Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This has been a busy week and today and Friday also crowded with a number of events, all of which contribute to the vibrant learning environment of the school.

Sporting News

Congratulations to Jack B, Ben W, Joe I, Rhys W and Jack H who have been selected in the Blue Mountains Zone AFL Squad to try out for the Western Sydney Boys Team.

Lillian P has been selected for the Blue Mountains Zone Girls Touch Football Team. Jack T and Jedd D for the Rugby League team and Liam S for the Boys Zone Touch Football Team.

Mr Earl took a team to the Paul Kelly Cup. Congratulations to the team and Mr Earl for the effort and great result. Please read more about this in Mr Earl’s report, included in this Intercom.

Wednesday 19th March

The day started at 8 with Band Rehearsal with some participants arriving on bikes, scooters and on foot. Then more and more students, some staff and parents and even pre-schoolers started arriving on bikes, scooters, on foot – and one boy even came on a pogo stick. It can be safely said that Wednesday was a very successful ‘Walk and Wheel’ day at Faulconbridge Public School.

Thank you to all the parents and family members who joined in the spirit of this initiative, especially our Student Executive who promoted it so successfully. A more detailed report by them has been included. After counting more than a hundred bikes and scooters, listening to Mrs Miller from Faulco Friends who organised her children to walk part of the way and to parents who did the same it is clear that everyone was very positive about increasing our children’s physical activity – I was asked if it could be a weekly, monthly or term event. The bananas, apples, drink bottles and prizes for students were an added bonus for all participants.

Speech Pathology

Also on Wednesday morning in the Library, the Speech Pathology Clinician, Ms Donna Thomas gave an outline of the program being delivered at the school to a group of interested parents.

Students were selected to be assessed and to take part in the program by classroom teachers and previous referrals to the School Learning Support Team. The focus is on Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 and some older students who have been identified as specific needs in expressive or receptive language or other speech related areas.
Band ‘Blow In’
After a demonstration by Mr Randall of some of the instruments available for members of the school band, nearly 40 students in Years 2, 3 and 4 expressed an interest in learning to play and join the band. If you would like your child to have this opportunity, please complete the form and return it to school. Instruments are available to hire from the school, so it does not require a large outlay for parents.

High School Musical Auditions
Students in Years 5 and 6 auditioned for parts in the Springwood High School Musical. Mr Earl and Ms Van Kessel had a difficult task in selecting students for the speaking parts but I know Mr Earl has already been ‘selected’ to play a parent in the musical but I don’t know if he is going to sing. This is an opportunity for our Stage 3 students to participate in a joint, enjoyable activity with their future fellow students and establish a very positive relationship with their prospective high school.

Mrs Asboth, Springwood High School Principal
Some very effective initiatives of the High School, including promoting positive relationships with feeder primary schools.

Springwood High School’s enrolments have increased and lifted the profile of the school in the community. Mrs Asboth has also been a supportive colleague to me and other Principals in the Blue Mountains. It is therefore with regret that I received the news of her retirement at the end of this week. On behalf of the Faulconbridge Public School I wish her well and thank her for a job well done at a farewell function tonight, 20th March.

School Grounds
A garden fairy – and I really don’t know who it is, has mulched and planted the two beds outside the library! Thank you very much, whoever you are – you are contributing to the ongoing beautification of our school and it is very much appreciated.

Mr Hasan, the father of one of our students, has also been busy and has moved and whipper snipped the area outside the fence fronting the Highway – thank you for making our school look so cared for and demonstrating the community spirit we all value.

Student Representative Council Meeting
Mr Edwards was very pleased with the input of our new student council at the meeting on Wednesday afternoon. We all look forward to the contributions this body will make to the school this year.

Author Visit
Mrs McKay promotes and encourages reading for all with activities like Author visits, book fairs and participation in the Premiers Reading Challenge. As a result our students develop a love of reading. Successful strategies to ‘hook’ children into reading is through listening to an author talk about how they became writers, let them begin to choose the books they want to read, either from a library or to buy and then to discuss what they have read.
Cyber Safety Presentation 20th March
A brief reminder and invitation to parents to attend this valuable information session.
Police Youth Liaison Officer, Michelle Jansco will present background information and safety suggestions to ensure the safety of our students in the cyber environment that so many are participating in. At a recent Principals’ Forum which I attended the prevalence of online bullying, grooming, identity theft and the financial impacts of cyber use were graphically described. It behooves us all to ensure that students enter and engage with ICT in a safe way. Mrs Macky is to be thanked for coordinating these presentations – for Year 3 to 6 students in the afternoon and parents between 6 and 7, in the school hall.

Harmony Week
Included in this busy week was the Harmony Day program, coordinated by Mrs Lundquist Hayes and Mr Edwards. Included in this newsletter is a list of the activities, related to promoting Multicultural Harmony, which were held throughout the week.

Blue Gum Market, Saturday 22nd March
After a successful P & C stall at the last market, it is now for 2T and 2J to raise some funds for their class.

Harmony Day
Throughout this week at Faulconbridge Public School we are celebrating Harmony Day. The message of Harmony day is Everyone Belongs! It is a time to celebrate Australia’s diversity. Classes are joining in a variety of combinations to take part in activities chosen by the class teachers. These activities will help us to learn about and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and help to make it a better place. The classes combining for these activities are as follows:

KBC, 4T and 1F who will be listening to a story and following up with some artwork to promote harmony.
KE and 4K who will be constructing a paper chain of dolls and listening to related music.
1ZR and 5ME who will be listening to a story and tracing hands to promote harmony.
3D and 5/6S who will be looking at Islamic culture and artwork followed by the construction of mosaics.
2J and 6PB who will be finger painting and playing a game related to Harmony Day.
2/3T and 2T who will be singing and dancing to Hava Nagila.

Annthea Lundqvist-Hayes
On Tuesday Mr Earl and the senior AFL team travelled to Penrith to compete in this year’s Paul Kelly Cup. Our goal for the day was to improve with every game. Our pool consisted of three teams – ourselves, Blaxland East and James Erskine Public School. We suffered a dramatic loss in the first round against Blaxland East. In the second round we came close to scoring but lost to the dominant James Erskine. After a break and a kick with Mr Earl, we got our game on. We managed to defeat Blaxland East and James Erskine in the 3rd and 4th rounds. We think we won because of our teamwork, strategies and commitment to the game. We were nervous at the start of the day but ended up finding it fun and exciting. We loved every minute!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:
Caitlin E.  Cameron J.  Eleanor O.  Milla L.  Joe I.  Jack B.
Jack H.   Owen M.  Rhys W.  Lyam G.  Joe M.  Angus G.

By Angus G. and Joe M.

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**SWOT**

**SPRINGWOOD WORLD OF TENNIS**

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS COACHING CLINIC**

**SPRINGWOOD WORLD OF TENNIS, SPRING STREET, SPRINGWOOD**

**Mon 14th to Thurs 17th April 2014 (9AM to 3PM)**

Juniors 5yrs to 16yrs. Beginners to Advanced. Full Supervision. For Further Details please ring 47 515383 or 0416083472.

Students graded into groups depending on age and ability. Coaching held wet or fine, racquets available for hire. Lunch provided on Thursday in conjunction with prize giving.

**ENTRANCE FEE: $120 (Inc. GST)**

Book early to avoid disappointment.

**FUN! GREAT TROPHIES! PRIZES**

**COMPETITIONS! TOURNAMENTS!**

NAME:____________________________EMAIL:____________________
ADDRESS:_______________________________AGE:____
PHONE: __________________(please enclose $120 fee with this form)

Parents Signature: ____________________________________________

Enrolments may be made at the Pro Shop, Spring St, Springwood or by posting this form with cheque payable to Springwood World of Tennis.
What an amazing day it was on Wednesday. So many people rode their bikes, scooters, skateboards, some walked and one even rode their pogo stick!

On Wednesday the 12th March, we did our first tally for Ride 2 School day. There were 12 people who rode their bicycles, 6 rode their scooters/skateboards, 72 walked, 28 came on public transport and 148 came in their car.

On ride to school day the 19th March there was a massive improvement. 61 people rode their bikes, 47 people rode their scooters/skateboards, 78 walked, 13 came on public transport and 59 came in their car.

I would like to thank all the students who participated, all the parents who joined in on the day including Mr Thomson, the school prefects who helped organise it, Mr Earl who made the day happen and Suzan Mehmet for providing all the prizes and fruit.

We hope to see more students riding their bike, skateboard and walking. We hope everyone enjoyed that fantastic day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journey by class</th>
<th>Bicycle</th>
<th>Scooter or Skateboard</th>
<th>Walking</th>
<th>Public transport</th>
<th>Private car</th>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>148</td>
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<td>150</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>153</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>138</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 21st March</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>13</td>
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Total 125 84 397 146 769
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

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<tr>
<th>Term 1 Week 7</th>
<th>HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS</th>
<th>POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>LEARNING</th>
<th>PERSONAL GROWTH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KBC</td>
<td>Laura G</td>
<td>Summer L</td>
<td>Jeremiah H</td>
<td>Jeremy K</td>
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<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Gabriel D</td>
<td>Ella H</td>
<td>Zara N</td>
<td>Lily C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1F</td>
<td>Jayden S</td>
<td>Lily Quin</td>
<td>Kate E</td>
<td>Francis G</td>
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<tr>
<td>1ZR</td>
<td>Laithen B</td>
<td>Tiana H</td>
<td>Lucas W</td>
<td>Jacqueline S</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3T</td>
<td>Hannah S</td>
<td>Charlotte H</td>
<td>Hannah W</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Ayden H</td>
<td>Tom E</td>
<td>Magor P</td>
<td>Rhani S</td>
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<td>2T</td>
<td>Mia S</td>
<td>Regan H</td>
<td>Caleb C</td>
<td>Evie B</td>
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<tr>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Shayna J</td>
<td>Cayden H</td>
<td>Savannah L</td>
<td>Joel A</td>
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<tr>
<td>4K</td>
<td>Ashley G</td>
<td>Olivia M</td>
<td>Conner M</td>
<td>Laura T</td>
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<td>4T</td>
<td>Abigail B</td>
<td>Tekla P</td>
<td>Alexandra S</td>
<td>Joshua C</td>
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<td>5ME</td>
<td>Alyssa C</td>
<td>Joe I</td>
<td>Jack B</td>
<td>Ben W</td>
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<td>5/6S</td>
<td>Lachlan B</td>
<td>Chloe N</td>
<td>Sarah R</td>
<td>Lucy S</td>
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<tr>
<td>6PB</td>
<td>Lucy B, Jade J</td>
<td>Ffion S</td>
<td>Caitlin E</td>
<td>Jack T</td>
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GOLD ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Kwal M – KE, Gareth E – 1F, Ella B – 2T

FPS GARDENING

Recently in the garden Mr Thompson built worm farms. Last week we collected our first batch of ‘worm wee’ to feed the plants. Also we fed the plants ‘Rocket Fuel’ (an organic fertiliser kindly donated by Neutrog).

Do you grow vegetables at home? Perhaps you’d like to enter a competition to win great prizes. Visit the website: www.juniorlandcarechallenge.com.au to register.

Don’t forget Gardening Club is Friday lunchtime (10:55 – 11:25am). Bring along gardening gloves if you have them! Parents/ carers are always welcome to join us.

The Go4Fun program is funded by NSW Health for 7-13 year old children who are above a healthy weight. The FREE 10 week program runs for 2 hours, twice a week at a range of community based locations in the Nepean & Blue Mountain areas. It is family orientated and aims to improve confidence, self-esteem, physical activity levels, as well as develop healthy eating habits & attitudes towards food.

For more info: free call 1800 780 900, SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back, or visit http://go4fun.com.au/
This month’s P & C meeting was held on Monday night. We managed to cover a number of topics from music groups to school funding. Thank you to everyone who attended and gave some time to discuss various matters within the school and the school community. A special thank you to Mrs Lean for her continued support to the P & C.

**THANK YOU**

**BLUE GUM MARKETS THIS SATURDAY**

Come along to the Blue Gum markets this Saturday and show your support for 2J and 2T! Baked treats can be taken to the office on Friday afternoon or taken up to the markets on Saturday morning (by 9am). Remember the more baked items the more money raised!!!!!! A full list of ingredients must be displayed on the container. Money raised from these markets will go back into the classrooms for 2J and 2T. Markets are from 9am – 2pm 😊

**LIBRARY HELPERS NEEDED**

We are sending a call out for any helpers who are able to spare some time for our much loved library. Mrs McKay needs some volunteers to assist in putting away books, covering books and general tidying in the library. Friday is the best day for help (but any day is appreciated). If you are unable to come in to help, please pop into the library and grab some books and contact which you can take home and cover. Every bit of help goes a long way. Also, if we have any avid painters out there, there’s some book shelves which need some TLC. Please see Mrs McKay in the library if you can help.

**FAULCONBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

A copy of this policy has been placed onto the schools website under the following tabs ‘Our School’, ‘Rules and Policies’ and then ‘School Policies’. We are requesting for any constructive feedback to be sent through so we can collate this information for perusal. Feedback can be sent to the P & C President, Ginett Mills at ginettmills@yahoo.com.au

**ICEBLOCKS AND FROZEN ORANGES**

Only a few more weeks left in this term for the students to purchase these frozen delights!!!! A reminder that students are not to purchase ice-blocks or oranges for other students due to health and dietary reasons. Also... Remember to “DO THE RIGHT THING” and put your wrappers, sticks and orange peels in the bin 😊

G. Mills – P & C President
Well done to all the kids who wrote out their own deposit slips last week. We are so impressed - please keep it up!

Have a think about some jobs that the kids can start helping with around the home to earn some pocket money. Making the choice to deposit some of your own money in the bank is very rewarding, and all the more exciting when you see your savings start to grow.

**Tokens and rewards**

The bank has introduced a new computer system for us to use when we order your rewards. As with any new system there are some teething problems that we are working out with the bank. We are onto it and getting the bank to sort things out but there might be a delay in some of the rewards coming back. If you have any concerns please come and speak to some of the banking volunteers when they are collecting the deposit books on Friday.

Keep your tokens safe so you can use them to claim a reward. Take them out of the deposit book each week and keep them at home.

See you Friday,
The Banking Team

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

**Author Visit – Friday 21st March**

Classes have been enjoying books by author, Aleesah Darlison, in preparation for her visit this week. We look forward to 2 interesting sessions with her in the library:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes K – 2:</td>
<td>9.00 – 9.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes 3 – 6:</td>
<td>10.00-10.45am</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Books will be for sale on the day.

Parents are welcome to attend. I am sure you will see students being inspired to write their own stories and lots of excitement when lining up for books to be autographed!

*Diane McKay*
Teacher Librarian