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Colonel Light Gardens Primary School Newsletter

Date: 31st January 2013 Issue: 01

Diary Dates

February Monday 4th Tuesday 12th

Governing Council Meeting Year 3-7 Special Meal Deal

Wednesday 13th Reception – Year 2 Special Meal Deal

Tuesday 19th Acquaintance night

Wednesday 20th Festival Choir Cluster 11:30am-12:30pm in Langley Hall

Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd Year 6/7 Aquatics

Dear parents, carers, students and community friends,

Welcome! It's wonderful to welcome back our students and see them looking relaxed and refreshed – and so much bigger! In general our returning students have shown enthusiasm to return to school, see their friends again and approach the challenges of learning at a new level.

This year we have no new staff, so we have all been able to quickly get organised and get everything ready for our students. Watch for the next newsletter containing photos of staff for your reference. Staff spent time last week working together on ways to explain to our students how to become 'expert learners'. Parents and students will hear lots more about this in the coming year.

This week we especially welcome students and families new to Colonel Light Gardens PS:

- 22 Receptions starting school for the very first time. They are in Rooms 01, 02 and 04. They have made a very successful start to their schooling.
- 11 students transferring from other schools in the state.
- 2 new International students from Japan, Ryunosuke and Shunnosuke. We expect to have them here with us for at least a year.

We look forward to the contribution all these students and their families will make to our school community and wish them great success and happiness at our school.

Off to a great start!

Imagine being one of 30 people put in a small room with many people you don't know and being expected to share materials, ideas and airspace with them all, speak in front of them, work effectively in groups and achieve shared tasks. It would be daunting and we would expect a thorough induction and skills training.

This is exactly what we do in the first weeks of school. We call this the 'First Two Weeks' program. We focus on building a cohesive class group who know the routines and expectations which will enable them to learn together effectively throughout the year. We focus on school values, develop class agreements, get to know one another and practise group skills. The teacher develops his or her understanding of the academic, social and emotional needs of their students so they can modify curriculum to meet individual needs.

During this time we do not set homework, but we are definitely covering the curriculum. We achieve curriculum requirements in the Health, Physical Education and Child Protection curriculum areas, as well as offering practise in literacy and maths.

Our 'First Two Weeks' program builds shared understandings about learning and lays the foundation for a successful year. You will be able to see some of the work your children are doing as part of the 'First Two Weeks' when you visit classrooms on Acquaintance Night on February 19th.

Newsletters for Term 1 will be odd weeks then for Terms 2-4 will be sent out on even weeks. Due dates for items in the newsletter is 12noon on Tuesdays of the week it is due out. Next newsletter's cut off date is Tuesday 11^{th} February.

Assemblies

Our first whole school assembly will be held in Langley Hall next week Friday 8th February at 11:20am. Our student run assemblies will begin in week 4 on Friday 21st February. The R-2 assembly (hosted by Room 23) will be from 11:20am-12noon, and the Year 3-7 assembly (hosted by Room 1) will be from 12:10pm – 12:50pm.



Important Dates for 2013

Once again the government has allocated extra training days for teachers to implement the new Australian Curriculum. Last year our focus was on the areas of Science and Mathematics. In 2013 we will be focusing on English and History. We have tied many of the staff training pupil free days to long weekends, allowing families who wish to take holidays to minimise student absence from school. Student attendance rates at our school are generally very good, but absences are often of an extended nature due to family holidays. Please consider the following dates when booking your holidays this year.

Term 1: January 29 - April 12th

Staff training Pupil Free Day: Tuesday, March 12th (after Adelaide Cup Day, a 4 day break)

Topic: English Australian Curriculum overview

Easter: March 29th to April 1st

Term 2: April 29th to July 5th

Staff training Pupil Free Day: Thursday 6th & Friday 7th June (before Queens Birthday holiday, a 5 day break)

Topic: Australian Curriculum, English: developing R-7 agreements and program outlines, with a focus on spelling,

grammar and reading.

NAPLaN Test days: Tuesday May 14th to Thursday May 16th

Term 3: July 22nd to September 27th

SHOW DAY School Closure: Monday, September 14th

Term 4: October 14th to December 13th

Staff training Pupil Free Day: November 4th. Topic: 'Play is the Way' social skills program.

Acquaintance Night

Acquaintance Night will be held on Tuesday, February 19th, 2013. This is a time for you to come to school, to meet your child's teacher and to develop an understanding of the class and programs that may be happening this year.

The R - 1 classrooms are open from 6.00 - 6.45pm and your child will have a series of tasks to complete with you to provide you with a really good understanding of their classroom and specialist programs. You can chat with the teacher and ask any general questions. Please note there is no general meeting between sessions.

The Year 6/7s usually meet with parents initially in Langley Hall from 7.00pm whilst other primary classes move off to their respective rooms. These sessions will run from 7.00 - 7.45pm.

This information should cover such topics as:

- classroom expectations
- communication methods to be used
- homework expectations
- planned activities for the year
- curriculum topics to be covered
- outline of weekly program
- how parents may be of assistance

We hope to see all of you here for this introduction. You will notice around the school the class mottos that are on display and all rooms have been negotiating their class procedures with students. Teachers will provide more information to you at the Acquaintance Night about the classroom environment they have created and the goals that their class is working towards in 2013.

Consent forms

This week you will have received 3 consent forms from your child.

The **green consent form** is a general consent form for yard supervision, borrowing library books, CPSW, and for medications.

The **blue consent form** is for permission to be photographed in school, class blog, newsletter and website. During the course of the year, students' likenesses, images (still or video), voice and creative work may be uploaded to the internet via the school newsletter or through a class blog or other websites such as Youtube, iTunes, etc. A blog is an interactive website that many teachers use for communicating with parents and to showcase students' learning.

The three permissions on the blue form are specifically for photographs and video of your child and allow us to easily collate permissions for teacher and administration purposes. The form on the reverse of this page gives permission for images *and* creative works eg stories, animations, powerpoints, songs, poetry etc, to be uploaded to the internet.

If you wish to allow creative works but not images to be published please amend the form as indicated. Please contact Louisa Guest at <u>Louisa.Guest741@schools.sa.edu.au</u> or by phone on 8276 1523 if you have any questions regarding these permissions.

The **white form** is an ICT user agreement. Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) are electronic devices and /or applications which allow users to record, send, access or receive information in textual, audio, image or video form. To promote the safe and responsible use of ICT, Colonel Light Gardens Primary School has developed guidelines on acceptable and non acceptable uses for students.

Please return all three forms promptly to your child's class teacher.

Student Data information

This week you will have also received a printed copy of the information about your child that we currently have on entered on the school database. This information includes medical and custody information, emergency contacts as well as other vital information pertaining to your child. If you have changed phone numbers, mobile numbers, address or need to update your emergency contacts, please change the details on the form, sign it and return to your child's teacher by MON 4th February.

Jessica's Junction

Welcome to all the new families to our school and welcome back to those returning for another year. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Jessica and I am the Christian Pastoral Support Worker. I have various roles in the school including, Girls Club, SRC, help with camps and excursions. However my main role is to provide support to staff, students and families. This means that if a student needs someone to talk to, I am available. I am also here for any parents who need support in anyway. If you would like to see me, you can call the school or email me at Jessica-Hunt869@schools.sa.edu.au Keep an eye out for Jessica's Junction in the newsletter.

Canteen

Welcome back to school - menu prices will soon be changing slightly, until then, continue using the 2012 menu.

Help is urgently required for all lunch time counter service. Can you help between 1:00pm and 2:00pm? I also need help other times during the day, please drop in and have a chat about helping out.

Thank you to everyone's responses to the "special meals" feedback forms last year. Requests and suggestions have been noted. Unfortunately DECD's "right bite" healthy eating policy limits the choices (chips, puddings etc will have to remain an at home choice).

You will have received this week the new special meal deal order forms for week 3 - Chicken Yiros (pita bread chicken, tomato, lettuce & mayo) and Chocolate Mousse for \$7.00 Yr 3-7 meal deal day is TUES 12th FEB, R-2 meal deal day is Wed 13th FEB. Orders MUST BE RETURNED BY 12 noon WED 6th February - <u>SORRY NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE TAKEN</u>

Help is urgently requested due to the intensive labour required.

Helen Parsons, Canteen Manager

Medications

If your child/ren is taking any kind of medication and it is kept in the office, could you please come in **NEXT WEEK** and check to see if the date on the medication has expired as it is illegal to be administered once it's out of date. You will also need to fill in the permission form for 2013. Please collect any medication that is no longer required for your child/ren.

There has been a confirmed case of a sibling with Hand, Foot & Mouth disease.

After Hours Sport

We had an excellent turn out of parents and students to the School Sports registration evening. All sports have had increased interest and potentially we look like fielding teams at most levels. The sports coordinators will now be sorting the teams. After school sport is run and managed by parent volunteers. Each sport has a coordinator who manages the overall organisation and each team requires a coach, assistant and team manager. All sports rely on parents of the students playing to help out in one of these roles. As we increase the number of students wanting to play we need to have more parents willing to support the teams. Please consider taking on a coaching/assistant or manager role. If you are not sure have a chat to the coordinators.

This year our coordinators are

Cricket: Barry Earl Basketball: Graeme McDonald Football: Annette Wilson Soccer: Wyatt Groth Netball: Sue Camero & Teresa Rosenzweig Softball: Liz Sexton

OSHC

Vacation Care – All vacation care accounts have been sent to parents. If you have not received your invoice, please see Tammy at OSHC. We request all payments be made within 14 days.

Materials & Services 2013

You will have received your invoice for the Material and Services Charge 2013 by post last week. Once again, the school community was polled at the end of 2012 and voted in favour of the charge of \$350.00 being legally recoverable.

School Card must be applied for each year. If you qualified last year, you will receive a form with your invoice. If you did not receive it in 2012 but believe you may be eligible, please see Amanda in the school office. If you would like to set up an alternate payment arrangement please also speak to Amanda.

Thank you for your support in this important matter. All money paid goes towards running vital programs for all students.

Parking control around CLG

Accompanying this newsletter is a brochure from the Mitcham council titled 'Children Schools and Traffic'. This brochure describes the various Australian road rules as they apply to traffic movement in and around school zones. Please be aware of the various signs, lines and rules as a breach can be quite costly in financial terms and immeasurable if the worst were to happen!