Dear parents

It is really pleasing to see so many of our newest students, Kindergarten, and most of year 1, settling into school routines so well. Most of them are happy to have a little play in the morning then line up on their own and go happily off to class with their teacher. We still have a few children who are yet to master this. While a few children may look stressed in the morning, once they are in class they settle and get down to work quickly.

To help all our children settle and have a happy and pleasant start to the day, I am requesting that parents not follow the lines to the classrooms. Also allow your children to line up by themselves. There are sometimes so many parents in the lines or in the area outside the library; it is difficult to get the children off the Quad area. I am requesting that parents wait on the curved steps area. If your child is having difficulty lining up it may be because you as parents are feeling anxious and your child picks up on that. Hand your child over to their teacher and walk away and you will find your child will settle very quickly once they realise that this is the routine each morning. Thank you for your support.

Late arrivals
I am very concerned at the number of children who are already late for school on a regular basis. We are only in the 4th week and our late arrival book has many filled pages. Our Home School Liaison Officer will be at school next week and regular late arrivers can expect a phone call from him. Continually being late is setting your child up for a poor start to the day. They miss the “what is happening, today” talk from their teacher and often miss the start of the first lesson. Late arrivers are also often embarrassed to walk in to a full classroom where everyone is working.

Please make sure you get your children to school on time.

Late Afternoon pick up
Please only ring us, on those very rare occasions, when you are going to be more than 15 minutes late picking up your children. All children wait on the Quad area for their parents and any children still out there after 15 minutes will be asked to wait in the office.

Swimming Carnival
Thank you to all those parents who came along to our swimming carnival last week. It was a great day and the children enjoyed themselves. These days run so well due to the hard work and preparation of the staff. Mrs Whitehead and Ms Barrett organized this carnival and did a great job. Thank you to those two teachers and all the staff for their efforts in ensuring your children had a safe and happy day at the pool.

Maths questions
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child’s maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey’s Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children - Years 3 to 8.


Helping your child with homework
How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns. Find out more:


Have a great week everyone.

Mrs Karen Masciocchi
Principal

All notes can be found on our school’s website under “Notes to Parents”

www.escholpark-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
**Playground Awards**: As part of our positive welfare policy, children doing the right thing on the playground are rewarded with a HAPPY GRAM. All HAPPY GRAM winners have their names put into the blue bag and on Monday assembly, 10 lucky names are drawn out of the bag. These 10 children are given a voucher to receive a free small iceblock from the canteen.

**Congratulations to the following award winners:**

**Term 1 Week 2**: Adam B 5/6D, Susanah 2/3N, Damian 1/2R, Houda 1/2S, Ashleigh 5/6D, Curtis 5/6D, Emily 5/6D, Lachlan 1/2W, Luka 5/6D, Bianca 5/6D


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**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Mar</td>
<td>2pm - K-6 Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Mar</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 9.15am</td>
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<td>14 Mar</td>
<td>Selective High School Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Mar</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<td>25 Mar</td>
<td>Young Leaders Day</td>
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<td>26 Mar</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>27 Mar</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>29 Mar</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>1 Apr</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>2-12 Apr</td>
<td>Swimming Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Apr</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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<td>1 May</td>
<td>K-6 Return</td>
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**Library News**

**Borrowing for all classes Years 1 – 6 begins week 4, Monday 18 February.**

Kindergarten borrowing starts week 5, Monday 25 February. They can borrow 1 book.

**Borrowing Days:**

- Monday: 2/3N, KB, 5/6N, 1/2S
- Tuesday: KS, 1/2R, 3/4W
- Wednesday: 3/4M, 5/6D, 1/2W, 3/4H
- Thursday: 5/6B
- Friday: K/1H

Year 1-2 students can borrow 1 fiction and 1 non-fiction book for one week.

Years 3-6 students can borrow 2 fiction and 2 non-fiction books for one week.

Children will need a library bag to borrow as many books are being damaged and lost.

Lost and damaged books will have to be paid for.

Premiers Reading challenge has already started for 2012. Years 3-6 students have to read 15 books from the list and 5 of their own choice by the end of August. We hope to improve our results and have more students complete the Challenge.

Mrs Morrison

(Librarian)
P&C News
It was fabulous to see so many interested parents at the P&C AGM last week. Lots of helpers make light work. Thank you to the outgoing committee of 2012, your efforts during the year were much appreciated by the school community. The new Committee members are:
President : Belinda Lewis    Vice President : Marselle Lombardo    Treasurer : Lesley Hepburn
Secretary : Melissa Miller    Fundraising : Lauren Campbell & Nicole Paterson
Uniform Shop : Bec Lee & Cassandra Xuereb

Swimming Carnival Fun
(Please note: if your child does not appear in photos it may be because you have not returned the long term permission note)

Physie!
Dance & Fitness classes for girls & ladies from 3yrs to over 50’s!
- No expensive costumes
- First lesson free
- Family discounts
Classes Tuesdays & Fridays
Kearns Public School
For more information call 0478 153 901
www.macarthurphysie.com

Piano Lessons!
Beginners to Third Grade
Half hour lesson
$15
Call Amy on 0416 311 176