

Community Opportunity Success in a caring learning environment



Date 11 November 2013

Newsletter

Term 4

Week 6



RSVP FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER, 2013

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

PRINCIPALS REPORT

It has been a massive few weeks at our school. We held a hugely successful Kindergarten Orientation Day and a breakfast meeting for parents and students (from APCS and from other schools) to learn about the 'Selective Education' program. We had the opportunity to meet with and talk to Alex Greenwich the Member for Sydney, who visited our school and spent the afternoon touring the campuses and observing our unique Secondary engagement and enrichment programs which we hold on Tuesday afternoons. APCS is a popular school for a myriad of different people to want to visit and experience as demonstrated by a request from UNSW to host a visit for Emma and Iida, fifth-year students from the University of Oulu, Finland, completing a combined bachelor's and master's degree on Intercultural Teacher Education. Emma and lida spent an afternoon last week touring our school, talking with staff and students, visiting Wananburi Pre-school and were entertained by 3S and our Choir. We also hosted our Department's Information Technology Forum for over 200 personnel from IT Directorate, who were both impressed and entertained by our students who were invited to present some of their work and talk about the computer technologies they use as part of their daily learning practices. Much thanks to Tehya Rouse (year 4), Nabil Khan and Caroline Truong (year 7) and Garry Smulakovsky and Tony Dao (year 9), who spoke so professionally to this very large audience of IT specialists and showed some amazing samples of their work which integrate technologies for improved student outcomes. An absolute highlight of the past fortnight was 'Music Count Us In'. It was great to see so many parents, carers and families come to our school to see and

listen to our students from Kindergarten to year 6 participate in this event. Music Count Us In is part of a national strategy to encourage involvement and participation in Music. It involves over 700 NSW schools (2,100 nationally) singing one song simultaneously around Australia. At APCS we offer an amazing Music program from Kindergarden to year 7, including extra-curricular music in the form of the school band, choir and vocal ensemble, led by the incredibly talented and dedicated Ms Winfield, so our students are very fortunate. Much thanks to Ms Winfield for bringing us 'Music Count us In' for 2013. Our focus over the next few weeks is most certainly on assessment and reporting, with many students classes working diligently across on formal finalise assessment task to their learning achievements for 2013. Teachers are very busy with marking, feedback and reporting but this will not stop us from having a wonderful celebration event for our 10th birthday. The organising committee under the leadership of Ms Taranto and Ms Day have engaged many staff, parents and community members to help plan this special day. Some of our wonderful P & C parents have spent substantive time over recent weekends clearing the grounds and gardening to ensure that the park Road campus looks its best. To Leanne, Yvette, Craig, John, Kathlene, Jo, Chris, Calunn, Sean and Angus, I thank you for your time and your care and commitment to our school. I hope to see you at our birthday party on Friday

Di Fetherston Principal

November 22.

INTRODUCING THE 2014 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Hi everyone, we'd like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as Alexandria Park Community School's new School Captains for 2014, Ridwan Ansary and Adiba Ali, and Vice Captains, Wesley Wint Zaw and Yhanalea Lakua. We would like to introduce ourselves to everyone that we haven't had the chance to meet as yet. We've been at APCS for a number of years now and throughout this time we've seen the school grow and continually improve. As School Captains we hope to be able to assist in the continuation of the school's improvement for students, staff and the whole community.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2014



Ridwan Ansary Adiba Ali Wesley Wint Zaw Yhanalea Lakua

A MESSAGE FROM THE SRC

The new Student Representative Council (SRC) has settled in very quickly and strongly. In total we have twenty-four members; four from Year 8, six from Year 9, six from Year 10 and eight from Year 12 including our school captains.

A diverse but dedicated group, we are down to business in improving the school and publicising its wonderful image. We are already half way through the term and have already co-operatively created our targets for the upcoming year.

This term's goal involves the assessment and reporting of our school's air-conditioning, which is important with summer nearing. We are currently also working hard on our biggest event of the year: Alexandria Park's 10th Birthday Celebration! Term 1 and Term 2 2014 will hopefully see us upgrading our classroom and sports equipment. We are also hoping to start an annual festival day where each club, committee or programs showcase their yearly achievements.

If you ever have any ideas or suggestions, always feel free to let your SRC representatives know. Garry Smulakovsky (SRC Media Officer)



STAGE 3 EXCURSION TO CENTENNIAL PARK

In Week 2, students in 5/6A, 5W and 6S went on an excursion to Centennial Park. This was part of the 'Living Things' unit students have been completing for Science and Technology. Students had the opportunity to learn about the delicate nature of ecosystems. They also learnt about local food webs and food chains that exist in the Sydney region. Students even had the opportunity to get up close and personal with some taxidermy animals! They then tested the PH level and water quality of a lake and collected living specimens such as prawns, leeches and jumping beetles. They also checked out the resident flying fox colony that lives in Centennial Park, and learnt about how they are a 'keystone' species in our ecosystem. It was a fantastic, fun and educational day. Miss Austin, Mrs Mura, Miss Wilson, Mr Baumhammer



SYDNEY STORY FACTORY HOME PROJECT

This Term, students in 5/6A are lucky enough to be working yet again with staff from The Sydney Story factory on a new project known as the 'Home Project'. For a number of weeks, the students will participate in workshops where thev will write/record their stories of living in the local area. This process will be repeated with students from other schools in the local area and, ideally, material from all the workshops will be included in a collection to be published in Aug 2014. Students who have attended these workshops will be invited to attend further workshops in terms one and two of 2014, in which they will interview adults in the local area and be involved in editing and preparing the material for publication. The workshops will begin Wednesday 6th of November and will continue for the following two weeks. The students and teachers involved are looking forward to participating in another exciting program run by The Sydney Story Factory.

LIVING KITCHEN



Alexandria Park Community School has received a grant from Medibank Private to support a healthy foods promotion. We will be building food gardens across both campuses and finding ways to irrigate them from our four BER rainwater tanks. Last week we had our first mini-event with Miss Jenny bringing her Class 1H to Wunanbiri Preschool to plant sunflower seeds.

Bill showed the preschool gardeners how to plant the seeds and they soon got the hang of it. Next week we will go back to plant salad vegetables and to share a healthy lunch with Wunanbiri parents and community.

Thanks Uncle David! We had a wonderful time. Thanks also to Year 7 students John, Kevin and Isabel for your help.

Kath Greenwood





ASPIRE YEAR 7

On Monday 4th November, Year 7 students were lucky enough to have a visit from The University of New South Wales (UNSW) ASPIRE team. Students had the opportunity to meet and work with current university students. The afternoon raised our student's awareness of the options available in tertiary education. They worked to define and refine their aspirations for the future, explored a number of different careers including; herpetologists, ocularist and cartographers. Students also had time to reflect on their own hopes and dreams for the future and created small boxes to store their dreams. It was a wonderful opportunity to continue to build our schools connection with the UNSW ASPIRE team.

MULTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVES PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION - STATE FINALS

On Friday the 15th of November, Luce Neilson will be representing Alexandria Park Community School in the State Final of the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition. Miss Austin will be taking a group of Stage 3 students to watch the event and to support Luce. We are so proud of Luce and her achievements and we wish her the very best in the competition.

USING TECHNOLOGY TO CONNECT WITH OTHER STUDENTS

1/2M have been participating in a connected classroom activity on Fridays with our new friends at Canteen Creek School. We have used our laptops and the interactive whiteboard to locate their school and

community on an interactive map. Canteen Creek is a remote school in the Northern Territory. We really enjoying learning about the school and the students. Many of the students have never been to the city or the beach before! We have also been learning about staying safe while using the internet. Further information about staying safe can be found on this link:

http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cybe rsafety/keeping-kids-safe-online



U15 GIRLS BASKETBALL

U15 girls basketball, the dream run ends

After making it to the top 16 schools in the state, our girls U15 basketball have tasted defeat. It was October 28 at a packed Alexandria basketball stadium and our opposition had just arrived after travelling 5 hours from Tumut High School in the Riverina region of New South Wales. Our traditional slow starts, fuelled by nerves, and lasting all the way through to halftime, left our 40 supporters in a state of panic as Tumut led by a dozen. The halftime deficit of 25-13 looked difficult to overcome but to their

credit the girls put in the effort and clawed back to trail by 3 at the last break. It was a see sawing battle in the final quarter as the lead changed numerous times and as the buzzer sounded for the end of the game the teams were tied at 40. This meant 5 minutes of overtime. The nerves on both teams showed and with 30 seconds left Alexandria Park led 43-42. Unfortunately this is where the fairy-tale ended for our girls. After a missed shot from Tumut, their tallest player grabbed the rebound and scored the winning basket. A last ditch effort from our girls was unable to secure the win and Tumut moved into the state finals. During the entire season our girls trained hard at least once a week, including holiday training, and learnt new skills. It was a brilliant effort from a team of girls, half of whom had not picked up a basketball 18 months ago. I'd like to thank all the parents, staff and students who attended the game and supported the team through the entire campaign.

NETBALL GALA DAY

On Friday 1st November, Alexandria Park took two netball teams to participate in a Netball Gala day against five other local schools. Uncle Hilton managed the Junior team who played extremely well and displayed great sportsmanship. Miss Kasz had the privilege to umpire all five of the senior games, four of which resulted in a loss by no more than 4 points and one win! A big thank you to all of the girls who represented the school with the greatest amount of pride in their sportsmanship, good behaviour and wonderful cheer-leading skills! The following girls will be congratulated on their efforts in assembly.

Vivian Yaba (7L) Aaliyah Marquette (7L) Lucy Swadling (7L) Taliya Sabatino (7L) Diamond Smith (8A) Saysha Cummins (8A) Monica Campbell (8A) Cherry Turnbull (10A) Emily Turner (10A) Mokea Ford (10A) Marissa Supriadi (10X) Jenny Guo (10X) Helena Guo (10X) Siti Alitembokarssan (10A)

Shae Mitanovic (7L) Shondell Marquette (7A) Ashley Guo (7L) Leah Povey (7L) Sarah Riley (8A) Aaliyah Parnell (8A) Matilda Folwell (7X)

SOCCER REPORT

On Wednesday 6th November on the back oval an extremely close and exciting soccer match took place with APCS and Cleveland Street Intensive English School.

The game was rivetting from the start, with most of the possession to Cleveland street's future Ronaldo and Messi players. APCS confidence was low, but moral was high and our defence in the goals from Yi Huang (10x), supported by our team allowed us to stay nil all until 2 minutes before half time, when a brilliant kick from one of the Ronaldo's sped through the corner of the goal.

Half time moral seemed to drop, but our APCS cheer squads (initiated and heavily supported by our Soccer fanatic teachers, Miss Constantinides and Miss Prexl) picked it back up again.

The second half saw a few competitive fouls from our own talented Amit Maharaj (10x), who displayed fantastic sportsmanship as he apologetically picked the player he accidentally landed on up after an air kick shaking his hand. With 10 minutes left to go, APCS scored and the score became a tie to 1-All. The cheer squad roared and APCS fought defensively to keep it that way until full time.

Both teams shook hands and exchanged a laugh at the end. The boys are all to be commended on their fantastic sporting efforts and exemplary sportsmanship throughout the entire match.

Huge thanks to the team for their efforts, Miss Constantinides and Miss Prexl for their support and their cheer squad efforts, the student fan club, and Miss Fetherston and Miss Myers for making a sneak appearance.

Hassan Mourad (9A) Jackie Zhang (9X) Tony Huang (9A) Jason Ke (9X) Roy Anata (10A) Mohammed Cheema (9X) Youssef Mourad (9X) Michael Jin (9X) Nicholas Handojo (9x) Leo Luo (9x) Amit Maharaj (10X) Yi Huang (10X) Allen Chen (10X) Ridwan Ansary (School Captain, 11X) James Li (11X) Tin Nguyen(11x) Noor Cheema (11x) Kevin Ngo (11X

MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK!

Have a go at answering this week's Problem of the Week for your chance to win! All solutions are to be emailed to Miss Taranto at joanne.taranto3@det.nsw.edu.au with your name and class. The first correct answer will be awarded 5 deadly stamps (yes 5!). Additionally, the winner will be published in the next edition of this newsletter.

Kindergarten – Year 4: Problem 4

On the 12 days of Christmas, how many gifts did the "True Love" receive? (Partridge in a Pear Tree, 2 Turtle Doves, 3 French Hens, 4 Calling Birds, 5 Golden Rings etc..)

Year 5 – Year 7: Problem 4



There are 6 buckets of water, 3 of the buckets are filled with water. Can you move only one bucket and make a pattern of: full bucket, empty bucket, full bucket, empty bucket, full bucket, empty bucket?

Year 8 - Year 12: Problem 4



Use the circles on the outside of the triangle to place numbers between 1 and 9 so that the sum of the numbers on the outside of the triangle is double the sum of the numbers you put on the inside of the triangle. Is there more than 1 answer?

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST ADDITION'S WINNERS!!

Tehya Rouse (4D), William Zamany (5W) and Dennis Deng (9X)

Answers from last addition's problems:

(K-4): 16hours and 30minutes or 16 and a half hour (5-7): 6, 9 and 20

(8-12): 55. All the others are 1 less than a square number.