FROM THE HEADMASTER

Welcome to the 2014 School year. I hope that all members of our School community enjoyed a restful break and are looking forward to a busy and productive year ahead. All the new boys have settled in well and are quickly and happily adjusting to their new environment. We also welcome some new masters to Grammar; Anika Forell as Form Master of 2F; Samuel Woodward of KW and Alastair Slade of SS. Geraldine Chapman will be teaching Drama this term as Melanie Wheatley takes leave and Alison Hunter will be teaching music to Years 3 to 6 as Jacqui Fane also takes leave for the term.

There is always a great deal of information to digest at the beginning of each year and I encourage you to look closely at each email sent to you for relevant information. Parent Information Evenings will take place next week. The P-2 Information Evening will be held this Monday 3 February at 7:00pm, commencing in the Hall. The 3-6 Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 5 February also at 7:00pm in the Hall. This is an important function to attend. You will meet your son’s Form Master and begin to establish the right expectations for your son’s academic and pastoral school year.

The grade morning teas are currently being hosted by the Parents’ Association and are an excellent way to meet new parents and make connections in the School community. The Annual Cocktail Party will be held on Saturday 22 February in the Hall. Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held during this term. Each Form Master will organise these interviews at different times in the term and information concerning schedules will be sent home via email. In the meantime, masters will always contact parents if there is a concern and parents are always encouraged to organise an appointment with their son’s Form Master if the need arises. The School Diary is the best avenue to communicate with the School for boys in Years 1-6 and the Message Book for boys in Preschool and Kindergarten. Parent contact details for each grade will be sent out to families via email next week. If you wish details to be withheld, please contact the Office by next Tuesday 4 February. These lists are being provided solely to facilitate friendly, school-related contact between parents and they must not be used for any other purpose. In particular, they must not be used in connection with business activity of any kind or to pursue private grievances.

Mr I Stephens

FROM THE SENIOR MASTER

Medical Forms (P-6)
Next Monday your son’s Medical Information from the School’s database will come in his bag. This form will need checking, amending if necessary in red pen and signing. Please return this form to the office no later than Wednesday 5 February.

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 P-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 need to drive on down the road and use the turning circle past the 3-6 rooms and come back up Ayres Road. If the P-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
- Turn around at any time
- Drop your boys off in the Bus Turning Circle
- Double park or park across driveways
- Park within the School grounds at any time (including ASC pickup)

Please comply with any requests made by Sydney Grammar Staff on traffic duty. Council Parking Rangers will continue to do regular spot checks. If you are able to delay your afternoon pick up from Ayres Road until after 3:15pm, or arrange to pick up from Mawson Street before 3:15pm, this will also reduce traffic flow in Ayres Road at peak times.

Travel arrangements: All boys need to have their travel arrangements clearly defined for both wet/hot and fine weather. It is not always possible to pass on all late messages and your cooperation is appreciated. Travel Passes will be issued as they reach the School but boys may travel without a pass until they arrive. Year 3 boys must be picked up from Mawson St between 3:00pm – 3:15pm unless catching a bus or going to After School Care.

Mobile Phones
Attached to this Newsletter is the Mobile Phone Permission form.
College Street Scholarships 2015 - applications close Friday 28 February. Please see the School’s website (College St) for the link.

Mr D Fraser

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Welcome back to the new school year! Holidays are a great chance for families to recalibrate, renew and recharge, ready for the start of another school year. I hope you have all had a wonderful break and I was thrilled to hear of all the reading the boys had done and the exciting holiday experiences they shared.

Australian Curriculum Update
At Sydney Grammar, our staff have been working hard on designing quality programmes that address the Australian Curriculum yet go above and beyond to match the context and needs of our capable boys. You will no doubt be aware that the Government has recently announced a review of the Australian curriculum by the Commonwealth Government. The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) has this week advised schools that ‘there are no implications for the implementation of the NSW syllabus arising from this review. The implementation of the NSW syllabuses for the Australian curriculum will continue on the existing schedule’. No matter the outcome of the review, staff at St Ives will continue to extend and enrich our boys in all aspects of their learning and provide a rigorous and challenging educational programme. We will continue to work within the requirements of the mandated curriculum syllabus documents, as they are released.
always with the view to better meet the needs of our Sydney Grammar boys.

Book Amnesty Box

If any class novels, library books or home readers ever turn up at your place, we would welcome them back. The Amnesty Box lives in the School Office, and books can be anonymously put in the box anytime. Last year we welcomed back over 150 books, representing over $1600 of lost resources. Any school books that turn up can be anonymously left in the Book Amnesty Box outside the Office. No questions asked! Thank you to all the parents who have cleaned out over the holidays and found lost books, readers, class novels and library books. Please keep them coming!

Mrs C Merrick

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE

This year in my new role as Director of Pastoral Care, I look forward to meeting and supporting all of the boys in the School. Our School mascot is Carrington and he can be found near our swimming pool overlooking our beautiful playing fields. Carrington’s Code reminds us to be kind to each other through five very important values: Respect, Courage, Integrity, Empathy and Initiative. These values underpin all that we do in life, particularly when faced with challenges and adversity.

For this reason, we will continue to implement the PALs Programme in Preschool and the BOUNCE BACK Programme from Kindergarten to Year 6. BOUNCE BACK is a preventative whole-school social and emotional learning programme. It has been developed to support schools and teachers in their efforts to promote positive mental health and wellbeing in their pupils. The Programme predominantly focuses on classroom strategies and activities that teach pupils positive social and emotional ‘life skills’. The BOUNCE BACK Programme is a wonderful tool to help children develop the freedom of spirit which is necessary for coping with life’s changing demands. I look forward to a happy and exciting year with the boys.

Ms L Dorn

FROM THE SPORTSMASTER

A warm welcome back to everyone! The boys are showing excellent skills in their trial groups for Saturday Sport. PE lessons have begun in the pool under beautiful weather this week. Lessons have focused on stroke correction in the lead up to the Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival to be held at Macquarie University on Thursday 13 February. Please ensure your son has their swimming gear at School for these lessons.

Term 1 Sport Training Sessions (Summer Sports) can be found as an attachment to this Newsletter.

Trials

In order to finalise the correct placement of boys in teams there may be some movement between teams in the first few weeks of training and games. While most boys will get their first choice of Summer Sport it is not guaranteed. All boys are supported and encouraged through this process.

Saturday Sport

The Summer Sport season is beginning in Week 2 on Saturday 8 February. There are 6 rounds this term and the Fixture List has been attached on this email. NOTE: An up to date Fixture list is always on the School’s website.

Rugby Promotion Morning

On Monday 10 February, 7:45-8:20am, we are holding a Rugby Promotion Morning to coincide with the boys’ Winter sport choices.

David Telfer from the ARU is coming in to hold a ‘Parents Forum’ from 7:50am which will outline the current safe practices in the sport. Lachlan Fear, Director of Rugby at College St, will also be coming to address parents. Boys will enjoy a morning of rugby activities. All boys in Year 2-6 are encouraged to attend.

Football Promotion Morning

On Tuesday 11 February 7:45-8:20am, we are holding a Football Promotion Morning to coincide with the boys’ winter sport choices. We always have a great turn-out of boys for these mornings. Staff and coaches will promote football through fun games and activities on Cowper Field. All boys in Year 2-6 are encouraged to attend and enjoy the morning of activities.

Swimming News

Training

All boys are currently having stroke correction lessons during PE classes. A note regarding before School training for Year 3-6 on Monday in Weeks 2 and 3 has been sent. An overwhelming number of replies have been received. Numbers have been capped at the first 50 and a second group has opened up for Tuesday Morning (30 Boys on Monday and 20, sharing the pool with Larrissa, on Tuesday). We have already gone over this number, reserves will be notified if a place opens up. From Week 4, Monday morning will be used as a compulsory training session for the Swim team which is selected after the Carnival.

Swimming Carnival

Information for the Year 3-6 Swimming carnival has been sent home. Boys will be required at School at 7:30am on Thursday 13 February for this event. More information, including a programme of events will be sent closer to the Carnival.

Fencing

Fencing is available again this year. It is held on Tuesday morning for Years 5 & 6, 7:30am – 8:20am. Permission notes are available from the front office.

Archery

Archery is available to all boys in Years 5 & 6. It is held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 3:00pm – 4:00pm. Permission notes are available from the front desk.

Tennis

Tennis lessons can be arranged for your son. These lessons take place before or after school on the School tennis courts. Please note that these lessons proceed regardless of the weather. Parents are billed on their account. Contact: Armond 0413 242 626

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons occur in Terms 1 & 4. Learn to swim classes, stroke development and swimming club practices occur in the School pool. Parents are billed on their account. Contact: Larissa Bychenkov on 0400 670 870 or 9403 3063

I look forward to guiding your son through many enjoyable sporting experiences this term.

Mr P Derrin

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Welcome to Music 2014

I am very pleased to welcome Ms Hunter to our Music Department for Term 1 while Mrs Fane takes long service leave. She will teach class music to all 3-6 boys and conduct School Choir. 2014 promises to be a very exciting year at St Ives with the production in Term 3 of our very first commissioned opera, “The Brew” by Old Boy, Philip Jameson. More information will follow closer to the date.
Music Lessons
Instrumental music lessons commence Monday 3 February (Week 2). Lessons with Dr Busan and Mr Farland commence in Week 3. Preparing the music timetable is a huge task, so thank you to parents who have accepted the lesson time given to their son. Please note that the following policy applies regarding the cancellation of instrumental lessons. A letter or email must be received by the Music Department no later than the end of Week 5 of the term for the cancellation of lessons to be effective at the end of that same term. Therefore, advice for discontinuing music lessons at the end of Term 1 2014 must be received by the Music Department no later than Friday 28 February.

Music Record Books
All boys who learn an instrument at school are automatically issued with a gold-covered Music Record Book. This book is the best means of communication with your son’s music tutor. Parents are asked to check these books regularly, as they outline the work that should be done at home each week. A signature from either parent should be added to the relevant section to verify the amount of practice time completed by your son. A charge of $7 per book will appear on the accounts.

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. Band rehearsals with Dr Busan will start in Week 4 following auditions in Week 3.

Primary String Ensembles
Provisional lists will be up on Music Department windows in Week 2 for boys to come and see which ensemble they are in this year.

Bambini and Pennington Strings
Tuesdays 3.00 to 3.45pm from Week 3. Bambini violins (Kindergarten and Year 1) rehearse in the K-2 Music Room with Miss Murray. Pennington violins (Year 2), Rehearsal Room with Mr Vickers. All violins rehearse in the Ensemble Room with Mr Vickers. Parents please collect your sons from these rooms at 3.45pm.

Band Auditions
Auditions with Dr Busan are for all boys from last year’s bands, plus new boys to the school and boys who learned but who were not in a band in 2013.

All woodwind players: Wednesday 12 February, 7.30am in the Hall
All percussion players: Wednesday 12 February, 12.45pm in the Hall
All brass players: Thursday 13 February, 12.45pm in the Hall

St Ives Singers
Auditions for boys in Years 5 and 6 - 7.30am Thursday 6 February in the Music Room

School Choir
All interested boys in Years 3-6 meet Ms Hunter in the Hall 7.30am Friday Week 3. No audition necessary.

Taiko Drumming
Taiko is open to boys in Years 5 and 6. Mr Smith has handed out a letter to those who expressed interest. If any boy missed out he can collect this letter from the Music Office. Please note that there is a small additional cost for group Taiko lessons.

Year 6 Choir Tour to Port Macquarie 28-30 March
Mrs McClure from Edgecliff Prep will come to St Ives on Thursday 6 February to audition those boys who returned their expression of interest form at the end of last year. If your son did not apply but would like to audition, he should see Ms Hunter in the Music Room at recess on Monday.

College Street Music Scholarships 2015
Information is available on the College Street website for boys currently in Year 6. A reminder that the closing date is Friday 7 March 2014.

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.

Mr M Smith

FROM THE LIBRARY
Welcome to the St Ives Preparatory School Library. One of the most important goals of the School Library is to help boys develop a lifelong love of reading. Our School Library is a wonderful place to foster this enthusiasm for reading in boys. The School's Library collection contains many exciting and new books for boys in Preschool to Year 6.

The Library is open at 8.00am – 8.20am and after School from 3.00pm – 4.00pm in the following circumstances:

Year 3-6 boys waiting for a brother or travel buddy who is doing an official activity (eg, Sport, Music or Drama) until 4.00pm
Year 3-6 boys whose parents have an appointment with a From Master until 4.00pm
Years 3-6 boys whose parents are unable to collect them at 3.00pm – in extraordinary circumstances

Boys in younger years are welcome to read in the Library either before or after school, but must be accompanied by a parent.

In all cases, boys are to do homework or read quietly. The Library is not an alternative to after school care. Parents are welcome to come to the Library before or after school to read and borrow books with their boys.

Please note that on occasion the Library may be closed in the morning or afternoon, I encourage you to read the Newsletter carefully so that you are aware of any changes to the Library opening times. The Library will be closed on Monday 13 March and Monday 17 March from 8.00am.

The Library always requires help with covering our steady stream of new books. If you are able to assist with covering or other tasks in the Library please contact the Office.

I encourage parents to come and visit the Library with their sons. This shared experience will reinforce the importance of reading.

We also have a great selection of books in the Parent Reference collection with topics such as Raising Boys, Is Your Child Safe Online? and A Family of Readers. You are able to borrow these books under your son’s borrowing details.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs S Hardwick
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS 3 FEBRUARY - 15 FEBRUARY**

**MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY**
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Swimming Squad (Years 2-6)
- 10:00am: Assembly (3-6) Founders’ Day
- 10:20am: Founders’ Day icy poles (P-6)
- 3:00pm: After School Sport Practices commence
- 7:00pm - 8:30pm: Information Evening for Parents (P-2)

**TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY**
- 9:00am - 11:00am: Year 5 Staff/Parent Morning Tea

**WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY**
- 7:30am - 8:20am: ‘Bat & Ball’ Cricket Coaching begins (3-6)
- 1:30pm - 3:00pm: Sport Trials and Training (3&4)
- 7:00pm - 8:30pm: Information Evening for Parents (3-6)

**THURSDAY 6 FEBRUARY**
- 7:40am: Year 1 & 2 Chess Club begins for Term 1
- 9:00am - 11:00am: Preschool Staff/Parent Morning Tea
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm: Visit to Sir Eric Woodward School

**FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY**
- 7:45am - 8:20am: Basketball Coaching (Years 2-6)
- 10:00am: Assembly (K-2) (Welcome)
- 1:30pm - 3:00pm: Sports Trials and Training (5&6)

**SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY**
- Summer Sport Round 1

**MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY**
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Swimming Squad (Years 2-6)
- 7:30am: Chess Grading - New boys & Year 3 boys
- 7:45am - 8:20am: Rugby Promotion Morning
- 10:00am: Assembly (5-6) (68)
- 12:10pm: House Meeting #2 (3-6) (Swimming Carnival)

**TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY**
- 7:30am: Chess Grading - New Boys and Year 3 Boys
- 7:45am - 8:20am: Football Promotion Morning
- 9:00am - 11:00am: Year 3 Staff/Parent Morning Tea
- 10:00am: Assembly (3-4) 4L

**WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY**
- 7:30am - 8:20am: ‘Bat and Ball’ Cricket Coaching (3-6)
- 8:45am - 10:30am: PA General Meeting

**THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY**
- 9:00am - 2:30pm: House Swimming Carnival (3-6)
- 9:00am - 11:00am: Kindergarten Staff/Parent Morning Tea

**FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY**
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Swimming Squad (Years 2-6)
- 7:30am: Basketball Coaching (Years 2-6)
- 10:00am: Assembly (K-2)

**SATURDAY 15 FEBRUARY**
- Summer Sport Round 2

**FROM THE ITALIAN MASTER**
Buongiorno a tutti e benvenuti all’asnu new at Sydney Grammar. Over the next week we will spend time talking about holidays, revising the Italian we covered last year and laying the groundwork for an interesting and rewarding year of Italian. The boys are enthusiastic and ready to listen, share and learn. I have just returned from Italy where I spent a month studying at the Università del Salento in Lecce (Puglia), living with an Italian family and visiting and teaching a few lessons at two quite different primary schools there. As part of the Endeavour Language Teaching Fellowship, I, along with 17 other Italian teachers from Australia, also spent time in Rome before returning to Sydney. L’esperienza indimenticabile! I look forward to sharing my knowledge and experiences with the boys this year. Here is a brief introduction to Lecce: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltpYKWSk754 Buon divertimento, ragazzi!

Mrs J Matheson

**FROM THE CHESS MASTER**
Welcome to another year of Chess at Sydney Grammar. Thank you to families who have filled out the chess enrolment form which was emailed this week. Please make sure you complete that form by Wednesday 5 February if your son is interested in attending Chess Coaching this year. The grading mornings for Year 3 boys and new boys to the School are on Monday 10 and Tuesday 11 February. All chess grading and coaching takes place in the Year 3 Activity Room and SC classroom. Due to the large number of extra-curricular activities boys have to choose from, there is no set day for each ability group. Once I have preferred dates for each boy, I will organise each morning into appropriate groups. You will be notified of your son’s morning in Week 3, ready to start lessons in Week 4 (Monday 17 February). Every effort will be made to accommodate your preferences.

Mrs S Ward

**FROM THE TUCKSHOP**
The Tuckshop menu has been uploaded to the School's website under the Quicklinks page.

Mrs C Shields

**FROM THE OFFICE**
Reception (8:15am-4:15pm) 8302 5200
Absences (please ring by 9am) 8302 5200
Facsimile: 9449 9875
After School Care Bookings (Mrs O'Hagan) 8302 5200
After School Care Direct Line (Mrs Bayliss) 8302 5226
Counsellor (Mrs Hough) 8302 5223
Headmaster's Secretary (Mrs Heaton) 8302 5217
Enrolments (Mrs Schwartz) 8302 5218
Music Secretary (Mrs Templeton) 8302 5242
Sport Master (Mr Derrin) 8302 5246
Sport Utd West Wrestlers Line 9990 0472
Tuckshop (Mrs Shields) 8302 5225
Uniform Shop (Mrs Stephens) 8302 5224