Dear Parents and Friends,

It has been an exciting couple of weeks with students at camp in Canberra; dancing the night away at the Sydney West Festival; exerting themselves at the Cross Country; and presenting speeches so expressively as well as continuing on with all our normal school activities. I would like to express my thanks to the teaching staff for their hard work and dedication during this time. As well as making sure these activities run successfully they have been writing reports on their students, completing applications for students for high schools and opportunity classes, attending professional learning sessions, preparing items for audit, planning for Education Week and much more. Also thanks to all the parents who have been listening to speeches, making costumes, running children around to venues and just generally being there. These activities are so successful because of the teamwork between home and school, true community spirit that should be valued by all of us.

Camp
Our Year 5 & 6 students boarded buses in the early and chilly hours last Monday morning, full of excitement and high spirits as they started their journey to Canberra. The only tears I heard were those of a younger brother who was obviously going to miss his older sibling. There were plenty of waves and some hesitation about being “car sick” as the buses pulled away.

From all reports the planned activities went off well, with students learning more about our capital city, our history and our government amongst the fun of being away with a group of their peers. I’m not sure how much sleep was had and Mrs De Jager tells me a visit to McDonalds with so many hungry children is an experience not to be missed! (I wonder if she was hinting for next year). Thanks to all teachers who went to camp but especially to Mrs Cauchi who filled in at the last minute. Great work!

Sydney West Dance Festival
Our Year 1 and Year 2 dancers were amazing as they danced the nights away last week. They looked stunning in their sparkling costumes and makeup and danced beautifully. It is difficult to be backstage waiting your turn but our students behaved extremely well, as usual, making everyone’s jobs much easier. Well done to all of our dancers and a big thank you to both our teachers and parents for all their hard work. We look forward to seeing our dancers perform at school later in the year.

Cross Country Carnival
I spent last Friday watching students from the “Ridges” schools compete in the cross Country Carnival. I was a bit nervous as the small spots of rain hit my windscreen as I was driving into the grounds. However,
someone was watching out for us as blue skies appeared and the sun broke through. Although windy, the weather was on our side.

Our students ran extremely well and it was exciting to see them running past my checkpoint. They had so much energy but I’m sure they will admit that they were happy to see the finish line. I admit I was excited to see Lachlan W. from 4S run past me in 3rd place on the final lap. When I looked over to the other side of the field I could pick out the red jersey, now in 1st place. That was an exciting moment. Jarrod N. from 5H also placed well coming 3rd. Overall our school came 4th in the point score.

Congratulations to all our entrants, especially the 8 students who have made it through to the next round of the competition, the Western Sydney Cross Country. Well done!

Public Speaking
Congratulations to all the students who gave speeches this week in our public speaking competition. It is extremely difficult to stand in front of a large audience and present a speech but all students did an amazing job. We still have some impromptu speeches to be given before we know who will go on to represent our school at the Multi-cultural Public speaking competition.

Updates on Departmental Changes
As mentioned in the last newsletter, we will learn shortly who our Director, Public Schools will be replacing the current School Education Director. Since then Kerrie Ikin, our current School Education Director, has announced that she will be retiring at the end of the term and hence not applying for the position. We wish her well in her “new” life. I know she will be extremely successful at anything that she takes on. We look forward to hearing who we will be working with in the future.

Gutters and Footpaths
We have been advised that work will commence on gutters and footpaths on Withers Rd opposite the school on 17th June. Construction will be from 7:00am to 5:00pm from Monday to Saturday. Please take extra caution coming and going from the school. This week they have been cutting down trees, blocking off one lane so I am sure that there will be further interruptions to traffic.

Evacuation Practise
We are required under Work, Health and Safety regulations to regularly practise our evacuation procedures. On Wednesday 12th June we were scheduled to have an evacuation, lockdown and lockout practise. All teachers, including casuals, are well-trained in these procedures. Due to wet weather evacuation practise has been postponed and new date will be advised next week.

Have a wonderful fortnight,
Anne Forbes
Principal

Deputy Principal’s Report

Public Speaking
It has been a great honour and pleasure to adjudicate this year’s Stage 2 and Stage 3 finals of the school debating competition. To have such an array of strong speakers all at the one school is extremely impressive. Congratulations to all class representatives on your presentations. The spontaneous thunderous applause from your student audience showed how genuinely amazed and proud your peers are of you all!

Winners and runners-up from each stage will be announced shortly as these students will be representing Ironbark Ridge PS at the local area finals to be held in the last week of term at Rouse Hill PS.

KidsMatter
As part of our efforts to make our school as welcoming and positive as possible for our students and parents we would like to get your opinions through a simple survey. The easiest way to complete this survey is online at:

www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/parentsurvey

This Friday afternoon we will be asking parents at school picking up their children to come into the Library in order to quickly fill in the survey online. Paper copies are available but collation of the responses is obviously far quicker using the online version.
GWS Giants AFL match
This Sunday 16th June our local AFL team, the GWS Giants, take on Port Adelaide in what will hopefully be a big win to the mighty Giants! The Giants are offering all GWS school kids the opportunity to get two free tickets, a show bag and entry to the pre-game footy clinic with some of the young Giants star players. Head to the following internet link to register:
See you all at Skoda Stadium, Homebush, on Sunday!

Parenting ideas
Each fortnight I try to include some sagely parenting advice in the newsletter for all of us parents from the ‘guru’ Michael Grose. He has a free monthly magazine available in ‘e-format’ from his website using the following link…
There is free access to a range of great resources and thought-provoking tips also found under the ‘Parents’ tab at the website – check it out!

Keep smiling,

Nick Thomson
Deputy Principal

Parenting when you don’t see instant results  by Michael Grose, Parenting guru

There aren’t too many activities you do where the results are usually long-term. But parenting is one of them. You put in the groundwork teaching kids how to behave, how to be confident, how to treat others well and a bunch of other positive skills and attitudes and often you don’t see the REAL results until your kids grow up. But you’ve just got to keep doing the right thing regardless. That takes a lot of faith. I was reminded about this when speaking to a parent after a recent talk. She had a son who had struggled at school all his life. She’d put so much of her emotional and physical energy into helping him learn, jollying him along and nursing him through many of the ups and downs that kids who struggle at school can experience. Her son, now a teenager, was about to give up trying. I could see that his mother felt like giving up too! She asked: "When do you stop being a child’s coach and cheer leader?"
The answer, of course, is that you can’t! **She knew that but, like her son, she needed some encouragement to keep going!** We all do from time to time. That’s why it useful to remind yourself that parenting is a long-term activity!

The Einstein Factor
I think all parents need to channel the Einstein Factor. Inventor Albert Einstein maintained that he was no smarter than anyone else, he just stayed on problems longer than most people.

With some children you have to stay on the job longer than with others.

- If you have a **shy or socially-challenged child** you have to stay on the job perhaps until adulthood when he or she finds their own way of building a network of friends and colleagues. **In the meantime support, coach and cajole!**
- If you have an **ADHD-type child** you have to keep on the job longer, keeping him or her out of trouble. You may not see the results until their mid 20’s when all that energy goes into starting up their own business or doing something absolutely amazing. In the meantime **explain, teach and be firm!**
- If you have a **late-bloomer** you have to keep them interested in learning, so that they readily learn the practical skills needed to succeed in the workplace and in business, where many kids who struggle at school end up. In the meantime **encourage, scaffold and model learning!**

We all want instant results in whatever we do. Parenting is no different!
It’s hard when the results don’t come. But you’ve got to keep on doing the right things, and making the best choices for your kids. In other words, bring the Einstein factor into your parenting. To help do this:

1. Get support and feedback from your partner, or a colleague. Feedback fires you up.
2. Keep building your skills and knowledge that will help your kids be successful or overcome individual challenges. Kids get lifelong learning from parents, more than school.
3. Be around people who fire you up, and energise you. It’s no coincidence that great parents hang out together. Support keeps you grounded.

**Small hinges swing big doors**
A former parenting mentor used to say, “Small hinges swing big doors.” He meant that it’s the little things done on a regular basis by parents that make the biggest difference to kids. You’ve just got to choose the right actions and keep doing them….day after day. And have faith that the results will come eventually!

Nick Thomson
Deputy Principal

**Ridgy Didge Awards**

**Term 2**

**Week 6**

**Principal’s Award** 3 Jabiru

**K Blinky Bill** Indigo, Liam, Kiarna, Harry
**K Dreamtime** Ella, Kyle, Umar,
**1 Blue Tongues** Carter, Richard, Leanne, Summer
**1 Tassie Devils** Baylee, Nicola, Chantal, Lily
**2 Marsupials** Saffron, Justin
**3 Jabiru** Ezelle, Liam, Laurence, Liliana, Isabel, Alexander
**3/4 Pelicans** Ainsley, Joshua, Olivia, Jayden, Riley
**4 Wobbegong** Jackson, Hamish, Makkai, Emily

**Chinese:** 3 Jabiru

**Week 7**

**Principal’s Award** Sydney West Yr 1 Dancers and Sydney West Yr 2 Dancers for their amazing performances

**K Walkabout** Liam, Zainab, Olivia, Liam
**K Budgies** Leah, Jorge, Jayee, Rebecca
**1 Ned Kelly** Akrisha, Riley, Emily, Yusuf
**1/2 Cassowary** Joshua, Kyle, Ava, Hayley, Daniel B
**2 Kingfisher** Joshua, Keyan, Alannah, Hayden
**2 Bilbies** Andrew, Mackenzie, Jacob, William
**3 Surfers Paradise** Evan, Sophie, Tristan, Eliana, Layne
**4 Sturt** Hanyi, Emma, Jack, Orlando, Shayan
**5 Herons** Jacinda, Shalini, Kelvin, Morgan, Sara
**5/6 Speedos** Joanna, Dylan, Natalie, Jacob
**5/6 Magpies** Sophie, Declan, Chloe, Prabhleen, Melanie

**Chinese** Kindy Walkabout
**KINDY CAPERS:**

Winter is here and mornings are very chilly. Please make sure that your child’s jumpers, jackets and vests all have their name clearly marked on them. Lost property is still overflowing with winter clothing. Names very quickly wear off hats and need to be rewritten on a regular basis.

During winter when the days outside are cold it’s a great time to visit the local library. At Rouse Hill levelled readers are available for students to read and borrow. It’s makes good sense to establish habits early that children can maintain throughout the changing fortunes of life. Going to the library costs nothing so it can easily be done whether you are a princess or a pauper.

Please keep encouraging children to develop good hygiene habits. At school we remind children to wash hands before eating, after going to the toilet and to cough and sneeze into elbows rather than hands to avoid sharing germs. Likewise discourage nail biting, fingers, pencils and items of clothing in the mouth as germs are easily transmitted.

In Term 3 Kindergarten students will start to receive weekly homework. Please provide your child with an A4 lined homework book that doesn't have a spiral spine. Kindly cover and clearly label homework books including first and surnames and class. Please send in homework books by the end of Week 1 Term 3 as homework will start in Week 2. Home reading and Bug Club will continue.

Have a great weekend!

The Early Stage 1 Team

**CHINESE NEWS:**

Nǐmen hǎo! 你好

I often have students ask me why we learn another language at school when everyone speaks English. My answer always includes things like travel, future careers and understanding others. But an article I was reading recently about the benefits of learning languages added some more interesting data….

- Students who study a foreign language for 4 or more years outperform their classmates.
- Children raised by bilingual couples are more likely to have better memory and overall intelligence.
- The mental benefits of learning a language include improved memory, increased academic aptitude, the ability to multi-task and increased brain health in later life as well.
- Over a third of businesses hire people specifically for their language skills.

So when your child tells you about the colours you are wearing or counts the number of people in your family in Chinese, you can be sure that they are developing important learning skills for the future.

Mrs Przyrembel
Chinese Teacher K-6

**STAGE 3 SNIPPETS**

Stage 3 thoroughly enjoyed their experience last week on camp in Canberra. We visited the War Memorial, Old Parliament House and Parliament House, where some lucky students even witnessed the PM and Opposition in the House of Representatives. The AIS and Questacon were favourites among many students as they got to interact with sport and science activities.

Everyone had a great time, even though the cold, early morning starts were hard for some!

Stage 3 teachers.
Rio Sydney West Dance Festival

Congratulations to the Year 2 Rio Dance Group who shook their maracas and danced up a storm at last week’s Sydney West Dance Festival. We had a very busy week with long days and late nights but the smile on the dancer’s faces and the buzz of excitement was well worth it. I was so proud of our Rio dance group, you have been such a pleasure to work with!

A huge thank you to the team of dedicated mums who did a fabulous job with hair and makeup last week, your help was greatly appreciated.

Remember to order your Sydney West Dance Festival photos at www.secheny.com/gallery and DVD’s on the special order form.

Regards,
Kylie Walker

PSSA SPORT:

Week 7 14.06.2013

NO PSSA – SYDNEY WEST CROSS COUNTRY

Week 8 21.06.2013

NETBALL: Commercial Road, Kellyville. Court 9
NEWCOMBE BALL: Rouse Hill P.S. (must be at School at 8.45am)
RUGBY LEAGUE: Kellyville Park, Memorial Avenue, Kellyville. (must be at School at 8.45am)
BOY’S SOCCER: Second Ponds Reserve, Rouse Hill, (must be at School at 8.45am)
GIRL’S SOCCER: Mihkelson Reserve, Maslin Cres. Quakers Hill, (must be at School at 8.45am)

ADMINISTRATION NEWS:

Please remember to put all notes with money in a sealed envelope. As you can imagine, the volume of money coming into the office makes it difficult if it is not in an envelope. Notes and payments should be handed into the office or placed in the Green Box on the reception counter, before school each day.

Thank you
Admin. Staff

ENROMENTS 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.
PERTUSSIS (WHOOPING COUGH)

There has been a case of whooping cough at our school. If your child has any of the following symptoms please see your doctor and also contact the school.

What are the symptoms?

Pertussis usually begins just like a cold, with a runny nose, tiredness and sometimes a mild fever. Coughing then develops, which may occur in bouts, sometimes followed by a deep gasp (or “whoop”), especially in unvaccinated children. People may vomit after a bout of coughing. Pertussis can be very serious in young children, especially those under 6 months of age. Complications can include pneumonia, brain damage from lack of oxygen suffered during bouts of coughing, and death. Older children and adults tend to have a less serious illness, but they can still have persistent coughing that may continue for several weeks, regardless of treatment.

How is it treated?

A recommended antibiotic – usually azithromycin for 5 days, or erythromycin or clarithromycin for 7 days is used to treat pertussis. These antibiotics can prevent the spread of the infection to other people. People often continue coughing for many weeks despite treatment, but they are no longer infectious after 21 days, or after completing a five day course of antibiotics.

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/FUNDRAISING AND CANTEEN NEWS:

Where did the term go?

I would like to start by thanking some very special ladies. First, Monica and Jo, our sticky sticker counters in the Woollies Earn & Learn program … It is a huge job and we want you to know how much we appreciate your dedication in a difficult and competitive climate. And secondly, thank you Sharyn for your ongoing support and dedication to our annual pie drive, now in its 8th year. We know you have a lot of work ahead of you as the delivery will be arriving shortly, please know we truly appreciate what you do. We do hope you like the new look P&C news. We thought it would be easier when skimming through the newsletter to still get a good idea about what is going on and available to you, by going to an image based format. I would love to know your feedback and suggestions. Please email me president@irpspc.com and let us know your thoughts.

Term 3 is always a busy one; it is also the time we start planning for Kindy Orientation. Can you believe it is half way through their first year of big school? We look forward to having our Kindy parents being involved in the planning and morning tea for our new Kindergarten parents in 2014. Remember P&C Cookbooks are available on Flexischools.

Leigh Kostiainen
IRPS P&C President

Proud Lil’ Banker!

Cameron, from year 1, is very proud of becoming a student banker. Here he displays his very first banking token. Not only has he got plans for the prize he will choose when he reaches 10 tokens, he also has plans for when he reaches 30 tokens. I am sure he has no doubt he will reach his financial goals LOL.

All students who are student bankers receive a token with every deposit they make. Every ten tokens they can choose for special Dollarmites prizes. Student Banking is on Fridays.

Prezo!
I Hope You Are Loving the Winter Warmer Recipes In The IPRS P&C Cookbook
End of Term 2 Sausage Sizzle

28th June Lunch
$2.00
Only On FlexiSchools
Order Now

Lunch Bags Save The Environment
... and rubbish in the playground

Purchases: uniforms@irpspc.com | Support: canteen@irpspc.com

Do you remember doing Student Banking

Student Banking Day is Friday @ IRPS
1. Open a CBA YouthSaver acct at the CBA & make the first deposit at school.
2. Leave books in the office on Friday morning.

Students learn valuable lessons about money, saving and achieving goals through banking. Our CBA Rep will be at IRPS to open student accounts in Term 3.

Inquiries: studentbanking@irpspc.com
Pie Drive PICK UP Wednesday 26nd JUNE!
Our Pie Drive has come to an end for another year, now onto the good part … Pie Eating!
Please collect your pies from the undercover area outside the LIBRARY, from 2.45pm Wednesday 26th June. A huge thank you to all the wonderful families & staff that supported our 8th Annual Pie Drive!
And further thanks to the families who not only stocked their own freezers, but also drummed up sales with family, friends and neighbours!
Everyone’s support has helped make this one of your favourite annual fundraising events.
We hope everyone enjoys some quick, no-fuss, yummy pies throughout winter!

Sharyn Latham-Callcott
Dear Parents

Thank you so much to all the wonderful families that have been collecting, sticking and getting involved in Woollies Earn and Learn for the past 2 months.

The Woollies Earn & Learn program has now FINISHED! So PLEASE return any stickers and cards that you may have, to the Woolies green box in the front office.

Thank you all so much for collecting so many stickers! Although we will be significantly down on numbers from last year, we think everyone has done a wonderful job considering that so many parents have shared cards with younger children whom Day Care centres are also participating, as well as the fact that the promotion ran almost 5 weeks shorter this year with no extensions like last year and there was also no “double sticker weeks” like there were 3 of them last year.

Stay tuned in the coming weeks for the final sticker count tally!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAND IN YOUR STICKER FORMS &/OR STICKERS BY: MONDAY 17

Monica Calderwood & Joanne Bustin
Your friendly stickers & counters

Leigh Kostiainen
P&C President

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY
Great Western Highway, Werrington North (Building AO)

WHAT’S ON IN JUNE - UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY

Family Astronomy Night - Saturday 15 June (7pm – 9pm)
How to Create a Star – This talk is about stellar evolution: from normal stars to hyper-novas

This night not only includes 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 online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au
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HILLS HAWKS SOFTBALL CLUB

2013/2014

2013/14 Season Starts September

Softball Registration

Teeball/Medball/Softball

Play at the same time and location each week
Join friends from school, meet new friends, bring a friend!
Ages 5 to Adult - great team sport, something for everyone
Registrations available online from mid June (*register early & save)

When: Sunday - 23 June 2013
Time: 9am to 12 noon
Where: Hayes Park, Galston Road, Galston or from mid June @ www.hilshawks.football.org.au
Enquiries: Belinda - 0412 111 058 or email hilshawks.softball@gmail.com

SUMMER BASEBALL

JOIN A FUN, SAFE NON-CONTACT SPORT
MAKE NEW FRIENDS BECOME THE NEXT MAJOR LEAGUE ALL-STAR!

COMPETITION IS FOR ALL AGES
6-17 JNR COMP U/6 CUBS PROGRAM OVER 17 SENIORS COMP

REGISTRATIONS
ROUSE HILL TOWN CENTRE SATURDAY 20TH JULY
SUNDAY 21ST JULY
HILLS CENTENARY PARK SATURDAY 27TH JULY
SUNDAY 28TH JULY

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CHRIS 0481 324 437
OR KAREYN 0408 998 090

OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.WILDCATSBASEBALL.COM.AU
DISCLAIMER:
Ironbark Ridge Public School newsletter contains paid advertisements which assist with the cost of publication. The publication of such advertisements does not imply endorsement of any product or service by the NSW Department of Education and Communities or Ironbark Ridge Public School.

7pm Group Training @St Andrews Primary
7pm AquaFit @Glenwood
7am Saturday Boxfit @Marayong
9.30am Ladies Group Training@Glenwood
Personal Training
Nutrition Planning

FREE for first timers

Contact Kathryn Wahby
Ph: 0422 264 970
E: kathryn@b2bp.com.au
W: www.b2bp.com.au
Find us on Facebook

Jiggle ‘n’ Jam
early childhood music

Music Classes for Pre Schoolers!

Jiggle ‘n’ Jam is a high quality music program where children are immersed in multi-sensory activities that enable them to experience the core foundations of music.

Children move, sing, listen use percussion and other fun activities!

First lesson free trial, places strictly limited!
Classes on offer in term 3 at Rouse Hill and Stanhope Gardens
Ages 2 to 4 years (flexible)

Phone: 0402 854 536
Email: jigglenjam@exemail.com.au

Jiggle ‘n’ Jam with Miss Rhiannon
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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>School Development Day (No students)</td>
<td>Students return</td>
<td>Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Student Banking, PSSA weekly – Rnd6</td>
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<td>Castle Towers: Dance, Choir, Band perform</td>
<td>ICAS English Test</td>
<td>OPEN DAY BOOK FAIR</td>
<td>HPS Athletics Carnival @ Centenary Oval Newsletter</td>
<td>Student Banking, PSSA weekly – Rnd8</td>
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<td>Pulse Choir rehearsal</td>
<td>Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>Pulse Choir rehearsal, Milo Cup Cricket, Pulse Choir performance</td>
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<td>Student Banking, PSSA weekly – Rnd9</td>
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<td>Kinder Farm Excursion</td>
<td>ICAS Maths Test</td>
<td>Assembly 2pm, P&amp;C meeting 7pm</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Student Banking, PSSA weekly – Rnd10</td>
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<td>Kinder 2014 Parent Information Evening</td>
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<td>Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>Fathers’ Day stall, Newsletter</td>
<td>Student Banking, Ridges Zone Athletics</td>
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<td>Walk-a-thon – school fundraiser</td>
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