Principal’s Report...

The P&C organised Kindergarten Welcome BBQ was a particularly wonderful event this year. It was so good to see so many parents, other family members and siblings. The school leaders and their parents did a fantastic job supporting with the BBQ, the drinks and general organisation. Mrs Forest-Jones, (Joelle in 5/6A and Owen in 2H) our P&C President, welcomed everyone and set the tone for a relaxed and informal evening. My thanks to all involved, including members of the Fundraising Committee. I know that our new families feel settled and already have a sense of belonging.

Last week we held our School Clean Up Day with all students and staff very busy cleaning the school grounds of rubbish. As always, this is a great way to show our support of the Australia wide initiative and to reinforce that individually and collectively we can all make a difference. Thank you to Ms Morris for organising this event.

Mr Murphy reported the wonderful news at assembly this morning that Panania PS came first in the District Swimming Carnival. The day was a great success all round. There was lots of parent support, our students supported each other and there obviously was the odd great swim! Some excellent swims mean that a number of students will be going on to the Regional Swimming Carnival on 19 March. Thank you to Mrs Beck (Emaison in 5/6A) and Mrs Walsh (Daniel in 3H) who were our team managers as well as Mr Murphy, Mr Beattie and Mr Dodd who were our staff representatives.

Thank you to the many families who have paid the “School Contribution.” These additional funds allow us to purchase resources that better support the learning needs of our students. Could I remind you that the “School Contribution” or part thereof is due by the end of term? Similarly, thank you to the vast majority of parents who have paid the Student Resource Package. If you have not paid for this as yet, please try to do so asap. As always, if there are difficulties, I am happy to discuss alternative arrangements with you.

Another activity that we will be asking you to support is student participation in the ICAS Assessments for Years 3-6. We encourage participation as a way to give students every opportunity to perform under the same “test conditions” as for NAPLAN. Each year with NAPLAN (for students in Years 3 and 5) there seems to be a big build up and some students become quite anxious; so do you, I am sure! The media has certainly added to that anxiety! A way of minimising this could be to do the ICAS Assessments. I ask you to consider this request which, unfortunately, does come at a cost to you.

Plans are well under way for the PananiaMania Fete to be held on Sunday, 19 May with a dedicated band of parents and staff working together to make this a spectacular event. Please keep this day free in your diary and support us by attending. This will be the main fundraising event for the year so let’s all make a concerted effort to come along. Funds raised will be used to improve our school facilities with the installation of shade sails as a sun protector being an aim.

With my very best wishes

Sandra Palmer.
Congratulations to Mitchell Parsons, Cathrine Aneke, Isabelle Lhotka (Year 6), Emily Parmaxidis, Jason Parmaxidis (Year 4), Daniel Walsh (Year 3), who will be competing at the NSW Little Athletics Championships at Homebush on March 22, 23 and 24. Good luck!

Congratulations to the following students who have received Gold Awards at Assembly:

Madison Halley (4/5TS), Zack Carter (3M), Max Glover (5D), Deanne Agamemnonos (3/4R), Macy Carter (6P).

Writing Awards...

Congratulations to:

• Emily Wedgwood 2E for an excellent effort at describing a super hero.

Writing samples can be viewed on the Writer’s Wall of Fame near the office.

Cross Country...

Panania PS will be holding our annual Cross Country Carnival on Wednesday, 27 March. The Carnival will commence at 1:00pm and run through until 3:10pm.

As the carnival is still a few weeks away, this is the perfect opportunity for families to get together and spend some time training for the carnival.

As the students will be very active, it is important that they bring to the carnival water bottles and any medication they may need during or after the event.

The carnival always proves to be an exciting event and parents, family and friends are invited to come along and cheer the runners on!

On the day of the carnival, the Canteen will be open selling light refreshments and afternoon tea.

Students who finish in the top six places of the age race events will go on to represent our school at the East Hills District Cross Country, which will be held on Tuesday, 28 May at Padstow North Public School.

Mr B Dodd & Mr S Beattie,
Cross Country Co-ordinators.

Rule of the Fortnight
The rule we are focusing on for Term 1, Weeks 6 & 7 is:

Be an Active Learner

You can support us at home by having discussions with your child/children about what “Being an Active Learner” means and what this rule means in different settings.

Choir K-2 and K-6...

Students have now been selected to participate in both the K-2 and Years 3-6 choirs.

The choice was a difficult one for the teachers involved, as there were many students who displayed a keen interest in auditioning. However, the final decisions have been made and the students have been made aware of the results.

The role of a choir member is quite a demanding role as there are a great deal of expectations and responsibilities involved. Choir members are expected to sit for extended lengths of time, follow directions and display a high level of self discipline.

Regular weekly attendance at choir rehearsals is compulsory. This attendance involves dedicating the entire lunch period to rehearsal. Choir members must display the ability to learn a variety of songs as well as being prepared to practise at home. There are very high expectations of behaviour and spasmodic attendance at rehearsals will not be allowed.

Successful applicants will soon be receiving a choir contract which outlines the commitments that members are expected to make. We ask that you discuss this contract with your child before signing.

Mrs R Allworth & Mrs K Ernestins (K-2 Choir),
Mrs C Hoffmeister & Mrs R Rowland (3-6 Choir),
Choir Teachers.

Practicum Students - Macquarie University...

This semester Panania Public School will host two Macquarie University students who are in their final year of study to become teachers. Matt Piggott will be working with me on 2E and Mirna Lababidi-Awad will be working on 3/4R with Mrs Rowland. They will be here for 2 days each week for the next 11 school weeks. If you see them around our school, please make them feel welcome.

Mrs K Ernestins,
Prac Teacher Co-ordinator.

STOP PRESS
Change of date
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Now
7 June 2013 at The Crest
ANNOUNCING OUR GOLD SPONSORS

If you are involved in a business that would like to become a sponsor for the day, please contact Julie Parsons at julieparsons@optusnet.com.au or 0417 684 648. There are several different types of sponsorship available, so don’t miss out on this great opportunity to promote your business through our local community.

In addition to our main sponsors for the day, we welcome the donation of new goods or vouchers for the Chocolate Wheel. If you work for a company or even your local beautician / hairdresser etc. that can help us out by offering a voucher, please contact Julie Parsons for a formal offer.

More Information…
Our next PananiaMania organising meeting will be on Monday, 11 March at 7.00pm at Revesby Workers Club (in the lounge). Any parents/carers are welcome to attend and provide feedback and input.

White Elephant Stall/Book Stall/Kids Clothing Stall
Additional drop-off dates of your goods can be made on the following days/times:
- Tuesday, 12 March  8.45am – 9.15am
- Thursday, 14 March  8.45am – 9.15am
- Friday, 15 March  3.00pm – 3.15pm
- Tuesday, 19 March  3.00pm – 3.15pm
- Wednesday, 20 March  8.45am – 9.15am

Drop off location is the old Uniform Shop outside the A Block office stairs.

Plastic Bag Collection
Mrs Murphy (3M) has kindly offered to co-ordinate a plastic bag collection for use at our fete stalls. Bags can be dropped off to her classroom, located on the ground floor in A Block.

You can also drop off bags at the allocated days/times as previously listed at the old Uniform Shop.

Face Painters
Are you or is someone you know good at face painting? We are seeking face painters for a stall at PananiaMania and need your talent. Please contact Kathy Petersen on 0429 774 300 if you can help on the day.

PananiaMania Committee.

Value of the Fortnight
Excellence

Please support us at home by having discussions with your child/children about what ‘Excellence’ means at home, at school and in the community.

We’ve just started Kindergarten….
…..and look at what we can do!! We are learning to use sounds to make words and then putting those words into sentences. Mrs Palmer thinks we are very clever!

Cat’s in the Hat
Elizabeth Kington, Harley Cutting & Chrissi Tsamoulos

Parking Around School Grounds…
Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking around the school grounds in the mornings and afternoons. Please avoid parking your car across or overhanging our neighbours’ driveways especially on Picnic Point Road.
Book Club...

This week, we have distributed our first Book Club for 2013. In previous years, our school has greatly benefited from the commission that we receive through sales of items within the brochures. We have received equipment, games and books for our library.

If you would like to order any items, please send the completed order form to your child’s class teacher, with payment by Wednesday, 13 March. For credit card payments, please follow the instructions on the order form. Orders are then collated and sent to Scholastic for delivery to school.

Thank you for your continuing support,
Ms C Archibald,
Book Club Organiser.

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2nd Panania Scout Group Needs Leaders

2nd Panania Scout Group is desperately seeking New Leaders – in particular 1 female leader for Scouts (11 –15 years of age) to keep our Group running as we have both boy and girl members in all 3 sections of our Group.

We recently celebrated our 60 Year Anniversary and would love to be around for the next 60 years, benefiting all children in our area and generations to come as Scouts is the largest youth organisation in the world.

If you are looking for rewarding challenges, giving back to the community and being part of the largest youth organisation in the world, then look no further than Panania Scouts. All training provided and able to be done at your leisure on line.

We are located at 21 Wilson Street Panania. Our 3 sections are:

- Joeys (6-8 age) meet Tuesday nights from 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- Cubs (8-11 age) meet Tuesday nights from 7pm – 8.30pm
- Scouts (11-15 age) meet Monday nights from 7pm –9pm

Further information contact Lionel Pascoe, Group Leader on email lpas5190@bigpond.net.au or mobile 0417 075 227.

SAINTS NETBALL

If you are between the ages of 5 – 7 years old and would like to play netball, Saints Netball Club would like to invite you to come and play with us.

We are a family orientated club, with 15 teams and **URGENTLY** need your help to field a team for the above ages. We play netball at Deverall Park, Condell Park, around the corner from Bankstown Trotting Club.

Please contact Deanne Mawer on 0408 092040 **ASAP** if you are interested.

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Gail Browning’s School of Music

Gail Browning is a local Professional Entertainer and Piano Teacher and is offering the first lesson for FREE!

All ages from 5 years up, beginners or experienced are welcome.

Please call 9771 9225, or email gbrowningmusic@optusnet.com.au
Website: www.gailbrowning.com.au

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A new DVD based program, ‘Bedwetting Cured’, has been developed by Dr Mark Condon, and Physiotherapist, Margaret O’Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children.

For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website:

www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au
or phone 1300 135 796

2013 TERM DATES

Following are the term dates for 2013. These have been provided to allow you to plan holiday breaks ahead of time and to minimise disruption to learning.

Term 1: Wednesday, 30 January – Friday, 12 April
Term 2: Wednesday, 1 May – Friday, 28 June
Term 3: Tuesday, 16 July – Friday, 20 September
Term 4 - Tuesday, 8 October – Wednesday, 18 December

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