CALENDAR OF EVENTS 6 FEBRUARY - 18 FEBRUARY 2012

MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY
7:45am - 8:20am Morning Fitness (Years 2-6)
9:00am Assembly (Years 3-6) Founders’ Day
10:20am Founders’ Day Icy Poles (K-6)
3:00pm After School Sport Practices commence
7:00pm - 8:30pm Information Evening for Parents (K-2)

TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY
7:30am - 8:20am Chess Grading - New boys and Year 5 boys
10:00am Year 5 Staff/Parent Morning Tea

WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY
7:30am - 8:20am ‘Basketball Skills’ Coaching - Session 1
7:30am - 8:20am ‘Bat and Ball’ Cricket Coaching begins (Years 2-4)
8:45am - 10:30am PA Committee Meeting
1:30pm - 3:00pm Sport Trials (3-6)
7:00pm - 8:30pm Information Evening for Parents (3-6)

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY
7:40am Chess Coaching begins for Term 1 (1-2)
10:00am Kindergarten Staff/Parent Morning Tea

FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY
7:30am - 8:20am ‘Bat and Ball’ Cricket Coaching (3-6)
7:45am - 8:20am Morning Fitness (3-6)
1:30pm - 3:00pm Assembly (TR-2) (Welcome School Leaders)
10:00am Assembly (TR-2) (Welcome School Leaders)

SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY
Summer Sport Round 1

MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY
7:30am - 8:15am Chess Coaching begins for Term 1 (3-6)
7:45am - 8:20am Morning Fitness (Years 2-6)
10:00am Assembly (Years 1-6) (6T-Cowper)

TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY
10:00am Assembly (Years 3-4) (4L-Cowper)
10:30am Year 3 Staff/Parent Morning Tea
1:15pm - 1:30pm Lunchtime Concert (Years 3-6)

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY
7:30am - 8:20am Basketball Skills’ Coaching - Session 2
7:30am - 8:20am ‘Bat and Ball’ Cricket Coaching (Years 2-4)
8:45am - 10:30am PA General Meeting

8:50am House Meetings Session 1 (3-6)

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY
10:00am Transition Staff / Parent Morning Tea
1:00pm Visit to Sir Eric Woodward School

FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY
7:45am - 8:20am Morning Fitness (Years 2-6)
7:30am - 8:20am ‘Bat and Ball’ Cricket Coaching (5-6)
10:00am Assembly (T-2) (Library - Carpe Diem)
1:00pm Knox Invitational Swimming Carnival
3:00pm Newsletter

SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY
Summer Sport Round 2

2012 Term Dates
Monday 30 January – Orientation Day (New boys)
Term 1 Tuesday 31 January – Thursday 5 April
Term II Thursday 26 April – Tuesday 26 June
Term III Thursday 19 July – Friday 14 September
Term IV Monday 8 October – Tuesday 4 December (Presentation Day)

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Parents

I warmly welcome all members of the School community to the new year. On Monday all new boys and their parents attended an assembly to welcome them to the School, with Carpe Diem being presented to boys in Years 3-6 the following day. Boys in Years 1 and 2 will receive theirs in the near future.

As well as new boys we welcome Mr Bulger, Form Master of 6B, Miss Ford of 5F, Mr Palethorpe of 5P, Mr Brakell of 3B and Mrs Rogut of TR. Mrs Schwartz joins us in the office as Enrolments Secretary and Mrs Lewis as Library Assistant. We also welcome Mrs Earl back to the School and Mrs Hardwick to the position of Librarian and Mrs Blackman to that of the Art/Science Assistant. Mrs Flaks this year returns to the role of Reading Tutor.

Parent Information Sessions will take place next week, for Years K-2 on Monday 6 February and for Years 3-6 on Wednesday 8 February; both sessions commence at 7:00pm in the Hall. Morning Teas are currently being hosted by the Parents Association for each grade, with those for parents of Year 5 and Kindergarten boys to be held next week. Later in the month I look forward to meeting all parents at the annual Cocktail Party, to be held on Saturday 25 February.

Across the School there is a ‘no hat no play’ policy. All boys K-6 need their hats for break times, PE lessons and sport, and sit in a shaded area if they are without them. For K-2 boys the brimmed grey hat is regulation, boys in Years 3-6 may choose to wear the black cap.

Boys have settled in well to their new classes and routines. D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) is now an established part of each school day and I recommend that reading also becomes part of the routine at home. Reading with your children is not only thoroughly enjoyable; no other single activity will better strengthen comprehension, expand vocabulary and generally enrich learning.

On Wednesday 7 March, 1:00pm - 2:30pm I invite all parents to attend a Reading Information Session to learn about how to support the early reader and encourage all boys to develop their skills and maintain enthusiasm for reading.

I wish boys well in their sports trials which, weather permitting, should be completed in readiness for the first round of summer sport on Saturday 11 February.

HEADMASTER’S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following boys who have earned Headmaster’s Awards.

Name           Class              Name               Class
M Lau 4L       J Thong 6L
M Dalgleish 4L A MacNamara 4L
O Eichmann 4B  E Pridgen 6L
E Hume 1B      E Prigden 6L
K Ganeshalingham 4L B Sheng 5P
J Ong 5P       W Giles 6L
R Jiang 5P     H Severn 6T
N Do 6L        E Pridgen 6L
E Lowe 6B

FROM THE SENIOR MASTER

Welcome to the new school year I have outlined a large amount of important information for parents below. I would appreciate your co-operation with these items.

Medical forms (K-6) should be returned to Form Masters by Monday 6 February. Action Plans for boys requiring EpiPens will be sent home shortly. All asthma puffers should be clearly labelled and handed in to your son’s Form Master, all other medication including EpiPens should be handed in to the School Office. No medication should be in the boys’ school bags.

Traffic in Ayres Road

Please follow all traffic and parking signs around the school, and drive with consideration for other drivers and residents at all times. Once you are in Ayres Road please feel free to turn right into the K-2 driveway if the way is clear. If you are unable to turn in immediately because it is full, or traffic is banking up behind you, you have to drive on down the road and use the turning circle past the 3-6 rooms and come back up Ayres Road. If the K-2 driveway is still blocked then it is fine to queue, indicating left, until there is room to enter the driveway.

Please do not:
Do a ‘U’ turn anywhere in Ayres Road or use the driveways to turn around at any time.

Drop your boys off in the Bus Turning Circle
Double park or park across driveways

FROM THE TEACHER LIBRARIAN

I have been delighted to see so many familiar faces in the library this week. The boys have been enthusiastic about the books they have read during the holidays.

One of the most important goals of the School Library this year will be to help the boys develop a love of reading, so that it becomes a lifelong habit. Our School Library is a wonderful place to foster a love of reading in our boys. The Scholastic Book Club will not be offered this year. Consequently, I encourage the boys to be borrowing from our School Library, their local library or purchasing books from recognised books stores where a wider variety of quality books are available.

Parents are welcome to come to the Library before or after school to read and borrow with their boys. I look forward to seeing many of you during the year.

Mrs S J Hardwick

Editor:
Mr D W Fraser

Volume 22 Number 1

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL St Ives Preparatory School
Wednesday and Friday 1:30-3:00pm next week. All boys are asked to wear their Sports Uniform to School on both days.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE
I would like to warmly welcome all families to the start of a new year. It gives me great pleasure to be taking on the responsibilities of Director of Pastoral Care for 2012. Some of the key areas that will be of focus for 2012 will include:

• Helping further develop and support leadership opportunities for Year 6
• Promoting Sydney Grammar School’s core values of respect, cooperation and friendship

‘Bat and Ball’
Boys from Years 2-6 are invited to join Ms Alimpic and other staff members for morning fitness sessions throughout Term 1. Tuesdays 3.00 to 3.45pm. Bambini violins (Transition and Year 1) will rehearse in the K-2 Music Room with Miss Murray. Primary violinists will rehearse with Mr Smith. Parents please collect your sons from these rooms at 3.45pm.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES
Parere Reading Information Session
Every year we hold a Parent Information Session on Reading. We believe that this is a most important opportunity to share parents the variety of approaches we use to assist boys learn to read, understand what they are reading and then appreciate the world of literature and knowledge, found within the pages of a book. As boys grow and change, so do their reading habits and needs. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 7 March from 1:00-2:30pm in the Hall. In the next newsletter I will write about the specifics of what we will cover.

FROM THE MUSIC MASTER
Instrumental lessons commence Monday 6 February (Week 2).

Ensembles Week 3
Ensemble rehearsals commence in Week 3. All morning ensembles, including choirs, commence at 7.30am, however, please always arrive at 7.25am.

School Choir
All interested boys meet Mrs Fane in the Hall 7.30am Friday Week 3

Bands: Auditions Wednesday 8 February (Week 2) with Dr Busan - 7.30am in the Hall

Primary String Ensembles: Provisional lists will be up on Music Department windows in Week 2.

Bambini and Pennington Strings
Tuesdays 3.00 to 3.45pm. Bambini violins (Transition and Year 1) will rehearse in the K-2 Music Room with Miss Murray. Pennington violins (Year 2) will be in the Rehearsal Room with Mr Vickers. All cellists rehearse in the Hall with Mr Smith. Parents please collect your sons from these rooms at 3.45pm.

St Ives Singers
St Ives Singers is open to boys in Years 5 and 6 by audition. Interested boys should meet Mr Plant in the Music Room at 7.30am on Thursday 9 February (Week 2) to audition Vocal Scholars will commence rehearsals Week 3.

Wanted! Keen Primary boys to learn to play clarinet, flute or oboe. Please see Mr Smith.

Second Hand Instruments for Sale
As a service to parents wishing to buy or sell a second hand musical instrument, a notice will be on display outside the Music Office for the first few weeks of Term 1 enabling parents to communicate with each other directly. Please contact the Music Office with the make of instrument and the asking price if you have one to sell.

FROM THE SPORTS MASTER
Re-scheduled Sports Trials
Due to the wet weather Sports Trials will now be held on Wednesday and Friday 1:30-3:00pm next week. All boys are asked to wear their Sports Uniform to School on both days.

Saturday Morning Sport
The summer season starts on Saturday 11 February and continues each Saturday until 17 March. Follow the link to Fixture List. Please ring the Wet Weather number after 7.60am if there is any doubt about sport proceeding due to poor weather. The messages may be updated if your son is playing in a later game.

After School Sport Sessions
are conducted from 3:00-4:00pm and start on Monday 6 February. Boys should be picked up in Mawson Street or Ayres Road. Any late boys will be sent to After School Care.

Monday: Year 3 & 4 Cricket
Tuesday: Year 5 Cricket, Archery, Group 1
Basketball C & D
Wednesday: Year 6 Cricket, Archery, Group 2
Basketball A & B, Tennis A & B, Softball
Thursday: No After School Sport
Friday: Years 5 Cricket Club (finishing 4:30pm)

Extra Activities
Tennis lessons; please ring Armon d’Jani on 0418 242 626
Fencing lessons (Yrs 5 & 6), start Tuesday 7th February, 7.30am in the Hall
Swim lessons/squads (All ages, including adults), please ring Larissa on 9403 3005
Tae Kwon Do lessons; please ring Mr Wylie on 0410 573 473
The week commencing Monday 12 March will be the final week for After School Sport practice for Summer Sport. After School Sport for Winter starts Monday 19 March. Please ring the Wet Weather number after 1:45pm to check for changes to sporting arrangements -99908472

Before School Sport Sessions
‘Bat and Ball’
Boys from Years 3-6 are invited to join morning ‘Bat and Ball’ skills coaching sessions for cricket. They will be conducted from 7.30am - 8.20am on the Lower Field on Wednesdays for Years 2.5 & 4 and Fridays for Years 5 & 6. Boys should wear their School uniform without a tie and sports shoes. First sessions commence on Wednesday 8 February and Friday 10 February.

‘Morning Fitness’
Boys from Years 2-6 are invited to join Ms Alimpic and other staff members for morning fitness sessions throughout Term 1. Sessions will take place on the Basketball Court each Monday and Friday from 7.45am - 8:20am. First sessions commence on Monday 6 February.

Swimming
Learn to swim, fitness and squash training classes will be held in the pool each morning during Term 1. Please contact Coach Ms Bychenkov on 9903 3065 or 0400 670 870 to enrol.

Mr R C Baker