Principal’s message

Dear parents, students and staff,

Congratulations to the students receiving awards today. A number of students received distinctions, credits and merit awards for results in ICAS Science & Computer. Well done! Thank you to 2H who kicked off our class assembly items with a well-coordinated dance today.

Enormous thanks to mum Christina and her team of parents who have so generously given their time to cover close to 100 new books. These fabulous new texts have been added to both the library and our Quality Literature corridor.

The Canteen is having a special pie day next Wednesday- don’t forget to put your order in by Tuesday and ice creams will be on sale again next Tuesday- always popular regardless of the weather!

We are all looking forward to celebrating the 60th year of Education Week, beginning Monday. We hope you can join us for the classroom challenges on Tuesday morning. The theme is: Lighting the way to a better future and some of our challenges do involve getting handy with a bit of circuitry. Thinking caps needed!

Warm regards for a great weekend,

Michele

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon – Fri</td>
<td>Education Week-celebrating 60yrs Theme: Lighting the way to a better world</td>
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<td>28 Jul – 1 Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29 July</td>
<td>Open Classrooms @ FSPS: parents go to classrooms. ICAS English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4 August</td>
<td>Showcase rehearsal: dance team</td>
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<td>Tuesday 5 August</td>
<td>Showcase @ Juniors</td>
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<td>Friday 8 August</td>
<td>Assembly – KR performance</td>
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<td>Monday 11 August</td>
<td>CSIRO Science Incursion</td>
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<td>Tuesday 12 August</td>
<td>ICAS Mathematics</td>
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<td>Friday 15 August</td>
<td>Assembly – 1K performance</td>
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**News**

**Susannah Place**

by Nikki, 4K

This week, 2/3L and 4K went to Susannah Place. It’s near KGV in The Rocks. We were there to learn about how people lived in the old days. We looked at antique buildings and toilets. We learned that 6 people had to share a bed that was smaller than a bed for 1 person nowadays. I also got to play a very old piano! We are doing the bunting for Susannah Place’s 170th birthday as a thank you for the exciting time we had there.

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**2H performs**

‘Birthday’

by Leonardo, 2H

Today was awesome because we did a song and dance called ‘Birthday’. Almost everyone in 2H had butterflies! I became nervous when I saw my mum and dad. The show was great. I was so happy because my mum was so proud of me that she kissed me in front of everyone.

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**Debating**

by Rianne, 5/6L (Year 6)

We were all very excited for a new day of arguing and possibly winning. We endeavoured to Balmain Public School. We noticed lots of artwork and preparations for a toy swap. But we were, of course, there to argue. Our topic was ‘We should make Saturday sport compulsory’, which we were arguing against. Balmain’s team had better content on the day so we didn’t win, but we were happy that our planning was better than the planning from our last debate. And for once, we didn’t argue inside the car.

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**Open Classrooms**

We can’t wait to see you for our Open Classrooms next week. Each class has interest arts and crafts activities planned around the Education Week theme of ‘Lighting the Way to a Better World’. We’ll kick off the day with a choir performance in the hall at 9 am and our classrooms will be opened for parents at 9.30.
Watching television
Television is both a boon and a curse to parents. Its use has been widely researched and found to have both positive and negative effects on children’s behaviour, language and attitudes. It is widely criticised for not only being used as a baby-sitter, but for keeping children away from more active or educational activities. Television does have its good points. It is entertaining, relaxing and offers programs high in educational content. Television itself is not the problem, rather the way that it is used. The key is to be selective in the programs that children watch.

Place reasonable, sensible limits on television use. A weekly maximum of 10-12 hours viewing is highly recommended. Restrict your own viewing as well.

Keep the television OFF. Only turn it ON when someone has decided to watch a program, and then switch it off when it has finished.

Encourage children to choose a program from the TV guide before turning the television on.

From time to time children should keep a weekly record or diary of the programs they watch. Encourage them to record their thoughts or reactions.

Have a television-free day once a week and try alternate forms of entertainment such as games, reading and so on.

Teach children the rating system and use it as a viewing guide. Know what children are watching so that you can make an informed decision about the suitability of programs.

Sit with children and discuss what they have seen, including the commercials. Talk about controversial or topical issues that may be presented.

New furniture
It’s been a big week for 2/3L. Not only have they visited Susannah Place, but they also received brand new furniture. The tables are shaped interestingly and should help facilitate learning in group activities.

Cashmere High School Performance
Music students from Christchurch, New Zealand, came to Sydney last week to show off their talents. Luckily, they chose to perform at Fort Street. They were really exceptional to watch. We enjoyed listening to the orchestra and the choir sounded almost better than ours!
Australian Museum excursion

by Yash, 1K

You won’t believe what I did yesterday!

I went to the museum. We saw Aboriginal things and we saw dinosaur’s bones. We had fun with the man. We got our faces painted and we painted on the wall.

Then we saw spiders. The first was a Funnel Web. The second was a Red Back spider. The third was a tarantula. The fourth was a Jumping Spider.

We went at 9.30. We ate there at the park. There was a lake there. The park was fun because the park was big. We went on a bus to the museum.

It was really fun! I went with my friends 2H and 1K.

In next week’s newsletter, we’ll feature a garden update by Mr Beinssen and some Friday sports photos sent to us by Ben’s dad, Cameron.