Priority Schools Programs

Priority Schools Programs support government schools serving the highest densities of low socio-economic status families in New South Wales. The programs are underpinned by principles of equity and are part of the NSW government’s commitment to social inclusion.

These programs provide resources to improve the literacy and numeracy achievements and engagement of students from low socio-economic status backgrounds. These are the most critical requirements for student achievement across the full range of education and training outcomes.

Priority Schools Programs resources support Priority Schools to do things differently with more, rather than, more of the same.

PSP Parent Survey

Every four years schools have the opportunity to apply for additional funding to support students through the Priority Funding Program. Next week each family will receive a confidential survey that needs to be returned by the end of the week.

The survey will be used to determine whether or not our school will be included in the next round of the Priority Schools Program. The school does not see the contents of your survey responses as they are sent unopened to the DEC in Sydney.

It is most important that all families return their surveys as a very high participation rate is needed for our school to be included in the program.

A successful result for the inclusion of Meadow Flat Public School to be included in the Priority Schools Program will mean a substantial amount of resources to the school to support literacy and numeracy programs, and student engagement.

If you have any question or concerns please address them with Mr Wood.

Clean Up Australia Day

Everyone is invited to participate the Clean Up Australia Day activities being held in Sunny Corner, Dark Corner and Meadow Flat on Sunday 4th March 2012. All volunteers are requested to attend the 8.45am sign up at the Sunny Corner Hall to commence cleaning activities at 9.00am.

Bring your gardening gloves and high visibility vests (if you have one). Some gloves and bags will be available at the signing. A sausage sizzle will conclude the day at the Sunny Corner Hall at 12 noon.

P and C Meeting

The next P and C meeting will be the Annual General Meeting followed by an ordinary meeting. This will commence at 4.30pm on Monday 26th March 2012. For voting rights membership is now closed for this meeting, but new members are able to join up for the term 2 meetings at the ordinary meeting by attending the meeting and paying the treasurer $5.00.

Principal whereabouts

Mr Wood will be in Sydney this Thursday and Friday for a Small Schools meeting. Mrs Nagy will be in on the Thursday with Mrs Murphy to cover the time. Next week there will be visitors in the school as we are hosting other small schools for a Maths Matters professional development course. Mrs Nagy (Infants) and Mrs Murphy (Primary) will be covering one day each. In week 8 Mr Wood heads off to Dubbo for the Regional Principal conference on the Tuesday and Wednesday – Mrs Murphy will be in.
**Easter Hat Parade**
The students will be having an Easter Hat parade on the last day of Term 1 in conjunction with mini-feast. The students will each make a basic hat at school as a part of their lessons. Parents are able to make a more involved hat at home.

**Lunchtime and Recess Arrangements**
Due to the unsafe conditions of the remaining student lunch tables all students will now need to eat their recess and lunch in their classrooms under supervised conditions with the classroom teachers.

The P and C are currently investigating the replacement of these tables so that we have a long-term solution.

Careful consideration needs to be made on the type of foods being sent to school so that carpets are not spolit by spillages.

No – yogurts or milk products please.

Students ordering ice-blocks, milks, or ice-cream cups will not be permitted to eat these in the classroom. They will need to get them from the canteen after the 10 minute supervised eating period and consume them outside while they sit down at the remaining tables.

Under these new arrangements the students will no longer be able to access the staff microwave to warm their meals.

**International Women’s Day 2012**
March 8 is International Women's Day (IWD), a global event that celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past and present. This year the theme is: Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures. For events around Australia including talks, exhibitions, concerts and fundraisers, go to:

www.internationalwomensday.com

**Kids Health website**
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead’s Kids Health website contains a wide range of fact sheets covering many different children's health topics, all written in easy to understand language for parents and children. The aim of the Kids Health unit is to keep kids healthy, safe and out of hospital. The unit also has a bookshop and lending library located on level 2 of the hospital. Enquiries call 9845 3585 (9am-4pm Mon to Fri).

http://kidshealth.chw.edu.au/

**Dates for Students**

**Term 1 2012 – March**
Friday 9th – Regional Swimming Carnival – Dubbo
Wednesday 14th – Kelso High School - *iLearn*
Thursday 15th – Year 6 Student leaders to Wattle Flat Public School
Friday 16th – Gala Day at Bathurst for 8yo +
Monday 19th – Evans Crown Horse Day

**Term 1 2012 - April**
Thursday 5th – Mini feast and Easter Hat Parade
Thursday 5th – Last day of term

**Term 2 2012 – April**
Monday 23rd – Staff return
Tuesday 24th – Students return
Wednesday 25th – ANZAC Day Public Holiday