During September, almost 100 boys will bring to life the story of The Pirates of Penzance Junior. Written by Gilbert and Sullivan, this musical tells the story of Frederic, apprenticed accidentally to the Pirate King, leader of the Pirates of Penzance. As his 21st birthday approaches, Frederick longs to be free and rid the seas of the pirate ruffians. When Frederic meets the beautiful Mabel and decides to marry her, complications arise as the Pirate King informs Frederic that since he was born on the last day of February, in a Leap Year, his 21st birthday won’t roll around for some time yet, and he still owes the King some years of raiding on the high seas. There is plenty of plundering and clashing of swords as the local constabulary strives to protect the mainland.

In true Grammar style this musical will reinvent the tale with an amazing and innovative set, lighting and costume design. The fantastic score of well-known and rousing music in the capable hands of the Grammar Music Department will be the icing on the pirate cake.

Ms Wheatley, Mrs Fane and all the cast, musicians and crew have been working hard over the last two terms to bring this exciting tale to life and it will be a wonderful experience for boys of all ages to enjoy.

**Tickets**

Tickets go on sale this Friday 10 August. You will need to book seats for the Musical online. The show opens on Friday 7 September at 7:00 pm and we have a second performance on Saturday 8 September at 4:00 pm.

The procedure for booking is as follows: Parents can either visit the Quick Links page on the St Ives page of the School’s website and follow the link to the Trybooking website, OR, go directly to the Trybooking website at http://www.trybooking.com/30956. When there, follow the prompts to book and print tickets which will have been forwarded to your email address. The tickets cost $12 for adults and $6 for children or Family (2A & 2C) for $30. Tickets will then need to be brought to the appropriate performance and handed to our Front of House staff. It is General Admission - no set seats.

Those unable to access the Internet, may contact the School office or email stives@sydgram.nsw.edu.au to reserve tickets.

**Billetting families needed**

Next term, our School is pleased to be hosting boys from the King’s School in Auckland, New Zealand. We are still looking for Grammar families to billet boys in pairs for 3 nights from Sunday 2 to Tuesday 4 September. Please contact the Music Office to register your interest as soon as possible. As the boys from Auckland are aged 11-13, offers from families with a boys in Years 5 or 6 would be the most appropriate.

**Newsletter**

The fortnightly Newsletter is always uploaded to the School’s website (St Ives page - Publications).

Mr I R Stephens

**From the Director of Infants**

The K-2 boys have had an exciting two weeks. They have all worked well and played beautifully in the playground.

This year, our Book Week festivities will conclude with a Book Parade during our Assembly on Friday 24 August. The boys can choose an appropriate book character to dress up as. All boys will come to school wearing their full school uniform and change into their costume before our Assembly. We encourage the boys to make their own simple costume for our Book Parade.

Your son’s Message Book/Diary is a very important link between home and school. Please write to your son’s Form Master should you have any concerns about his academic progress or social development.

Please remind your son to wear his school jumper or fleece to school each day. Boys need to wear their jumper or fleece in the playground and in the School Hall.

Over the last two weeks, the following boys have successfully implemented the Social Skill of the Week - ‘Sharing Feelings and Differences’ or ‘Playing with Someone who is Annoying You’:
their efforts and improvements in their team and individual skills; the coaches for their enthusiasm and commitment; the parents for their wonderful support of their boys and parents running the Year 6 BBQ. Well done and thank you!

Athletic Season
Boys who would like to try out for the School Athletic Team, improve their running skills or just want to have a run, training will be held on the ovals each Monday and Tuesday over the next two weeks. We are looking forward to our House and Invitational Athletic Carnivals later this month.

Mr R C Baker

From the chess master
Primary Chess Club Years 3-6
Chess Club continues to run smoothly with over 100 boys committed to attending their allocated morning for chess matches and instruction by specialist coaches.

On the last day of Term 2 our A team consisting of Henry Xu, Shadab Basit, Michael Ni and Kevin Tong represented the School in the 2012 Scots Chess Challenge. The A team came equal first with Neutral Bay Public School but were relegated to 2nd place on a tie break. Well done boys!

Our A team has also advanced to the finals of the interschool competition after winning the Met North Region: Upper North Shore Zone. They will now play The Northern Beaches Homeschool team in a knockout competition with the first match to be played during the day here at school next Wednesday 15 August. The results of our other teams have yet to be finalised.

This term the School Chess Competition has also commenced. All boys involved in this competition have been notified. The Senior Division is played on Monday mornings at 7:30am in the Year 3 Activity Room and the Junior Division is played on Tuesday mornings also in the Year 3 Activity Room at 7:30am. Boys are to arrive at 7:25am so the games can start promptly. Thank you.

Mrs S E Heffernan

From the music master
AMEB
Most boys will have by now brought home their letter advising date and time of their examination. Rehearsals with our accompanists have commenced and these details are also contained in the letter. It is very important that your son brings his piano accompaniment music with him and does not rely on using music from the Music Department.
Scale and Aural Sessions - Weeks 5 & 6
These classes are held for boys who learn their instrument at school and who are enrolled in the upcoming AMEB examinations. Attendance is voluntary but recommended. Aural sessions for all entrants in Years 3-5 will take place during choir periods. Year 6 will have theirs on Friday at recess in the Ensemble Room. Scale classes (for string players only) will be as follows at lunchtime on Wednesdays: Grades 1, 2 and 3 in the K-2 Music Room; Grades 4 & 5 in the Rehearsal Room. Boys will need their instrument at school. Scales will also be held at recess and the schedule is on display on the Music Office window: Monday – Grades 1 & 2; Tuesday – Grades 3 & 4; Wednesday – Grades 4 & 5.

Music lessons
If your son is granted leave from school on his music lesson day, please advise the Music Department beforehand. If your son has an early morning lesson time and is sick on the day, it would be appreciated if you could send a text message to his tutor.

From the Library
Our Annual Book Fair will be held at the School in Week 6. Join us in celebrating Children’s Book Week and come to the Hall on Thursday 23 August from 3:00pm – 7:00pm or during the day on Friday 24 August from 8:00am – 3:00pm. All classes will have the opportunity to preview the Fair before sales open, so your sons will be familiar with the stock available.

Shearer’s Bookshop from Leichhardt will be operating the book store and will have credit card and eftpos facilities on site. As the School receives a commission on sales, this is an excellent occasion to raise funds for library books for our Library. Alternatively, you may choose to donate a book to our Library from the ‘Parent Donated Book Table.’ I hope many families are able to come to our Book Fair.

There was much excitement in the Library last week as Francis hosted their ‘One-Minute Talks’. Thank you to our guests from Francis House - Mrs Fraser, Mr Brown, William Hobkirk, Elliot Metcalf and Jason Wong who spoke about their favourite books. Francis House Committee provided delicious cupcakes which concluded the event. Next term, Healey House will host their ‘One-Minute Talks’.

Next week the Library will host the authors Mark Greenwood, Alesha Darlison and Chris Morphew as part of Book Week.

Perform! productions will present an interactive musical based the Book Week Theme ‘...and the winner is...’ to all boys at the School.

Many boys have formed teams of four and signed up to our Morris Gleitzman Readers’ Cup Competition. These boys in Years 4 to 6 are reading the first chapter of six selected books by Morris Gleitzman. The quiz will be held on Monday 27 August and a surprise guest will be our entertaining Quiz Master. Good luck teams!

Mrs S J Hardwick

From the Drama Master
As you will have read in Mr Stephen’s column earlier in this Newsletter, the tickets for The Pirates of Penzance Junior go on sale today, Friday 10 August. The procedure for booking tickets has been outlined in detail on page 1.

Rehearsal Schedule update Weeks 5 and 6

Week 5
Monday 13 August 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Run Act 1
All cast members to attend
Police and Sergeant - dancing

Thursday 16 August 3:00pm – 4:30pm
All cast members to attend

Week 6
Monday 20 August 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Run Act 1
All cast members to attend
Police and Sergeant - dancing

Thursday 23 August 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Run Act 2
All cast members to attend

Saturday 25 August 1:00pm – 5:00pm
Run show + bows
All cast and the backstage crew to attend
Show Orchestra – all boys are required for this afternoon rehearsal

If you have any questions about rehearsals or need to contact me please email me at school on mfw@sydgram.nsw.edu.au. If you have any music related questions please email Mrs Fane on jmf@sydgram.nsw.edu.au

Ms M F Wheatley
### Calendar of Events 13 August - 25 August 2012

#### MONDAY 13 AUGUST
- **10:00am** Assembly (5-6) (5F - Cowper)
- **11:15am - 12:15pm** Year 5 Author Visit - Mark Greenwood
- **3:00pm - 4:00pm** Athletics Team Practice for Years 3-6
- **3:00pm - 4:30pm** ‘The Pirates of Penzance Junior’ - Rehearsal

#### TUESDAY 14 AUGUST
- **9:00am - 10:00am** ICAS Mathematics Competition (Years 3-6)
- **10:00am** Assembly (3-4) (3D Cowper)
- **11:35am** Hansel & Gretel (Oz Opera) 3-4
- **1:15pm - 1:30pm** Lunchtime Concert
- **1:45pm** Hansel & Gretel (Oz Opera) 5-6
- **1:45pm - 2:45pm** K-1 Author Visit - Aleesha Darlison
- **3:00pm - 4:00pm** Athletics Team Practice for Years 3-6

#### WEDNESDAY 15 AUGUST
- **9:00am - 3:00pm** K-6 Book Week Performer
- **9:00am** PA Committee Meeting
- **12:45pm** Peer Support Groups BBQ
- **7:00pm - 8:30pm** Year 6 Moving into High School Information Evening

#### THURSDAY 16 AUGUST
- **1:00pm - 1:30pm** PA Special Food Day (Indian Curry Day)
- **3:00pm - 4:30pm** ‘The Pirates of Penzance Junior’ - Rehearsal

#### FRIDAY 17 AUGUST
- **9:30am - 10:30am** Year 6 Author Visit - Chris Morphem
- **10:00am** Assembly (T-2) (2E SWEET)
- **11:00am - 12:00pm** Year 6 Author Visit - Chris Morphem
- **12:45 - 2:30pm** IPSHA Debating Round 6 v Newington
- **3:30pm** AMEB Twilight Concert 1

#### SATURDAY 18 AUGUST
- **4:00pm - 6:00pm** PA Zumba Pizza Party
- **3:00pm - 4:30pm** ‘The Pirates of Penzance Junior’ - Rehearsal

#### MONDAY 20 AUGUST
- **3:00pm - 4:30pm** Book Week No 3-6 Assemblies this week

#### TUESDAY 21 AUGUST
- **1:15 pm - 1:30pm** Lunchtime Concert

#### WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST
- **8:55am - 10:30am** Maths Olympiad IV (Year 6)
- **9:00am - 2:50pm** Book Fair Previews (Classes)
- **1:00pm - 2:50pm** Athletics Field Events (Years 3 & 4)

#### THURSDAY 23 AUGUST
- **8:45am - 3:00pm** Year 6 Visit to College St & Holocaust Museum
- **9:00am** Scientist-in-Residence (Year 1)
- **9:00am - 2:50pm** Book Fair Previews (Classes)
- **3:00pm - 4:30pm** ‘The Pirates of Penzance Junior’ - Rehearsal
- **3:00pm - 7:00pm** Book Fair Sales

#### FRIDAY 24 AUGUST
- **8:00am - 3:30pm** Book Fair Sales
- **1:05pm - 2:50pm** Athletics Field Events (Years 5 & 6)
- **3:00pm** Newsletter
- **3:30pm** AMEB Twilight Concert 2

#### SATURDAY 25 AUGUST
- **1:00pm - 5:00pm** Barker Invitation Athletics Carnival

**From the Italian Master**

The Ferragosto Italian Street Festival will be held on Sunday 12 August on Great North Road, Five Dock, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Ferragosto is named after the annual Italian celebration of Assumption Day on August 15. In Italy it is mid summer, children are on holidays and most people have a day off work to be with their families. The festival has been running in Sydney for 15 years and is one of our largest Italian cultural events. There will be a great range of entertainment, food, demonstrations, displays and all things Italian. The programme can be found at [http://www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/home.html](http://www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/home.html).

Go to ‘What’s on’ and look for Ferragosto. The Nicholson Museum, at Sydney University, houses the largest collection of antiquities in Australia and is a wonderful place for those interested in ancient civilisations. At the moment, the museum is host to the largest ever model of the Roman Colosseum, constructed from more than 200,000 Lego bricks by architect and Lego Certified Professional, Ryan ‘Vitruvius’ McNaught, and a team of volunteers. The exhibition also includes many interesting artefacts of ancient Roman life. Go to the museum’s website for opening hours. Buona festa!

Mrs J A Matheson