Family Fun Night
What a terrific success! The hall was packed with far more people than we expected, and everyone had a great time. I would like to say a huge big thank you to all the parents who were involved in planning, organising, shopping and cooking, and a special thank you to our marvellous MC – Stephen Shepherd, who did a terrific job keeping everyone entertained and making sure that the evening ran to time. The kids’ talent acts were great – superstars! This P&C event has raised just under $1,000 – a fantastic result. This is a great boost to our fundraising for new interactive TVs.

Positive Behaviour, Engaging Learners (PBEL)
PBEL is the positive behaviour management system that we have running in our school. It is a research-based program that has drawn together proven strategies into a structure that works very well in all school settings from K-12.

The training is delivered at three levels – Whole School, Classroom and Targeted Interventions. On Monday our school’s PBEL team (Maria Kortekaas, Vicki Staniforth, Jenny Richardson and myself) spent the day at the PBEL training room in Terrey Hills completing the third level. Targeted Intervention is designed to address the needs of a small minority of students, who for a variety of reasons, have difficulty in meeting our expectations of being respectful, being responsible and doing their personal best. Positive behaviour systems have replaced the old negative ‘anti-bullying’ type systems where the language involved was negative...lots of “don’t do’s”. PBEL is a positive system, based on Choice Theory, that promotes intrinsic motivation and self-regulation within each child. We are very pleased with the impact PBEL has had on our school culture and the data we have gathered shows a big reduction in incidents of inappropriate behaviours. You can help by talking to your child about PBEL at home. Ask your child, ‘Who received mini merits in your class today?’ ‘What did they do to earn them?’ This will reinforce the messages and strengthen the home school partnership. And of course give your child lots of praise when they receive mini merits!

Bev Maunder

Positive Behaviour, Engaging Learners (PBEL)
Congratulations to all students for following our school expectations and earning mini merits. Week 3 Lucky Dip winners were:

RESPECT– Peter Keil RESPONSIBILITY– Tanaz Fatema PERSONAL BEST– Finn Gatward
School Assemblies

Our whole school assemblies are held in the school hall every second Thursday at 2:25 p.m. Parents and friends in our school community are always most welcome to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 4 ASSEMBLIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 – 29 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7 – 19 Nov</td>
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<td>Week 8 – 26 Nov</td>
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<td>Week 9 – 3 Dec</td>
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<td>Week 10 – 10 Dec</td>
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**Merit Awards Term 4 Week 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KJ</th>
<th>Iris Song</th>
<th>Faith Weng</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Ariana Kawashima</td>
<td>Hixon Morton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KA</td>
<td>Olivia Bartley</td>
<td>Saraya Fong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2J</td>
<td>Gwen Bolin</td>
<td>Oliver Snyder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2LA</td>
<td>George Haigh-Tarloar</td>
<td>Marina Dantas Da Costa Cabral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2T</td>
<td>Keeley Denoon</td>
<td>Sam Attanasio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4K</td>
<td>Xander Roperti</td>
<td>Jack Westwood-Brokman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4G</td>
<td>Jake Fincher</td>
<td>Alice Bangura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6P</td>
<td>Sila Sankey</td>
<td>Tasnia Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Jackson Kira</td>
<td>Martina Almagro</td>
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**Mathletics and Reading Eggs Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Super Mathlete</th>
<th>Reader of the Week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Natalie Clifton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Tyrone Latu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sara Matin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tatiyana Smuts</td>
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**Library News - Week 4**

**NATIONAL GONSKI WEEK**

26 Oct – 1 Nov

The idea was to create a system where a student’s success at school would be determined by their ability, application and willingness to work hard rather than where they lived, what their family background was or whether they were indigenous or had a disability.

In years 5 and 6 we are exploring various aspects of poetry such as imagery, metaphor and alliteration. Last week we read *Clancy of the Overflow* by Banjo Paterson. Students drew a storyboard illustrating each of the stanzas with a picture suggested by the words in the poem. Here is a shining example from Vivian in 5/6D.

Each student has been given the task of reciting a poem of their choice either individually or in pairs. Students are practising these poems to recite at the end of term. They have been given a rubric which explains what is expected and this includes reading at the appropriate pace, adjusting for the tone of the poem (softly, loudly, sadly etc.) and speaking clearly. Each week in library time students will be given the opportunity to read and practice. Please ask your child about this activity and encourage them to read their poem to you. Copies of the poems will be made available to take home.

Annette Murphy-Haste
Teacher Librarian

**Around the Stages – Stage 3**

Stage 3 students have well and truly settled into their learning program for Term 4. They are looking at a range of mathematical concepts, with a strong focus this term on fractions and geometry.

In English we are focusing on the text ‘My Place’ by Nadia Wheatley and students are enjoying video clips from the TV series that support their learning. As we progress through the story, the students are discovering Australian history as we go back in time. We have explored Kevin Rudd’s apology to the Stolen Generation in 2008, Gough Whitlam’s policies and the rise of ‘muscle cars’ in the 1970’s and conscription during the Vietnam war in the 1960’s. This week we are looking at Greek culture and the influence of television in the 1950’s. Please talk to your children about these periods in history to further support their understanding of how all these historical events and decisions brought Australia to where we are today.

In Science we have commenced our work as ‘Change Detectives’. This ‘Mess Scene’ faced by our students last week prompted them to decide how the substances and materials in each piece of ‘evidence’ changed and whether or not the process could be reversed back to its original state. Their learning in Science this term will form a report that students will submit at the end of term.
Stage 3 students have been focusing on creative writing this past semester. We have seen an enormous improvement in the quality of their writing. We have some very talented writers. Here is an excerpt from Lucy Watt’s story, ‘The House on the Rock’.

**The House on the Rock  by Lucy Watt**

The oars splashed into the water, sending ripples out into the bay. Sal sat in a tiny, cramped, wooden rowboat. Water trickled in through the gaps in the wood. Next to Sal’s foot sat a small bucket. Every time the water rose over her ankle, the old man with hardly any teeth who was rowing the boat yanked on a fraying piece of string. The string slid over a pulley. It was attached to the bucket and when the old man pulled the string, the bucket would rise up out of the water at the bottom of the boat and deposit a minuscule amount of water over the side.

Sal sighed. What a dump! Why had she accepted this holiday? Her ‘friend’ had suggested that that they do a house swap. She had said it would be refreshing to go somewhere different for a while. She had also said it had great transport and the ‘guide’, who was actually the old man with no teeth, was friendly and chatty but so far she hadn’t heard a peep out of him.

The boat bumped against a small jetty and jolted her out of her thoughts.

“Get out.”

“So he does speak,” Sal thought. She climbed out of the boat. It rocked and rolled under her weight. She looked up. The jetty jutted out of a tall rock. Perched precariously on top was a ramshackle house...

Group photos have arrived. If you would view the photos, please ask at the school office.
The Treasure Box Project

Help us in helping others – together we can make a difference!

We’d like to thank the parents and students for their contributions to the treasure box project. So far classes have successfully collected items, but we are still not all the way there yet. Keep collecting items and as you may already know we are doing it for children who, through unfortunate circumstances, end up unexpectedly in shelters without any of their belongings.

When this happens to kids, the best place they can be every day is back at school with their teachers and friends, where everything stays the same. The treasure packs we create will give these children the school items they need.

If you have not yet made a contribution to your class collection if would be great if you could!

Annysa and Vivien, 5/6D
(with a little input from Ms Kortekaas)

Canteen News

Halloween cookies will be sold from the canteen on Friday 30 October only, at a cost of $1.50.

Brooke

Suspended Lunches – Paying it Forward 😊

We are blessed to live on the Northern Beaches, surrounded by so much natural beauty in our beaches and outdoor areas, but the cost of living can be pretty high! I know myself, some weeks I get to Friday and we have no food in the cupboard, but I always manage to rustle up $7 for the lunch special in the canteen. I feel lucky to be able to do this, but I'm sure that there are people who some days have no food and no money for lunches ...

Which is why the school community is now offering 'Suspended Lunches' to those students that need it. (This is where the idea came from http://suspendedcoffees.com/)

How it works:

See Sue or Anne-Marie in the office and donate $7 towards a Suspended Lunch. That $7 is then kept aside for a child that may not have any lunch.

If you are having one of those days when things are a bit hard, just let the office know and if there are any suspended lunches available, your child will have one.

Charlie Sedanayasa
PRESENTATION for PARENTS:

Parenting an Anxious Child

This talk is aimed at helping parents recognise and understand anxiety in their child, as well as providing guidance on how best to help.

Components of the presentation include:

- “Why anxiety?”- contributing factors in the development and maintenance of anxiety
- Recognising anxiety in children and differentiating it from non-compliant behaviours
- Setting clear rules and expectations for behaviour
- Determining when parent/child interactions are contributing to anxiety
- Helping children think more helpfully and gradually face their fears
- Generalising anxiety management strategies to new fears and worries.

WHEN: Monday 9 November 2015, 6.00 - 7.30pm
WHERE: Ku-ring-gai Gordon Library, Meeting Room 2
       Corner Park Ave & Pacific Highway, Gordon
       (free parking in Council carpark off Park Ave & Wade Lane)
COST: $15 per person (please bring cash on the night)

Please reserve your place by emailing your required number of seats to donna@approach-psychology.com.au

Please note that places are limited.