Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This is the final newsletter of the term and what a busy term it has been. We have had staff and class changes, Swimming Carnival, new LED sign, Harmony Day, the Education Support Team review, the painting of the Administration block, the introduction of My School Lunchbox and the ongoing day to day events that make our school such a lively and interesting place of learning.

To all members of the school community, I hope that you can spend some extra time with your families, that our students and teachers have a well-earned break, and that we all start Term 2 ready to focus on learning.

Newsletter Gremlin

There was a gremlin in the works in last week’s Intercom, so please note the following:

- P&C Meeting 29th April at 7pm (not 21/4)
- Senior Ensemble, Blue Groove (not band) performing at the Assembly tomorrow.

And other dates to come:
- 29/4 School Development Day
- 30/4 School Development Day
- 1/5 Students return/ sport for all stages and first AFL lesson
- 3/5 School Cross Country
- 11/5 Trivia Night
- 14/15/16 NAPLAN
- 17/5 School ‘ Crossing’ commemoration day
- 28/5 Power of One – Anti bullying presentation
- 31/5 Walkathon

Hat Survey

Thank you to all the respondents to the survey regarding school hats. While there may have been some concerns regarding the wording of the survey sent home, the respondents have understood that its purpose was to make bucket hats the only approved school uniform headwear.

In support of this, many respondents have commented the reason the bucket hats are their preferred choice is that they are sun safe.

The final outcome of the survey will be reported in the first Intercom of next term. If you have not already sent in the survey form, tomorrow is the final date for its return.

Don’t forget AFL money due if you are taking part
Lost Property
Thank you to the parent helpers who have taken on the task of lost property management. This is an ongoing issue, which is of concern for a number of reasons:

- **Cost.** Some of the items in the lost property stand are costly to replace.
- **Responsibility.** Together the school and parents aim to instil a sense of personal responsibility in our students.
- **Healthy Environments.** This is a core value of the school, and while lost property is the main issue, it is evident that some students also leave food scraps and other rubbish lying around. This attracts vermin, is very unattractive and shows a lack of respect for the other members of the school community.

In conclusion, please assist our parent helpers by ensuring your children’s belongings are labelled and if an item goes missing that they are asked to look for it at the lost property stand. The lost property is located on the verandah near the uniform store.

Annual School Report (ASR)
There is a numerical error on page 2 of the ASR. The student achievement in 2012 NAPLAN data for year 3 girls was 22 scale points above the state average. The correct figure was included in the Progress on 2012 targets section on page 10.

Painting of the Administration Block
The painters finished this week, and it has made a real difference to the appearance of the quadrangle area of the school. This year we hope to have the Infants block painted, so that the whole school looks more unified, as the same colour scheme will have been used throughout the school. While there was some rearrangement needed to ensure our students’ safety and wellbeing, both the teachers and the painters tried to minimise any changes to routines and the usual playground, assembly and parking arrangements.

Headlouse
Thank you to the parent who has informed the school that her children had been found to have headlouse. Please ensure you check your children’s hair regularly, and if signs of lice or nits are found, begin appropriate treatment immediately. Further information is included in this week’s Intercom.

Sport and AFL Organisation
During Term 2, all Stage groups will have sport on Wednesday, at the same time as AFL lessons. Please remind your child/ren to be in their sports uniform on Wednesday this coming term, including the first day back.

The AFL lessons will commence on the first day of Term 2, Wednesday 1st May. Any parents who wish their children to participate will still be able to complete the permission form and pay for the lessons tomorrow or on the 1st May.

School Development Days (SDD) Organisation
To facilitate the introduction of the new English Syllabus, next term will commence with 2 School Development Days. The following sessions will be held on these days:

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>The Learner and The Curriculum</th>
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<td>Follow up to the Education Support Team review</td>
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<td>Online Ordering</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>The English Syllabus</td>
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<td>Kids Matter</td>
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<td>The English Syllabus – resources, planning</td>
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<td>and/or</td>
<td>Education Support Team review follow up</td>
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Education Support Team (EST) Review
Last Thursday, Friday and Monday of this week, the EST of 6 members, including Mrs Fulham and Mr Earl, reviewed the teaching of Mathematics at Faulconbridge Public School. It had been planned for last year but due to organisational and personnel changes in the Department of Education had to be postponed. The last 2 weeks of term are not ideal for such a thoroughgoing process, but the information gathered by the review is valuable for evaluating current teaching and learning and planning for future directions.

Staff were given an interim report on the findings of the ES Team on Monday afternoon. The final report should be available soon, and will be used as a focus for discussion and planning during the School Development Days at the beginning of next term.

On behalf of the school community, thank you to the Team members, the parents, staff and students who participated and to Mrs Tafe for organising the interviews, lesson observations, room allocation and other administrative matters.

Dorothee Lean
Principal

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<th>Term 1</th>
<th>HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS</th>
<th>POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>LEARNING</th>
<th>PERSONAL GROWTH</th>
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<td>Emma H</td>
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School Trivia Night
Saturday 11th May
7.00pm

Bring your friends and make a table
Please register names at the office
$15 per person, maximum 8 persons per table

Question: Apart from water, what runs through the mouth of the Amazon and Lake Victoria?

Last week’s answer: Darwin
LOST PROPERTY

Anzac Day 2013

Thursday, 25th April 2013 is ANZAC Day and our school has been invited to take part in the Springwood ANZAC Day Parade and Commemoration Service.

The Parade will assemble at the fire station at 10:30 am, and will proceed along Macquarie Road to the Memorial in Buckland Park.

The service will commence at 10:50 with the wreath laying.

Any students wishing to take part in this special occasion can meet Mrs Curzon outside the Springwood fire station, in full school uniform and hat.

Faulconbridge Public School takes pride in marching on this day.

Mrs Curzon

Dogs on School Grounds

Please be advised that under no circumstances should any dog be on our school grounds.

This is a serious safety concern for students and staff.

PSSA Zone Football

These lovely ladies competed earlier this week, in the zone competition, resulting in 2 wins, 1 loss and 1 draw.

They finished joint second in their pool but Penrith went through on a goal difference.

It was the first time the team had played together and they played really well and had a lot of fun on the day.

Congratulations to Lily P, Sarah R and Zoe S.
School Banking News

When:   Fridays from 8.30-9.00
Where:   Under the Big Top

NO BANKING THIS FRIDAY 12TH APRIL!

Some of the reward items that were ordered did not arrive in time to be handed out last week. We have been chasing up the bank and keeping a close eye on the mail. Hopefully they will get here in time to go out before the holidays. If not then we will get them to the kids early next term.

Important dates for Term 2:

Friday 3 May 2013    First day of School Banking for Term 2
Friday 14 June 2013   Term 2 Token Redemption Day - start saving your tokens again!

Have a wonderful and safe holiday and we'll see you in term 2!

The Banking Ladies
Urgent - Do you think that our children could benefit from a share of $5 Billion per year in extra funding for schools?

If you do, then you support the Gonski Report recommendations.

David Gonski headed a 2010/2011 review panel that found Australia lacks a logical, consistent and publicly transparent approach to school funding. On April 19 this year, at the COAG (Council of Australian Governments) meeting, the future of school funding will be determined as each State and Territory will announce whether or not they support the Gonski reforms. Please register your support for the $5 billion increase by going to http://igiveagonski.com.au. While you’re there, hit the ‘Email your Premier’ link and use the pro-forma to let Barry O’Farrell know that you think the Gonski review and its recommendations are valid and important and that NSW should support the extra spending. Your voice can make a difference. Act before April 19.

MOTHERS DAY STALL
The 2013 Mothers Day Stall will be held on Thursday 9 May from 1.30pm – helpers needed. Orders will close Friday 3 May – no late orders will be accepted. A “wrapping night” will be held on Monday 6 May – all male care givers are welcome. Come along and lend a hand (children are welcome too). A note will be sent home this week with further details.

MY SCHOOL LUNCH BOX
The “My School Lunch Box” program will be reviewed at the end of Term 1. Give yourselves a break from making lunches and try this wonderful service, which is only offered on Mondays and Fridays at our school. Remember all orders must be in by 9pm the day before. Please pass your feedback on via email info@myschoollunchbox.com.au

IMPORTANT: SPECIAL AGM / P&C MEETING
The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 29 April at 7pm in the Staff Room.

It has been brought to the attention of the Faulconbridge Public School P&C by the P&C Federation that due to a delay in finalising the audit for 2012 prior to holding the 2013 AGM, the election of the Office Bearers at that meeting was invalid. On advice from the Federation we will be holding a Special AGM on Monday 29 April prior to the April General Meeting. At this Special AGM all Office Bearer positions will be open for re-election. Only financial members are eligible for a position and to vote.

Further information on the position within the P&C can be found at www.pandc.gov.org/faq.seo

If you have an issue you would like discussed at the next P&C meeting please email Kerry Doyle at Kerry.Doyle6@det.nsw.edu.au by Friday 26th April.

Remember everyone is welcome to attend the P&C meetings. Another great way to stay abreast of P&C issues is to join the “Faulconbridge Public School P&C” Facebook page.

N Schofield - P&C Executive
Springwood Uniting Church is continuing to run the Kids with Courage Program in schools, community centres or church halls in the Blue Mountains.

The program is run by a mix of professionally trained staff and volunteers.

ENQUIRIES
The next course will be run from Wednesday 15 May - 26 June 1:30pm - 6:00pm
Parent Information Night Monday 13th May @ 7pm
To register contact:
4751 3951 or M: 0415 533 491
Fax: 4751 7394
or website
www.springwood.unitingchurch.org.au

Springwood Uniting Church is at
4 Levin Street, Springwood

Our Vision: “God’s love, through Jesus, unites us to enjoy and share the wonder of God’s ways.”

Our Motto: “Because God’s love makes a difference”

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HEALTHY COOKING WORKSHOP

Please join us for a night of healthy cooking, food and fun. Kathy from Active Expectations will be giving you hints and tips on healthy eating, cooking and food preparation while Heather from The Chefs Toolbox will cook a sample healthy meal or two!!

Heather will also have a range of The Chefs Toolbox cookware to present, catalogues and purchases of these great kitchen items can be made on the night. Nibbles also provided (healthy of course!!!)

WHEN: Wednesday 24th April 2013, 7:30pm
WHERE: Active Expectations Studio, 7 Normic Avenue, East Blaxland
COST: Free with a note donation (all proceeds will be donated to the Faulconbridge Public School P&C)
TO BOOK: Call or text Kathy from Active Expectations on 0418 427 621
SPOTS FOR THIS WILL FILL FAST!!
Do you have children 7 to 13 years old?
Are you worried about their weight?
Would you like some FREE information and support about healthy lifestyles?

TO REGISTER PLEASE CALL 1800 780 900
www.mendcentral.org/go4fun

Happy Holidays
School back on 1st May