Year 5 and 6 Canberra Excursion

Our Stage 3 students had a fantastic time visiting Canberra. On the excursion they participated in a variety of educational programs and learned about Australia’s history, culture, heritage and government. Even though they were extremely busy traveling from venue to venue, their behaviour was always outstanding. Thank you to Ms Lucantonio, Miss Lowe and Mr Heinecke for giving up their time so that the students could have such a wonderful experience.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of these experiences for young Australians as a part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist parents and caregivers the Australian Government has contributed $20 per eligible student towards travel expenses under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program. This funding will be paid directly to the school. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Stage 1 Music Education
Band and guitar members teaching younger children about their instruments

Congratulations to these students this week!

KT   Aren, Corey, Owen
K1/B  Ryan, Cameron, Kane
1/2J  Nathan, Caleb, Kiraban
1S   Taylise, Amalia, Regan
2/3F  Jake, Georgina, Imogen
3M   Dashiel, Cale, Lachlan
4L   Jya. Jessica, Edward
5M   Bilinda, Zali, Daniel
6H   Martin, Sera, Lucas
K/6W  Nicole, Ben

Class of the week
Preschool
Kookaburras

Term 4
Week 3
Calendar Dates
TERM 4
Week 3
Friday ESPSSSA commences.

Week 4
Second week of Swimming Scheme
Monday 29th October Interrelate Program for parents & students in library

Week 5
Flip Scooter demonstration day
Wednesday 7th - Band performing at Assembly

Week 7
Wednesday 21st - Student Leader Speeches (Yr 5)

Week 8
Wednesday 28th - Student Leaders 2013 Elections

Week 9
Thursday 6th - Presentation Day 1.30pm
Friday 7th - Mini Fete 11.30-1.50

Week 11
Monday 17th - Concert and Yr 6 Farewell
Tuesday 18th - School day out to the Movies
Wednesday 19th - Last day of Term 4
Preschool Enrolments
Preschool families enrolled for 2013 have been contacted by mail this week about the recent changes to government regulations in NSW regarding Preschool places. From next year, all government Preschools will only be able to offer part time places for the year prior to school. The guidelines state that children must attend 2.5 days a week. To cater for the working parents in our community as best we can, our families have now been offered an opportunity to accept a 5 day fortnight place to ensure we are following these guidelines. This means students will come to the Preschool 3 days one week and 2 days the following week over a fortnight. Parents select whether the 3/2 day place will be at the beginning or end of the week. As these are major changes to our set up, we would ask that if any parents know anyone who has a child turning 4 by 31st July next year who may have wanted a part time place, please contact the school office as soon as possible. It is crucial that interested families contact us soon so that we can work out our student numbers in the Preschool for 2014.

Dance News
The children are practising for their end of year performances. Students in the senior group are asked to bring in some clothes for our hip hop routine at next Monday's lessons. Examples could be jeans, baggy pants, baseball caps and t-shirts. Midriffs or skirts are not suitable.

School hats
A reminder that all children should have a school hat every day to wear in the playground. The weather is getting warmer and it is crucial that children are protected from the sun. The school understands that student hats go missing but the school only has a small supply of spare hats to borrow. Some children have not had a school hat to wear at school for a long period of time. If your child's hat is lost, please send a spare hat from home for the short term. If the hat is not found, your child should get a new hat to ensure they are protected in the sun.

P&C News
Everyone should now have the information about the calendars/cards fundraiser. Mobile phone covers can also be ordered for iPhones. All orders with payment need to be at school by the end of next week. Samples of the items are on display in the school office. Every child will produce the art work at school this week. The art work is then professionally scanned and made into the various products that you can order. They make great Christmas gifts too for those people who are hard to buy for!

Interrelate Sessions
Notes have been sent home to Years 3-6 students inviting parents and their children to attend Interrelate sessions at Banksmeadow School on Monday 29th October. Please return attendance slip and payment to the office by Friday 26th October.

Principals Message
We once again took third place in the Botany Bay Council Garden Awards. The School or Community Group Garden category is hotly contested so congratulations to our teachers, students and our band of volunteers who have worked hard to maintain and extend our gardens. Last week I had the pleasure of attending the Stage 3 Canberra excursion. On the whole our students behaviour was excellent. This is a great learning opportunity for the children as well as being fun and a time to develop personal skills. These types of experiences can only happen by our teachers not only organising the event but in this case giving up their own time to make it happen. I sincerely thank Mr Heinecke and Miss Lowe for their commitment to the students of Banksmeadow. I know the children with have great memories of those three days.
Unfortunately we are still having problems with drop offs and pick ups at our two entrances. It is important that parents are aware and concerned about the safety of all children. Parking illegally or stopping on or close to the pedestrian crossings endangers all students by cutting down or obscuring the vision of drivers and others using the crossings. It may be more convenient for parents to quickly stop to pick up their child but in doing so they create a dangerous situation. Please consider the well being of everyone.

Cathy Lucantonio