NEWSLETTER
Term 3, WK 3, Wed 30th July 2014

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Our school’s homework policy has been drafted and is published on our school website. Please take the time to read the policy and provide feedback to me via the school’s email address. It is our intention to finalise the policy by Friday, 8th of August, 2014.

Thank you to all our families and staff who supported Superhero Day. I apologise for the short notice but I only became aware of the fundraiser upon our return to school at the beginning of Term 3 and could not ignore the recipients of our efforts. NSW Bear Cottage, who provide paediatric palliative care, will soon receive a donation of $437.00. From the bottom of my heart, I appreciate the support that you provide in helping us teach our students the importance of caring for others in our community.

I’d also like to thank our families for making a huge effort to ensure that our students are at school every day and on time. Since my last report about attendance in our newsletter, the overall attendance rate for our school has improved. Keep up the great work!

Today was our athletics carnival. We will have a full report in next week’s newsletter but I would like to thank Ms Karanikolas and Ms Gale for the organisation that goes into such an event.

This week, at our teacher professional learning meeting, we followed up on the training we received at our Term 3 Staff Development Day. Dace Elletson, the Principal at La Perouse PS, presented a session on comprehension which is one of our school targets for 2014. Comprehension involves responding to, interpreting, analysing and evaluating text. These skills require explicit teaching to students of all ages and we are working hard to ensure that we do the best job we possibly can.

Have a great week.

Helen Empacher
Principal

CALENDAR

1st August 2014
Peer Support party

4th August 2014
Showcase rehearsal

5th August 2014
Showcase performance

6th August 2014
Interrelate 6:00pm start

12th August 2014
Book Week Performance
ICAS - Maths test

13th August 2014
Zone Athletics

18th August 2014
Premier’s Spelling Bee 11:30am
Book Week

21st August 2014
Book Fair Sale

22nd August 2014
Book Fair Sale

26th August 2014
Rugby Tens - Years 3 & 4

1st September 2014
P&C Meeting 7:00pm

2nd September 2014
School Council Meeting 7:00pm

3rd September 2014
Regional Athletics Carnival

4th September 2014
Father’s Day Stall

19th September 2014
Last day of Term 3
**Superhero Day**

Our Superhero Day was a great success. The students and teachers looked amazing dressed as their favourite superhero. Thank you to all the parents and students who contributed to our very successful cake stall on the day. We raised $437.00 for NSW Bear Cottage. It was a fantastic effort by everyone.

**Interrelate Presentation**

It is the last opportunity for families to sign-up for our special evening Interrelate presentation. It is a wonderful opportunity for families to begin a dialogue about two very important topics that can sometimes be difficult to start. On Wednesday, 6th August 2014, there are two sessions being run on the night. The first “Where did I come from?” begins at 6:00pm and the second “Preparing for puberty” starts at 7:15pm. We have included a form on the back page of this newsletter for you to complete and return to the school office.

**Enrolling Now for Kindergarten and Preschool 2015**

We are accepting enrolments now for Kindergarten students for 2015. Application forms are available at the school office during school hours. In order to process your application, we need to see an original birth certificate or passport, proof of where the child resides (this can be a current utility bill, tenancy agreement or drivers licence) and the Medicare immunisation statement which can be downloaded from the Medicare website. Please be aware that it is a legal requirement that all students be enrolled in school by the time they reach 6 years of age.

**Premier’s Spelling Bee**

On Monday, 18th August 2014 (11:30am - 1:00pm), we will be hosting the school final of the Premier’s Spelling Bee. Finalists will be selected from Stage 2 and 3 to compete for the chance to represent our school at the regional final. The competition is open to all government primary schools in NSW. For any students wishing to take on the challenge and practise using the official word lists please go to https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/2014-premiers-spelling-bee. Further information can be obtained from Ms Zouroudis or your child’s teacher.

**Book Week 2014 - Connect To Reading**

We will be having an educational musical performance held at our school for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 to celebrate Book Week 2014. WORLDS APART …..promotes literacy and reading by inspiring students with the limitless fun and possibilities offered by books and reading that will appeal to all primary ages. It engages students in the understanding that interacting with books and products of our imagination and offers limitless possibilities for expanding our horizons. The performers feature a selection of the shortlisted books from the Children’s Book Council of Australian Annual Book Awards. Claire and Craig share an exciting story with the audience and take them on a journey to celebrate Book Week.

Please complete the permission slip that came home recently and return it to your child’s teacher, together with $7.50 no later than Monday 11th August 2014.
When kids ask “the” questions . . .

Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate’s high quality sexuality and relationship education program is coming to your school! With more than 85 years’ experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today over 41,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate school and family programs each year.

Many parents find it hard to discuss or answer questions relating to sexuality education . . . We know how to ‘help break the ice’. Interrelate programs are interactive, family focused and presented in the context of caring relationships. Our fully trained and experienced educators, who adhere to a strict code of ethics, conduct the program.

Session 1: “Where Did I Come From?”
1 hour – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
In this session children are eager to learn more about how their bodies work and the differences between males and females. This session extends their understanding of conception, fertilisation, foetal development and the birth process.

Session 2: “Preparing for Puberty”
1 hour – Years 5 & 6
This session helps to prepare children and parents/caregivers for the physical, social and emotional changes associated with puberty. Changing emotions and relationships with families and peers are addressed. Information is also presented on menstruation and wet dreams.

You and your child will benefit from the information presented in this program. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive. What parents have said about us:
“The educator has a great way of putting things simply” “Provided me with a solid foundation” “Covered areas I hadn’t thought of talking about” “Entertaining and informative”

Interrelate SCHOOL SERVICES presents
A SPECIAL EVENING PROGRAM

FAMILY COST: 1 session $25 per family ṁ 2 sessions $30 per family

Please Note: The Family Cost is GST exclusive
The GST is payable/claimable by the School/Organising Body

Where: MASCOT PUBLIC SCHOOL
When: Wednesday, 6th August 2014
Time: 6:00 pm SHARP (“Where Did I Come From?”) 7:15 pm (“Preparing for Puberty”)

Please Note: Speciality books are available for purchase on the night.

--- Please complete and return to the school office, with payment in an envelope labelled with student’s name and class ---

--- A SPECIAL EVENING PROGRAM ---

Name of Family: __________________________________________

No. attending: ☐ Session 1: “Where Did I Come From?” ☐ Session 2: “Preparing for Puberty”

Amount enclosed: $ ........................ ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque (please make cheques payable to school)

Tel: (02) 8882 7875  ●  Fax: (02) 8882 7890  ●  schoolservices@interrelate.org.au  ●  www.interrelate.org.au

interrelate family centres Strengthening Family Relationships... since 1926