Dear Parents and Carers,

On Sunday it was once again a privilege for me to join all Music Camp attendees for lunch followed by the concert which was the culmination of the weekend’s activities. A very appreciative audience was entertained by Concert Bands 1, 2, and 3, Greycliffe Choir, the String Ensemble and the Stage Band, all of whom performed brilliantly and demonstrated the benefits of practice and their newly learned skills.

I congratulate all children on their performance Sunday afternoon and on their excellent behaviour throughout the weekend. On behalf of the 156 children who participated, a huge thank you to the following people who contributed to the smooth running and success of the camp, and without whom it could not have taken place:

- the hard working Music Committee, superbly led by Michele, Band Coordinator, Hilary, Camp Coordinator, Dayan, String Group Coordinator and staff members Melissa Griffith and Julie Anne Stevens;
- a wonderful, tirelessly working group of parents who gave up their weekend to provide supervision day and night;
- teaching staff members Melissa Griffith, Julie Anne Stevens and Heather Eden who gave up their weekend and did a magnificent job to assist with supervision and Meg Campbell who assisted on Saturday and Jenni Lainson on Sunday;
- conductors Julie Anne Stevens, Catherine, Naira, Jeff and Peter OAM, and all tutors who worked with the children; and
- Selena, Catherine and Dean who photographed every child and captured many memorable moments using their photography; and
- parents, for allowing your children to attend and for your interest and support provided in a variety of ways.

During the concert, our music teacher, Ms Stevens, presented awards to an individual from each of the Concert Bands, the choirs and the String Group to recognise their effort and performance throughout the weekend.
Congratulations to:
Anna (Concert Band 1)
Lizzie (Concert Band 2)
Noah (Concert Band 3)
Ariana (Weemala Choir)
Morgan (Ramsay Choir) and
Zac (String Group)

EASTER SCRIPTURE SERVICES
Tomorrow morning, Wednesday 27 March, students will be attending the Easter Scripture services at St Mark’s Anglican Church commencing at 9.25am for years 3–6 and at 10.15am for K–2 children.
Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us.

CONGRATULATIONS SHANNON, GRETA AND ROHAN
Congratulations to Shannon 6M who on Friday was selected to play in the 11 years’ Combined Zone (Beecroft, Hornsby, Kuring-gai and Ryde) Rugby League team.
Congratulations also to Greta 4/5M and Rohan 6M who were successful in being selected in the Ryde/Beecroft team to compete in the Sydney North Soccer Trials.
We wish these students all the best when they participate in the trials in the next two weeks.

ANZAC DAY SERVICE
Anzac Day falls this year during the school holidays.
Our school will be holding a short Anzac Day service before the holidays, to be held on the K–2 site under the COLA on Thursday 11 April 2013, commencing at 10.45am.
It would be appreciated if children could bring flowers to school that morning.
Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us.

INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS WITH TEACHERS
Formal Parent/Teacher interviews are currently taking place and will continue into Term 2. The interviews are an opportunity for you and your child (as appropriate) to discuss their progress and any special needs or concerns.
If, however, at any time you have a concern about your child, please contact your child’s class teacher to make an appointment for a mutually convenient time.
Teaching staff have a number of demands on their time, including attendance at out of hours’ professional learning as well as stage planning sessions. In addition, they are rostered for playground duty at recess and lunchtimes a number of times each week and many of our staff also take responsibility for extra-curricular activities e.g. dance groups, which take place before or after school. When supervising students, their first duty of care is to the students.

Your understanding by making appointments to speak to the teachers at an appropriate time is greatly appreciated.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL
The P & C Association is once again organising a Mother’s Day stall to be held on Tuesday 7 May, when children will have the opportunity to purchase a small gift for their mother or special person. Every child is today receiving a letter with an envelope attached which provides details. If you wish your child to participate, it would be greatly appreciated if you could complete the permission note and return it to your child’s class teacher together with the $5.00 cost as soon as possible, but no later than Thursday 11 April 2013.

ADVANCE NOTICE - MOTHER’S DAY AFTERNOON TEA
On Friday 10 May 2013, staff will be hosting Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea under the hall COLA commencing at 3.30pm. Further details will be sent home shortly.

PRINCIPAL’S WOW WORD OF THE WEEK
quivering

As part of their homework, children in Year 3 can look up the word and write it and its meaning in their homework book. Students in Years 4 – 6 can look up the word in their dictionary and in their homework book, 1) write the word, 2) write its meaning, 3) write a sentence which includes the word and 4) write five words which are in the same “word family” or have the same suffix or prefix.
Students in Year 2 might like to look up the meaning of the word for discussion in class.

PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS

With my best wishes to all families for a very enjoyable and relaxing Easter break.

Penny Willis
Principal

MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Merit Award Certificates were received by:
6M: Izak, Simone, Naomi
6T: Bonnie, William, Cameron
5/6C: Chloe, Aidan, Zoe
5B: James, Mia, Nick
THE INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM

BAND
A huge congratulations to all the Band, String and Choir children who attended Music Camp over the weekend. You all behaved and played brilliantly.

A very big thank you to Ms Stevens, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Lainson, Mrs Eden and Mrs Campbell for giving up your weekend to attend the camp.

To all our fabulous parent helpers, you are fantastic and Music Camp would not be possible without you.

Last but not least, a huge thank you to the wonderful Hilary who has been our Music Camp Coordinator for the last five camps. Hilary has spent hundreds of hours planning for camp and it is due to her that Music Camp has been so successful over the years.

Unfortunately, the 2013 camp was Hilary's last, and we are in need of a parent or team of parents who would like to take on the challenging but rewarding job of organising our 2014 camp. If you would like further information, please contact Hilary or me.

LOST PROPERTY
All items will be placed on the back wall shelves of the band room from Thursday. Please check here for any misplaced items.

CHANGE TO STAGE BAND REHEARSAL NEXT WEEK
Due to the Stage 3 excursion on Monday 8 April, the Stage Band rehearsal for that day is being replaced with a rehearsal at lunchtime on Friday 5 April.

Michele – Band Coordinator

P&C REPORT

P&C AUDITOR
Thank you to Bradley who has indicated his availability to take over the P&C auditor position from Elke.

Elke has been doing this very important and essential auditing role for the past five years. We thank Elke for her tireless contribution to the P&C during this time.

CANTEEN MANAGER
Applications for the Canteen Manager role are open until Thursday 28 March. The P&C invite applications from appropriately skilled members of the community to be submitted before the close of business that day.
Expressions of interest and applications should be forward to pandcpresident@gmail.com

NEXT P&C MEETING
The next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 2 April, the first day back after Easter. It will commence at 7.30pm in the library. All are welcome to attend.

Alison – P&C Secretary

COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

VACATION CARE
Thornleigh West Public School offers accredited before and after school care, pupil-free day care and vacation care. The service is open to all primary school-aged children, attending any school, and offers a safe and caring environment within the school grounds. Visit the website for more information.

ST AGATHA’S CAR BOOT SALE AND MARKET DAY SUNDAY 7 APRIL 11.00am to 4.00pm
White Elephant – Toys, DVD’s and Books only, Food court, Drinks, Cafe and cake stall, Children’s activities, Colouring competition, Entertainment and Car Wash. The cost is $50.00 per car spot, $100.00 per market stall. Please contact Simone on 0407 836 389 to book a spot or for further information.

HORNBY RSL YOUTH CLUB HOLIDAY GYMNASTICS
Do you want to do something really fun these holidays? Then come along to our recreational gymnastics days. Activities are run by fully qualified and accredited gymnastic coaches.

DAYS: 15, 17, 19, 22, 24 and 26 April from 9.00am-3.00pm for children aged 5-12 years old.

Cost is $37.00 per day for members and $42.00 per day for non-members. Hornsby RSL Youth Club Gymnastic sessions will be held at 1 Ashley Lane, Hornsby Contact 9476 6689 or email hornsbyrs@yahoo.com.au for more information.