PS is unsurpassed and we thank her. As her retirement approaches we will farewell her in the appropriate celebratory manner.

The conscientious P & C executive has been researching alternatives and will place them before the community in Term 2. A decision will be made to ensure that we have a smooth transition to another excellent service. Please respond to the survey, when they are distributed. Your opinion is highly valued.

Australian Curriculum – Science
Much preparation has been achieved by teachers in the preparation of students for the new curriculum. The purchase of all the units of work created by Primary Connections has enabled a ‘hands on’, experimental/inquiry approach to the teaching of science – all in line with the new document.

Last week, science leaders, Jane Hardaker and Katerina Liapis, facilitated another professional learning opportunity for teachers. All stages presented the outcomes of their recently taught units. The sharing of ideas is the catalyst for quality teaching and learning. The presentation was outstanding.

Parent Engagement
Many thanks to those parents who have been attending our workshops. The most recent one focussed on NAPLAN and was attended by 16 parents – a vast improvement in numbers. The feedback was excellent. Parents were most impressed by the presentation by an excellent practitioner who has taught and prepared children for NAPLAN over a number of years. Her experience provided real insight. One of the main messages to come through, of course, was for everyone (parents and children) to remain calm and treat the tests as an everyday part of school life. Many thanks and congratulations to Maria Siwak!

I look forward to hearing the feedback from yesterday’s workshop, for parents of special needs students, on creating social stories. Our wonderful Learning Assistance and Support Teacher, Bita Christos, led the process.
Easter Hat Parade
Looking forward to welcoming everyone to the Parade! I know the children are excited as I chat to them in the playground. The combination of chocolate, sausage sizzle and a parade is intoxicating. Many thanks to the P & C for their organisation of the raffle and sizzle.

Later in the day, staff members will receive their influenza shots. As you can imagine, we share the joy of educating children, however, one of the down sides is that we also share their ‘bugs’. The shots will hopefully protect teachers from becoming ill in the winter months.

Apps
Some parents have been enquiring about apps to support their children’s learning. Please find below a number that will support the acquisition of skills in Literacy and Numeracy. Many thanks to Natalie Empeigne and Pia Maturana for their research.

In Term 2 we will add some more suggestions on the school’s website.

Maths Apps for Children

‘Math Master’
to work on Numeracy skills for Stage 1 and 2. The app Math Master included several options. We began with Speed which had the students match algorithms with the answers. This progressed to the option d 2 to useFlip which had the students shown the tiles before facing them down and having the students memorise where they saw cards. The final activity was Memory where students then had to flip and eliminate cards according to the answers.

‘Mathris’
Students were given a lesson on Friends of ten and had to list all the numbers that make up 10. Eg 5+5, 7 +3 etc. Students then discussed a variety of ways of adding up to 10. Instructions were given that if they added more than two digits more points were given. The app ‘Mathris’ is similar to the game Tetris. Different numbered balls fall. Once highlighted and the total adds up to 10, the balls disappear. A highly engaging game.

‘Rocket Math’
allows students to put these skills into practice as they had to identify the focus. It also incorporated money, addition and subtraction skills as students could also earn money using these skills to build new rockets.

‘Equate it’
Has a variety of algorithms where students then have to select an operation to make the problem correct. It is not timed or scored but a great way for students to revise or practice a mix of operations. Eg 11 ? 5 = 55

Literacy apps for children

School A-Z
Rainbow sentences
Sock Puppet to record themselves doing Reader's Theatre
Story Kit
Book Creator
A Novel Idea
Futuba for NESB children
Phonics Tic Tac Toe
Spelling City
Spelling Notebook
Word Mania
ABC Ninja
Pocket Charts Rhyming Word Match
Comparative Adjectives
Action Words
Rhyming Words
Photo Touch Concepts
I like Books
Collins Big Cat: Around the world story creator

School Development Day (28th April)
On the teachers’ first day of return we will concentrate our training on the following areas:
1. Assessment Strategies, collection/collation of data on students’ achievements in Literacy & Numeracy
3. Stage meeting – organisation and preparation

Anzac Day
We will demonstrate our respect for ANZAC on the first day of the children’s return to school, Tuesday, 29th April. We will hold our school ceremony at 10.15am. Children are requested to bring in a flower/s on the Tuesday morning. Each class will collect the flowers from the children and make it into a display that will be laid near the flagpole by the SRC.
At the present moment, I am contacting Smithfield RSL to enquire about a representative attending our ANZAC ceremony. All parents are welcome to attend.

Finally, I would like to wish our families a happy holiday, as we break for two weeks over Easter. Enjoy some quality leisure time with your children, take care and we look forward to the children returning on 29th April.

Cheryl McBride OAM
Principal

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BRONZE AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOUR AND HAVE ACHIEVED A BRONZE LEVEL

Sophie Ljubojevic  K LaBrascœur
Max Bowen  K/1 Hangan
Selena Nguyen  K/1 Hangan
Mackenzie Van den Hooven  K/1 Hangan
Alyssa Baker  1 Hardaker
Le’Ati Moefaauo  1 Hardaker
Dylan Pang  1 Hardaker
Justin Lim  1 Hardaker
Kayley Thai  1 Hardaker
Christina Le  1 Hardaker
Julianne Huynh  1 Hardaker
Martin Folladosa  1 Hardaker
Tennyson Ly  1 Hardaker
Jayden Magro  1 Hardaker
Rukaya Sindyan  2 Gregoire
Olivia Butler  2 Gregoire
**Bronze Awards continued**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jayden Nasko</td>
<td>2 Gregoire</td>
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<td>Katelyn Siv</td>
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<td>Lucynda Thai</td>
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<td>Gemma Castle</td>
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<td>Domenico Bevilacqua</td>
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<td>Bianca Perez</td>
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<td>Rose Dwikat</td>
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<td>Celeste Di Natale</td>
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<td>Angelina Talevski</td>
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<td>Yousif Sadak</td>
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<td>Ryan Panuccio</td>
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<td>Kelly Khao</td>
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<td>Olivia Daniel</td>
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<td>Jessica Luu</td>
<td>5 Ross</td>
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<td>Paige Pisani</td>
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<td>Thomas Squires</td>
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<td>Evelyn Ly</td>
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<td>Daniel El Rachkidi</td>
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<td>Chloe Hart</td>
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<td>Sylvia Nanziri</td>
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<td>Cassandra Cheng</td>
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<td>Melissa Chen</td>
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<td>Nathaanki Karunavel</td>
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<td>Sebastian Yalda</td>
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<td>Jacinta Bounkeua</td>
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**Zone Representatives**

Smithfield Public School’s talented athletes continue to achieve great things! Congratulations to two of the stars of the Oz-Tag team, Grace Tokabobo and Chloe Townsend, who both made the Horsley Zone Girls Touch Football team. Good luck at the carnival next term.

Smithfield also has a first dual representative for 2014. Meaka Hedges already represented our school at the Zone Basketball and she has now been selected as a member of the Horsley Zone Netball team. Well done on your outstanding achievements, Meaka!

Miss Truscott
Sport Coordinator

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**St Gertrude’s Parish Smithfield**

6 Justin St, Smithfield NSW 2164
Tel 9725 4317 (Tue & Fri) Fax 9609 6585
Email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au
Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

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**CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE**

**RECONCILIATION 2014**

Enrolments for the Sacrament of **RECONCILIATION** (Confession) will be accepted at the 6.00pm Saturday Mass and all the Sunday Masses in Smithfield Parish on the weekends of **3/4 and 10/11 May 2014**. Enrolment forms are available from the Scripture Teachers, from the Parish Churches, or by phoning Maureen or Halina on 9725 4317.
Sydney South West Swimming Carnival Report

On Tuesday, 18th March, 6 students travelled to Gordon Fetterplace Aquatic Centre, The Parkway, Bradbury Campbelltown, to compete in the SSW Swimming Championships. All six students must be commended for their efforts on the day and the following results were recorded:

Chloe Ang - 6th in the 50m Butterfly
7th in the 200 IM
7th in the 50m Freestyle
10th in the 50m Breaststroke
19th in the 50m Backstroke
9th in the 200 IM

Jeremy Ang - 8th in the 50m Butterfly

Francesco Panuccio - 18th 50m Freestyle
7th in the 50m Freestyle
10th in the 50m Breaststroke
19th in the 50m Backstroke
9th in the 200 IM

Junior Girls Relay consisting of Chloe Ang, Jessica Miller, Zeena Issa and Katelyn Siv came 21st.

It is a wonderful achievement to reach this level in sport. Everyone at Smithfield Public School is very proud of you and send our congratulations for your excellent efforts.

Thank you
Mrs Ross and Mrs Fox

Visit from the NSW Education Minister - Hon. Adrian Piccoli

Student Executives: Tennikka Pesic, Nigel Chan, Andy Le, Brian Le, Jasmin Young, Jascinta Bounkeua, Amy Charlesworth, Edwin Valle. The SRC was delighted to meet Minister Piccoli when he came to Smithfield Public School for an informal chat with staff.
KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL ENROLMENTS 2015
We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten and Preschool.

Please call in at the school office to pick up enrolment forms.
Preschool children need to be turning 4 before 31/7/2015.
Kindergarten children need to be turning 5 before 31/7/2015.

You will need to bring:
- Child’s original birth certificate or passport
- Proof of address e.g. original of council rates notice, residential lease or electricity account
- Parents born overseas please bring original passport or citizenship papers
- Immunisation History Statement
- Health Care/Low Income card for Preschool children if entitled

NOTE: APPLICATIONS FOR PRESCHOOL ENROLMENT PREFERRED BY 27th June, 2014.
Please advise neighbours or friends who may be interested in enrolling in 2015.

Fairfield Boys Squadron of the Australian Air League

Fairfield Boys Squadron of the Australian Air League located at the Girls Guide Hall 10 Barton Street Smithfield, Conducts a recruiting Drive/open Night every Wednesday commencing at 7:30. It would be greatly appreciated if the students at your school could be informed via your school newsletter or notice board. To any boys interested their parents are cordially invited to come and see what we are about. Because we are a small local community group, we ask if this could be done free of charge as we are self-funded and run by volunteers.

The aim of the Australian Air league is to:
* Promote and encourage the development of aviation in the youth of Australia.
* Promote good citizenship
* Promote ingenuity and resourcefulness of its members
* Develop the physical and mental abilities of its members

We run a variety of activities which include Model making, Aviation Subjects, Parades, Outings, Camping, First aid and Flying.

For further information regarding Fairfield Squadron please call the Commanding officer Charles Majarian on (02) 9723 8225 or the state headquarters on (02) 91537415
www.airleague.com.au