Dear Parents and Carers

Presentation Day
I hope you enjoyed celebrating the success of many students at Presentation Day on Tuesday. Our students were so proud of their achievements and it was tremendous that you were able to share their happiness. A special thank you to all those parents who remained to watch our fabulous high school students performing with the bells.

Meeting reminder
On Monday morning, I would like to share our strategic directions for the next three years with you, and talk to parents and carers about our PECS program, PBL, and Triple P – lots of programs that will be explained! Our proposed classes for 2015 will also be shown at Monday’s meeting which will be held at 9:30am in the staffroom.

Rob’s leg
Many of you may be aware that our school learning support officer, Rob, slipped and broke his leg in the hall last week. Rob is now at home, and will need to keep weight off his leg for a few months. We all wish him well, and look forward to seeing him back in 2015.

Farewell
This year, we farewell Marwan and Ben from Year 12, and wish them a wonderful time in their post school programs. These young men will be missed by us all.
Zeke is also leaving us to attend a school nearer to his home. We shall miss him too, as all of our students are our purpose for coming to work each day.
Thank you to all the boys’ families for their support. It has been a real pleasure to work together to help the boys achieve their best.

Raffle
Thank you to all who donated and/or bought tickets – the raffle is being drawn today. We have some fabulous community members who worked hard behind the scenes to make it all a success!

Diary Dates........
December 17    Last day of Term 4
December 18&19 Staff Development Days
January 28     Day 1 Term 1 2015

Thank you to all the staff
I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard this year. We have had many changes and put in a lot of time to ensure that our students receive the education that allows them to reach their full potential. Thanks to each and every one of you, as everyone here at Passfield Park School gives their time and energy to the maximum, day in, day out. That’s why our community really is the best!

Happy holidays
School finishes for students on Wednesday December 17th. Staff then has two professional learning days, where we will be working hard to refresh our use of Picture Communication Symbols (the PECS program) ready for 2015. Please take care of yourselves, enjoy a little more time in bed, and know that we’ll be looking forward to teaching all the students again in 2015.

Staff return on January 27th, for more professional learning, including CPR. Students will return on Wednesday, 28th January.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday.

Kind regards

Julie
Green Class

It is hard to believe that another school year has come to an end. Green Class has had a very busy term. Along with swimming for sport, Green Class along with fellow students participated in the school swimming carnival. The students were able to show their swimming skills by entering various races. They also enjoyed the novelty races, for example, the ball scramble where students were required to scoop up as many ping pong balls as possible into a bucket. We also attended an athletics skills day where the students practised skills at relays, cricket and a game of soccer. We finished the day with a delicious sausage sizzle.

Five students represented Passfield Park School at Schools Spectacular – well done to Blair, Raya, Shada, Aimee, and Taylor from Blue Class for all the effort you put into rehearsing and your brilliant performance. Green Class performed ‘It’s a Wonderful World’, using bells, at the recent Open Access Forum. We are very proud of their efforts. We also performed at our Presentation Day where we again showcased our wonderful class along with Blue and White classes in presenting ‘Joy to the World’. Congratulations to all our award winners. Birthday wishes go to Keeghan who celebrated his birthday in November.

The staff of Green Class wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas break. We look forward to seeing the students in 2015.

Olena, Diana and Julie

Silver Class

Silver Class has been enjoying the end of their year with some great hands on activities. On those real hot days, instead of going to sport, the children were able to enjoy some outdoor water play. They all loved getting wet from head to toe, experimenting with toys in the water troughs and playing with the boats on the track. It was the best way to cool down.

The students have all shown great progress in bike riding this term and have enjoyed their time at Campbeltown Bike Education Centre. Keep up the practise in the holidays!

Silver Class enjoyed an excursion to the Campbeltown Pet & Aquarium Centre where we learned about animals as living things, what they need to live and how we can care for them. Our students chose and bought a fighting fish named ‘Bluey’ who we care for every day. The students take turns in feeding him and making sure his tank is clean.

Silver Class also learned about plants as living things and grew some bean sprout plants. As they grew big enough, we planted them in our school garden beds. Now we need to make sure they get enough water to survive the summer. All the children have been enjoying the Christmas craft and activities in class and I’m sure are looking forward to Christmas and holiday celebrations at home. Have a Merry Christmas and happy safe holidays. See you in 2015!

Sarah and Sonia

Orange Class

The end of the year here already! It was lovely to see so many of you at Presentation Day to join us in celebrating all that the students from Orange Class have achieved. We are proud of them all and know that you will enjoy reading their reports. Congratulations to Aaron for receiving the Outstanding Progress Medallion for primary. You have made terrific progress and it has been wonderful to see you blossom. Congratulations also to Ezekiel and Aidan who received awards and Ishmam who received the book prize. You have all worked so very hard to achieve. It has been a busy year. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday and we will see you all in the New Year.

Belinda, Mat, Kris and Jenny

Check out our school website

www.passfield-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
Purple Class

We are very proud of all of the students in Purple Class. They have all made wonderful progress this year. Congratulations in particular to Logan for receiving the Premier’s Sporting Challenge Award and Tia and Logan for achieving individual class awards and Jamie for receiving the book award. Every Friday, Purple Class go to the Sarah Redfern PS canteen to purchase a treat so they can practice using their money skills. Paddle pops, chips, lolly bags and popcorn are favourites. They are learning to line up, choose their treat verbally or by using a visual, hand over the $2 coin and wait for change.

Last Wednesday the class enjoyed making special reindeer biscuits to begin our Christmas celebrations. They chose to try one of these yummy biscuits at lunch time and take the rest home to share with their family. Everyone is enjoying the Christmas stories, songs and craft activities this week. We wish you all a very happy Christmas and new year. Have a safe and relaxing holiday.

Di Smith, Narelle, Di Beers, Teresa and Glenda

Blue Class

Here we are at the end of another year! This year we say goodbye to Marwan—and wish him all the best for future success. Blue Class has continued to enjoy swimming at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre, particularly trying to get the teachers wet with water guns! Presentation Day was a huge success and we would like to congratulate all the members of Blue Class who won awards on the day. A special mention goes to Marwan, who won the High School Medallion, for improvements in his behaviour and participation. This week we plan to have a ‘Pizza Party’ to celebrate the end of the year. We would like to thank all the parents, carers and students of Blue Class for another lovely year. We wish you all the best for happy and safe holidays and look forward to seeing you again next year.

Mat, Mal, Rob and Rami

Red Class

It has been a fantastic year filled with fun, as the students of Red Class participated in many learning activities in their classroom, at sport, cooking, visiting the library, shopping or enjoying their weekly purchase from Sarah Redfern PS canteen. Their enthusiasm, independence and participation has certainly grown as they all try their hardest to participate and enjoy all learning.

This year, Red Class comprised of seven students from Y3 to 7 who all inspire me every day by their shining personalities, energetic pursuit of knowledge and their commitment to learning. I am very proud of each student’s successes.

I would like to thank Jeanette and Kris for their hard work, expertise and support which promoted the students of Red Class’ learning. We all have been encouraged by every student’s hard work, keenness and progress. We have marvelled at their strengths, drive to learn and their tenacity to achieve. Congratulations on your progress Mahib, Joshua, Dipita, Ben, Rebecca, Nusayba and Cassandra. I would like to thank the parents of Red Class students for your help and support in enabling your child to be as independent as possible.

I cannot believe the end of year has come so fast. Stay safe over the holiday and I will always remember you as very exceptional kids.

Cheryl A, Jeanette and Kris
**Pink Class**

We recently celebrated our last Pink Class birthday for the year and Phillip was delighted to have his friends from Silver Class join Pink Class for his birthday party. The cake was delicious and the chicken nuggets and potato gems were popular.

Students are coping well with the many changes to routine that occur at this time of year. Returning some of our usual resources to the resource room has provided us with the opportunity to enjoy some special activities. Water play has been a favourite activity on really hot days. Time spent on Christmas crafts, cooking and songs, has provided lots of fine motor practice and excitement.

The busyness of Pink Class has made the year seem to pass very quickly. Now, with the school year coming to a close, it has been good to reflect on the progress made by students throughout the year. Congratulations to all Pink Class students for the effort they have put in and for their achievements. We are proud of all of you!

We hope all students and their families have a safe and happy holiday break and thank you for your support throughout the year.

*Cheryl, Sharon and Di*

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**Yellow Class**

This term started with our excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park. We had a lovely day looking around the park at all the Australian animals. We even saw some familiar faces as Green Class were there on the same day.

We patted and fed kangaroos and wallabies and saw koalas, penguins, birds, echidnas, Tasmanian devils, dingoes, snakes and lizards. We all had fun at the Special Olympics Sports Day too where we practiced skills for bocce, cricket and soccer.

Each Monday this term, we have been to Hungry Jack’s to buy an ice cream, fries or a drink. The children took turns to choose what they would like, and then went to the counter to order (either verbally or with visuals) and pay for their food. Students then waited for their order and took it back to their table. On the way to and from Hungry Jack’s we also practiced road crossing skills.

For sport, we have had lots of fun swimming at Beverley Park School each week. We had a relaxing time playing games and improving swimming skills and confidence in the water. We showed off our skills at the swimming carnival. Congratulations to all of Yellow Class student for excellent behaviour at the carnival.

This week we celebrated Mikayla’s 9th birthday with a party in class. Happy birthday Mikayla! It’s hard to believe the year is over. It has been busy but rewarding.

We would like to wish all our parents a Merry Christmas. We hope you enjoy the holidays.

*Alison and Michele*
Highlights of Presentation Day 2014
Breakaway Playgroup

Breakaway Respite Playgroup operates 2 days per week during school term and is aimed at meeting the needs of pre-school aged children who have a disability.

Provides a trained Playgroup Leader, who is supported by a group of trained volunteers.

Where: Lots 2 & 3, Surrey Street, Minto

When: Tuesday between 9.30am to 1pm
Thursday between 9.30am to 2pm

Download our app (DisMac).
www.disabilitymacarthur.org.au

For more information or to refer, please phone:
Minto Office—9603 7011

CAMPBELLTOWN TERM 1, 2015

SEASONS FOR GROWTH (Adults)
This program provides the opportunity for participants to understand and cope with grief and loss and changes that occur throughout life. It educates parents about the grief process and assists them to develop skills for coping, problem solving and decision making. The program also builds a peer support network and helps parents to develop confidence.

4 Monday Mornings 9am - 12:30pm
9, 16, 23, February & 2 March 2015
CatholicCare, 35a Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
Workshop Fee: $15 per session

BRINGING UP GREAT TEENS
A workshop for parents of teenagers. This program covers connecting with teens, managing conflict, big issues and psychological challenges.

4 Friday Mornings 10am - 12:30pm
6, 13, 20 & 27 March 2015
CatholicCare, 35a Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
Workshop Fee: $15 per session

123 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING
This time tested workshop provides easy to follow steps for disciplining children aged 2-12 years without yelling, arguing or hitting.

3 Monday Mornings 10am - 12:30pm
10, 23 & 30 March 2015
CatholicCare, 35a Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
Workshop Fee: $15 per session

MY KIDS AND ME
A workshop for parents who have had children removed from their care. Assists participants to identify parenting skills, strengths and resources to develop relationships with their children.

7 Thursday Mornings 10am - 12:00pm
5, 12, 19, 26 February, 5, 12 & 19 March 2015
Claymore Community Centre, Cnr Gould & Dobell Rds Claymore
Workshop Fee: No Fee

KEEPING KIDS IN MIND
A post-separation parenting workshop. Learn how to deal more effectively with the emotional & practical issues of parenting after separation. Explores loss & grief in parents and children, power struggles & impact on children.

5 Tuesday Mornings 10am - 12:30pm
10, 17, 24 February, 3 & 10 March 2015
5 Thursday Evenings 6:30pm - 9pm
19, 26 February, 5, 12 & 19 March 2015
CatholicCare, 35a Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
Workshop Fee: $20 per session

GRASSROOTS PARENTING
This program, for parents of children aged 0 - 8, covers child development, behavior and management of safety, play and nurturing the whole family. Each of the 6 sessions is self contained. Pick which sessions you wish to attend.

Babies 0 - 12 mths
- 4 February
Child development, crying, settling, routine, safety, play and interaction

Toddlers 1 - 2 yrs
- 11 February
Child development, meeting toddlers needs, tantrums, safety and play

Pre-Schoolers 3 - 5 yrs
- 26 February
Child development, behavior and management of routine, rules and boundaries, safety and play

School Aged Children 5 - 8 yrs
- 4 March
Child development, discipline, consequences, communication, negotiating, safety and play

Nurturing the Whole Family
- 11 March
Self esteem, family resilience, assertiveness and nutrition

5 Wednesday Mornings 10am - 12:30pm
CatholicCare, 35a Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
Workshop Fee: $15 per session

WORKSHOP BOOKINGS
Campbelltown 4628 0044
Wollongong 4227 1122
Nowra 4421 8248

Back to school, uniform allowances

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Concessions may apply dependent on financial circumstances.