Welcome back for the 2013 School Year!

We are off to a very busy start of 2013. The children, including our new Kindergarten students, have settled in to the school routine brilliantly. For your information:

**Classes** – We are very pleased that at this stage we have formed six classes as follows –

- KP - Miss Phillips
- K/1E - Mrs Ellison
- 2Y - Mrs Yarrow
- 3/4M - Ms Menendez
- 4/5G - Mrs Green
- 5/6W - Mr Wise

These classes are based on our current numbers and maintenance of those numbers until the Annual Enrolment Return date. Miss Soames will be teaching the Yr 1 students while Mrs Ellison is working with the new Kindergarteners and Miss Phillips. Please note that the Kindergarten classes will not be formalised until the Kindergarten Best Start Assessments have been completed.

We are also fortunate in having Mr Graeme Wood working with us this year in a Learning Support and ESL role.

**Uniforms** - Sports Uniforms should be worn by all students K – 6 on Tuesdays and Fridays during Term 1.

**Library** - All students K – 6 will visit our school Library on Tuesdays with Teacher/Librarian, Mrs Irvine. Remember those Library bags for borrowing!

**Absence Notes** - If your child is absent from school please be sure to notify us with the reason for your child’s absence. The school must be advised within 7 days of any school absence, or it is recorded as “unjustified.”

~ Dates to Remember 2013 ~

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 6 Feb</td>
<td>Scripture K – 6 begins</td>
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<td>Tues 11 Feb</td>
<td>Challenge Club Yrs 1 - 6-8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Tues 11 Feb</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Mon 18 Feb</td>
<td>5/6W to Sylvania High</td>
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<td>Wed 20 Feb</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival Yrs 3 to 6</td>
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<td>Tues 26 Feb</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>Fri 1 March</td>
<td>RawArt K-6 Incursion</td>
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<td>Thur 28 Mar</td>
<td>Easter/Holiday Hat Parade</td>
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<td>12 April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1 - SUBWAY LUNCH</td>
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**Dance Groups** – Our optional Jr. and Sr. Performance Dance Groups have started today. They meet on Tuesdays and are currently working on audition items for the Seymour Centre Dance Festival and Schools Spectacular. Any questions, see Mrs Ellison.

Catherine Leslie  
Principal

“The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives.”  
~Robert Maynard Hutchins
ATTENTION ~ ALL PARENTS & CARERS & GRANDPARENTS

The CANTEEN has opened this week - volunteers are needed to keep the CANTEEN open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please return the Notes sent home last week, or contact Jo Taylor if you are able to help out!

P & C Meeting –
Monday 11th February 7 p.m.
Please join us at the first P & C Meeting of 2013. Support your children and our school – be active and involved and meet other really nice parents/carers from our school community! All Welcome!!

Challenge Club is open to all children from Years 1 – 6. We will be involved in games and activities designed to promote critical thinking, develop problem solving strategies and improve cooperative learning skills.
The first meeting of the Challenge Club for all interested students from Yrs 1 – 6 will be held next Tuesday morning, 11th February, from 8:30 a.m. in the Computer Room. Please be prompt! See you there!
If you have any questions about the Challenge Club enrichment program, please feel free to contact Mrs Leslie.

GREEK SCHOOL ~
The Parish runs Modern Greek Language Schools on a non-profit basis. Greek dancing lessons are also run.
Enrolment for the Greek Language Class will be at the Gymea Greek Orthodox Church Hall, 808 The Kingsway, on Tuesday, 5th February and Wednesday, 6th February between 4 and 5 p.m.
Enquiries: Maria 0431-152-159

ASSEMBLY AWARDS
Week 1 Term 1

1E        Andrei J. Savvina D.
2Y        Isabella B. Sophie B.
3/4M      Corey B. Cooper R.
4/5G      Yarran S. Sherry C.
5/6WY     Nadja A. Matthew T.

CAR PARK – SAFETY
Parents and children are reminded that the car park area outside the school office is not to be used for dropping off children before school or collecting children at the end of the school day. The car parking spaces outside the Hall are for the use of the preschool parents only. There have been a number of concerns raised about the safety of our students due to cars entering and leaving these restricted areas. Cars using this area put toddlers as well as children who use the bike racks or walk to school via the Ellis Street gate at great risk.
Please use the Clare Street gate for dropping off and collecting your children.
Take care when going to and from school
Welcome back to the new school year! Sutherland Shire Council Parking Officers will be out at all Schools this year helping you to ensure that all children get to and from school safely.

Dropping off or picking up your children
Schools are areas where there is a lot of interaction between cars and pedestrians; your children. Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable. Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. Boys are twice as likely to be involved in pedestrian accidents as girls and children 10-14 years have the highest rate of child pedestrian casualties (RMS).

Have a plan
Plan with your son or daughter how you will collect them. When and where you will be after school? Where should they wait? Make sure they know not to try and get into your vehicle while it is still in traffic, even if you are stopped, they should wait until you have parked at the side of the road.

Plan to arrive AFTER the school bell goes in the afternoon, so your children are ready and waiting for you and you are not blocking traffic.

Parking offences in school zones carry heavier fines and loss of demerit points. Sutherland Shire Council makes no apologies for fining drivers who break the law around schools and in school zones.

No Parking Zones
A No Parking zone is a pick up and drop off area, you can stop here for a maximum of two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers and must remain within three metres of the vehicle. When parents park in a No Parking zone for longer than two minutes they prevent other parents from stopping to drop off or pick up their children, creating frustration and dangerous situations.

If you block the drop off and pickup areas, you risk a fine.

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2013 homework planner
Kids and families run more smoothly when there's a plan. The 2013 homework and study calendar includes key dates and school holidays. You can print it out month by month, or by the whole year. Find out more http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

Doing well in class
Our expert panel shares tips about how parents can help their younger and older kids reach their full potential at school and motivate them for learning. Watch the video. Find our more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/getting-off-to-a-good-start/good-start-chapter-one

Eight ways to get your kids organised
Are you ready for morning madness, late assignments, yesterday's half-eaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely.
At Sylvania Public School we value our students’ written work and acknowledge their quality efforts. In 2Y the children wrote recounts about their holidays. Wonderful writing, Jessica S. and Isaia P.!

In the Holidays

by Jessica S.

In the holidays I went to Jamberoo. I went on the funnelweb it was very scary. I even started to scream. My mum came with me on it. My mum screamed a little bit. I enjoyed everything I went on. I love the holidays.

Fantastic work!

In the holidays I went to Taronga Zoo and went to my friends house. At Taronga Zoo I saw lions, gorillas, monkeys and apes. At my friends house we had a party on Australia day. My friend had 3 pet birds and I dog. My favorite part about my friend is that he has a bird and he’s very nice. My favorite bit at Taronga Zoo is the gorilla drumming.

Fantastic work!

For your convenience:

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STUDENT ABSENCE

Dear Sylvania Public School,

Name: ___________________________________________ of Class: _____________

Date/s Absent: __________________________________________________________

Reason – Please tick one

☐ Sick
☐ Urgent Family Business
☐ Medical/Dental Appointment
☐ Other ______________________

Signed: ____________________________________________________________ Date: ____________________

Parent/Guardian