QUAKERS WHISPER No. 9
Thursday 27th March 2014

Department of Education & Training
SECURITY Phone No. 1300 880 021

DATES TO REMEMBER
MARCH
28th Fri 11:20am – Infants Assembly
LED BY 1D

12:15pm – Primary Assembly
LED BY 3C

PSSA CANCELLED

APRIL
1st Tues PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS THIS WEEK

4th Fri 11:20am – Infants Assembly
LED BY 1M

12:15pm – Primary Assembly
LED BY 4J

SUMMER PSSA

9th Wed STAGE 3 - MILSON ISLAND CAMP

K-2 - RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP TALK

10th Thur STAGE 3 AT CAMP

11th Fri 11:20am – Infants Assembly
LED BY 1B

12:15pm - NO Primary Assembly

2:05pm – K-2 EASTER HAT PARADE

STAGE 3 BACK FROM CAMP

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

ACCOMPANYING THIS NEWSLETTER
*
Kindergarten Sport note
*P&C Uniform Shop Changes letter

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS
Mondays – 2:30pm – 3:15pm (approx)

Fridays – 8:30am – 9:15am (approx)

IMPORTANT – Please read the letter going home today with this newsletter for information on upcoming changes to procedures for ordering and payment for uniform orders.

Principal’s Message ..... 

Dear Parents/Caregivers

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING
Thank you to everyone for their outstanding support of this very important day. The students looked great in orange and important anti-bullying messages and behaviours were reinforced.

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Next week many of you will be meeting with your child’s (children’s) class teacher. This is a great opportunity for us to work together to maximise your child’s learning.

Please check your child’s bag for the note with your appointment time.

“Pursuing excellence in student achievement and community participation”
DEBATING TEAM
Well done to our debaters, Shreya P, Casey L, Garima S and Jorja S, who had a first round win in their debate ‘That the Olympic Games is the best example of sport’.

BOYS KNOCKOUT SOFTBALL TEAM
Our boys softball team had a first round win in the PSSA knock out competition. Well done boys. I look forward to seeing your round 2 match.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to William P and Riley W who have been selected in the Ridges Zone Touch Football team.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Our class, individual and family photos were taken on Tuesday. The students all looked fantastic in their uniforms. Photos will be distributed as soon as they arrive on site through the students.

PLANNED UNIFORM SHOP CHANGES
Due to increasing security, accountability and efficiency pressures our volunteer run school uniform shop will be moving to a cashless internet based ordering system.

More details of this change accompany this newsletter.

Colin Ross
Relieving Principal

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MOBILE PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES
Parents please remind your children that they are not to have mobile phones or electronic devices at school.

Children who must have a mobile phone at school must only do so with permission from the Principal. Parents may write a note requesting this facility. If permission is provided the phone will be stored at our front office during the school day.

Week 8 Term 1 Award Winners

| KC  | Jenny, Ranbir |
| KJ  | Saniya, Angadjit |
| KP  | Rayan, Miranda |
| KR  | Aadrik, Amber |
| KT  | Gurveer, Liam |
| 1AR | Jack, Yasmin |
| 1B  | Ryan, Yasmin |
| 1D  | Blake, Tisha |
| 1/2A| Chaya, Jasper |
| 2B  | Sanika, Ky |
| 2K  | Michaela, Kaya |
| 2S  | Kiara, Peter |
| 3B  | Ethan, Felicity |
| 3C  | Sienna, Naman |
| 3R  | Pranaya, Jack |
| 4B  | Monique, Robbie |
| 4J  | Danielle, Cameron |
| 4L  | Corinne, Sidar |
| 5S  | Summer, Jacob |
| 5T  | Aditya, Jessica |
| 5W  | Alex, Oliver |
| 6G  | William, Thomas |
| 6T  | Mavis, Jakeb |
| 6W  | Jena, Ethan |

Week 8 Citizens of the Week

| K-2 | James B |
| 3-6 | Luke D |

Week 8 “Be Your Best” Award Winners

| K-2 | Phoebe L |
| 3-6 | Joel D |

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NEW MONEY COLLECTION PROCEDURES
A reminder that students are now required to deliver their money envelopes directly to the school office on arrival at school, after 8:30am.

Students should do this before they place their bags in their lines.

Thank you
PSSA REMINDER

Unfortunately, a few incidents involving parents at PSSA games have occurred during the summer competition. Ridges has asked that all parents and spectators be reminded of the code of conduct.

Ridges Primary Sports Association
Code of Conduct for Parents/Spectators

1. Encourage participation by your child/children.
2. Encourage honest effort and skilled performance.
3. Remember that children play sport for THEIR enjoyment.
4. Provide a model of good sports behaviour for your child to copy. Applaud good play by all teams.
5. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
6. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
7. Be COURTEOUS in your communication with players, team coach, team officials, game officials and sport administrators and show appreciation for their services.
8. Do not interfere with the conduct of any events.
9. Respect officials’ decisions and teach children to do likewise.

Please ensure that if you are attending PSSA, you adhere to the code of conduct.

Lynda Talintyre
Sports Coordinator

SUMMER PSSA REPORT
Week 8

CRICKET
The Cricket teams played Rouse Hill Public School. The juniors lost 57-116 and the seniors lost 69-78. The players of the match were Jake C for the juniors and Devang K for the seniors.

T-BALL- Juniors/SOFTBALL - Seniors
The T-Ball and Softball teams played Rouse Hill Public School. The T-Ball team lost 12-20. The player of the match was Sarah M. The Softball team lost 7-9. The player of the match was Casey L.

OZ-TAG
The Oz-Tag teams played John Palmer Public School. The juniors lost 16-28 and the seniors lost 20-24. The players of the match were Jeremy B for the juniors and William P for the seniors.

BOYS SOFTBALL KNOCKOUT
The boys played Werrington County and won 18-2. The player of the match was Mitchell Tritton.

LUCKY DRAW
Beginning of Term 2

$100 voucher
To be spent at the school uniform shop for families who have paid their Voluntary School Contributions by end of Term 1 2014
SAY NO TO BULLYING DAY
Thank you so much for your tremendous support of the National Day of Action Against Bullying last Friday. It was wonderful to see all the students and staff dressed in orange to show their support of this very important day.

Your support of the purchasing of orange food and drinks was also greatly appreciated and Year 6 now has $1,206.40 in their fundraising account. Thanks also to the wonderful parents who made jelly and assisted with the cutting of cake and distribution of orders.

Lynda Talintyre
Coordinator

REMINDER:

MILSON ISLAND CAMP 2014
Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)
9th – 11th April, 2014

All camp payments (and Panadol permission forms) were due in by today

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so any outstanding payments need to be sent it to the office as soon as possible.

EASTER RAFFLE
Don’t forget to bring in your donation for our Easter Raffle by

Wednesday 2nd April

For hygiene reasons we can only accept those which come wrapped in plastic, foil or in boxes.

– Remember that the more chocolate Easter eggs, bunnies etc that are donated, the more prizes we will be able to draw. Last year we had 10 major prizes and over 140 consolation prizes.

The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 8th April.

All money and raffle tickets (both sold & unsold) need to be returned by Monday 7th April.

Thank you for supporting our school

Lynne Smith & Fiona Bennetts
27 March 2014

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

During Term 2, Kindergarten children will participate in ‘Games and Sport’ activities on Monday afternoons.

Kinder teachers are asking for help running these activities. If we get enough helpers we will make up a roster so that you may not be required every week.

Sport sessions will commence on Monday 5th May and will go for approximately 40 minutes, from 2:10pm – 2:50pm, each week.

If you are able to help out, please complete the slip below and return to Mrs Clissold before the end of this term. Rosters will come home to helpers during Week 1 Term 2.

If you have any questions, please ask.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs J Clissold
Deputy Principal (Rel)

Mr C Ross
Principal (Rel)

Mrs Clissold,

I am able to help at Kindergarten Sport on Monday afternoons during Term 2.

Parent’s name ____________________________

Home phone number ________________ Mobile __________________

Child’s name _______________________       Class ________________

Signed ____________________________         Date ________________
In the next few months we will be changing the way you can order and make payments at the uniform shop. We will be introducing an online ordering program called Flexischools and will be going ‘cashless’.

Why is Flexischools being introduced?

As of August this year, we will no longer be able to ‘sign’ using credit cards with our current payment option. This prompted us to look into other options such as EFTPOS and a variety of online ordering programs. During this decision process we considered what would be the best outcome for those unable to make it in to the shop as well as for those that do come into the shop. Each program, including EFTPOS was looked at in depth; however the best for value and functions was Flexischools.

Why are we going ‘cashless’?

Another goal during the process was to look into a program that would decrease time for the schools very limited volunteers and also increase accountability. In this process it was discovered the best option would be to limit as much "cash handling" as possible (especially when the shop is “closed”). That is why we are introducing a cashless program (with the exceptions of 2nd hand items and those approved by the Principal). A lot of thought has gone into this process and the P&C feel that this is the best option.

What happens if you cannot access the internet from home or work?

Flexischools has a free app that parents can download for their iPad or iPhone. There is also a similar version for the android tablets. There is also ‘Blacktown City Libraries’ (including the one at Stanhope) that offer “Free access to internet and free Wi-Fi”.

However we fully understand that there may be some families that cannot access the internet or do not feel confident about ordering online and we will fully support those families. We ask that if at any time you feel for any reason that you are unable to participate in the Flexischools program, that you contact the office to arrange an appointment with the principal to discuss other suitable options.
What does Flexischools involve?

In summary parents will be asked to go online and register. Parents will then be able to view the online catalogue (24/7) and select items they would like to purchase. Once parents have selected items they will be asked to make an online payment. Parents will not be charged for using ‘flexischools’ (unless using credit cards). The shop will still be "open" for you to still come in and pick up your pre-paid orders or to try on sizes if needed. Orders will continue to be sent to the classrooms for those unable to come into the shop. Flexischools also has phone support for parents, students and staff from 6.00am to 6.00pm EDST on business days.

What about returns or exchanges?

Returns and exchanges will remain the same. Parents will be asked to follow the same policy that was introduced earlier this year. If parents would like to return an item all they need to do is bring it into the shop and the uniform coordinators will then email Flexischools for a refund into your account. If parents are unable to come into the shop, they should email the uniform co-coordinator (uniforms_qheps@hotmail.com) to make other suitable arrangements in returning the item.

What next?

In the next few weeks we will provide you with information on when and how to register. We will then also provide you with a timeframe of when we will be going ‘cashless’.

If at any time you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come down to the uniform shop or email uniforms_qheps@hotmail.com

Jo Fickel,

On behalf of your P&C