Dear Parents/Carers

A Busy Term 4

Our final Term for 2014 is now underway. After our first day, the early start at 8:45am and finish at 2:45pm students settled very quickly. Thank you parents and caregivers for adapting to this change so well. The impact in school has been students spending less time waiting to enter class, and students generally settling to work well. We will make further changes to where students sit in readiness for entering class to allow for the weather warming and its effects on student comfort.

Excursions And Incursions

This Term we have a number of excursions and incursions to enrich our programs and help keep students focused on their learning. The language and conceptual development gained from experiencing such events can help students understand and remember learning so much more than simply going through the weekly timetabled events. Parents can help enhance this learning by asking questions and clarifying the connection to places, people and family life in our community.

The Year 1 excursion to Nudgee Beach was chosen as the site for this geography and science experiences over some other sites as the sand is much less muddy than student clothing than the mud found at some other sites with a range of coastal vegetation. We have considered the impact on washing and cleaning both at home, at school, and in the bus, while still having the benefit of expert instruction by the educators at this environmental site.

Life Education

The Life Education program is delivered through a van-based classroom with experienced teachers that come onto our site. It covers a number of health curriculum topics. Teachers are provided with program notes to build up to and follow up the program lessons. Life Education is a program delivered in many hundreds of schools across our state as a way of covering important aspects of our curriculum. Parents can help their children’s learning by understanding what the program is about, and we encourage parents to make use of the parent session offered. Details are in this newsletter.

Report Cards

This Term is a reporting cycle and teachers will be forming reports based on assessments. It is important that, if your child is absent for any reason, that some communication between home and teachers occur to see what can be done to ensure students have the best opportunities to complete work for learning and assessment.

2015 Enrolments, Transfers, And High School

With the change to our classes through both Year 6 and 7 going to secondary school next year. It is really important that this be done if it has not already occurred.

(Continued on page 2)
For primary schools, we are being asked to predict our numbers for 2015 so that staffing can be planned. It is very important that we know as soon as possible how many Prep enrolments we will have, and any students who are transferring in or out of our school. Funding depends on this.

Pupil-Free Day Next Monday
On this day our staff will cover a number of topics to further develop our clear and consistent expectations, procedures and rules as part of how we enhance a culture for learning in our school.

Already teaching staff have met to address a strengthened expectation that each classroom have clear and positive ways of explaining how we put into practice our expectations of ‘we learn, we care, we are team players’. Students are part of this process and have input into the way their classroom operates to benefit learning for everyone. This is additional to the weekly focus lessons that explore what our expectations look like.

Swimming Years 1-3
Students in Years 1 - 3 will be taking part in swimming lessons during Term 4. Children will be placed in small groups to cater for their swimming ability. It is expected that every child participate for the full program. They will have one swimming lesson per week each Wednesday for five weeks starting on Wednesday, 22 October. The final lesson will be on Wednesday, 19 November.

Life Education Parent Information Session – Friday 24th October, 2014
The Life Education mobile classroom is coming to our school from Friday 24th October to Friday 31st October.

Life Education is a health promotion charity, and the largest non-government provider of health and drug education to children. Life Education’s program is developed with learning outcomes that link to the Australian Curriculum for Health and Physical Education.

All classes from Prep – Year 7 have been allocated a session time to attend the mobile classroom and specific age appropriate modules have been selected for each year level. These modules are outlined on the permission form.

The Life Education Program uses up-to-date technology and teaching methods, and engages students through interactive games and activities.

The program is delivered by a specialist educator and your child’s classroom teacher supervises the session.

We will be holding a Parent Information Session in the van on Friday 24th October at 1:30pm. This is a free session for Parents and Guardians who are interested in the opportunity to find out more information about what the children will be learning.

The educators will share ideas on how you can support your child’s learning around safe, healthy choices and peer pressure.

Please register your interest in attending the Parent Information session on Friday 24th October at 1:30 at the office or by phoning 3714 0222.

For more information please read through the Life Education brochure that was sent home with the permission form or visit the website www.lifeeducation.org.au/parents

iSEE CARE Hampers
iSEE CARE is a non-profit organisation which operates locally within your school community.

Each week iSEE CARE helps to support school communities by providing food assistance hampers to families. Several grocery bags of non-perishable food items and toiletries are delivered and distributed every week to your school during the term helping to supplement a family’s weekly groceries.

iSEE CARE understands that sometimes we find ourselves in tough situations and we all from time to time need a helping hand.

If you would like one of these hampers please don’t hesitate to contact Miss Amanda or Chappy Jane in the office.

For more information on iSEE CARE and the services we provide please email us at info@iseeicare.com.au

P & C News and Upcoming Events
The P & C manages the Uniform Shop, Canteen, School Banking and Fundraising Events/activities such as school Disco’s and does so with a dedicated team of volunteers. These volunteers give their time whilst maintaining a family, work life balance. We acknowledge and thank them as they play a vital role within our school.

This Term we are organising a Fun Family Movie Night fundraiser on Friday 28th November, more details to come.

Please come along to our next P & C meeting on Monday 10th November at 9.10am in the Parent Room. A reminder that school banking is every Tuesday at the Canteen from 8.20am – 9am. Prizes have to be ordered so when your child is up to ten deposits please ask the banking coordinator for an order form.

Applications are open for the position of Canteen Convenor. A Blue Card and a Food Safety Certificate are requirements for this position. Please submit your resume and copy of your blue card and food safety certification via email to P & C Executive, pc.executives.ssss@gmail.com applications will close 31st October 2014. Interviews will take place first week of November based on submitted applications. The suitable applicant will start immediately.

During Term 4 the Canteen will be opening TUESDAY’s first and second break for the counter sales. No orders will be taken and students will be able to purchase drinks and ice blocks. Parents please note that the Canteen does NOT offer credit so please ensure your child has the correct money when ordering their lunch.

Our Uniform Shop is located in the Parent Room and opens; Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 8.15am – 9.15am. Sorry no credit can be offered however we do have 12-week Lay-by.

For more information regarding the P & C please contact the Convenor. A Blue Card and a Food Safety Certificate are requirements for this position. Please email queries to pc.executives.ssss@gmail.com

(Continued from page 2)

IMPORTANT DATES

20 October Pupil Free Day
22 October Swimming Years 1 - 3
23 & 24 October CALD Water Safety Program - Southbank
24 October Little Lorikeets
27 Oct - 31 Oct Life Education Mobile Classroom
28 October Brisbane Individual Age Chess Tournament – Nundah State School
29 October Swimming Years 1 - 3
11 October Little Lorikeets
11 October World Teachers Day