Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This is the last Intercom for Term 1. I hope that you and your families enjoy the holidays, eat too much chocolate and too many hot cross buns. We hope to see our students come back for term 2 with a renewed thirst for learning. Staff return on Monday 28th April for a School Development Day. Students return Tuesday 29th April.

Staffing Changes

Of the 51 students participating in last year’s Transition to Kindergarten program, 44 enrolled this year. Enrolments at the beginning of the year were therefore lower than expected. This has resulted in a reduced staffing allocation for the school. Staffing changes will be implemented from the beginning of next term. The changes will not affect class structures— we will maintain the current 13 classes. However the school’s staffing establishment is only for 12 classes and it is this that is driving the following changes:

1. Mrs MacKay will replace Mr Pentecost on 6PB. (Mr Pentecost was employed as a temporary teacher to replace Mr Taylor. Mr Taylor has since resigned and his position has not been maintained in this year’s staffing allocation).

2. Mrs Jodie Zarczynski’s employment as co School Learning Support Co-ordinator will cease. Mrs Nicole Kowald will continue in the role one day a week-on Tuesdays.

3. The Library staffing allocation has been reduced from four days a week to three days a week. This has resulted in Mrs McKay applying for a nominated transfer for one day a week. While this nominated transfer is being dealt with by the Department of Education’s Staffing Unit. Mrs McKay will continue with her current 4 days a week at this school.

4. Mr Earl and Ms Meehan will job share on the SME class. Ms Meehan will take the class 3 days a week so Mr Earl can continue to provide PE lessons as the Relief from Face to Face (RFF) component for all classes during Term 2.

5. In Term 3 Ms Meehan will job share with Mrs Macky on the 6PB class. Then the RFF component will be taken by Mrs Macky and focus on developing our student’s ICT skills.

Making these changes has been a difficult process for all involved. The priorities during the decision process were to:

- maintain current class structures
- continue the focus on the school identified priority areas of P.E. and ICT.
- maintain staff continuity as much as possible.

On a personal note, I wish to thank Mr Pentecost-for his professionalism, his commitment to teaching and for developing a sense of responsibility for their own learning in his students. 6 Personal Best (PB) has increasingly become a class where striving for excellence is expected of everyone.
School Development Day 28/04/14

The School Development Day agenda follows

- 9-10 Copyright Audit information session. Our school has been nominated to participate in an audit of the use of copyright materials, both music and text based. Mr Earl attended a training day about the requirements earlier this term and will oversee the process next term. He will inform staff about the scope and processes involved in the audit.
- 10.00-10.30 Overview of content and text requirements for a 2 year cycle of English teaching and learning.
- 10.30-11 Recess
- 11-1.30 Planning and programming for English
- 1.30-2 Lunch
- 2-3 Planning and programming for English

Anzac Day

As the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War draws near the significance of ANZAC day for Australians is again highlighted. Our school participates in the annual Springwood commemoration, information about which is included in Intercom. The schools commemoration will be held on Wednesday 30th April after lunch in the school hall.

Maths Scope and sequence 2014

Attached to Intercom this week is the overview of Mathematics teaching for the year. Please note that as this was an 11 week term, the content for week 1 Term 2 was covered this week and next term will commence with the week 2, Term 2 content.

Bikes and Scooters

Lately a number of students have been riding bikes and scooters in the school, mainly after school. Students have been reminded that this could be dangerous due to the number of people (parents, younger children, students and staff), in the grounds at this time. Please reinforce that bikes and scooters should be pushed to the gates and can then be ridden home.

High School Musical

On Wednesday afternoons Mr Earl and Mrs Van Kessell from Springwood High School have been rehearsing for the Springwood High musical. I was able to watch our school’s component being practiced by the Stage 3 students involved and learned that Mr Earl and Mrs Jansons will also be part of the cast. Performances will be in June, so we look forward to seeing the results of their work then.

The Barber of Seville

Unfortunately yesterday’s performance of The Barber of Seville had to be postponed. After students had left for the day, we were contacted by the production manager. She informed us that one of the male performers had injured his leg and his understudy’s wife was having a Caesarean on Wednesday. As a result the performance has been postponed to Friday 9th May.

P and C Meeting

My sincere apologies to the P&C members who met outside the hall on Monday evening. I can only blame end-of-termitis (a condition that affects the memory) for my lapse. Extenuating circumstances were that the meeting was not listed on the front page of Intercom or on the staffroom weekly calendar to which I refer as a reminder of meetings. As the P&C donated 3 separate amounts to the school this week – for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program $3911.63 (as reimbursement for the upgrade of the canteen last year), Maths Resources $911.00 and $266.00 for 2J and 2T, from the Blue Gum Markets, I felt even worse.
Food Gardens in Schools Grant
The indefatigable Mrs Jacqui Hyslop wrote an application on behalf of the school last year for a Food Gardens in Schools Grant. The application was successful and will bring $3500.00 to the school for our ‘Munch ‘n’ Mulch ‘growing together at Faulconbridge’ project. This will be used to extend our current composting and mulching and further develop the range of foods grown at the school for use in the cooking program.

Happy Easter Wishes
On behalf of all the staff we wish everyone a Happy Easter.

Dorothee Lean

Gold Achievement Awards Week 10
KE Ella H, KBC Lily M, 1F Sienna G, 1ZR April M, 2T Chloe S, 2J Rhani S, 2/3T Jackson C, 3D Alex R, 4K Charli S, 4T Ian T, 5ME Milla L, 5/6S Kyuss S, 6PB Eden A

ANZAC Day – 2014
On Friday, 25th April 2014, ANZAC Day, we have 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 the parade will proceed along Macquarie Road to the Memorial in Buckland Park. The service will commence at 10:50 am with the wreath laying. Any students wish to take part in this special occasion can meet Mrs Curzon outside the fire station. Faulconbridge Public School takes pride in marching on this day.
Mrs Lean
Principal

PACER PROGRAM
Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with the focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.
The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.
Yours in Education
Mrs J Macky
Assistant Principal
PSSA SOFTBALL – Knock-out game report
On Thursday 3rd April, having returned from Canberra the night before, our stage three softballers were greeted with the news that, despite sunshine and blue sky, the pitch that was booked for our match was closed for the third time. Fortunately, Penrith Council found us another dry field and the team finally arrived half an hour after the scheduled start time, and after the other team had had time to warm up. The girls lined up, having been sent in to bat and it was evident that all the time invested in training by Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Davidson was paying off. Batting was focused and intelligent decisions were made about running between the bases. In the field some great catches were taken and our players backed each other up beautifully. Henry Fulton Primary School fielded some very experienced players in their team but, despite their tiredness after the Canberra excursion, FPS stepped up and each girl produced a personal best performance. The team’s thanks go to Mrs Rheinberger who assisted with the scoring and to all the wonderful parents who assisted each other with transport. It was wonderful to see our community in action and it was a privilege to coach such a courageous and committed group of athletes. Congratulations to Eden, Lucy, Lillah, Annabelle, Caitlin, Jade, Lillian, Sarah, Sophie and Emelia.

Jacquie Thomas

Beginning in Term 2, 2014, the MY SCHOOL LUNCH BOX Service will be cutting back to MONDAY and FRIDAY ONLY
UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY
ANNULAR SOLAR ECLIPSE
Tuesday, 29 April 2014
The University of Western Sydney Penrith Observatory will be open from 4.00 pm to view a “partial” solar eclipse.
The eclipse will begin at 4.14 pm and end at 5.17 pm at sunset. Mid-eclipse is at 5.15 pm, just before sunset, when 52% of the Sun’s diameter will be covered. Come along and safely view this “partial” solar eclipse through the observatory’s telescopes and ‘eclipse glasses’.
Cost: Free
Bookings are essential: Book online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory. What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email penrithobservatory@uws.edu.au

Just a reminder that we are holding a Mothers Day Breakfast on Friday May 9th at 7:30 in the school playground. We would love you to come along and celebrate Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts and Friends. Please be aware that no children will be served without an adult accompanying them. Please have a look at the order form below and select what you think you will have on the day. Payment will be taken on the day. We look forward to seeing your selection as soon as possible.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OFe4aVQl2JVj6or8MbqqFwIXP1w92gDijWmHNacoIvs/viewform

Drumming

Drumming with John May will resume in Term 2, but not until Week 3.
Coles supermarkets is voluntarily recalling its Coles Brand Hollow Milk Chocolate Easter Eggs, 204g 12 pack carton (all best before codes) sold in Coles and BI-LO stores throughout Australia.

Harvest Market
On Friday 11 April we will be having a Harvest Market at 11am & 2:30pm outside the canteen. This is where we sell produce from our vegetable garden. All money raised keeps the garden supplied with seeds, seedlings and sugar cane mulch. Prices start at 50c. In season at the moment:
* fresh herbs
* silverbeet
* rhubarb
* eggplants

Thank you
FPS Garden Gnomes

Faulconbridge Public School
P&C Association

Email: faulconbridgepublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

P & C MEETING
This month’s P & C meeting was held on Monday night. Thank you to all of those who “braved the cold” and came to the meeting. A number of topics were covered including music equipment at the school, ways to improve P & C communication and a number of suggestions for future events at the school. The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday, 19th May.

MOTHERS DAY WRAPPERS AND HELPERS NEEDED
No, we don’t want you to give us your favourite “rap tune” 😊 We are sending out an SOS for anyone who is able to help with wrapping the Mothers Day gifts on Monday, 5th May at 7pm in the teachers staffroom. Come on males!!!! Do you really want us mums to wrap our own gifts!!! Of course all ladies are welcome to come along and help (and maybe get a sneak peek). We also need a few more helpers to assist with the stall on the 8th May. Please email ginettmills@yahoo.com.au if you are able to help out.

GOODBYE TO ICEBLOCKS AND FROZEN ORANGES
This Friday is the last day for frozen oranges and iceblocks until Term 4. On behalf of the P & C, thank you to all those who have given their time every Friday during term one to purchase the iceblocks and sell them. Thank you also to the parents and carers who have supported these sales during the term. Most of all, thank you to all the students who waited so patiently for the bell to ring, remembered their “please” and “thank you’s” and for looking after our school and putting their rubbish in the bin.

The P & C wish everyone a safe and wonderful Easter. Take care over the holidays and we will see you all again next term.

G. Mills – P & C President
School Banking News

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

Yes, we WILL be banking this Friday 11th April, the last day of term!

We will either return the deposit books to the classroom teachers so they can be handed back later that day or keep them at the office so they can be returned to students during the first week of next term.

The first day for banking next term will be Friday 2nd May. Keep collecting your coins over the holidays so you are ready to go!

Have a very happy and safe holiday.

See you Friday,
The Banking Team

Reports from years 5 and 6 students excursion to Canberra

Our Trip to Canberra
Day 1: It was a long four hours on the bus. We went to Parliament House and learnt about how the House of Representatives and the Senate worked. Then we went to Eaglehawk Holiday Park to have dinner and then we went to bed.
Day 2: We got up at 6:30, had breakfast, and went on the bus to travel to the Old Parliament house for a 2-3 hours tour, then we went to the Australian war memorial, then we went to a lookout. We got on the bus again and went back to Eaglehawk Holiday Park, had dinner and went to bed.
Day 3: we got up at 6:30 and had breakfast then we went to Questacon for 2 hours then we got on the bus and went home.
We all enjoyed the trip.
By Jack B, Kade C, Owen M, Joe I and Ben W
Written by Ella Holland, Stephanie Mader, Eleanor McInnes, and Alyssa Cass

At 7.30am on the 31st of March, students arrived at school to leave for Canberra! We packed our bags onto the bus and said goodbye to our parents. We hopped onto the bus at 8.00am to depart for Canberra.

On the way to Canberra we stopped at Mittagong Park to eat recess and take a toilet break. We then boarded the bus once again. Next stop, Old Parliament House, the Rose Garden.

At the Senate Gardens we ate lunch and had a look at all the pretty flowers. We had a little play around then set off for the new Parliament House. When we got there, we were taken on a tour of Parliament House and learnt lots of new things.

After Parliament House, we drove to Mt. Ainslie lookout. The view was amazing! You could see most of Canberra. Eagle Hawk Holiday Park here we come! At Eagle Hawk Holiday Park we unpacked our bags from the bus, were given our room allocations and headed out to the dining hall.

After dinner, we all had a restless night and woke up to a thumping sound of people from other cabins at 1.30am in the morning. At breakfast, which was served at 6.45 am, we could choose from toast, cereal or pancakes. After eating, we went back to our cabins to get ready for our day. We went over to the Aboriginal Embassy and Old Parliament House and rotated between the two, half an hour per area. We then were transferred to the Australian War Memorial. We saw all the great and sad exhibits and how many adults and children died in and from war.

As a nice treat we went to the National Gallery and learnt about the famous artists and paintings. After that we travelled to the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) tour and had the opportunity to use a room of equipment. After our time in the Sportex room we went on a tour for an hour. We went through the many areas where the athletes train. After that, we went back to Eagle Hawk Holiday Park.

When we returned to our cabins, we had dinner in the dining hall. We were given lasagne, chips and salad. For dessert we got banana cake YUMMY! We all fell asleep much earlier than the night before, because we were all really tired. We woke up early because we had to be ready for the day! Breakfast that day was okay. We had bacon and scrambled eggs! Then we set off for Questacon. On the way to Questacon, we drove past different embassies. At Questacon we went into many different rooms and discovered many new things.

After Questacon, we set off for home. That was the end of our excursion! We hope you felt the excursion excitement as we did.

The AFL Superstars Report

On Sunday Mr Earl and the school’s senior AFL team travelled to Olympic Park to play a game of football. It wasn’t just your normal everyday game; we played on Spotless Stadium in front of 10,000 fans during the GWS Giant’s halftime break.

All of our players and their families received free tickets, so we watched the Giants win their first quarter against the Demons before heading down into our change room. We were given socks, shorts and jerseys to change into and before we knew it, we were running out onto the oval. It was a bit scary at first but then we got over it. We ran to our zones and waited for the umpire’s whistle. We were playing against Glenmore Park and they won the Paul Kelly Cup so we didn’t win but we tried our best. After we finished we went back to the change rooms to meet a few of the injured Giants players.

It was a really cool feeling running out onto the Giant’s home ground in front of all those people. We had a great time with our families and friends too.


By Ben W. and Jack B.
Andrew McLeod
Accredited Club Professional NSW TCA Coach
Previously coached in USA and Germany
Qualified PDHPE Teacher

GROUP & PRIVATE LESSONS
ALL AGES – beginners to elite players
SCHOOL HOLIDAY COACHING CLINICS
PRO SHOP, RACQUET SALES & RESTRINGING

Phone: 4751 5383
Mobile: 0416 08 34 72
Email: springwoodworldoftennis@hotmail.com
SPRING ST. SPRINGWOOD
PO BOX 139 SPRINGWOOD NSW 277
Why Chess?

- Create Brighter Thinkers
- Improve Student Focus
- Achieve Academic Success

Educational Benefits of Chess:
- Improves concentration and focus
- Develops logical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Enhances memory
- Encourages creative and lateral thinking
- Promotes discipline
- Accelerates emotional development
- Expands visualisation and spatial awareness
- Demonstrates actions and consequences
- Rewards correct decision making
- Increases self-confidence
- Provides opportunities to make new friends from diverse backgrounds

Combines learning with fun!

Faulconbridge Public School Chess Classes, 2014
[Wednesdays 10:45AM - 11:35AM in the Old Hall]

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>$63</td>
<td>12th Feb - 9th Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>$63</td>
<td>30th Apr - 25th Jun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
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<td>16th Jul - 17th Sep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>8th Oct - 10th Dec</td>
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TO ENROL: Please collect a form from the school office.

Sydney Academy of Chess Pty Ltd
Sydney Chess Centre, Level 1, 35A George Street Burwood, NSW
P: 0745 1175  P: 0745 1176  PO Box 1325, Burwood, NSW 1805
E: info@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au  W: sydneyacademyofchess.com.au