

SPRING FARM PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Newsletter

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Top stories in this newsletter



Camden Show our first excursion



Logo & Motto



Easter Hat & Harmony Day



New School

Our first excursion to Camden Show

We had a great and successful day at Camden Show . All the students enjoyed themselves and were very well behaved. Thank you to our senior students who assisted the teachers in keeping an eye on our infants students. Our teachers and SLSO did a wonderful job to keep an ongoing headcount of their students, dealing with the extreme weather and still having a smile on their faces. Congratulations to 3/4 Bahamas for coming 3rd in the scarecrow competition our first trophy (ribbon) for our school! Thank you to Mrs Creber, the organising teacher, and Miss Urry for posting a number of photos on the school's Facebook page which kept our parents up-to-date with what the students were doing throughout the day.

Spring Farm Public School's logo and motto

A great collaborative effort by our students, staff and community for designing various logos and mottos. Thank you to all who voted on our logo and motto. Although it was very competitive the choice of the school's new logo symbolises what we are all about. I believe the tree represents building strong foundations for all of our students and the leaves represent an ever growing community. Thank you to Mrs Vincent for her logo design. At the same time the motto of 'Inspiring creative and resilient learners' is a powerful motto which has a significant link to our present situation of the need to be creative and independent thinkers and being persistent with anything that we do.

Easter Hat and Harmony Day celebration

This Thursday 24 March 2016 at 1pm, we will have our first Easter Hat Parade. Parents, carers, relatives and friends are welcome to attend to watch the parade, celebrate the most creative hat, draw the Easter raffles and have a picnic afternoon tea. Please bring fold up chairs and a picnic rug for an afternoon picnic and enjoy the afternoon. Thank you to Mrs Pereira, teachers and the Fundraising Committee for organising the event and providing various prizes. Students are also encouraged to wear something in orange (what you can find at home i.e an orange ribbon in the hair or an orange t-shirt. We are discouraging full mufti or casual cloths for the day) to represent Harmony Day, which is a celebration of Australia's cultural diversity. More information about Harmony Day can be found www.harmony.gov.au. For more information for Thursday's event please refer to the Enews Easter Parade invitation.

Moving into the new site!

I will be attending a meeting with Department of Education representatives and the builder this Thursday morning at the new school. We will have a close inspections of the site and I will take a number of photos to share with the community and with our students. At this point of time, I have been told that I may get hand over of the keys during the upcoming school holidays and we will be moving in during these holidays. This will mean that Spring Farm Public School's new site will be opened on Tuesday 26th April for all enrolment enquires and teachers will be involved in their professional learning (no classes on this day). All students will commence school on Wednesday, 27 April 2016. This will be a historical moment and we will have our professional photographer taking photos. Parents, relatives and friends are welcome to attend as we will have a welcome assembly. **Please note:** we will send out an official invitation stating the day when we officially will be able to move in and when all students will be able to attend. Once we are in the official building, the school and the Fundraising committee have penciled a Welcome to Spring Farm open afternoon for all of parents, relatives and friends on Friday 6th May from 1pm onwards. Again, this will be dependent on when we can officially move into the new building. More information will be given out once we are officially notified of the move.

Cross country and parent teacher interviews.

We will be running a school cross country event to find representatives for the Zone Cross Country Carnival, which will be held early in Term 2. This will be held at the Narellan Annex on Friday 1 April 2016 at 10:30am. 3-6 students will start first as we will be recording names for zone representatives. Infants will do their run on a modified course for some fun and chance to get ready for cross country in the future. Parents are welcome to attend and cheer students on, and stay to have lunch with their children.

We will be conducting Parent Teacher interviews Wednesday 6 April 2016. This will start from

3:30pm till 6pm in the Annex library. We are in the process of organising an online booking service which you will be able to book a specific time. An Enews alert will be sent to all parents and carers stating when the online booking is available. Please note, that these interviews are strictly 10 minutes and if you require more time, please negotiate with the teacher another time as we will have other parents waiting to speak to the teacher. If you need to see the teacher before 6 April, please contact the school to organise a time, preferably Wednesday afternoons from 3:30pm till 4:30pm.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Easter Raffle, our target is to raise over \$1000. This will assist in purchasing future classroom resources. Thank you to the Fundraising Committee who have worked together to plan in-school and out-of-school fundraising events. On behalf of the school and the fundraising committee I would like to acknowledge and thank the various businesses who provided the school with a number of donations, these include:

Narellan Bunnings
Narellan Lowes
Coles at Camden
dodo Sydney Family Show
Australian Botanic Garden
Legend Shopping Tours
Tony Wolf & Son Quality Printers, Narellan
Jade Electricals
Sticky Fingers Design

The Fundraising Committee are meeting on Thursday 28th April at the new site at 7pm. All parents, carers and senior students are welcome to attend. The Committee will communicate via the school's Facebook page and the School Enews app regarding post future meetings and fundraising events.

Online communication

We are currently investigating the best methodology to communicate school events and excursion notes. As we grow in student numbers photocopying becomes very expensive, notes get forgotten by students or they get lost in their bags! For now we will send any notes via the Enews app and hand out paper permission slips to be signed and returned to the school. If you do not have access to the internet, please let the school know and we can make alternative arrangements.

Please subscribe to the Enews app and let others know about this app, as this is the most effective way to communicate all events to parents and carers. We can assist you at school to subscribe to the app. More information about the app can be found at

www.schoolenews.com/for-parents.html

If you cannot access the Enews app on your phone, you can still access all correspondence via the school's website. To get to the school's website, google school locator, open the page, type in Spring Farm Public in the **Quick Search** box which will give you a link and that will open the school's website. Once on the website click on the Enews tab and scroll down the page to **previous correspondence**.

As a school we are trying to reduce the reliance of distributing paper notes; even I am trying to change my behaviour by limiting my printing and saving a lot of work in electronic folders.

Absences

We are coming into the colder months, flu season will start. It is important that if your child/ren are sick with the flu etc that they stay home rest and recover. Please call the school office, email the school or send a written note with your child to the class teacher explaining the reason/s for your child being away. Under the Department of Education, it is a legal requirement to provide an explanation to the school stating the reasons why your child was absent from school. If a student is absent on a regular basis, under Department of Education guidelines we are required to monitor the non-attendance, record it onto our data base and work with you to improve your child's attendance. If the pattern continues, we are required to report this to the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) who will then become involved with you and the school to improve the attendance. If you have concerns and difficulties with your child's attendance please do not hesitate to see the school or School Counsellor for advice and assistance.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the school through email or phone. You can see the class teacher, preferably in the afternoons, or see Miss Urry or myself.

Kind regards

Donovan Jance

Principal Spring Farm Public School