Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Term One is now well and truly underway and the children have quickly settled into their new classes. Teachers are now in the process of getting to know the varied personalities, learning styles and academic abilities of each of the children in their charge. Once this understanding is established, the teachers will be designing teaching and learning programs that best suit the students in their class.

We invite you to learn more about what takes place in the classroom by attending the Meet the Teacher Night on Monday 24 February. K-2 class talks are from 6pm - 6.45pm. 3-6 class talks run from 6.50 – 7.35pm, followed by a brief presentation in the library from Mr Lance Berry, the Principal of Narrabeen Sports High School.

Ethics Classes

Last term we called for ‘expressions of interest’ for students to join Ethics classes to be held at the same time as Scripture Classes on Wednesday mornings. There was an extremely positive response so we are delighted to be able to offer these classes this year. Volunteers who are specially trained by Primary Ethics will conduct the classes.

If your child is in Years 1-6 and you wish them to participate in Ethics classes, please complete the tear off slip later in this edition and return it to the Yellow Box in the foyer. Please note: if you completed last year’s expressions of interest, you still need to complete this new form to confirm a place in the class.

Money and Notes Update

Thank you for your extremely warm response to the new money and notes system. As with any new process, there have been a few teething problems but we are gradually working through them. A few points to remember:

- The pink form is a permission note for all local excursions in 2014. On the reverse are permissions for excursions in Term One. Only sign for the excursion relevant to your child.
- Permission notes are returned to the teacher, not the office.
- School fees paid through the office need to be in a clearly marked envelope with child’s name, class and purpose of payment.

Dates for Your Diary

- 13 Feb 2014 Swimming Carnival
- 17-21 Feb 2014 Swim Scheme Yrs 2-6
- 19 Feb 2014 Parent Club Meeting 2.15 pm
- 24 Feb 2014 Meet the Teacher evening
- 03 Mar 2014 Kindergarten finish 3.10 pm
- 04 Mar 2014 School Tour 9.30 am
- 06 Mar 2014 Yr 2 Excursion-Japanese Rest.
- 10 Mar 2014 Zone Swimming Carnival
- 13 Mar 2014 Selective High School Test
- 14 Mar 2014 Band Fundraiser Cake Stall
- 19 Mar 2014 Ride to School Day NLPS
- 24-28 Mar 2014 Yr 5/6 Camp
- 02 April 2014 School Tour
- 03 April 2014 Yr2 Excursion-Seymour Centre

Respect Responsibility Have a Go!
payment. Please place them in the RED box in the foyer. We are in the process of creating special envelopes to make payments easier for you.

- If you are part-paying your fees in cash (eg the Swimming Carnival), please place the cash in a clearly labelled envelope as detailed above and put it in the RED box.
- PSSA fees and notes are returned to the organising coach and all Dance fees and notes go to Mrs Chant.

Band
Our school band is going from strength to strength. This year we have increased from 30 to 70 students playing in the two school bands and we look forward to them performing for you soon. Our thanks to Tracy Grainger who has taken on the massive role of band coordinator role this year and is doing a marvellous job. Thanks also to Tiffany Smyth for organisation of the band accounts.

Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival will take place this Thursday 13 February at Collaroy sea pool. Good luck to all our participants from Years 2-6 who are following our school code of ‘Have a Go’ – we hope you have a great day. Please remember to take plenty to drink and wear appropriate sun protection.

School Leaders
I am very proud to formally announce that our student school leaders for 2014 are:

Captains: Lily Quinnell and Thomas Parker
Vice Captains: Mia Stewart and Josh Beezley
Prefects: Kylie Sakiyama and Talon Bolton-Plimmer

They will do a fabulous job this year and are already presenting as outstanding role models for our students. This Wednesday, Lily, Thomas, Mia and Josh are attending a PCS leadership training day at Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre. They will follow this up with weekly training at Narrabeen Sports High School. We look forward to seeing a presentation of their learning later this term.

Adventure Playground
One of the most exciting features of our school for all students is the Adventure Playground adjacent to Goodwin St. It is becoming more and more popular as an after school play area for students thus allowing parents time for a quick catch up on the day’s events. Please be aware that the playground is not supervised after school and that parents are responsible for the activities and safety of their own children. We would ask that parents closely monitor their children’s play and behaviour. It is essential the students show respect for each other and the school environment and that they treat the equipment and their surrounds with care.

Children who are not accompanied by a parent or caregiver will be asked to go straight home. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Handy School Hints
You can assist your child to a successful start to this school year by establishing clear routines for getting to and from school, and by setting aside a regular time for them to complete their homework or home reading. Children thrive on certainty and set routines for such activities. For some, it may mean coming home and completing homework straight away; other students may be better suited to a break, exercise or some refreshment before commencing their set tasks. Work out a plan that suits your schedule and do your best to stick to it. We fully recognise and appreciate how hectic life can be some weeks, so if homework completion becomes an issue, please talk to your child’s teacher.

One aspect of schooling that I am passionate about is reading. Research shows that parents can greatly assist their children to be successful readers by reading with them on a regular basis – bedtime is a perfect opportunity for sharing some wonderful literature. Children will also receive encouragement by simply witnessing mum, dad or caregivers enjoying reading themselves – by modelling a love of reading to your children, they will benefit immensely.

For ideas on age appropriate reading, you can visit the website of the Premier’s Reading Challenge at https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

International Book Giving Day
February 14 is not only Valentine’s Day but also International Book Giving Day. Narrabeen Lakes Public School will collect new and ‘gently used’ children’s books for the rest of this week. These books will be given to a charity called ‘The Footpath Library’ who will distribute them to needy children. Book donations will be gratefully received in a box in your child’s class. Thanks to Mrs Machar for this initiative.

Student Achievement
Congratulations to Roxy S of 6C who has been selected for the Sydney North Junior Dance Ensemble – a tremendous achievement.

Congratulations also to Kiahni S (3D) and Gabrielle B (4M) who participated in the recent Branch Surf Lifesaving Championships. Kiahni was awarded a gold and a bronze in the board relay events. Kiahni and Gabrielle received a bronze in the swim relay. Well done, girls!

Wishing you another excellent week at this wonderful school.

Andy Rankin
Principal

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**SPECIAL NOTE!**

**CHANGE OF DAY FOR CLOTHING POOL**

The Clothing Pool will be open **every Thursday from Term 1** between 2.30 pm and 3.10 pm.

Please note we have **relocated** now to a room on the **outside of the Hall (North side)**

Please come to the office for any enquiries and we will direct you to the new location.

DON’T FORGET that we welcome any good 2nd hand uniforms that your child/children have **outgrown**. Simply drop them into the office. Thank you.
Coming Soon!

Keep Australia Beautiful Day for Schools
Friday 28th February

National Ride2School Day
Wednesday 19th March

Working Bee
A working bee will be scheduled in the near future to tidy up the garden areas in the school. Stay tuned for the date in the school newsletter.

If you have any specialised knowledge, an occupation, hobby or interest that could be used in the Science program at NLPS, please come and see me in the Science room. I am in the process of compiling a register of parents and friends who are interested in adding their expertise to the science programs.

Mrs J anëtte Clark
Science Teacher

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE
Thank you for your assistance in helping the school streamline it’s money collection system. There have been many positive comments about our new money collection boxes. The children have enjoyed posting their money envelopes into the RED box. Thank you to the families who have accessed direct banking. DON’T FORGET to return your Statement of Account to the school the next day with details of your direct debit payment. This should be dropped into the RED box in the foyer. The receipt will be sent back to you via your child with the statement attached.
If you have any queries please contact the office.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Mackenzie
School Administration Manager
Dear Parents/Guardians of Year 6 students,

The Forest High School will be running their GATS Test on Saturday 15th March from 9am to 11.30am in the school hall.

Students wishing to be placed in our Gifted and Talented class for Year 7 2015 must first sit for this test. The Year 7 G&T class for Year 7 2015 will be determined after close examination of the test results and the students’ NAPLAN results from Year 5.

The cost of the test is $20.00, payable on the day. Students are to bring a 2B or B pencil, an eraser and a ruler. No calculators or dictionaries can be used.

The test consists of three parts:

Part 1 – Mathematics - 40 multiple-choice questions.

Part 2 – Reading and language – 40 multiple-choice questions

Part 3 – One writing task

Students are requested to arrive at The Forest High School by 8.45am for a 9am start. They are also requested to bring a copy of their NAPLAN results on the day of the test.

If you would like your child to sit for this test please ring The Forest High School on 94515111 and register your name, your child’s name, address and phone number. Please register before Friday 7th March.

Mrs Jane Dean
Deputy Principal
LIBRARY NEWS

Please ensure that your child has a **Library bag** on the correct Library day. **Every child requires one.** The bag must be clearly marked with the child’s name.

**Library days are as follows:**
- Monday – 4P, 4M, 5M, 5/6CA, 6C, 1GJ, 2Z
- Tuesday – KL, KS, KMH, 3D, 1H, 1K
- Wednesday – 2AJ, 3M

Vicky Machar
Teacher Librarian

INTERNATIONAL BOOK GIVING DAY

February 14

This special day is dedicated to getting books into the hands of as many children as possible. Once again, Narrabeen Lakes will participate in this worthwhile activity.

We invite our students to donate books. They do not need to be brand new, just in very good condition (‘gently used’). We will pass books on **The Footpath Library** for distribution.

Each classroom will have a box in which donations may be placed, **up until Friday February 14**

Vicky Machar
Teacher Librarian

Parent Club

**FIRST MEETING WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19th 2:15-3pm (SCHOOL HALL)**

With the start of a new year we welcome parents, carers and friends to our school’s Parent Club. This group has informal monthly meetings during school hours, on a Wednesday from 2:15pm till 3:00pm, in the school hall. This enables parents and supporters, who are available during the day to meet others, exchange information and ideas. Issues and ideas are presented to the P & C Meetings and information fed back. Our Parent Club also works with the school to coordinate student activities throughout the year with benefits for the whole school community, such as: Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day stalls, discos and fundraising activities. New faces are always welcome!

Feel free to email Alison Crawford (Parent Club Co-ordinator) for further information acraw@iinet.net.au
Ethics Classes help children understand the concept of reasoning. In other words, they learn to think about the consequences of their decisions and actions. We have trained teachers who can help the children develop strong values.

Depending on demand, Ethics classes should be available for students in Years 1-6 and will take place at the same time as Scripture classes on Wednesdays.

The Primary Ethics’ curriculum teaches children how to approach ethical issues while developing their capacity for moral reasoning. Most of the topics in the curriculum provide students with the opportunity to develop increasingly sophisticated knowledge and skills in moral reasoning.

**What your child(ren) will develop:**

Students will learn to recognise good and bad moral reasoning very early on, by introducing notions such as relevance, the difference between relevance and truth and the idea of weighing reasons against each other. Throughout the curriculum, children are asked to provide reasons to support their arguments/positions and Ethics Teachers are trained to test the validity of given reasons.

If you would like your child(ren) to attend Ethics Class, please fill the form and **put it in the YELLOW box in the foyer before Friday 21 February**

Yes, I would like my child to attend Ethics classes in 2014.

Student’s Name: ___________________________ Class: ___________________________

Your Name: ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________
SLUSHIES ARE BACK ON FRIDAYS AT 3.10 UNTIL 3.40……… Bring your money
Special Lunch… **SUSHI**!

SUSHI will be ordered in for **WEDNESDAY February 19th**

Please put correct money, with order form filled out clearly in envelope and deposit into the **YELLOW mail box** in the school’s foyer. Don’t forget to put your child’s full name and class on this form. Thank you.

**Friday, February 14th**. (Sorry but late orders cannot be accepted)

Only 1 student per order form can be accepted…

Student’s full name……………………………………………… Class………..

TERIYAKI CHICKEN ($3.00 ea) x……….. $………………
(chicken, cucumber, rice)

VEGGIE – Avocado ($3.00 ea) x……….. $………………
(avocado, carrot, cucumber, mayo, rice)

COOKED TUNA ($3.00 ea) x……….. $………………
(tuna, avocado, rice)

SMOKED SALMON ($3.00 ea) x……….. $………………
(salmon, avocado, rice)

**Alternative:** Bread Roll with…
Cheese / vegemite / or both (circle) ($2.00 ea) x……….. $………………

Ham or ham & cheese (circle) ($3.00 ea) x……….. $………………

**Gluten Free Alternative:** Gluten free bread required? (circle above filling options) ($3.00 each) x……….. $………………

POPPA 100% JUICE (1 per child) ($1.00 each)x……….. $………………

**TOTAL** $………………

**ALLERGY INFORMATION:**

My child ………………………………. of class ……………… has the following special **dietary or medical** requirement(s) (e.g., anaphylactic to nuts, or allergic to dairy)

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

I give/do not give permission for my child to receive medical treatment in case of an emergency.

Print name…………………………………………Signature……………………………….
Date…………………………….

**Helpers?**

Are you available to help serve on the day for 1, 2 or more hours? We will definitely need you especially between 12 noon and 1:30 pm! Please fill in below with time available. Thanks for your support!

Name…………………………………………phone…………………………….Time…….

Canteen contact: Please contact Alison Crawford on 0422534042 with any questions about this Special Lunch day.