PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Elayna Lee- Bruna Anti Bullying Poster Competition
It was a great pleasure to be at the presentation of a Highly Commended award for Elayna Lee-Bruna this week. Her Anti Bullying poster was one of those selected in a state wide competition organised by Interrelate. The award morning tea and presentation was held at the Interrelate offices at Bella Vista on Wednesday and there were students and family members from many different schools there. We will use Elayna’s poster as part of our school’s ongoing focus on the prevention of bullying.

Assembly
A K-6 assembly will be held on Friday 30th May. This combined assembly will be run from 11.35 – 12.30

ICAS Competition
This week a number of students were involved in this competition. This competition centred around students’ knowledge of the computer and the use of other certain skills needed to produce work. There will be more competitions throughout the year. A reminder will be placed in Intercom.

Zone Cross Country
The Zone Cross Country will be held this Friday 23rd May. Mr Earl and Miss Shand will be attending. Good luck to all competitors. An opportunity to not only represent our school but the Blue Mountains District is an enriching experience.

P & C Meeting
At the P & C meeting on Monday evening, among other agenda items were the following:

Strategic Planning
This is the last year of the school’s 2012 to 2014 Strategic Plan. The plan identifies the main areas of focus for a three year period and it is now time to discuss and prioritise the focus areas for the 2015 to 2017 triennium. As the parent representative body the P&C will be holding a special meeting on June 23rd to identify areas that they see should be addressed in the coming three years. The current Strategic Plan has been posted on the school website for the information of those who would like to be involved in the planning process. The school community is invited to participate in this process when a parent forum will be held.

Banking Commission
Thank you to the Banking Team for the Term 1 commission which has been added to the Maths budget for the purchase of resources to be used in our classrooms.

Brief Reminder “Grounds Working Bee” – If you can help on Saturday morning 31st May from 9-12, it will be greatly appreciated.
SRC Meeting
Last Wednesday the Student Representative Council met to discuss a range of possible improvements and innovations at the school. It was a great pleasure to share these ideas with the P&C as the list of suggestions shows what a mature and responsible group of student representatives we have. Some of the ideas will be relatively easy and inexpensive to implement. Others were discussed by the P&C as possibly being funded by the money raised by the upcoming walkathon. The first of the SRC proposals is already being organised – a suggestion box will be installed in the next few days.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program
Last year’s Walkathon raised nearly $22,000 for the SAKG kitchen. This is a work in progress. The funds have been set aside until the school is informed about the outcome of an application for a 50/50 funding from the Department. The approval to reallocate the old hall/library as a kitchen was given last year. The 50/50 funding application was completed and submitted in October. I will contact the relevant departments next week to follow up.

Education Week Celebrations at Faulconbridge Public School – 31st July, 2014
To celebrate Education Week 2014, a program has been planned to include all members of the school community. The program that will involve students, staff, family and community members.
The ladies in the Blackboard Café will open at 8am to coincide with the breakfast and will be open all day. Thank you ladies for your wonderful café!
The program for the day has been planned to celebrate

- Grandparents Day
- Commonwealth Games
- Education Week
- Community Celebrations of Education

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Breakfast with the community: Rotary to cook BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.10 – 9.25</td>
<td>Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers visit classrooms</td>
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<td>9.30 – 10.30</td>
<td>Assembly in the Hall</td>
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<td>RECESS</td>
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<td>11.35</td>
<td>Year 6 Mini Fete commences</td>
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<td>1.00 – 1.50</td>
<td>Picnic Lunch</td>
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<td>2.00 – 2.50</td>
<td>Commonwealth Games Sport Afternoon</td>
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New Roll Collection
On Monday this week, staff were involved with the introduction of our new roll system. The new system is a method of collecting student attendances using computers. Miss Shand has been trialling the program for several weeks. Class teachers started using this system to mark attendance and absences on Tuesday. Thank you to Mr Emmanuel and his team from Edval for the introduction of this new and innovative way of collecting data.

Please Note: If you receive more than one text message regarding absences please let the Office Angels know.

Walkathon 13th June, 2014
On Friday 13th June, Faulconbridge Public School will hold its annual Walkathon. Sponsorship forms have been given out to all students to start collecting sponsors to raise money for the school. The theme of the day is ‘Anti Bullying’.
’Boz The Brave’, our walkathon mascot, has been introduced to all classes. Students may wear purple, green or orange clothing to support ‘Boz the Brave’.
**Successful Funding Applications**

Environmental Trust - $2500

Last week the school received a cheque for the above amount and this week it was announced that the school will also receive a $250 grant for an event to be organised for National Science Week in August. These applications were the result of the grant application writing skills of Mrs Jacqui Hyslop and her support of the school’s environmental and sustainable education focus. Another grant application for an Outdoor Learning Area was also submitted by Mrs Hyslop last Friday.

**Bus Bay and Staff Car Park**

For the safety of all our students please do the following

- Stay out of the bus bay during the morning and afternoon drop off and pick up times. Mr O’Sullivan and the teachers on duty are concerned that a number of parents and caregivers are using the bus bay to park or as a place to drop off their children. This makes it difficult for busses to access this area.
- Stay out of the staff car park as it is a very awkward area with restricted visibility. It is also not a safe place for driving in and dropping off students, or for students and parents to walk through. People using the staff car park are not expecting students or parents to be using it as a way to enter or leave the school and it is very busy throughout the day.

*Dorothee Lean*

*Principal*

**Mini Fete Donations Please**

Year 6 will be holding a Mini Fete on Thursday, 31st July, (Education Day). The community is asked to donate any goods or non-perishable items (to be part of the raffle) to the White Elephant Stall.

If you have any toys, books, DVDs, pictures or funky items, please send them in. Buyers, on the day, will pay for tokens. Each token will be 25c and 4 tokens will be on a single strip of cardboard.

Each stall will have its own price for goods to be purchased or activities.

Thank you in advance,

*Janine Macky*

*Assistant Principal*

**Year 6 Farewell**

A committee will be formed early next term for the Year 6 Farewell. The Farewell will be held at Springwood Sports Club on Wednesday 3rd December from 4.45pm – 7.30pm.

The menu is set and will be prepared by the club.

The purpose of the committee will be to:

- Decide on decorations
- Order the cake
- Organise the photos etc.
- Discuss activities and proceedings for the night
- Any other issues relating to the Farewell will be discussed

The first meeting will be early next term. I will advertise the date through Intercom. I will send a reminder through Enews in the form of a text/email. I look forward to meeting with parents of Year 6 to ensure the students’ night is enjoyable.

*Mrs Macky*

*Assistant Principal*
13 – The Musical

We are all very excited about the opportunity to be involved in one of Springwood High School’s major productions. Selected students in years 5 and 6 will feature in this unique, never-seen-before performance. ‘13 – The Musical’ is the story of thirteen-year-old Evan Goldman, and his transition from New York City to the middle of nowhere; Appleton, Indiana. We follow his journey to becoming a man; his efforts to fit in, and his struggle to make his new life in Indiana work. ‘13’ promises to be an exciting, energetic and memorable evening.

Tickets are now on sale. You can book online using one of the following links:

www.tinyurl.com/shsmusical13

Dates: Friday 6th June, Saturday 7th June, Friday 13th June and Saturday 14th June

Time: 7pm

Cost: Adults - $20.00
Children/Concession - $15.00

(Please note that Faulconbridge students will not be involved in the matinees on the 5th and 12th of June).

Sport Reminders:

1. The PSSA catch up rounds start next Friday. Students will need to come to school with the necessary equipment to participate in their chosen sport i.e. mouthguards, shin pads, football boots etc.
2. Senior soccer training (Winmalee Cup) starts this Friday from 3 – 4pm on our oval. Many thanks to John Patterson for offering to coach these students.
3. School of Origin: Faulconbridge vs Springwood in a 10 a side, best of 3, rugby league competition. Game one will be played next Thursday here at Faulconbridge Public School. We’d love to get as many parents there as possible to help cheer on our boys! Kick-off is at 2pm.

Mr Earl

Tips to help your children succeed at school – and in Life

School opens up a whole new world for children:
At school children learn about fitting in with others, about sharing and taking turns. They begin to build friendships with other children. Their friends may have different interests to them or like to play different games etc. and this can lead to conflict. Help your children to understand that they can't have everything they want and that getting on with others requires give and take and compromise at times.

Teach your children how to solve their own problems:

Don't try to solve your children’s problems for them. If they want help, suggest some options. Children will also watch to see how you cope with problems. Children begin to learn how to resolve conflict by watching you.

Help your children to express their feelings:

As children grow and change they learn how to cope with their feelings. Help your children to name their feelings and find socially acceptable ways of expressing their feelings. Praise your children for behaving in socially acceptable ways.

Patricia McArthur
Counsellor
School Banking News

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

Rewards, Rewards, Rewards!!!

Just a reminder that student rewards can be ordered on any Friday this year. Spare Reward cards are available at the Office or from the Banking Ladies on a Friday morning, otherwise include a quick note with 10 tokens in a zip lock bag. The Banking Ladies put in individual reward orders each Friday and rewards are usually sent back to School within 1-2 weeks. We are currently unable to order bulk stock to have on hand due to a new online ordering system. Thank you everyone for your patience & a very big thank you to parents & carers for helping us to explain this to our banking students.

Thank you for helping us to raise money for our School!!!

Thank you to all of our wonderful students and parents/carers for helping us to raise $447 in Term 1, just by banking each week. Did you know our School receives a commission by participating in School Banking? Each new account opened, regardless of the amount of the first deposit, is $5 back to our School. We also receive a commission on each further deposit made. This money will be used to purchase additional maths resources for our school. Keep up the great work!!

See you Friday,
The Banking Team

Reforms to P&C Federation

The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW federation of Parents and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&C’s, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations. Each school’s P&C Association will be asked to vote for councilors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councilors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department’s website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php
P&C NEWS

RECENT P & C MEETING
Where do I start with last Monday nights P & C meeting! So many areas of the schools growth and current issues were discussed. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the brainstorming of ideas. Please note there is a change in date to the next P & C meeting. This will be held on **Monday, 23rd June** (not the 16th as scheduled). Come along and share your thoughts and suggestions. EVERYONE is welcome to attend 😊

BLUE GUM MARKETS THIS SATURDAY
This Saturday it’s time for 4K and 5/6S to whip up some tasty baked treats! Please come along to the Blue Gum markets and support these classes. If there are any more parents / carers of students in one of these classes please advise if you are able to spare some time to help on the day or if you are planning on baking. Please return your forms to the office as soon as possible. Remember, all of your delectable goodies can be taken to the office on Friday afternoon or taken up to the markets on Saturday morning (by 9am). A full list of ingredients must be displayed on the container. Money raised from these markets will go back into the classrooms for 4K and 5/6S 😊

P & C CONTACT
The P & C page on the school website is currently “under construction”. If you need to contact someone from the P & C please forward any correspondence to myself, Ginett Mills – ginettmills@yahoo.com.au
This year we have approached the Student Representative Council (SRC) to see what they would like the raised money to go towards.

They have given this great thought and have provided some fantastic suggestions. These were discussed at the recent P & C meeting and we are all very impressed.

Some of the ways the S.R.C would like the money to be used include -

1) To purchase extra sports equipment in storage containers which the students can access at lunch and recess.

2) To purchase combined netball / basketball hoops. This would also include a newcombe ball net set with stands.

3) To build a designated “buddy area” where new friendships can be formed. This area could also be used as a “quiet” place for class reading groups (the suggestion was to transform the image to the left into this area)

4) To purchase a waterproof whiteboard sign to be place at the school bus bay entrance (Grose Rd). This would be used as another form of communication within the school.

The items we are able to purchase will depend on how much money is raised from this year’s Walk-a-thon. It would be wonderful if we could see as many of the SRC’s suggestions come to fruition.

Last year we raised an outstanding $22,000 from our Walkathon. With the support of the school community we are hoping to increase the amount raised this year 😊

Thank you SRC for speaking on behalf of the students at Faulconbridge Public School as to what YOU would like in your school.

G. Mills – P & C President
National Walk Safely to School Day is on in just 2 days!  
Friday 23rd May

National Walk Safely to School Day is on this Friday and hundreds of thousands of primary school aged children across the country will be participating with their parents, carers and teachers. A few tips:

- If you can't walk all the way, combine a walk with public transport.
- If you must use the car, leave it a good distance from school and walk the rest of the way.
- Download the free App that tracks your walks and encourages regular walking to and from school. (Search for WSTSD)

Walking is one of the best ways to exercise – so get your children into a great habit and walk to school not only this Friday, but every day.

- Help teach your children to Stop! Look! Listen! and Think! ... every time they cross the road.
- Ensure that children up to 10 years always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.

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Introducing

**BOZ THE BRAVE**

Boz the Brave is our walk-a-thon mascot who represents anti-bullying.

There is one in every classroom and he is there as a reminder that bullying is not ok.

We have picked him because bullying is a "monster" of a problem and we at Faulconbridge Public School will stand together strong against it ...

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**Pizza Day**

**Friday 30th May**

all orders to be in by 23rd May (tomorrow)