Wednesday 3rd August, 2011  

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This week celebrates the Education of our students with the theme being "Creating the Future". Our public schools play a vital role in shaping our future society and in forming our conception of what is held to be valuable in that future society. The principles of public education relate back to the vision of the father of free universal compulsory education in Australia, Sir Henry Parkes. He saw (quote) "all children marching together into the classroom, side by side in equality, two by two, rich and poor, girl and boy, of varying abilities, free from discrimination based on religion, gender or life-style".

Communities invest much in social capital and schools of the future will see even more work in programs addressing the obligations of the haves to the have-nots, the social justice aims of pursuing peace, a fair distribution of resources, a sustainable world climate and the fight against racism. We are creating a future for our Garden Suburb students in which our students learn by the very act of helping others. We continue to promote life-long learning and we see learning for the future take place in our classrooms, home and throughout life.

We hope you have been able to join us at one of our Education Week events.

This week is also SAS staff recognition week. Please say thankyou to these important people in our school who work hard and make enormous contributions to our school and your children. In our school these people are, Mrs Bailey, and Mrs Williamson in the office. Mrs Brewer, Mrs Lewis, Mr Flannery, Mrs Bourke, Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Prince, Mrs Maggiotto, Miss Betteridge and Miss Bell. The Teaching staff and students appreciate the work they do everyday. Thankyou!

Good luck to our Zone Public Speakers for next week when they compete against other schools. We are proud of them and hope they enjoy speaking to represent our school.

In a world where social medial sites are abundant and students have access to these (many under the recommended age) I encourage you to monitor your child's page. Many students at our school are now on facebook and are asking staff to be friends. We are not allowed to befriend students as it is against our Code of Conduct. As most of our students are under the age of 13 we are obliged to ring facebook to let them know that they are under the recommended age. Please teach safe use of these sites. Stage 3 do have lessons taught to them as part of our Child Protection syllabus.

Have a great week

Swadling
On Thursday 25th August at 10.15am we will be having a Book Week Parade at school. The theme this year is “One World, Many Stories” and students are encouraged to dress in a costume from another culture (or a book character).

We are unable to secure a Book Fair for that week so it will be held during Week 8 in Literacy and Numeracy Week.

Please keep working on your “family stories” for our Book Week display. Send them in as soon as they are completed.

Mrs Burke
KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2012
We are now taking names for 2012 Kindergarten. If you have or know of a child turning 5 years by July 31st 2012 who would like to enrol at Garden Suburb P.S., NOW is the time to come and let us know. We will even take names for future enrolments. Kindy Orientation will be on Thursday 8th September at 9.30am.

Group Photos
Group Photos eg. School Leaders, Band, Whole School and Sport Leaders, can be viewed at the office and you can pick your order envelope up from the office as well. Last date for orders Wednesday the 10th of August 2011.

Medications
No student should have medication in their possession it should be either in the school office or with their teacher. It is an OH&S issue which has to be adhered to. If your child requires medication at school and you wish for the office staff to administer it you need to come to the office and fill in the required paper work or else you have to come in and administer it yourself.

Students are allowed to carry Asthma prevention inhalers with them. If your child is an asthmatic please make sure they have their preventative inhaler with them at all times.

School staff are not allowed to administer pain killers (eg. Paracetamol) and as such do not keep pain killers on site. If your child requires pain killers these need to be prescribed by your Doctor and the relevant paperwork filled out at the office or you need to come in and administer it yourself.

Tree Planting Day
Friday 29 July 2011
You CAN—Schools Program

We are still collecting old mobile phones. The box is in the office foyer. Just drop them in. It is for a worthy cause—Cancer Research.