Spring Farm Public school Newsletter

Top stories in this newsletter: Opportunities for students, fundraising raffle, school photos and kids club

Term 3 Week 10 2016

Opportunities for our students

Congratulations to all of our students who either participated in the Dance Spectacular, competed in the Razorback PSSA OZ Tag competition, or were involved in the School's Public Speaking competition. Thank you to our teachers who have coached and organised our students, and to our parents for their ongoing support. Over these last few weeks, we have relied on the parents to do the hair and makeup for the dancers, transport the students to various venues or support their child with their public speaking. This has provided great opportunities for our students to experience success and make a connection with each other and with their school.

Students return

Students return to school on Monday 10 October 2016.

Please remember that if you go away on holidays outside of the school holiday period, you are required to fill out a Certificate of Exemption from School. Please see the school office for this certificate prior to a family vacation.

Please remember to sign in with your child at the school office when you and your child arrive after 8:55am.

Fundraising committee meeting, P&C meeting and fundraising raffle

The P&C are also running a fundraising raffle at Narellan Town Centre on Saturday 5 November 2016. The P&C require volunteers throughout the day to assist in selling the raffle tickets. If you can provide some time please contact Gill, the vice president of the P&C, on gillllowe2009@gmail

P&C are also asking for financial or prize (vouchers) donations that can assist with the raffle. You can also contact the P&C on springfarmpublicschoolpc@gmail.com

Spring Farm Public School's Fundraising Committee will be meeting in the Programming Room at 3pm on Monday 10 October 2016. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The P&C meeting will be on Thursday 3 November at 6:30pm in the programming room. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Volunteers for a working bee for playground games

Mrs Creber is organising a working bee for Tuesday 27 September 2016, from 10am till 2pm. The purpose of the working bee is to organise playground markings for students to play on in the COLA area and in front of the hall. As paint and stencils will be used, we require adults to assist us in the line markings. If it has been raining on the Monday night and raining on the Tuesday 27 September, the working bee will be postponed till further notice. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Speech pathologist report

As part of SFPS commitment to develop the child, services from a Speech Therapist have been paid for by the school. After initial observations by the Speech Therapist and working with the class teacher, some students have been screened to identify language and receptive needs. Some parents will receive a screening report this week. This will provide a summary of your child's language progress and will outline further recommendations. Please consider these recommendations and contact the Speech Therapist Kirrily Hackenberg who will be at school on Friday 14 October 2016. You can email the school about any questions or concerns raised in the screener and they will be passed onto Kirrily.

School Photos

School Photos have been organised for Tuesday 1 November 2016. We ask all of our students to be dressed in full school summer uniform. Payments and packages for school photos can be made at www.pakpix.photos

Kindergarten enrolments for 2017

If you have a sibling that needs to enrol at Spring Farm Public School, please obtain an enrolment form at the school office. If you know of friends and neighbours in Spring Farm, please let them

know that we are taking 2017 Kindergarten enrolments. All orientation and transition program dates can be accessed from the school's website.

Student Leaders assisting students

Our Year 6 students have been working with Spring Farm Woolworths manager Danni. They have organised a mobile canteen for recess and will be selling ice-blocks, bottled water and packets of chips. This is a great fundraising opportunity for our senior students who are working on raising funds to assist with their farewell and purchasing a present for the school. They are also working on organising a school disco early in Term 4. Students are preparing flyers about their initiatives and these will be sent out in due course. Thank you to Danni the manager of Spring Farm Woolworths for assisting the Year 6 students in their fundraising activities.

Lowes support

Thank you to Lowes for providing a cheque for $800 and some gift vouchers for the school. This will assist the school in purchasing more school blazers for our younger students. Lowes have also finalised the school baseball sun hat and a school library bag which will all be available by the end of Term 4.

Book covering

Thank you to Mrs Pereira and parents for covering our new guided reading books, we still have many more books to go.

A busy Term ahead

Term 4 2016 will be a busy time for all of us. End of year student reports will be completed and sent home, there will be a number community events and class assemblies (please refer to the school website calendar for dates and information). We will also be busy running orientation and transition programs for our new Kindergarten enrolments. In addition, the school will be running a number of panels for: classroom teacher positions, the tendering of the school canteen and tendering for Before and Afternoon School Care. If you would like to be a community representative on a panel, please contact the school to indicate your interest. You will be provided with panel training and you will need to be flexible with your time and be prepared to read a number of applications.

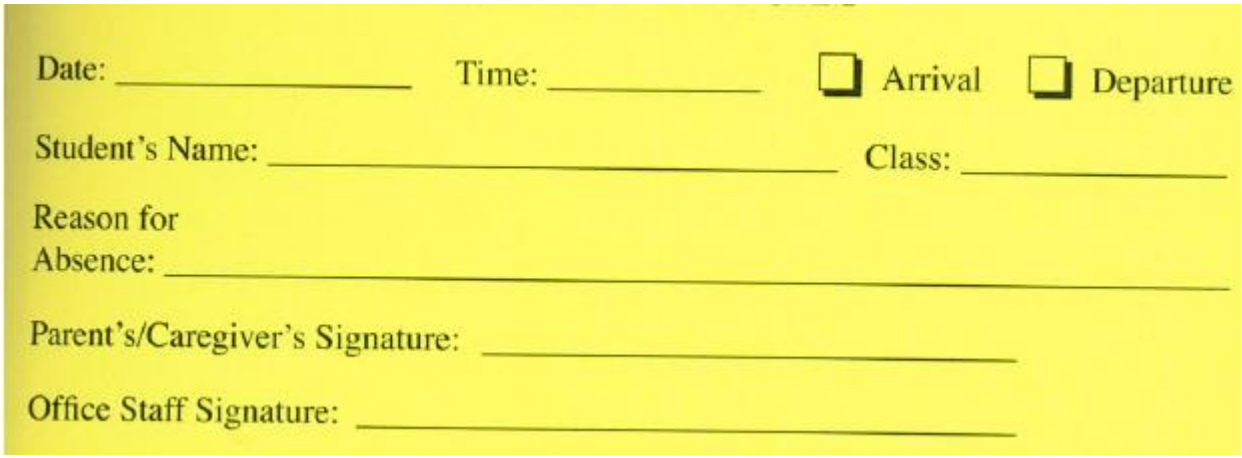
Library

Library borrowing is running each Thursday. Each stage will attend each fortnight, Stage 1, 2 and 3 are borrowing every odd week and Kindergarten students will borrow every even week. Mrs Batty, the librarian, has asked that all students bring a cloth bag or a cloth shopping bag to protect the borrowed books when students are taking them home.

Absences

Thank you to the parents and carers who have called the school office, emailed the school or sent a written note 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 your child returns to school and the class teacher or the school has not received a reason for your child's absence within a few days, the class teacher will send a reminder note (please view the sample below). Please give a detailed explanation on the reason why your child was away and return it with your child to give to their class teacher.



Date: _____ Time: _____ ☐ Arrival ☐ Departure

Student's Name: _____ Class: _____

Reason for Absence: _____

Parent's/Caregiver's Signature: _____

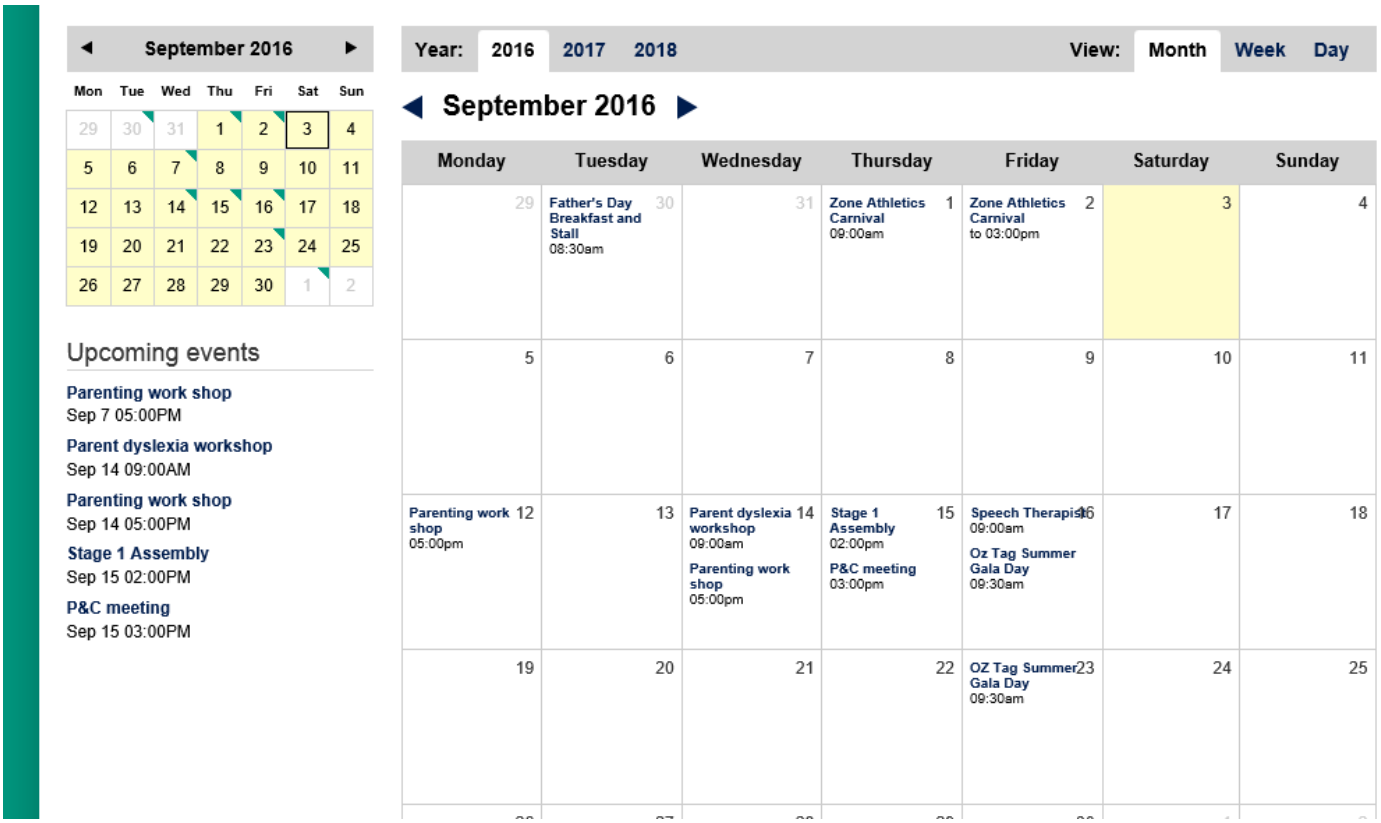
Office Staff Signature: _____

When your child returns back to school, it is important to write an explanation note, contact the school or use the SkoolBag app explaining their absences, rather than wait for the reminder note.

School Website

The school's website is fully functional and major events are being uploaded on to the site and onto the calendar planner. Please refer to it for information and up and coming events.

*www.**springfarm**-p.**schools**.nsw.edu*



SkoolBag App http://skoolbag.com.au/

In Term 4 2016, the school will be using the SkoolBag App rather than the Enews app. SkoolBag app has many more features. A major feature of this app is the ability to explain your child's absence via your phone and send it electronically. Please read the instructions below to install this app:

Skoolbag
Complete communication solution

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

iTunes

For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

Google play

For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.

Windows Phone

Parent Helpers in the classroom

If you would to assist in the classroom please contact the school and we will organise a time for you to do an Induction course and assist you fill in Working with Children Check forms. Some major projects that we require assistance in are: reading with students or implementing individual student programs.

Reminders

Confidential family matters and medical reports

If you have you have any confidential family matters that may impact on your child's wellbeing such as custody issues, family court orders and medical reports etc you need to see myself or if I am unavailable to see Ms Urry before seeing the class teacher. This way the school as a collective can best cater to you and your family's needs. At the same time, copies of relevant legal or

medical documents are required at the school so that we can follow the directions or recommendations. We will do everything to work with you and your child however, the school can only follow the directions from the courts or medical reports. Once again you are better to see me if there are complex issues and we can work on an action plan.

School uniforms

As a new school we are working towards establishing pride in Spring Farm Public. Research has stated that wearing full school uniform can assist in developing 'self esteem and a sense of connection to the community, more information about wearing the correct school uniform can be found on https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/connect/school-uniforms.

I do ask if you can source a navy blue jacket, navy sloppy joe, navy blue shorts and pants and school shirt as we are trying to instill pride, set a good example for our new enrolments and develop a connection with each other. If you require assistance in purchasing various uniform please contact the school and we will work something out. **If you have any spare uniforms please donate to the school and we can assist other families.**

Before and After school Care

The YMCA is currently organising Before and After School Care for Spring Farm Public School students. Please contact YMCA Narellan for further details.
You can also obtain an EOI survey to indicate your interest for a Before and After School Care program at Spring Farm Public School. Please email or phone the school for a hard copy which we can send with your child or come to the office and fill out the survey.

Signing in and dogs prohibited on school premises

Due to WHS requirement and Department of Education policy, it is a requirement to sign in as a visitor at the front office. If you need to deliver something to your child, pick them up early or need to send a message please contact the school office and we can assist in these matters.

Under the Companion Animals Act, 1998 No 87 (14.1.e), all dogs are prohibited in school grounds, (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled). Thank you for understanding and support.

Driving on Barley Road Spring Farm

Please be mindful that new parking signs will be erected at any given time and **large fines will be issued. Please be mindful** on how fast you drive into Barley Rd off Spring Farm Rd as students and parents cross the road, thank you for your understanding.

Crunch and sip

This is a set break during class time to snack on fruit or vegetables. We encourage all students to bring a piece of fruit and a small bottle of water to enjoy during crunch and sip time. This snack time will allow students to refuel and stay hydrated throughout the day.

Receiving Information

As a school we are trying to reduce the reliance of distributing paper notes and encouraging everyone to subscribe to Skool Bag app, log onto the school's website or view the Notice board outside of the school office for updated events.

Please note, if you have any questions or queries or you are unsure about something, please

contact the school through email or phone. You can see the class teacher, **preferably in the afternoons, or myself any time.**

Regards
Donovan Jance
Principal

Camden Community Connections

HOMEWORK CLUB

Recommencing Term 4
Tuesday 11th October

4:00PM-6:00PM

WILLOWDALE PLACE

93 Jamboree Avenue, Willowdale

Jaanimili

Homework club proudly supported by

Camden community Connections and

Jaanimili Ability Links NSW

Stockland it's your place

WILLOWDALE