From the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

Last Monday morning the School came together for a K-6 Assembly. It was an opportunity to talk to the boys about my retirement, tell them how much I have enjoyed being part of Sydney Grammar School and to introduce Mr Stephens. On behalf of the St Ives community I welcomed Mr Stephens and presented him with a copy of *Carpe Diem*, as well as introducing him to ‘Spare Bear’ who lives in my office. Mr Stephens spoke to the boys and told them how much he is looking forward to joining St Ives next term and getting to know them.

This week Year 3 boys visited College Street, Edgecliff and Weigall as part of their exploration of the Grammar Community. At College Street they heard from a former St Ives boy now in First Form and met Year 3 boys at Edgecliff, who will in turn visit them at St Ives later in the year.

It has been an exciting week for boys in Transition. On Monday morning those in Transition E discovered a red locomotive had been installed in their classroom. The train is an inspiring space for creative play and reading and I thank the Parents Association for their generosity in funding the project. Friday saw both Transition classes dressed in pirate costumes, as they presented songs, their ships and maps before enjoying a pirate picnic.

After almost twenty four years at the School and seven as Headmaster, this is my final newsletter. As I leave Grammar I feel privileged to have been a part of this wonderful school and take a wealth of precious memories with me. I wish all boys and their families a restful and relaxing holiday and all future happiness.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M Esteban</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>L Baker</td>
<td>5P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Ainsworth</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>P Hobkirk</td>
<td>5P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Ringrose</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>A Chedid</td>
<td>5P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Irving</td>
<td>5F</td>
<td>M Renard</td>
<td>5F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Bennett</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>J Alderson</td>
<td>5A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y Tillekeratne</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>B Matthews</td>
<td>4S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S Barit</td>
<td>6T</td>
<td>J Huynh</td>
<td>3D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Campbell</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>L Tan</td>
<td>4L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A MacNamara</td>
<td>4L</td>
<td>J Armitage</td>
<td>6B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Lau</td>
<td>6B</td>
<td>L Blair</td>
<td>3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F McLoughlin</td>
<td>5P</td>
<td>A Guo</td>
<td>3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Wilson</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>T Heathcote</td>
<td>4L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs R J Lee

From the Assistant to Dr Vallance

Please note that the Dawkins lecture is now completely SOLD OUT. Tickets have been processed in the order that they were received. Any family that has ordered tickets and not yet received them has been placed on the waiting list. If seats become available I will release them as they come next week. If this extends into the holiday period, I will call you at home and tickets will be kept in your name at the door. If you do not hear from me, that means no tickets were released and I will refund your order at the start of term 2.

Mrs R M Fin

From the Senior Master

Arrangements for the End of Term 1

Next Thursday, April 5, is the last day of term and a half-day for boys. School ends at 11:30am for Kindergarten, 11:45am for Transition and at 12:00pm for Years 1-6. Boys are to be picked up in the usual manner at these times. Please be patient and considerate of other drivers and buses when using Ayres Road at this time as it will be busier than normal.

There is no After-School Care operating on the last day.

Forest Coachlines buses will operate as normal, leaving at 12:15pm. There is no Shorelink bus for the day.

Boys will return to school on Thursday 26 April in their Winter school uniform.

Mr D W Fraser

From the Director of Pastoral Care

The SRC boys from Years 2-6 discussed a variety of international charities in their meeting a number of weeks ago and it has been decided that World Vision will be our chosen charity for 2012. We look forward to sharing ideas at our next SRC meeting as to how we will best fund raise for World Vision.

I would like to wish all the boys in Year 6 the very best of luck in their Peer Support training in Week 10. The boys in Year 6 will participate in an intensive two days of training (under our theme of Promoting Harmony), followed by a leadership workshop run by an outside specialist company called Rising Generations in Term 2. Peer Support sessions for Years 3 to 6 will start in Week 3 of Term 2.
Recently, it was tremendous to witness the boys in Years 4 and 6 participating so enthusiastically and collaboratively at our recent camp to Point Wollstoncroft. All boys should be proud of the way they positively upheld the School code of Respect, Co-operation and Friendship – an excellent starter for the Peer Support Programme! I wish all families a restful and well deserved break over Easter.

Mr M J Tait

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF INFANTS

Congratulations to all the boys who took part in the Swimming Carnival this term and a very special thank you to all the staff who assisted on the day. The boys displayed great sportsmanship and an enormous amount of pride in their House. Well done everyone!

Please note, there will be no T - 2 Assembly on Friday, 27 April 2012 (Term 2, Week 1).

Ms L A Dorn

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Children and Sleep – Part III

How much sleep do children need? Sleep requirements differ from one person to the next depending on age, physical activity levels, general health and other individual factors. In general:

- Primary school children – need about 9-10 hours. Studies show that increasing your child’s sleep by as little as half an hour can dramatically improve school performance.
- Teenagers – need about nine to 10 hours too. Teenagers have an increased sleep requirement at the time when social engagements and peer pressure cause a reduction in sleep time.

Interesting fact #3: Most of what scientists know about sleep they’ve learned in the past 25 years.

Cybersafety Seminar

This week, we hosted a presentation from Chris Webster, a leading young voice against cyberbullying and the use and abuse of social networking sites. His presentation was an excellent outline of how to be cybersmart and cybersafe. In the Office I have put copies of the handouts, if you were unable to attend and would like more information. In each week’s newsletter next term I will present a ‘cybersmart’ tip. As a parent, you have an important role to play in helping educate and guide your child in their online experiences. I recommend you take five minutes to discuss this as a family and set family expectations for appropriate online behaviour. Remember that even when children seem to have good technical knowledge, their online behaviour still requires parental monitoring and guidance.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Programme for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be held in May for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. This programme will assess the literacy and numeracy proficiency of students in all Australian schools. The results of the test will provide information to schools about what each child can do and will be used to support teaching programmes. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the agreed national benchmarks. The tests will be conducted across Australia on the same days for all students according to the following timetable:

- Tuesday 15 May: Language Conventions and Writing
- Wednesday 16 May: Reading
- Thursday 17 May: Numeracy

Parents are expected to receive their boy’s results around the middle of September.

Mrs C J Merrick

FROM THE MUSIC MASTER

Farewell Concert for Mrs Lee – 6:00 to 7:00pm Wednesday 4 April

All parents are invited to attend this wonderful event. Boys (Years 3-6) must be at school by 5:30pm please.

Seating is limited so please be aware there may be standing room only. K-2 boys must be supervised at all times. Mawson Street gates will be open. If your son is in Years 3-6 and did not bring home a letter this week, please contact the Music Department.

School Orchestra

Boys will need their instruments for rehearsals on Tuesday (8.15am) and Wednesday (during day). Other ensembles rehearse as usual.

AMEB

Boys intending to sit for an AMEB examination in Term 3 should aim to have all their technical work known by the end of these holidays. Parents please use the record book to check with tutors regarding AMEB entry.

Contacting the Music Department

Please direct ALL music enquiries to Mr Smith via the Main Office during Week 10 and for the first few weeks of Term 2 as Mrs Templeton will be taking long service leave.

Music Term 2

Lessons and ensemble rehearsals recommence in Week 1.

Hired Instruments

Please check that your son’s name and current class is clearly written in the key tag. Also, a reminder that if anything goes wrong with a hired instrument, it should be brought in to the Music Office. Please do not try to fix it yourself or take it to a repairer.

Mr M S Smith

FROM THE SPORTS MASTER

CIS Swimming

We congratulate Gabriel Gorgas (Year 4) and Justin Lee (Year 5), for qualifying for the CIS Swim Team. They will swim at the State Championships early next month. Gabriel won 2 silver medals at the CIS Carnival; U.10, 50m Freestyle and Backstroke. Justin came 3rd, U.11 Backstroke, 2nd in the All Age 100m Freestyle and 1st in U.11 50m Freestyle, Breaststroke and Butterfly. All in meet records! Incredible!
IPSRA Cross Country
Good luck to all Team Members for tomorrow's run at The Kings School. The 'Walk the Course' takes place at 8:15am. Wear your Grammar track suit over your Sport Uniform. Mr Baker will give you an Athletic singlet to wear for the race.

Winter Sport
The Sport Draw for this Winter accompanies this Newsletter. All details can also be found on the School's website www.sydgram.nsw.edu.au Our teams are taking shape and we are looking forward to the competition starting next term. Please note that we come back to School on Thursday April 26, and our first round is on Saturday April 28. If the boys could continue some training through the holidays would see them return fit and ready to go.

Ball and Boy starts up in earnest next Term;
• Years 1-4 Football, Wednesdays 7:30-8:20.
  Boys should put their boots (or runners) and shin guards on.
• Years 5 & 6 Football, Fridays 7:30-8:20
• Years 1-6 Rugby, Fridays 7:30-8:20am

Mr R C Baker

FROM THE LIBRARY
Boys continue to be enthusiastic borrowers and users of the Library. This last week of term will see every boy taking home a bundle of Library books for holiday reading. Boys in Years 3 to 6 will have at least one Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) book. Go to https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home for further information on the PRC. You may be interested to visit http://www.love2read.org.au/dev/index for more information on the National Year of Reading 2012. If you run out of books to read these holidays please visit your local public library where there are holiday programmes available.

On Monday next week, the author Tristan Bancks will visit Year 5 and spend time collaborating with the boys to create short stories in his one-day workshop.

DEBATING: Debating training will continue on Monday mornings at 7.45am in the Library.

Mrs S J Hardwick

FROM THE CHESS CO-ORDINATOR
Chess teams are being finalised for the Inter Schools Chess Competition which will commence in Term 2. Boys selected will be notified next week. Due to school finishing on Thursday 5 April at 12pm we will be able continue Chess Club next week. The Monday to Thursday boys will have their normal morning lessons and the Friday boys will have a lesson the first week back next term on Friday 27 April. Enjoy the holidays and perhaps challenge members of your families or friends to be ready for our inter school competition next term.

Mrs S E Heffernan

FROM THE ITALIAN MASTER
Last Monday, Years 5 and 6 were entertained by Dennis Murphy and his Italian puppet show ‘La sorella di Arlecchino’ (‘Sister Act’). The story uses disguise and trickery to produce a hilarious comedy with lots of confusion, fun and audience participation. The ‘burattini’ (hand puppets) are based on the traditional masked characters of the ‘commedia dell’arte’, a very old form of improvised Italian street theatre dating from the 15th century. After showing us some reproductions of the original masks (‘maschere’), we met Alrecchino, Pantalone, Capitano and Brighella. The boys asked some very interesting questions and learned about the development of comedy. Dennis Murphy will be performing another of his puppet shows at the Art Gallery of NSW during the school holidays. I would like to acknowledge Theo Shephard (5A) for the beautiful model he built of a gondola on the Canal Grande in Venezia. Buona Pasqua e buone vacanze!

Mrs J A Matheson

FROM THE DRAMA MASTER
YEAR 3 PERFORMANCES
This week the Year 3 boys presented their readers theatre performance: The Legend of Lightning Larry to the Infants boys. I was most impressed with the boys confidence, enthusiasm and team work. Well done boys!! A big thank you to Ms Duckmant, Mr Mauder, Mr Brakell and the parents of Year 3 for supporting this creative venture and for helping the boys with their characters, costumes and lines.

YEAR 6 PERFORMANCES IN TERM 2
Year 6 boys have been very busy rehearsing for next term’s performances. They will be presenting the play Willy Waxman during Week 5 of Term 2. The boys have been busy developing their characters and learning more about stagecraft as we rehearse the play each week. The boys will be expected to learn her lines and organise their costumes during the holidays, and parental guidance would be appreciated. Already some notable performances are emerging!

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE JUNIOR
This year our school production is The Pirates of Penzance Junior to be presented at school on the 7 and 8 September. Come and be part of the adventure!

Next week we launch the show and an audition pack will be sent home with Year 5 and 6 boys. Auditions will take place on Monday 7 May (Week 3, Term 2) from 12.45pm – 4.30pm approx in the Drama Studio. Please note, if you wish to audition for the show, you must fill in and return the audition form to the School office by 3pm, Monday 30 April (Week 2, Term 2).

Mrs Fane, Mrs Grelis and I look forward to seeing you at the auditions. Break a leg!!

Ms M F Wheatley
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 31 MARCH – 28 APRIL 2012

SATURDAY 31 MARCH
IPSHA Cross Country Carnival

MONDAY 2 APRIL
10:00am  Assembly (5-6)
11:00am - 3:00pm  Peer Support Training for Years 6 (1)

TUESDAY 3 APRIL
9:00am - 3:00pm  Peer Support Training for Years 6 (2)
10:00am  Assembly (3-4)
1:15pm - 1:30pm  Lunchtime Concert

WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL
12:30pm - 2:45pm  Freestyle Football Demonstrations (Years 5 & 6 then Years 3 & 4)
6:00pm  Farewell concert for Mrs Lee - all welcome

THURSDAY 5 APRIL
10:35pm  End of Term Icy Poles given to Winning Houses
11:00am  Final Assembly (3-6)
12:00pm  Term 1 ends

MONDAY 16 APRIL
9:00am - 12:00noon  Holiday Football camp at Weigall

TUESDAY 17 APRIL
9:00am - 12:00noon  Holiday Football camp at Weigall

THURSDAY 26 APRIL
8:40am  Term 2 begins (Winter Uniform)
10:00am  Assembly (3-6)

FRIDAY 27 APRIL
7:30am - 8:20am  Ball & Boy commences Football (5 & 6) / Rugby (1-6)
3:00pm  No T-2 Assembly this Week Newsletter

SATURDAY 28 APRIL
Winter Sport Round 1

2012 Term Dates
Term 1  Tuesday 31 January – Thursday 5 April
Term 11  Thursday 26 April – Tuesday 26 June
Term III  Thursday 19 July – Friday 14 September
Term IV  Monday 8 October – Tuesday 4 December (Presentation Day)