Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

DATES FOR THE DIARY

**October**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th Oct</td>
<td>PSSA Sport Commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd Oct</td>
<td>1st Kindy Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th Oct</td>
<td>2nd Kindy Orientation Day, SRC Halloween Disco</td>
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</tbody>
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CURRENT NOTES

- Update Medical Form
- Year 6 Farewell – due 30th October
- Year 6 Graduation Bears – due 30th Oct
- PSSA Sports students to be at school by 8.45 on Friday mornings
- Swim Scheme (Yrs 1 turning 7 this year, 2, 3 & 4) – due 31st Oct (deposit), 20th Nov (final payment)
- Joffa’s Toonschool – due 1st Nov

FUNDRAISING NEWS

- Trivia Night - 26th October
- Laura Jean Family Photos – 17th and 18th October

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends,

It’s hard to believe that we are already in Term 4. Hasn’t the year gone fast! It is going to be an especially hectic time for us as we will be introducing the Department’s new financial and student management systems. This means we will be ending our financial year earlier than most schools in NSW as we are part of the trial. We also have many school activities to fit in before the end of term. So its heads down for all of us.

SRC Walkathon

Our walkathon was a great success. Thanks to everyone for all their efforts but mostly to the children for getting out there and participating. The outcome was fantastic with us reaching our target of $12 000 which will allow us to purchase a set of iPads (30) for another stage. I am hoping that our finances will allow a second set to be purchased as well, reaching our goal for this year – a set of iPads for each stage in the school. I am pleased to report that the existing iPads are being well used by students K-6 to support and extend their learning. Well done SRC – an amazing job!

21st Century Learning

Students from Stage 3 demonstrated some of their 21st C learning skills to the P&C last term. I know they were very impressive because I am lucky enough to see the learning that occurs within classrooms all the time. A question came up at P&C about our 21st C learning and did this mean that we would be moving to open plan classrooms. I can assure you that this is not part of our 21stC learning plans. Our focus is on changing our teaching in our classrooms to better suit the needs of today’s children and to prepare them for the world they are and will experience.

This is being done in a variety of ways. We are moving into a more engaging style of teaching. This is often referred to as a “flipped classroom”. There are two key components to a “flipped classroom”. One is the use of educational technology to use a wide range of resources and to engage students in their learning. We are using iPads, Netbooks and interactive whiteboards within our rooms for a variety of purposes. An example is our senior students having avatars discussing the issues relating to oil spills (an amazing presentation on the
An example in our more junior classrooms is students learning about quite complex fractions by dividing things into parts on the iPads and managing it quite easily (our new syllabus expect Stage 1 students to understand eighths). So through the use of technology we are able to tackle things in new and interesting ways.

The second key component is providing the opportunity for learning through activity. We are trialling a style of learning where whenever possible we try to pose real-world issues and problems. An example is learning about space by posing a problem relating to the future of our earth – if we couldn’t live on Earth where could we move to and why or why not?

We have found that our students are very motivated by this type of learning. We are only at the beginning of our journey but we are very excited about it. As with all trials different teachers are at different stages within this and we are all learning. We will still be using the tried and true within our teaching and explicit teaching still occurs. However its how we apply and practice this knowledge that we hope will be more engaging.

**P&C Fundraiser**
The P&C have their major fundraiser coming up on the 26th October, the IRPS 2013 Trivia Night. I believe it to be a fun night with lots of things happening. I hope you can support their efforts and come along and have a fun night. Tickets are $20 per person and sales close on 16th October.

**NAPLAN Results**
We are very pleased with the schools NAPLAN results for 2013. Overall our students did extremely well although we can always improve. Our main focus was improving reading results for Year 3 students and I am happy to report that the results indicate that our strategies are working. The staff are currently analyzing the results to inform our planning for 2014.
The parent copy of results was held up due to a printing error. We expect to be able to distribute them by early next week. They will be sent home with your child. If you don’t receive your copy next week please let us know.

**New Financial system for Ironbark Ridge**
You will be aware that we are a trial school for the new Departmental systems. We will be switching to this next month. This has many implications for us as a school community. Our office staff has to prepare our existing data for it to move into the new system. We also have to finalise this years financials earlier than normal – our Annual Financial Statement. In order to do this there needs to be a two week no transaction period commencing 4th November. We will not be able to handle any money during this time. After this we expect to be running the new system, which is very different to what we have now.

Mrs Fox and I will be attending training sessions over the coming weeks. At this point in time we only have a general idea of what is involved and how it will specifically work. We will let you, our community, know of changes as soon as we can. We are hoping some changes will make things easier for you such as online payments.

As a result we are asking for some payments to be made earlier than might be expected. We are trying to keep in mind your ability to pay things at short notice so please let us know if there are any problems. Unfortunately we have not had a great deal of notice as to when this changeover would occur and have no control over its implementation.

The student management system is a component of this software so we will be implementing this at the same time. You may receive notes asking for information that is new or missing. We appreciate your support in this. For us at school these are major changes to how we operate our finances that ultimately effect everyone. Our staff are well skilled and I am hopeful the transition will be smooth.

**Uniform**
Just a reminder that all students should now be wearing their summer uniform.

**Ironbark Baby**
Just letting you know that Mrs Seward had a baby girl, Chloe Lee, on Tuesday 2nd October. She is a cutie and doing well. We wish her and her very proud parents all the best.

**Enrolment for 2014**
Our planning for 2014 is well underway. I am expecting at least one more class at the beginning of 2014 with more to come I’m sure. The new development has commenced and will play a huge part in our school growth in the next few years.
In order to plan as accurately as possible, I would appreciate you letting us know if your child will not be returning to Ironbark Ridge in 2014. This is a fairly stable community but there are always families on the move. So just send an email or give us a call so we can plan as closely as we can. Believe it or not one child can make a difference to how our classes are formed.

Have a wonderful fortnight,

Ms Anne Forbes
Principal

Deputy Principal’s Report

Welcome back!
There are a lot of events crammed into the Term 4 Planner and we are geared up for a very busy term. Your support is always warmly appreciated and received, and with several major administrative (office) changes happening during this term we especially request your flexibility and understanding.

NAPLAN – Year 3 and Year 5
Student reports from this year’s NAPLAN testing for Year 3 and Year 5 students have finally arrived. These reports will be sent home with students early next week (Monday 14th October) so please look in your child’s school bag on Monday and Tuesday afternoon. If you have a Year 3 or Year 5 student and do not receive the report in a sealed envelope by Wednesday 16th please contact the school office.
Teachers have already begun analysing overall school results from this national assessment program and are planning for future focus and program development. We are extremely proud of the achievements of our student groups, particularly in the area of Reading.
It is important to keep these tests and results in perspective as they are a ‘one-off snapshot’ of a student’s ability to perform in what can be quite an artificial, unfamiliar situation and can never replace the professional judgement of a teacher who spends a whole year observing and measuring a student’s progress. Further improvement is always possible and school programs are strategically aimed to achieve excellence from all students in school learning activities and ongoing assessments.

Student Leadership
All staff at Ironbark Ridge are committed to developing leadership skills in all students. This begins with ‘Personal Leadership’ where students are taught to be responsible for their own behaviours and to act in a positive, proactive, assertive fashion… becoming leaders of themselves! There are opportunities such as the SRC, sporting captaincies and other official roles created within the school but many opportunities for leadership exist beyond these ‘public’ positions.
Watching our current school student leadership team work and grow together has been a great pleasure this year. With a number of major functions and leadership roles still to come at the completion of the year I know we are in safe hands. Given that we will be electing next year’s student leadership team soon, all of our Year 5 students have been given a wonderful respectful, responsible example to follow!

Selective High School placement applications for Year 7 in 2015
Applications for students seeking selective high school placement in Year 7 in 2015 will be available online from next Monday 15 October 2013. Parents are expected to apply at:
www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement
All students applying will be required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test on Thursday 13 March 2014. Parents who wish their child to sit the test will need to apply by Friday 18 November 2013.

Parentline – a website resource for parents
For some interesting reading and parenting ideas go to: www.parentline.org.au

Looking forward to another co-operative, productive term with you all,

Nick Thomson
Deputy Principal
Term 3 - Week 10

PRINCIPAL: Year 6 – for great Fun Day!
K Blinky Bill Hanna A, Jon S, Grace W, Liam L
K Dreamtime Ella C, Tyler D, Rupal P
1 Blue Tongues Leanne L, Richard L, Alec U, Zoya N, Daniel K
1 Tassie Devils Rowan W, Chantal C, Thomas W, Kristine N
2 Marsupials William W, Halle S, Josh L, Kellie M
3 Jabiru Hasib R, Cooper S, Matthew C, Ezelle H, Alana C, Amithi V
3/4 Pelicans Etana P, Caleb M, Kye T, Jack J,
4 Wobbegong Nick D, Curtis A, Zahrah S, Jemma C
5/6 Kirribilli Ben R, Philippa K, Bethany W, Oskar B
5/6 Minties Latiesha B, Dipinpal C, Amin S, Blake A, Eric W
6 Daintree Jack T, Connor R, Smirthi
CHINESE: Kindy Dreamtime

Term 4 – Week 1

PRINCIPAL Year 1 for amazing improvement in reading
K Walkabout Dianna C, Kate B, Romeo O, Raymond Z
K Budgies Rebecca M, Isabel R, Jorge C
1 Ned Kelly Alannah B, Sidak S, Lily T, Thomas N
1/2 Cassowary Lateisha B, Felicity S, Ethan W, Chalise L, Daniel B
2 Kingfisher Justin L, Tabitha H, Kushal S, Chelsea W
3 Surfers Paradise Tristan S, Kristiana B, Ryan C, Emma B, Owen B
4 Sturt Hanyi L, Emma B, Tyson T, Genevieve V, Damon H
5 Herons Menuja G, Owen M, Neha S, Morgan R, Sara C
5/6 Speedos Ben C, Charlotte C, Matthew S, Rebecca C
CHINESE: 4 Sturt
**KINDY CAPERS:**

Hope all our Kindy families had a fantastic holiday. The weather was pure bliss and perfect for lots of outdoor fun. It was great to see so many students making use of the wonderful Rouse Hill library and their selection of levelled readers during the break.

In all Kindergarten classes in Term 4 homework will continue to be sent home on Friday and returned on Thursday of the following week so that students have time over the weekend to complete some of it. If homework is sent in to teachers on Friday instead of Thursday it may not be marked until the following week as teachers can’t always find time during the day to mark homework and rely on having it on Thursday night to check over it. The same applies to home readers. Sport clothes need to be worn on Thursday. Library is still on Tuesday.

In Week 3 on Tuesday 22nd October the Kindy Dance Group will be performing at 2014 Kindy Orientation. Miss Dennis will send a note home closer to the date to remind students what they need to bring on the day.

Once again we are very short on glue stick supplies in Kindy rooms. If you can send a bostick glue stick along to class with your child it would be greatly appreciated.

Have a great weekend!

The Early Stage 1 Team

**STAGE 1 SNIPPETS**

Welcome back and we trust that all our Stage 1 families have had a good holiday. It’s been great to hear all the interesting things that students have been doing over the break.

In Term 4, students will look at programs such as Workers in the Community and forces in nature – Push and Pull. By now students have taken home their talking and listening task for this term and are busy making their toy and preparing for their speeches. If you have any questions about the task please see your classroom teacher.

This term students will also have the opportunity to participate in Swim Scheme. The details are being finalised now and a note will go home this week. Sport will remain on Thursday so please ensure your child is wearing sports uniform and appropriate footwear along with a hat and water bottle as it is starting to heat up.

Library days this term are as follows:

- **Tuesday** – 1 Ned Kelly, 1 Blue Tongues, 1 Tassie Devils, 1/2 Cassowary and 2 Kingfisher
- **Friday** – 2 Marsupials and 2 Bilbies.

Please ensure students have a bag so they may borrow books from the library.

We hope you all have a great weekend!

The Stage 1 Team

**CHINESE NEWS:**

Nǐmen hǎo! 你们 好

I am very pleased to announce our first after-school Chinese Mandarin class beginning this term. It will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 3:10 – 4:15 and is open to all students K-2. It will be run by an experienced native speaking teacher and supervised by myself. Cost will be approx. $10/lesson depending on numbers.

Lessons will begin in Week 3, Wednesday 23rd October. If you are interested in having your child/children participate in this class could you please email me at linda.barbaro@det.nsw.edu.au with their name and class.

I am also very excited to let you know about my upcoming trip to China. I am very lucky to be travelling to China in conjunction with the teachers and students of Rouse Hill Public School in Week 4 as part of my
professional development and to find out more about the student travel program which we will hopefully be able to offer our students in the future. It is a wonderful opportunity to see cities like Beijing and Shanghai first hand and to bring back some authentic learning materials for my students. I am also hoping to visit our sister school in Ningbo - Yinzhou Donghu Primary School - to establish a pen-pal program and more learning opportunities for the future.

Lastly, a reminder about our Chinese National Day celebrations next Monday 14 October. Any students who haven’t yet paid have been given one last chance to get their permission note and money into the office by this Friday 11 October. Thank you – xiè xie Mrs Fox and the wonderful office ladies!! And remember to wear your red and yellow mufti.

Mrs Przyrembel – Chinese Teacher K-6

**SRC NEWS:**

The SRC Halloween Disco will be on Wednesdayday 20th October. The cost is $10.00 per child, or a family ticket for $25.00, which includes entry, supper, glo sticks, lollies and a chance to win a lucky door prize.

Come dressed in Halloween fancy dress.

K – 2 will commence at 5.00pm and conclude at 6.15pm
3 – 6 will commence at 6.30pm and conclude at 8.00pm

Pre-sale tickets will be available from Week 3.

Hope to see you then!

Mrs Walker and Mrs Nahirny
S.R.C. Walkathon Co-ordinators

**PSSA SPORT:**

**WEEK 1  11.10.2013**

**OZ TAG:** Russell Reserve, Rouse Hill, Field 3
**CRICKET:** Connor Greasby Park, Kellyville Ridge
**TBALL/SOFTBALL:** Hills Centenary Oval
**AFL** Wrights Reserve, Quakers Hill

**WEEK 2  18.10.2013**

**OZ TAG:** Russell Reserve, Rouse Hill, Field 4
**CRICKET** Hills Centenary Oval
**TBALL/SOFTBALL:** Hills Centenary Oval
**AFL** Wrights Reserve, Quakers Hill
ADMINISTRATION NEWS:

ENROLMENTS FOR 2014
Applications for Non Local Kindergarten Enrolments for siblings need to be handed into the Office A.S.A.P.

Enrolments for our In Area Kindergarten Students for 2014 are now also being accepted.

STUDENT MEDICAL FORMS:
If you have not yet returned the new medical form to the office, could you please do so, as soon as possible as we need to update all our records. Thank you

We are currently working towards moving into the new the Finance and Student Management systems for the Department of Education and Communities.

From the 6 November to 15 November 2013, we will be in a Transaction Free Period in which the transfer of data to the new system will occur. I have recently issued new Invoices to families for any outstanding payments this year and asked that payments be made prior to the 1 November 2013.

Those students in the music program will need to bring all outstanding fees up to date urgently. I have passed on details for outstanding music fees to Mrs Talati for her to follow up. The invoices for Term 4 will, unfortunately now have to go out to parents after the 15 November. The format and process for these and any other charges will be outlined to parents as soon as staff are trained and able to report on this process.

Thank you for your continuing support. The Principal and I have been very busy preparing for this major shift in school administration. The administrative staff are expecting an extremely stressful workload in Term 4, but with your continued patience and support, I know we will get through all the work and be operational later this term.

Therese Fox
School Administrative Manager

SCHOOL BANKING DAY REMINDER:
Don’t forget that Friday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great, exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program.
P&C NEWS:

CANTEEN

CANTEEN SHIFT AVAILABILITY Term 4 - Weeks 1 to 5 (as at 5/10/13)

We need your help in the canteen this term go to www.carebookings.com.au/ enter the code YJP98 to book your shift.

Wednesday 9th Oct:
1 person 8.45-10.45
1 person 10.45-12.45

Friday 11th Oct:
1 person 8.45-10.45
1 person 10.45-12.45
1 person 12.45-2.45

Monday 14th Oct:
1 person 8.45-10.45
2 people 10.45-12.45
1 person 12.45-2.45

Wednesday 16th Oct:
2 people 8.45-10.45
3 people 10.45-12.45
2 people 12.45-2.45

Friday 18th Oct:
1 person 8.45-10.45

Wednesday 23rd Oct:
2 people 8.45-10.45
3 people 10.45-12.45
2 people 12.45-2.45

Friday 25th Oct:
1 person 8.45-10.45
2 people 10.45-12.45

Monday 28th Oct:
1 person 8.45-10.45
2 people 10.45-12.45
2 people 12.45-2.45

Wednesday 30th Oct:
2 people 8.45-10.45
3 people 10.45-12.45
2 people 12.45-2.45

Thursday 1st Nov:
1 person 8.45-10.45

Monday 4th Nov:
2 people 8.45-10.45
1 person 10.45-12.45
1 person 12.45-2.45

Friday 8th Nov:
1 person 10.45-12.45

** WE HAVE NEW PRODUCTS **

We have some new items in the canteen this week just trailing them for term 4.

1. **JUMPY’S** crunchy potato snacks shaped like a kangaroo they are yummy!
   2 flavours Chicken and Salt and Vinegar
   - Selling price $1.20

2. **PIRANHA gluten free** vege crackers 2 flavours Salt & Vinegar and Honey soy - Selling price $1.20

Both products are Amber approved for school canteens nationally.

ALL ice blocks and ice cream can now be sold at recess now as well as lunch.
FUNDRAISING
Laura Jean Photography Fundraiser

So popular is the “Laura Jean Photography” fundraiser, that the Saturday session was BOOKED OUT in just days! So we are very happy to be able to have them come and do a special indoor sitting for us on: **FRIDAY 18th October**!

For $20 – you will receive a giant “10x13” framed portrait - a great family gift idea or Christmas present!

These funds (plus bonuses) shall go back to our school and at the same time, if you choose, you will have the chance to purchase additional portraits at exceptionally good prices (this was a VERY popular Christmas gift idea last year with our families)

To avoid disappointment, please submit your money and voucher to the front office ASAP.

(Sorry – Flexischools is unavailable) Please also use the below coupon to nominate your preference for timing (4-6pm, 6-7pm, 7-8pm)

While your preference will be considered, please note that no times can be allocated until all spaces are filled, at which time you will notified via email.

As per the conditions set by Laura Jean Photography, please note that no refunds are available should you be unable to attend on the day or cancel your time. Also, the coupon is only valid 1 per family, meaning no person is able to be in 2 separate sittings.

Visit the Laura Jean Photography website: www.laurajean.com.au

Or the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/laurajeanfundraising

Place your completed voucher with your payment in an envelope - Mark the envelope ‘family portraits’ including your name and contact number and return this to the front office.

Please contact me via email below if you have any questions. Kind Regards, Monica Calderwood calderwood3@bigpond.com mobile 0410 506 158
Ironbark Ridge P&C Trivia Night
Saturday 26th October 2013

“Best Trivia Show in Town”

Prizes awarded for the Best Dressed Person & Table

Come dressed as cast or characters from TV, Movies, Disney, Paparazzi or anything Hollywood!
Only 2 weeks to go until ...

Ironbark Trivia Night!

Ticket sales close 16th October.

Our last Trivia Night in 2011, was a huge success and a sellout - with 180 mums, dads, teachers, office ladies, partners and friends, who had a fantastic night! Tickets are already selling, and will sell quickly, so don't miss out!

A table consists of 6-10 people maximum. However, don't worry if you don't have a full table, just get a ticket for yourself or a few friends and we can help you fill your table. Tables will be combined and advised on the night! All tables will have a team name - we're asking that everyone comes up with a name for their table – the more creative the better!

This year we've added a new dimension ... it will be FANCY DRESS! As you would know by now, it is ... HOLLYWOOD THEME!!! Fancy dress is optional, but it adds so much fun and laughter to the night, and there will be prizes awarded for the best-dressed person /couple and best decorated table. Be as "out there" as you like! Some ideas could be - a movie character or cast of that movie, a TV show character/s, The Paparazzi, The Hollywood sign, Disney Characters, or even come as a Gold Oscar ... or just simply get frocked up in your best Hollywood Red Carpet Glitzy Glamour number!!! Can't wait to see what everyone comes up with!

To purchase your tickets – Flexischools is available for group ticket purchases ie. for tables consisting of 6-10 people. For smaller groups, couples or single tickets, or if you don't have flexischools, simply fill in the TRIVIA NIGHT TICKET COUPON on the bottom of the invitation flyer, and place in the green box @ the office with payment. Please make any cheques payable to “Ironbark Ridge Public School P&C”.

Alternatively, we will also have a ticket selling table at school in the first week back from the holidays, near the Admin building. All purchased tickets will be confirmed via email by 21st October.
We are putting out a call for helpers for the trivia night please!!

Please let us know as soon as possible, if you can help in any way with :-

- Set up of hall – throughout the day
- Raffle ticket sellers - on the night

If you can help, please contact Sharyn Latham-Callcott at: sharyn.lc@hotmail.com

Any amount of help will be GREATLY appreciated, thanks!! 😊

Don't forget to BYO drinks & nibblies, and come along ready for a great time in a relaxed & social atmosphere!!

TAKE THE TEACHERS ON – don’t be intimidated by them talking it up – IT’S ANYONE’S GAME !!!

If you need another flyer, it is on the school website under P&C /Fundraising.

Any questions ... please contact Joanna Stedman at: joanna@electraloom.com.au

Not long to go now . . . . the excitement is mounting !!!

We hope to see you join parents, friends and teachers for a fun night out, with plenty of laughs . . . And all for a great cause . . . to raise money for our wonderful school!!

Trivia Night Committee 😊
Ironbark Ridge Public School P&C
are excited to invite you, your family & friends to our

IRPS 2013 TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday 26th October
To be held next door at Rouse Hill High School hall
Pre-trivia drinks from 6.15pm for a 7pm start

🌟 Trivia 7pm - 11pm (approx)
🌟 Prizes awarded for the Best Dressed Person & Table
🌟 BYO esky, drinks & nibblies
🌟 Bring plenty of gold coins to try your luck at the games!

Tickets $20 per person
(adults only)
Ticket sales close Wed 16th October

Join parents, friends and teachers for a fun night out with plenty of laughs... and all for a great cause - to raise money for our wonderful school!

Flexischools is available for group ticket purchases only (ie for teams of 6-10 people). For smaller groups, couples or single tickets, simply fill in the Ticket Coupon below, drop into the office with payment and we’ll place you on a team. Those not using Flexischools can also use the coupon below.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanna Stedman at: joanna@electraloom.com.au

TRIVIA NIGHT TICKET COUPON

Name: ____________________________
Team Name: ____________________________
Number of tickets: ____________________________ at $20 per ticket
Amount enclosed: ____________________________ Cheque [ ] Cash [ ]
Contact number & email: ____________________________
I am joining the ____________ team [ ] Please assign me to a team [ ]
Cultural diversity: Suggestions for families

Parenting across cultures has particular challenges. Sometimes children and their parents or carers have different ideas about how to balance the values and expectations of two cultures. When children have a sense of belonging to both cultures it supports positive mental health and wellbeing. The following suggestions may assist you and your children to achieve a positive sense of belonging in both cultures.

Celebrate your own culture
Developing a positive sense of cultural identity supports children’s self-esteem and their sense of belonging. By telling stories and sharing customs you can help children to connect with their cultural heritage. It is important to talk to children in ways that are appropriate for their age and interest. Knowing and taking pride in their own heritage can help children feel comfortable and secure with their identity.

Build social networks
Friendships and social networks are important both for children and for families, helping them to feel part of the community. Making connections with local people is important for feeling welcomed and building a sense of belonging in Australian society. Your connections may be with your own cultural group or you may prefer to build your connections with another cultural group. Your child’s school can be a great meeting point for parents and carers where long-term friendships develop.

Get to know your child’s school
Becoming involved in your child’s school is a great way for families to feel connected to their community. There are often opportunities to participate in school events which may help you to get to know your child’s school and the school community. Forming relationships with school staff can also help you to feel like you belong. For instance, having a good relationship with your child’s teachers will allow you to ask questions about your child’s progress, and share your cultural background with them. When families and teaching staff develop relationships, they are more likely to understand each other’s perspectives, talk through concerns and support children together.
Learn about parenting in Australia

Some parenting practices may be quite different in different cultures. Finding out about parenting practices and expectations in Australia, including things like legal requirements of parents and supports available, can help you work out the best ways to manage problems that may arise. Many families from culturally diverse backgrounds find that blending the best parenting ideas and practices from both cultures is very helpful.

Be flexible

Children can feel confused when the values and behaviours expected at home seem to be different from what happens with their friends. It is helpful to be flexible when deciding on rules and expectations so you can take into account any difficulties your children may be facing. Listening to your children and talking openly about the concerns they may have regarding different expectations for school and home means that solutions can be found through understanding and compromise.

Be patient

Adjusting to a new life after migration has lots of challenges for both families and children. Establishing a secure and caring home environment helps to provide children with a sense of stability. Finding people who understand you and can support you as you settle in is really important. It is also often very important to access the help that is available through government agencies, community organisations and English language programs.

Seek support

Getting help in your own language can be especially important at times of stress or when dealing with complex issues. Many community organisations around Australia provide specific support and advice from a cultural perspective. Some organisations offer regular meetings or short courses to help with parenting or other family issues.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au
COMMUNITY NOTICES:

Carmalt Conveyancing can offer legal and technical excellence when buying or selling property within New South Wales. We have genuine knowledge of the property industry and the people within it.

We offer after hours appointments for our busy clients at a location convenient to you.

Our areas of practice include:

- sales and purchases
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- property development
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- retirement villages
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OPSM

Dr. Amira Howari
B. Optom. (Hons) GradCertOC Ther Optometrist

OPSM Rouse Hill
Shop GR 179 Rouse Hill Town Centre
10-14 Market Place
Rouse Hill
NSW 2155 AUSTRALIA
Ph: (02) 8882 9399
Fax: (02) 8882 9017
The Challenge of Disciplining your Child

Assists parents with constructive techniques in disciplining and encouraging their children

Topics include:

- Understand what positive discipline means and how to set clear boundaries that children respect and learn to appreciate
- Use conflict as a tool to improve relationships
- Use tips and hints on different discipline techniques

Date: Monday 28 October
6pm – 9pm

Venue: Interrelate Family Centre
Suite 423, Level 4
14 Lexington Drive
BELLA VISTA

Cost: $25 / $15 concession

To Register: Call 8882 7850

** BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL **
Presents a Free Information Evening


Tuesday 15 October 2013
7pm – 9pm
Wesley Castle Hill Uniting Church Hall
32 Showground Road, Castle Hill

Join us on the evening when five speakers from the following professional fields will share their experience, designed to assist you to understand the issues affecting families & friends directly impacted by separation & divorce:

- Relationships Counsellor
- Family Court Support Person
- School Counsellor
- General Practitioner
- Community Resources – the Hills Family Centre

The program will comprise 1 hour of presentations from the speakers with a Q & A session and then individual discussion (if desired) with the presenters. A light supper will be provided during the second hour.

To book or find out more information please contact:

Bryan Mullan, Education Team Leader on 0468 359 536 or
email: education@wesleycastlehill.org.au

Follow up event: 23 October –
Hills Family Centre – “Separation & Divorce for Couples”
WHAT’S ON IN OCTOBER 2013

MOTHERS & KIDS ASTRONOMY NIGHT - Saturday, 12 October (8pm – 10pm)
This special night is organised not only to attract more girls to take up careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics but to also allow busy mothers to have quality time with their daughters and granddaughters under an exciting starry night.

ASTRONOMY NIGHT - Saturday, 26 October (8pm – 10pm)
BLACK HOLES – Black Holes are the greediest consumers of the universe! They have such a large gravitational pull that if you get too close, nothing can escape them - not even light! We look at what exactly they are, where they come from, how to see them, and what mysterious effects they cause.

These nights not only include the multimedia presentation but also a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University’s 0.6 metre and 0.25 telescopes. Our programs run regardless of the weather.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.
Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au

Roslyn McCourt | Administrative Officer
School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics
Tel: 02 4736 0135
Email: r.mccourt@uws.edu.au | www.uws.edu.au/observatory
Office Hours: Mon, Wed and Thurs 8.30 am - 3.00 pm
Do you have a child in year 4, 5 or 6?

In 2001 (over 12 years ago) the Government introduced the ‘Child Tax Offset’ and surprisingly many Australians did not know about it and have NOT claimed any benefits.

Act now! Time is running out fast!

HAVE YOU MISSED OUT ON THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS?

If your child was born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004 you may be eligible to receive up to $12,500 of entitlements.

The government has now put a deadline on this entitlement so please email childoffset@twelve.com.au to receive more information.

Twelve Chartered Accountants ABN 61 712 659 747
Suite 2, Level 1, 10-14 Boyle Street, Sutherland 2232
P. (02) 9524 2744  www.twelve.com.au Principal: Derek Nolan CA

Your Family Tax Specialist
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/10 Public Holiday</td>
<td>8/10 Students return</td>
<td>9/10 Assembly 2pm Newsletter P&amp;C Meeting 7pm</td>
<td>10/10 School Photo Day</td>
<td>11/10 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R6</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/10</td>
<td>15/10</td>
<td>16/10 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>17/10 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R7</td>
<td>18/10 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/10</td>
<td>22/10 Kinder 2014 Orientation Day #1</td>
<td>23/10 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>24/10 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R6</td>
<td>25/10 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28/10</td>
<td>29/10</td>
<td>30/10 Kinder 2014 Orientation Day #2</td>
<td>31/10 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R9</td>
<td>1/11 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/11</td>
<td>5/11 Groups/Teams Photo Day</td>
<td>6/11 Assembly 2pm Newsletter</td>
<td>7/11 Kinder 2014 Orientation Day #3</td>
<td>8/11 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>12/11</td>
<td>13/11 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>14/11 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R11</td>
<td>15/11 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/11</td>
<td>19/11</td>
<td>20/11 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>21/11 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R12</td>
<td>22/11 Student Banking PSSA Summer - R13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/11</td>
<td>26/11</td>
<td>27/11 Last Scripture lesson Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>28/11 Student Banking</td>
<td>29/11 Student Banking</td>
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</table>

**SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME** - Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2/12</th>
<th>3/12</th>
<th>4/12 Combined Scripture Assembly 2pm Assembly Newsletter</th>
<th>5/12 Presentation Day (No swimming today)</th>
<th>6/12 Student Banking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME** - Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9/12</th>
<th>10/12</th>
<th>11/12 Kinder Fun Day P&amp;C: (To be confirmed)</th>
<th>12/12 Stage 1 Fun Day</th>
<th>13/12 Student Banking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16/12</td>
<td>17/12</td>
<td>18/12 Last day for students</td>
<td>19/12 School Development Day #1</td>
<td>20/12 School Development Day #2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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