Dear Parents,

Could there have been a better day than last Sunday? Brilliant sunshine, great food and great fun at the Family Fair. Such a lovely atmosphere – not too busy but enough to keep things humming along for the whole day. A massive thank you to Lisa Christy, Leigh Hudson and all the wonderful parents who worked so hard on the day and in the weeks (months!) leading up to it. Thanks also to my staff who were there in big numbers to support the event. The people running the rides mentioned to Scott Veale that the kids were the best behaved they had seen for some time. As if there was any doubt!

On Monday the Regional Spelling Bee was held at Cherrybrook Public School. Now, I don’t know if you have been to any Spelling Bees before, and while they are not quite as intense as the American ones you may have seen on TV, they are still extremely stressful events, especially when the other competitors are the best spellers from all around the region. Over forty students competed in each division. Cate F made it to the fifth round and Cody F came eighth overall in the Year 3 and 4 section. Wonderful work! In the Year 5 and 6 section, Eddy W came sixth and Phoenix A came fourth! Such great results from four very clever students.

Congratulations too to Brad M (long jump) and William W (high jump) who competed at the Regional Athletics Carnival last week at Homebush. Both boys did themselves and Normanhurst proud and we couldn’t be more pleased with their efforts.

Kindergarten students went to Calmsley Hill Farm near Fairfield last week. They had the wonderful experience of interacting with the animals and learning even more about them. I am told that on top of having a great time the children were beautifully behaved. How fabulous to see our youngest students showing the way with their conduct outside our school gates!

Notes sent home this week
Interrelate – Years 5 & 6
The Ducklings are Coming – Kindergarten
Milson Island additional information – Years 5 & 6

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
And so Term Three draws to a close. “Busy” has not been the word for it. There has hardly been a day when there hasn’t been something on (as well as the quality teaching and learning that goes on every day). Before we know it we will be discussing farewells, presentation days, final reports and plans for 2015.

If you have any time off in the holidays, we wish you a restful break. Students resume Tuesday, 7th October (the day after the October long weekend).

David Beggs

The following students were proud recipients of Striver badges at our last assembly.

Paris N Jonah H Brenton T

Congratulations to our Citizen of the Month recipients for the month of August.

Alice H KIJ Alana K 2/3N
Caitlin H KS Heidi M 3B
Dakota A 1H Cate F 4N
Cameron K 1S Jasmine H 4/5D
Luke R 1/2M Eric G 5/6B
Yumi V 2P Cameron A 5/6G

Congratulations to the following students who received a Merit Certificate at our last assembly.

Atticus H KIJ Daniel H 2/3N
Billie H KIJ Mia P 2/3N
Ulysses C KS Liam M 3B
Eloise O KS Amelia M 3B
Cassidy Mc 1H Alex V 4N
Sam T 1H Paige C 4N
Kaitlyn S 1S Harry L 4/5D
Emily B 1S Lauren W 4/5D
Miles W 1/2M Daniel T 5/6B
Jaanvi K 1/2M Kutay C 5/6B
Olivia U 2P Kaitlyn P 5/6G
Amelie B 2P Abigail B 5/6G
Sophie Mc Library
Darci L Library
Caitlin H Computers

Barry O’Farrell MP with Eddy and his winning shield.

PARKING

Residents of the houses down Normanhurst Road have complained that people are parking either over their driveways or very close to their driveways and preventing them from leaving their homes. One resident’s Year 12 student was yesterday prevented from leaving his house as someone had parked across the driveway and consequently making him very late to school. Please be considerate of others when exiting your vehicle. You would not like this to happen to you, so let us all think of others as we move around the school environs.

Residents have informed the Council of this and they said they will send around extra patrols of parking officers.

PEER SUPPORT

This week in Peer Support the children will learn how important it is to take small steps towards achieving a goal. The children will develop a range of strategies and different ways to think to help them stay optimistic. Ask your child to share their goal and discuss ways you can provide encouragement.

KINDY VISITS THE FARM

On Tuesday 9th September KIJ and KS visited Calmsley Hill City Farm at Abbotsbury. Here are some observations from KS.

On the bus to the farm I fell asleep. At the farm I got to milk a cow. My favourite animal was a goat. I saw a whip show and then I got on the bus. I nearly fell asleep. I learnt lots. – Linden
We went on the bus to the farm. We saw lots of animals in the farm. My favourite animal was the cow. We saw a whip show. We saw a sheep shearing show. The sheep shearing show was my favourite part. – Ulysses

We went on a bus to the farm. We saw a peacock. We also saw a rooster. He went cock-a-doodle-doo. We saw a whip show. We also saw a sheep dog. I didn’t know a baby rabbit was called a kitten. – Benjamin

I went to the farm on the bus. I saw some animals and I saw a sheep dog show. I saw a whip show. I liked the sheep dogs because they rounded up the sheep. I got to pat a kitten (baby rabbit) and a chick. – Oscar

On the bus I fell asleep and that took a long time. I milked a cow called Custard and we saw an orange calf and the calf was cute. We saw a sheep dog go get some sheep and the sheep were white. I got to see a sheep get sheared. – Eloise

We went on the bus. We looked at the animals. We went to the hens and geese. We saw a whip show and Hailey went and had a go of a whip. Then we went to a dog show. Then we saw a sheep shearing show. My favourite animal was a cow. – Daniel

On the way to the farm I went on a bus. At the farm we saw a peacock. We got to milk a cow and the cow was called Custard. It was a fun trip and I learnt a baby rabbit is called a kitten. – Shiva

We went on a bus. At the farm we saw a peacock. We got to milk a cow and the cow was called Custard. It was a whip show and Hailey went and had a go of a whip. Then we went to a dog show. Then we saw a sheep shearing show. My favourite animal was a cow. – Johnlay

On the bus I sang songs. I milked a cow called Custard. It felt like a squishy bone. My favourite part was going on the bus with Berry. I liked the hens because you can pat them. – Grace

We went on the bus. We saw cows. We saw a pig. We saw a pony. We saw the whip show and we milked the cows. We watched the dog show. I liked the dog show because it was fun. – Ben

On the bus to the farm I sang songs. I milked a cow called Custard. It felt like a squishy bone. My favourite part was going on the bus with Berry. I liked the hens because you can pat them. – Grace

We went on the bus. When we got there we had recess. After that we got to milk a cow. We saw a peacock. Then we had lunch. Then we got to pat baby animals. Then we saw a whip show. We had another show. It was called a sheep dog show. It was awesome because we got to milk a cow. The cow’s name was Custard. – Ben

On the bus to the farm I saw some farm animals. I saw a peacock, a foal, a goat, a cat, a rabbit, a pig, a horse, a sheep and a cow. We had recess when we got there. After lunch we saw a whip show and after the whip show we saw a sheep dog show and after the sheep dog show we saw a sheep shearing show. It was fun. I learnt how to feed goats and I now know how you know that there is a chick in the egg or if there is not a chick. – Hailey

We went on the bus. We got off the bus and went in the farm. We saw a whip show. We saw a sheep dog show. We saw a sheep getting sheared. The farm animals were very cute. Some animals were horses. Some were cows and we got to milk the cows. Some were babies and some we mothers. Some animals were sheep. I learnt that if you see a dog on the street you don’t pat them. – Caitlin

I went on the bus. We saw lots of animals. I watched a whip show and Hailey had a go. I saw a dog show. I milked a cow. I saw a sheep
shearing show. My favourite animal was the peacock. I patted a rabbit and it was fun. I learnt about peacocks. They make noise. – Elissa

A great time was had by all!

NSW PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the students who completed the 2014 NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge and a big thank you to all primary buddy classes, who shared the stories on the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge lists with their infants buddy classes. Students will receive their PRC certificates in late November.

Kindergarten

Callum A
Mitchell B
Ulysses C
Brooke C
Benjamin C
Joanna C
Olivia D
Samuel E
Berry F
Adie H
Alice H
Jacob H
Atticus H
Grace H
Caitlin H
Billie H
Mikala K
Alex K
Milly L-M
Haile M
Grace Mc
Eloise O
Joshua P
Jayden P
Emily P
John P
Oliver P
Rajesh S
Oscar R
Linden R
Johntay S
Daniel S
Annemieke T
Elissa U
Hailey W
Ben W
Summer W
Aleksander Z

Year 1

Ibrahim A
Lara A
David A
Nikita A
Chloe A
Dakota A
Sienna B
Keely B
Emily B
Rudy B
Annabel C
Carl C
Rose C
Ashleigh D
Charlie G
Milly H
Nicholas H
Zoe H
Jeremy H
Jack K
Ani C
Cameron K
Darci L
Corey M
Cassidy Mc
Saxon M
Terrence N
Georgia O
Libby P
Sukhbirat P
Sophie P
Luke P
David P
Taylah R
Nathan R
Cameron R
Erin R

Year 2

Jan Christian A
Ethan B
Christian B
Amelie B
Sophie C
Robert D
Charlotte E
Sera F
Kaysha F
Michael F
Mahlia-Mai H
Lukas H
Zoya H
Yana I
Sukhshimran K
Damien K
Sarah K
Cody L
Maximus L
Bridget L
Tom L
Amalie M
Darcy M
Karen M
Chloe P
Siena P
Luke R
Virginia R
Chelsea S
Courtney S
Tabitha T
Busby T
Lara U
Olivia U
Yumi V
Zoe W
Lola W
Jayden Y
Annie Z

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

Nathan S
Harrison S
Issac S
Charlie S
Charlotte S
Kaitlyn S
Lachlan S
Jennifer S
Lia T
Sam T
Liam T
Lucy V
Evie W
Taj W
Miles W
Mimi X
Matthew Z

Carl A
Matthew A V
Ryan B
Kiera B-S
Jamison C
Charlotte D
Kate D
Matthew F
Ian G
Jonah H
Isaac H
Luke J
Heidi M
Amelia M
Hannah P
Mia P
Malinsa R
Hugo T
Brenton T
Nicholas V

Ian A-V
Lille-Rose B
Lachlan D
Eric G
Claire K
Stephanie Mc
Zac O
Jamie O
Kaitlyn P
Joshua S
Emily T

Syarief D
Archie H
On Tuesday this week, Leila Frost (formerly from NPS in 2013) who now attends Turramurra High School in Year 7, visited our school to talk with senior students about cadets. Leila is a Cadet in the 226 Army Cadet Unit based in Jasmine Road, Normanhurst.

Students can join the Army Cadets unit when aged between 12 ½ and 17 years (but can stay until before they turn 20). It teaches young Australians the value of friendship, self-discipline, respect and a spirit of adventure.

Leila spoke so beautifully and enthusiastically, and the students were all impressed by her maturity, passion and obvious commitment to cadets. It is great for our students to see past students who have gone on to achieve in many different areas.

Sky Zone

Burn calories while having fun at this indoor entertainment park in Alexandria, just minutes from the CBD. Sky Zone features hundreds of trampolines, all joined together to form one colossal jumping platform, where kids of all ages can “flip out”. The facility also offers one-of-a-kind trampoline experiences including dodgeball tournaments and Sky Fit exercise classes, or just enjoy some weightless fun on the tramps. Open every day, times vary so see website www.skyzone.com.au Cost is $18 per person per hour which includes a pair of Sky Zone grip socks.

We Made It!

The three years I have spent as President of our fine P&C Committee have provided many highlights, challenges and rewards. But I would be hard pressed to think of a busier period than Term 3, 2014, or as I like to call it….Termaggedon! It is a testament to our school community that after all the demands placed on the kids, our parents and teachers over the last several weeks, people were still willing to stick up their hands and help out where they could right till the last marquees were down and the BBQ’s packed away after our fantastic Fair on Sunday, and all with a smile on their faces. A few thank yous are in order….

The Hungry Games

With all that has been going on my news missed the printers last week (mostly because I hadn’t written it!) so I missed the opportunity to thank all of those involved in making the Obstacle-a-thon/Fathers’ Day Breakfast another great success. I unfortunately couldn’t make it this year but by all accounts there were lots of happy, smiling faces…and that was just the Dads! So a big thank you to Emma Veale and her happy band of volunteers, Amanda Dougall, Christine Mansfield, Davina Gill and Kerry Sinclair, for providing a yummy brekky for the hungry hordes. Thanks also to those who came early or stuck around to help with set up/take down. And of course to the driving force behind the day, Scott Bartholomew, ably assisted
behind the scenes by Leigh Hudson, it wouldn’t happen without you.

**Fair! Weather! Friends!**

As the sun crept over the horizon on Sunday I could barely contain my glee. After what seems like an eternity of wet weekends the sun shone brightly on our little school for the 2014 Spring Fair.

And what a wonderful day it turned out to be. So many smiling faces, the sound of children’s laughter ringing through the grounds, sausages sizzling, choirs singing, bands playing, just a wonderful atmosphere. It was fantastic to see so many people rolling up their sleeves and pitching in so that to the neutral observer it must have looked seamless. There were so many great moments on the day that I would take a whole newsletter to list them all but one particularly stuck with me......as I thanked the guys who’d supervised the rides, Warren, the grizzled old carnival operator, remarked that ours were the best behaved and most well-mannered bunch of kids he had the pleasure to entertain in many years. Must admit it gave me a bit of a lump in my throat.

To try to thank everyone who played their part on making Sunday such a roaring success would be an exercise in futility, there were so many who put in hours/days/weeks getting this off the ground. You know who you are and I hope I managed to get around to most of you on the day to express our gratitude....well done everyone!

**Which Bring Me To.....**

I can’t think of a better way to end my tenure as President than seeing our community pull together for the greater good on the weekend. With Term 3 now at an end we are just one meeting away from the AGM in November and it’s nearly time for me to hang up my spurs. As I mentioned at the start it has been incredibly rewarding to be able to make some small difference to our school and provide the kids with facilities they might otherwise not be able to access.

I know there is someone amongst you with the commitment and passion for our school to help drive us into the future with fresh ideas and a renewed vigour. So don’t be shy, stick up your hand and give it a go.

**Scott Veale**