



Governor Philip King Public School

'Our school exists for children'

Week 9 Term 3
11 September 2012

From the Principal...

SAS Staff Recognition Week - Last week we celebrated the hard working and dedicated School Administrative and Support Staff across our school. SAS Staff include our ladies who work in the administration area as well as our teacher's aides and general assistant. National Recognition Week ran from Monday 3 September until Friday 7 September. SAS Staff are a dedicated group of professional workers who are often overlooked in the school setting. Recognition Week gives the whole school the opportunity to demonstrate to SAS Staff that they are valued members of the community. SAS Staff here at Governor Philip King play a vital role in students' learning and the effective running of our school. National Recognition Week is a great time to thank all our SAS Staff for their hard work and dedication this year.

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion - Congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 students who attended the three day camp to Canberra last week. Their behaviour and representation of our school was outstanding. It is always pleasing to receive positive reports about our students when they are out in the community representing the school. A huge thank you must go to the accompanying teachers, Miss Usher, Ms McMahon, Miss Druitt, Mrs Richter, Miss Thomas and Mr Samuel who gave up their own time away from their families to provide this wonderful opportunity for our students. Thank you must also go to Mr Malovic who also went along to camp for the three days. We greatly appreciate him providing his time so readily to our school, staff and students.

Year 4 Science Centre Excursion - Yesterday I had the pleasure of attending the Year 4 excursion to the science centre in Wollongong. The students were able to participate in hands on activities and learning as well as view lots of interesting displays and exhibits. The highlight of the day was visiting the planetarium and learning some very interesting information about our solar system. Congratulations to our students who were well behaved and represented Governor Philip King to a high standard. Thank you to the organising teachers for a wonderful opportunity to create links to learning which has occurred in the classroom.

Holiday activities - Stuck for school holiday ideas? The Go Play website lists hundreds of activities throughout NSW. Explore museums, observe space, discover castles and convicts, or give your child the opportunity to develop a new skill. There is a range of options on offer - from photography to skating. Go to: <http://goplay.nsw.gov.au/?startdate=2012-09-28>

Healthy habits - While we can't entirely shield our children from illness there are ways we can help them boost their immune systems and become more health conscious. Listen to these tips from Dr Martine Walker, a city GP who specialises in family health and has two primary school-aged children of her own. Go to: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/keeping-your-kids-healthy>

Maths matters - A new and entertaining game will help sharpen your child's maths skills and recall. The Maths Monkey's Quest features questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. The app is available for Apple iPhones and iPads, Android phones and tablets. Go to: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/maths-monkey-s-quest>

Newsletter

Coles Sport for School Vouchers - Thank you all the students, families and friends of GPKPS. We collected approximately 41 500 vouchers. Your generosity and support for our school is greatly appreciated.

We have ordered some new sports equipment. This will hopefully arrive late 2012, early 2013. The students will enjoy using this new equipment as they have with the equipment we purchased from the voucher program in 2011. Thank you. Mr Hamilton.

Found - Jacket - A zip jacket was left at Brenan Park on Friday, 24 August. This can be claimed from the front office after suitable identification.

Sports/Group Photos - These photos are displayed on the office windows. If you wish to place an order for any photos please complete an envelope (available at the office). Place payment (either cash or cheque made payable to The School Photographer) in the envelope, fill in the required information and return to the school **before next Monday, 17 September 2012**. Credit card payments can be made online through the website (www.theschoolphotographer.com.au). You will still need to complete an envelope and **place your order number on the envelope** and return to school.

The photos are \$14 each, 2 for \$26, 3 for \$36, 4 for \$44 or 5 for \$50. Any additional orders over 5 photographs are \$10 each. This discount is only available per family order. Maxi sized photos which are A3 in size are \$20 each (e.g. whole school).

Please note that late orders will attract an additional fee. Any questions please contact the office.

Values Education - The value for Weeks 9 and 10 is Democracy/Citizenship. When we are citizens of a country or members of a community we follow certain moral, legal and social ethics. Citizenship is the knowledge and skills of this role. A good citizen:

- * understands and follows rules in the family, school and community;
- * treats others and the environment with respect and dignity;
- * is responsible, fair and courageous;
- * is patriotic and has civic pride.

Please have discussions about citizenship qualities with your child/children. Mrs S. Kumar, Student Welfare.

Track Pants Sale - We still have some Size 6 track pants available, selling at half price. Get yours now! There will be **no refunds or exchanges** given and **no** Student Assistance funds will be available for these purchases.

The new style track pants with straight legs will be available for purchase from March 2013 at a cost of \$25.

Years 5 & 6 Canberra/Snowy Mountains Excursion - On 3 September, Years 5 and 6 students left school to go to Canberra for 3 days as part of our studies about the Australian Government. On the first day we went to the Australian War Memorial to pay our respects for those who fought for our country. We also saw the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, where we were all very silent and respectful. Then we went to the Australian Parliament House, which we described as 'amazing' and 'spectacular'. Our next stop was to the Electoral Education Centre, where we watched a video where the people looked like holograms, to better our understanding about the way our voting works. We participated in a number of activities to teach us the rules and process of voting. Afterwards, we went to the Australian Institute of Sport where we played a number of games that showed us what being an Olympian is like. We also took a tour of the Institute.

On the second day we woke up nice and early to prepare ourselves for a long day at the snow. We had snow ball fights, created snowmen, made snow angels and casually got snow down the teachers' backs! Afterwards, we went to Jindabyne where we bought souvenirs and warmed ourselves up with a hot chocolate. At night we retreated to the motel and washed up ready for the disco. Many great hits were played. Excitement was all around as we were glowing, due to the lighting the motel provided.

During the last day we went back to Parliament House, where we took a guided tour. We viewed the House of Representatives and the Senate. We participated in a role play, acting in costume, of a session from the House of Representatives. We then had a quick lunch and went to Questacon. Here we tried out many different experiments and experienced many different things such as a 4.5 earthquake, a 360 spin and lined up in a massive line to experience a free fall that took only a few seconds. We said goodbye to Canberra and headed home, but stopped for a quick treat at a huge McDonalds. Huge thanks to our teachers for organising such a fantastic excursion!

By Holly Maniti, Sisurin Srey, Meri Zafirova, Mikaela Newcombe, Saarina Bedrosian 5/6SU.

Regional Spelling Bee



Congratulations to Vivian Tran + Nathan Ung from 5/6SU, who competed in the Years 5 & 6 Regional Final of the Spelling Bee yesterday. They competed against 42 students, with Nathan making it to round 3. Vivian was one of the four last students, competing until round 9, when she encountered the word "basilica".

Congratulations also to Shyla Kumar 3BH + Nicolette Talevski 3GH, who competed in the Years 3 & 4 Regional Final of the Spelling Bee yesterday. They competed against 40 students, with Nicolette making it to round 4 and Shyla to round 1.


GPK is proud of you all!

Have a great week!

Jason Corcoran
Principal

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