From The Principal

CURRICULUM NIGHT
On Wednesday 20 February more than 300 people, parents and students, came to our second CURRICULUM NIGHT. Parents had an opportunity to meet the class teachers & the leadership team of the school and hear about the programs for the 2013 school year. Again this year there have been many positive comments from parents who have found the night to be very worthwhile. The P&C supplied a BBQ and cool drinks for everyone who attended and we thank them for their hard work for our school community. Parents were able to spend time in their child’s classroom and to see the wonderful learning environments our children enjoy each day. This year parents were asked to complete a survey about the programs in the school which cater for parents and the community and to offer suggestions for further activities. Please complete this survey and return it to school so we can provide new and interesting activities for our parents.

LEADERS PRESENTATION
Congratulations to the many students who have taken on leadership roles at school this year. The presentation of badges will take place at the assembly on Thursday at 11.30 in the Performance Hall. Our school captains this year are Kaitlin Williamson and Bilal Abdulkafi. Our vice captains are Noura Tamer and Sam Ismail. Our prefects are Vivien Quach, Macey Owens, Rose Lord, Shardonnye Woodhouse, Samal Alami, Zane Alnaser, Basim Rima and Andy Cam.

We look forward to a great year as our leaders work together for the whole school community at Chester Hill North Public School.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
On Friday 15 February a small group of students competed in the Annual Swimming Carnival at Granville Pool. Despite the rain showers the carnival went ahead. There were some outstanding performances and ten students will represent the school at the Zone Carnival. Thank you to the parents who assisted on the day.

PHOTO DAY
This year our Photo Day is on Monday 11 March. I encourage families to consider purchasing the photo book which is being offered again this year at the very reasonable price of $22. This is the same format as the photo book in 2012 which was very popular with parents. Orders need to be at school before or on Photo Day.

SWIMMING SCHEME
This is for students who are not able to swim at all or are still beginners. It is offered to students from Year 2 to Year 6 (depending on available places). This scheme offers great value as the lessons run each day for 9 days. It is important for all students to be competent swimmers when we have so many areas of water in Australia and so many drownings.

PUNCTUALITY
I need to remind all parents that school starts at 9am each day with the school bell ringing at 8.55am. Students need to be in the school playground BEFORE the bell rings. It is essential that ALL STUDENTS are in classrooms and ready for lessons at 9am. Please ensure that your child/children are at school ON TIME every day.

SAFETY REMINDER
PLEASE DO NOT CROSS WOLUMBA STREET IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL GATE WHERE THERE IS A LOT OF HEAVY TRAFFIC. PLEASE USE THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ALWAYS WHERE YOU ARE SAFE. The area in front of the school allows only 2 MINUTES stopping while your child gets into your car. You may not
From the Principal cont’d

leave your vehicle. There are heavy fines for breaching these parking rules. OUR CHILDREN’S LIVES ARE VALUABLE SO PLEASE HELP PROTECT THEM.

STUDENT WELFARE
With this Bulletin you will receive an outline of the Student Welfare Policy at CHNPS. There is information on the school goals, playground awards, social skills and attendance awards.

Regards
Mrs H D Colquhoun
Principal

Chaplain’s Chat
I applaud you!
As I go around the school meeting parents and listening to your stories I am amazed at the challenges some of you overcome daily as you raise your children. Your hard work, sometimes just in getting the children ready and to school on time, is really amazing! If you ever stop to wonder, “Am I making a difference?” then you might like what one of our teachers said at Curriculum Night last week: “You are your child’s greatest teacher.” Who you are and what you do makes a difference!
To you who are working hard to raise your children and juggle all the different responsibilities and needs in your life, I applaud you!
Susan Alexander
School Chaplain

Boys Education

Helping your son to perform well at school

- Make sure there’s a place at home where he can read quietly.
- Provide a wide range of things to read, like story books, joke books, comics, magazines and non-fiction material
- Praise and encourage him at all stages.
- Make suggestions rather than criticisms.
- Ask questions or make suggestions to help him solve problems for himself.
- Help him with tasks he finds difficult for the first time, but do not do them for him.
- Get help early if there are signs that he is having trouble with learning to read.
- Encourage your son to think about his own progress and what he has learnt.
- Encourage him to try new ideas and take part in a variety of activities at school.
- Keep the school informed about both his successes and any problems.
- Help him organise his books, stationery and work area.
- Value other things your son is good at, especially things outside of school.

GKR Karate
Learn Self Defence, all ages.
Chester Hill North Public School Hall.
Classes: Tuesday - 6 - 7pm 7 - 8pm
Enquiries: 0419 226 206

DIARY DATES

Week 5
Tuesday 26.2.13
Bulletin Day
Wednesday 27.2.13
P & C (A.G.M) Meeting
Thursday 28.2.13
Leaders Presentation
K-2 Assembly
Friday 1.3.13
Clean Up Australia Day

Week 6
Thursday 7.3.13
Fruit Breakfast
Week 7
Monday 11.3.13
Photo Day
Tuesday 12.3.13
Bulletin Day
Thursday 14.3.13
Whole School Assembly
Friday 15.3.13
Cake Day
P & C Report

A big THANK YOU to the parents who came along and helped at the Sausage Sizzle on Wednesday 13th February which raised $283.

Our next fundraising event is on Friday 15th March, with our first Cake Day for the year. Suggestions for donations are cupcakes, biscuits, jelly cups or donuts. Donations can be sent to the uniform shop on the Friday morning, or bring them directly to the stall in the weather shed before 11am.

Our first P&C meeting for the year – which will also be our Annual General Meeting - is tomorrow 27th February 2013. Please join us in the Play room. We meet for coffee from 9am, with the meeting starting at 9.15am. All are welcome.

Toni Reynolds
P&C President

CLO Report

It was great to see so many of our parents take an active role in their child’s education and come along to the CURRICULUM NIGHT on 20th February. I found out lots of helpful information on the night, and I think we owe a big THANK YOU to the teachers who stayed back in their own time and made the event such a success. Thank you also to the P&C Mums and Dads who cooked and served the sausage sizzle.

We’ve started taking enrolments for FREE English classes. This is a TAFE accredited course and runs for three hours, once a week. If you know someone who would like to join this class, please contact myself or Jamila Zrayka (Arabic Speaking CLO) via the office.

Future parent information sessions and meetings…

- Triple P (parenting program) for parents from an Arabic-speaking background on Tuesdays;
- ATSI Parent Meeting on Thursday 28th February at 2pm;
- Speech Therapy Information session on 6th March at 2pm;
- Fruit Breakfast before school on 7th March.
- FREE playgroup every Friday and a school readiness program every Tuesday. This is a great program for children before they start school. It is open to everyone.

Toni Reynolds
Community Liaison Officer

Getting Kids to School

Come on Brad! Get a move on. School starts in ten minutes and you’re not even dressed yet!”

If this sounds familiar then you are not alone. Anecdotal evidence suggests that getting children to school on time can be one of the most difficult tasks for parents.

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realize if he or she is continually late. Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day with 10am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle precious minutes are lost. A child who is fifteen minutes late to school each day misses one week of school every year.

How can you get your dawdling kids out the door with yelling yourself hoarse? Here are a few techniques and ideas for you to try:

- **Establish a morning routine.** Make sure your children know what is expected of them in the morning, and also what you will do. Resist nagging but be willing to take them to school even if they haven’t fully prepared for the day.

- **Identify and remove distractions such as television.** If the children are regular watchers before school change the routine and keep the TV off. It should only be turned on when children are completely ready for school.

- **Teach some basics of time management.** The average adult underestimates by about 25% the time it takes to do various jobs. Make sure you have realistic time estimates and stop packing so much into the time you allocate.

- **Arrive at school ten minutes early.** Plan to arrive at school early rather than be there on time. This idea works well for perpetual latecomers, whether young or old.

- **Model a good routine.** It is pointless expecting children to be organized in the morning if you are in a muddle yourself. Set a good example by being as methodical as possible.

Written by Michael Grose - a leading parent educator.