Dear Parents / Carers

Cross Country
Congratulations to all students who participated in yesterday’s cross country carnival. The day was a great success due to the hard work of many teachers and the enthusiasm of the students. A special thanks goes to the organising team: David Hearnshaw and Ashley Grimmond. Thank you also to the parent volunteers for their assistance on the day. Information regarding the zone carnival will be released soon.

Safety Around Schools
School zones are often chaotic during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times and children are too often put at risk. Children are vulnerable road users and are at higher risk in traffic because of their size, unpredictability and inability to judge speed and distance.
When in our school zone, or any school zone, it is imperative that all parents and carers strictly adhere to the following guidelines to reduce risk to children:
• DO NOT park in bus zones, on zebra crossings, on footpaths or over driveways.
• NEVER double park. This reduces driver visibility, causes congestion and puts children at risk.
• NEVER call your child across the road.
• ALWAYS have your child enter and exit the car from the kerb.
• BE PATIENT - observe the directions of the Crossing Supervisor on Bay Road.
• ALWAYS drive at or below 40km/h.
• REMEMBER children are full of surprises! Expect the unexpected.
As a school community we will be working closely with North Sydney Council and with the support of North Sydney Police in an effort to further educate and reinforce road and traffic rules with parents and carers. We will also be looking closely at our educational programs for our students.
Student safety is such an important issue - we all need to work together to ensure the safety of our children. Please support our efforts and let’s make a real and lasting difference.

Extra-Curricular Activities
In addition to a full day of teaching and playground duties, our teachers also volunteer to run enrichment /interest programs before school or during lunchtime. It is interesting to note the huge range and number of opportunities the students have here at the Dem. My sincere thanks to the teachers for their dedication and willingness to share their time and expertise with the students by offering a variety of activities, including the following: Student Representative Council (SRC), Band, debating, PSSA netball, PSSA AFL, PSSA soccer, K-2 Choir, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Gardening Club, Chess Club, Recorder Group, Lego/Robotics Club, KODU Game Design Club, K-3 Library Drama Club, Documentarian Club, Eco Ambassadors, School Production and Term 4 Talent Festival.

Opportunity Classes
Government schools use a range of strategies to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students. One strategy is Opportunity Class (OC) placement in Year 5. Parents of Year 4 students were sent information on Monday of this week about how to apply for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2014 on behalf of their child. This information can also be found on our school’s website (Notes and Forms) and at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Catherine Williams
Relieving Principal

What’s On?

Wed 8 May
P&C Meeting (Library)
6:30pm

Thurs 9 May
InterRelate Seminars in Library:
*Year 5 at 6pm
*Year 6 at 7:15pm

Fri 10 May
PSSA starts

Mon 13 May
sign-up for K-3 Library Drama Club

Tues 14 to Thurs 16 May
NAPLAN testing for Year 3 and Year 5

Fri 17 May
OC Online Applications Close

Tues 21 May
ICAS Computer Skills

Thurs 23 May
*Walk to School Day
*Zone Cross Country

Wed 5 June
ICAS Science

Thurs 6 June
Year 1 Excursion to Golden Ridge Farm

Tues 11 & Wed 12 June
Band Camp

Wed 12 June
P&C Meeting (Library)
6:30pm

Thurs 20 June
Senior/Concert Band at Yamaha Festival
NAPLAN

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 will be sitting the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests next week. The tests will be conducted across Australia on the same days for all students according to the following timetable:
Tuesday 14 May — Language Convention and Writing
Wednesday 15 May — Reading
Thursday 16 May — Numeracy

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.
Parents can find out more about the National Testing by visiting http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/index.php

MIRVAC COMMUNITY DAY

Next Tuesday 14 May, the Dem has the privilege of hosting 26 volunteers from Mirvac Greenwood Plaza as part of their Community Day Initiative. This initiative provides Mirvac staff with the opportunity to make a difference in the communities in which they work and live through a donation of their time.

This year the volunteers are focusing their time on maintenance of our grounds by weeding all of the garden areas around the school and clearing the drain that runs along the Bay Road entrance. We would like to thank the Mirvac staff in advance for their contribution to our school. We would also like to thank Val Stamper from our P & C for donating her time to help out on the day.

Belinda Morgan
Deputy Principal

PROPOSED RAISED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON EDWARD STREET AT BAY ROAD

The consultation period has been extended until 10 May. The North Sydney Council online exhibition will also remain open until 10 May 2013. www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/trafficsurveys
Returns and Library bags

Thank you parents and carers for helping your child return the books they borrowed for the holidays. Please keep them coming! Please also ensure that your child either brings a library bag or a strong plastic bag on their library day so that they can securely take their favourite books home. Last term several of our books had to be written off due to water damage. Needless to say there were a few disappointed faces in the library as a result!

K-3 Library Drama Club: Sign-up in the library on Mon 13 May!
Miss Lanigan (KML) and I are running a lunch time drama club for K-3 students in Terms 2 and 3 2013. This is a fun and educational activity aimed at supporting students to engage with texts, develop and apply their knowledge of the purpose of texts, develop and apply knowledge of process drama, enhance their ability to think from different perspectives and exercise their imaginations. The concept involves using drama devices in the context of this year's National Simultaneous Story Time book, *The Wrong Book* by Nick Bland. The program will run over two terms. This term we will be taking the students through various drama strategies and in term 3 the students will be expected to start scripting for a performance in front of their peers at the end of the term.

On **Monday 13 May** we invite K-3 students **who are not currently involved with the school's musical** to come to the library and sign up for this exciting and creative opportunity. We only have 40 places available, so, in the event that more than 40 students sign up, we will have to make a **random selection**. Students will be reminded to sign-up during the week and at Monday morning’s whole school assembly.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge
Since the PRC online login went live on Friday 1 March 2013, it’s been brilliant to see that so far about 45% of students have signed up and got their reading well underway. Keep up the good work boys and girls!

I would also like to draw your attention to the following privacy statement released by the NSW Premier’s office:

**Privacy Information**
Parents and caregivers need to be aware of two new features of the Premier’s Reading Challenge that all students who successfully complete a validated online reading record qualify for a PRC certificate and will appear on the PRC Honour Roll.

Schools registering students must ensure that a parent/caregiver understands that all students entering the Premier's Reading Challenge will receive a PRC Certificate and appear in the PRC Honour Roll. The certificate shows the student’s name and school. Only students’ name will appear in the Honour Roll with no other identifying factors. Participating schools appear as a separate list and homeschools are not listed individually.
Schools may wish to send privacy information about the certificate and Honour Roll home as a note or publish it in the school newsletter. Parents and caregivers can also be directed to read the information on this website. Parents must be aware of the conditions of entry and inform the school if they object to their child participating in the Challenge.

Students who do not wish to receive a certificate or be on the Honour Roll should not register for the Challenge. These students may do the Challenge unofficially, they may use the PRC booklists and can seek recognition in their local school community but they cannot enter an official record.

**Note:** Students may need to provide some information about their past participation in the Challenge when completing their online reading records to ensure students doing the Challenge successfully for the fourth time receive their gold certificate. Coordinators/mentors helping students complete their online records, or supervising student completion of the records, may wish to capture information about students’ past participation.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.
Kind regards
Mrs. A. Bennett (alice.bennett3@det.nsw.edu.au)

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**FABStar! Features**

FABStar! is an initiative to recognise positive behaviours in the playground.
Two FABStar! slips (*one from K-2, one from 3-6*) were drawn from all the students who received FABStar! slips in recognition of their positive behaviours on the playground last week.

Congratulations to our 3-6 Fabstars: Oliver and Callum in Year 5 who helped a younger student get his ball down safely from the shade shelter.
BAND NEWS

Dates for your diary

- **11 & 12 June** – Band Camp for ALL bands
- **17 June** – Band Committee meeting, 5pm in the connected classroom
- **20 June - Senior/Concert Band** – Yamaha Band Festival

**Band Rehearsals – please be on time**

It is extremely important that all students arrive on time to band rehearsals. Please ensure your child is at the hall promptly at **7:45am** on their band rehearsal day.

**Percussion parents** please allow time to assist your child to set up their percussion instruments to ensure that band can start on time.

**Band Camp**

Information and permission notes are being sent home this week; the forms will also be available on the website in the notes and form section as well as at the office.

Attendance at the annual Band Camp is compulsory; it is an integral part of the Band program. Tutors attend the camp and provide intensive tuition that promotes team work and great musical growth for all band members. It is a lot of fun and one of the musical highlights of the band program.

The band camp fee will be added to your term 2 Schedule of Fees and will cover all accommodation, food, transport, conductors, tutors and other band expenditure for the camp. Please note all camp fees **must be paid** prior to camp; if full payment is not received the student will unfortunately not be able to attend. We appreciate your prompt payment of the camp fee.

**Practice**

A reminder that students should be practising as much as as possible. Another great way to prepare for band rehearsals is to listen to recordings of the music online at the Stanton's Listening Lab [http://listeninglab.stantons.com](http://listeninglab.stantons.com). You can find them easily by searching for the catalogue numbers listed below. Following along with the music is a great way to hear how your own part fits in with everything else. YouTube is another great way to see other bands performing these songs!

**Senior Band** - Music for Yamaha Band Festival: This week focus on *Of Distant Peaks* (37788) and *Pirates of the Caribbean* (08724960 - excerpt only).

**Intermediate Band** - *Rock Around the Clock* (CB9712 - excerpt only), *Thriller* (08725244) and *Jupiter* (26689 - new this week). Students should also already know their parts for *Tequila* and *Firework* (35352).
Junior Band - Students are making exciting progress at reading and playing music in this group. So that no one gets left behind, please make sure your child practices music from the band book as well as the technical work set by their tutor. All students are expected to have a tutor, with lessons weekly, including percussionists, bass and keys. At this early stage it is easy to see if someone is beginning to fall behind in an area. It may be in counting or in note reading for instance. Every student is different. Last week despite absences in their section, the saxophones began strongly leading the section points for much of the rehearsal, however the Bb instruments soon rose to the occasion and trumpets took the final lead. Our budding conductors increased clarinets and percussion points with their accurate counting and ability to show rests whilst conducting the beat. A fun rehearsal - well done.

Intermediate Band Clarinet & Brass Players TRY OUTS
All Intermediate Band clarinet & brass players have been invited to try out to assist the Senior Band with their upcoming performance in the Yamaha Band Festival. Any clarinet or brass players who would like to try out should attend the Senior Band rehearsal this Thursday at 7:45am.

Please note if successful in the try out, the student must commit to attending both the Intermediate & the Senior Band rehearsals every week until the competition, (that is Wednesday & Thursday mornings at 7:45am). Strict attendance is required. After the competition students will then return to the Intermediate Band.

Band Photo
Keep an eye out for the Band photo - it will soon be on display in the office foyer and available for purchase.

Enquiries
Band Committee Secretary, Melissa Lanigan MELISSA.LANIGAN@det.nsw.edu.au

TheDem Community News

Printing of articles does not indicate endorsement by the school

ROTARY NORTHBRIDGE CENTENARY FIREWORKS Saturday May 11, Northbridge Oval, Sailors Bay Road from 4pm. Entry $5 per head. Food and entertainment for all the family including rides, jumping castles, Jumble Sale (Northbridge Scouts), performances by the Northbridge & Cammeray Primary School Bands and fireworks at 7pm. Proceeds to AIME (Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience).

STUDENTS WITH PHYSICAL AND SENSORY DISABILITIES ‘COME and TRY’ ATHLETICS CARNIVAL on Wednesday 22 May 2013. The Department of Education and Communities – School Sport Unit and the Australian Paralympic Committee in a joint initiative will conduct the third Annual ‘Come and Try’ Athletics Carnival for Students with Physical and Sensory Disabilities. The day is open to all students above the age of 8 years old. **The day is not open to students whose main disability is intellectual.** Should you have any questions regarding this event don’t hesitate to contact Neil Sherring on 9707 6910 or Mr Ross Morrison on 9707 6950.