Dear Parents

Last Monday the Annual General Meeting for the P & C was held and was very well attended. Once again I would like to thank the outgoing P & C Executive for their vision and commitment during their term in office. The support of the P & C is always greatly appreciated. The newly elected Executive for the next 12 months are:

President: Michael Kimber
Vice President - Care Centre: Derek Kasch
Vice President - Canteen: Margaret Tilbrook
Treasurer: Ken Dickenson
Assistant Treasurer: Nova Bannister
Secretary: Violet Van Luyt
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator (1): Tracy Farquhar
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator (2): Kathy Cunynghame
Canteen Sub-Committee Member: Anthea Bolton
School Banking: Cherie Blamire
Book Club: Mandy Goodman and Stephanie Wise
Publicity Officer: Nadine Grove
Mother’s Day/Father’s Day Stall: Michelle Isemonger and Carina Vitelli
School Disco Co-ordinator: Tracy Farquhar
Easter Egg Raffle Co-ordinator: Angela Farr
Care Centre Sub-Committee: Melissa Woodhouse
Assets and Purchasing: Unfilled Vacancy

Wireless Internet

Thanks to the support of our school community and the P & C. Engadine West will be having wireless internet installed across the school at the beginning of Term 2. This outstanding technology improvement will greatly enhance the learning of all our students from K-6. Thank you everyone for your support!

Young Leaders’ Conference

Our student leaders (Captains, Vice-Captains and House Captains) will be accompanied by Mrs Hightett and Mr Lambert today to attend the Young Leaders’ Conference at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. The students will listen to various celebrities and well renowned leaders speak about personal goals and what makes a successful leader. It should be a great day for all involved.
Easter Hat Parade

Our annual Easter Hat Parade will be held on Thursday 10 April commencing at 11.15am. The students will be involved in the Hat Parade, Eggs on Legs and Eggshibition. Parents and special friends are cordially invited to come along and enjoy the day. Special mention to the P & C for their support on the day with catering and fund-raising. It is a great way to end the term and we hope to see you there.

School Cross Country

Our annual school Cross Country will be held this Thursday 3 April. Students in Years 3-6 plus students turning 8 years of age this year are invited to compete. The carnival will be held at Anzac Oval with the events starting as soon as possible after 9.30am. Students should wear their sports uniforms and comfortable running shoes. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend and support our competitors.

Inclement Weather

Last week we had some very consistent and heavy rainfall. Unfortunately, there were several rooms that suffered from roof leaks and water damage. Carpets are now being dried and the school is making insurance claims to repair any damage. Let’s hope that the weather improves this week.

Have a great week.

Suey Royston
Principal

Sustainability BBQ

A big thank you to parents across our community of schools including a team from Engadine West who gave up their weekend to man the Bunnings BBQ, raising funds to support the Year 4 Environmental Sustainability Camp.

Professional Learning

Quality teaching is again the focus for teachers after school today. They will continue to develop personal goals and liaise with their colleagues and coordinators in implementing quality strategies.

Kids and Phone Bills


Managing Depression


What Makes a Good Book for Young Children?


Helping Children Learn How to Make Friends

If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. Teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs. Find out more: [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning)

Ross Edwards
Deputy Principal
Stewart House Clothing Bags

It is now 83 years since Stewart House opened its doors to provide public school children with a break from their current circumstance. The reasons individual children are chosen to attend the program are many and varied and the demand for services provided by Stewart House still remain strong.

Engadine West Public School will be collecting clothing for the Stewart House Clothing Appeal 2014 conducted by the Smith Family. Stewart House received over $20,000 from clothing collections in 2013, being a major part of their annual income and we are very pleased to be able to support this worthwhile charity once again. Stewart House Clothing bags were sent home with your child last week. Please donate good quality, wearable clothing and return bags to the Basement for collection by Friday 4 April 2014. Thank you for supporting Stewart House.

Shining Stars

Congratulations to Aimee C (3E) who competed in the State Acrobatics Championships and placed 2nd in Balance, 4th in Dynamic and 4th overall in the Level 6 Women's Pairs. Aimee was also selected to represent NSW at the National Championships in Melbourne in May. Well done!

Congratulations to Angus V (6H) who was successful in his recent audition for Little Mermaid with Engadine Musical Society. Angus was cast one of the lead roles “Scuttle” the seagull. Well Done Angus!

Congratulations to Ethan N (6A) for being selected in the Sydney South East Symphonic Wind Orchestra. Well done Ethan!

School Cross Country

Good luck to all of our runners on Thursday! We hope you have all been training hard and look forward to a great day. Please remember to wear your sport uniform and bring a safety pin. It is a normal school day and all students are expected to participate and return to school with their teacher. Please arrive at school by 8.50am, rolls will be marked at 9.00am.

Please note that this year only, the first eight placegetters in each race will progress to the Engadine Zone Cross Country. In past years there has been an ‘A’ and a ‘B’ race, however this has been changed by the PSSA to only an ‘A’ race.

Jeanine Payne & Martin Field
Cross Country Carnival Organisers

Swimming Carnival Presentation

Congratulations to our swimmers who were presented with their ribbons last Friday.

Well done to our six age champions:

Beau W Junior Boy
Jade K Junior Girl
Cameron S 11yr Boy
Marissa H 11yr Girl
Ethan P 12yr Boy
Larissa R 12yr Girl

Lisa Leavai
Swimming Carnival Co-ordinator
3/4D students watched a short animation about a boy who finds a black hat. They imagined what the boy was like and what might happen with the hat, and wrote their own narratives.

“There was once a boy who lived with his mute grandmother. The boy was young and quite pale in the face. He had dark and mysterious eyes.” by Chloe W (3/4D)

“To his great surprise, he found a hat. It looked like one a magician would wear. He took it off the ground, dusted it off, and placed it very cautiously on his head. He thought it felt very delicate.” by Sophie R (3/4D)

“Once there was a peculiar boy named Alexander Alister who lived in a decaying forest cabin with his blind, eighty-eight year old grandmother named Rosetta Rosemary.” by Emma C (3/4D)

“He would go for long walks that seemed to go on for hours. He loved to climb the boughs of the damp trees, wet from the dew of the night before.” by Angel D (3/4D)

3/4D thought of things that would improve the school and wrote to Mr Royston to try to persuade him to listen to their ideas.

“…the trees should be put back on the playground so that we can smell the fresh air in the sky and so that we can breathe. Secondly, so the birds have a habitat to live in the trees. Thirdly, we need the trees because they blow and blow the oxygen to people, which keeps us up and running.” by Joel S (3/4D)

“…we should definitely have a soccer field on the back grass so more kids who like soccer can play on a real soccer field. We need a soccer field so more kids can get fit and healthy. When you have a soccer field you can actually shoot into the goals, not the gutter.” by Georgia G (3/4D)

Kennings Poem by Aurelia F (4G)  
- Enormous waves
- Sinking sand
- Crashing waves
- Rapidrips
- Amazing fish
- Incoming tides
- Deep waters
- Dangerous creatures
- Salty seas
- Squawking seagulls
- Diving dolphins
- Beautifully blue
- Shimmering shells
- Clear waters
- Brilliant temperature

Kennings Poem by Chris (4G)  
- Brilliant smell
- Razor teeth
- Extremely fast
- Terrible eyesite
- Top predator
- Very strong
- Jaw chopper
- Streamlined body
- Rough skin
- Large gills
- Rules sea

If I could choose what puddles were made of, I’d make them trampolines so every time I came across a puddle I would jump on it all day long. By Max (4WP)

If I could choose what rain was when it fell from the sky, I would choose chocolate milk so I wouldn’t need to beg my parents for it all the time. By Cameron (4WP)

If I could choose what the poles in the school were made of, I’d choose jelly so when someone crashed into them they wouldn’t get hurt. By Darcie (4WP)
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**Lilli’s Life as a Refugee**

A volcano is erupting, hot red lava is flowing through the chilly water and my home is being destroyed. I’m Lilli and I’m a dragon. My home was a beautiful hut made from smooth sticks, it was held above the crystal clear water by tree vines and now it’s gone. I walked sad and alone along the dusty path hoping I would find somewhere to rest for the night and find a new home, for now I am a refugee.

I tried flying with my little wings for a while but I grew tired so I slowed down to a walk and came across a log and fallen berries from the tree beside.

I decided to stay there for the night and ate the berries so I wouldn’t starve. I woke up early the next morning to find dinosaurs crowding around me, I never seemed fond of dinosaurs and they never seemed fond of me, but one little dino seemed curious and her name was Holly, so she invited me to live with her, I said yes! We ate coconut cookies and drank orange and mango juice for the rest of the day. **By Paige C (4C)**

**Nadia the Refugee Dog**

Nadia was a young dog when terror struck. He lived under a tree that had the loveliest, swaying willows that would sway in the wind like a woman in a long dress dancing the cha-cha.

The terror struck when the war broke out in the weak and broken town. Soldiers were hidden in thick, long reeds with their ball throwing machines. “What a horrid day it is today” said Nadia looking out at the broken down city. “What’s that noise?” said one of the soldiers firing a bullet. “A ball!” said Nadia running out to catch it. He ran and he jumped. The bullet hit his paw and kept on going and then there was smoke. Nadia looked back at his home. Nothing. His paw ached.

He walked out through the war-torn town desperately looking for life, the only thing he found was an old tabby cat that had only one eye and decided to follow it as it looked like it knew where it was going. While they were walking Nadia kept his eyes peeled for at least a scrap of food. Finally he came to the town of the twillerflies. “Please could you help me?” Nadia wept to the twiller queen. “Well certainly not, you have fur.” “Why does that matter?” asked Nadia. Nadia slumped her shoulders and sadly walked away following the funny little tabby cat. Nadia followed the cat until standing before Nadia was a beautiful house. The little cat had disappeared. He knocked on the door and an old lady opened the door. “Welcome, welcome this is yours, come in, come in.”

“You must be mistaken,” “Oh no this is yours but let me explain, my owner died many years ago and left me to choose the new owner of this house, someone kind and calm, careful and respectful, someone that I believe is you.” Nadia lived a long and happy life for all eternity. **By Caitlin S (4C)**

If I could choose what my pens and pencils were made of, I’d choose frozen chocolate so when the teacher’s weren’t looking I could lick it all day. **By Marcus (4WP)**

Down in Africa, there was a big drought and little Fynn was very thirsty. BOOM! There was lightning and it rained orange juice and all of the houses were covered in custard. **By Emile (4WP)**

As I jumped out of bed ready to start the day, I looked out the window. Yes! I said to myself. It’s not raining today, just one little puddle in the distance. **By Carly (4WP)**
### For Your Diary

#### Monday 31 March
- Young Leaders’ Day

#### Tuesday 1 April
- Canteen Closed
- Student Banking
- SSSMF Senior Choir Rehearsal
- Grays Point Public School
- Sydney East Rugby League

#### Wednesday 2 April
- Endeavour Sports High Primary School Soccer Gala Day (Postponed)

#### Thursday 3 April
- Cross Country Carnival - Anzac Oval

#### Friday 4 April
- Friday Swimming
- PSSA Rugby League Gala Day at The Ridge
- Home Readers to be Returned to Classroom Teachers
- Stewart House Bags to be Returned to Basement
- Hot Cross Bun Orders Due (Canteen)
- K-2 Assembly 12.00 midday
- 3-6 Assembly 2.30pm

#### Monday 7 April
- Canteen Closed
- Student Banking
- Anzac Day Service 10.45am

#### Tuesday 8 April
- Uniform Shop Open
- State Swimming Carnival

#### Wednesday 9 April
- Endeavour Sports High Primary School Soccer Gala Day

#### Thursday 10 April
- Easter Hat Parade 11.15am

#### Friday 11 April
- Friday Swimming
- Last Day of Term 1

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### Excursions and Payments

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**Please Note:** Minimum Eftpos transaction - $10.00
Winter uniforms are now available and can be purchased from the Uniform Shop (located off the Basement area near the computer lab). The Uniform Shop is operated by the P & C and is open every second Wednesday from 9.15am to 10.15am. The next opening time will be:

Wednesday 9 April from 9.15-10.15am

Tracy Farquhar & Kathy Cunynghame
Uniform Shop Co-ordinators

This Week’s Roster

Tuesday - 1 April
CANTEEN CLOSED

Wednesday - 2 April
D Duffy, J Wilkinson

Thursday - 3 April
T Cassidy, M O’Brien, L Shepherd

Friday - 4 April
A Astbury, L Gattone, T Farquhar, C Vitelli, L Duffy, J White

Monday - 7 April
N Hardy, A Jones, A Jones

Canteen News

Please note that lunch orders must be placed by 9.30am.

Find us on Facebook - EWPS Canteen

We Urgently Need Volunteers for Thursdays!

We are in urgent need of more volunteers for this year. Volunteers are rostered on once every 4 weeks from school drop off until approximately 3.00pm, however, we are very flexible. Whatever time you can spare is greatly appreciated. Options to consider:

★ Once a term.
★ A few hours of a morning to prepare fresh food.
★ Serving at recess and/or lunch breaks.
★ A few hours in the afternoon.

All training is provided and we endeavour to provide a fun work place. You are welcome to drop in and have a look around and meet some of our wonderful volunteers.

Lunch Orders Specials

Banana Smoothie (Fresh) $3.00
Fruit Salad Med Large $3.00 $4.00
Yoghurt + .50c

Baker’s Delight Hot Cross Bun Drive

We are taking Hot Cross Bun orders again this year. Orders are due back by this Friday 4 April and delivery will be on Thursday 10 April, Easter Hat Parade day. If paying by cheque, please make it out to: Engadine West Public School P & C Canteen.

Easter Hat Parade - Thursday 10 April

The main canteen will be serving tea, coffee, cakes, mixed sandwiches, rice paper rolls, fruit salad etc. We will need help in the morning to prepare food and serve throughout the day. If you are able to assist, please let me know.

We would also appreciate donations of cakes, slices etc. to sell on the day. These can be dropped to the main canteen. Thank you.

If anyone has any questions regarding the canteen, please come in and see me.

Leanne Best
Canteen Supervisor
**Mother's Day Stall**

The Mother’s Day stall will soon be here. To help stock the stall with some lovely gifts for mum, donations would be very much appreciated.

The list below is a guide for the types of donations we are seeking, if you are able to help. As always, if you have anything else that you think may be suitable and wish to donate, we will be grateful.

- Kindergarten  Nail care related items e.g.: nail polish, nail files, buffers etc.
- Year 1 and 2  Candles, soaps, perfumes, oils
- Year 3 and 4  Any hair or skin related products
- Year 5 and 6  Chocolates (individually wrapped – no nuts please)

As the stall gets closer we will advise you of the important dates (wrapping and stall day). We hope to see both mums or dads come and give us a hand on these days.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

*Carina Vitelli and Michelle Isemonger*

*Mother’s Day Stall Co-ordinators*

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**Easter Egg Raffle**

We are asking for donations of Easter eggs, baskets and curling ribbon for our Easter Hat Parade Raffle! The more baskets we raffle, the more money we have to buy learning resources for all the children at Engadine West Public School.

Please take donations of:

- chocolate Easter eggs (no nuts please)
- baskets
- curling ribbon

...to the school Front Office no later than midday on Wednesday 9 April. Every donation will make a difference. The raffle will be held during the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 10 April and tickets will cost $2 each or 3 for $5.

Thank you for the wonderful donations already received!

*Angela Farr*

*Easter Egg Raffle Co-ordinator*
Community News

Kids Plus
PLUS!

~A Pupil Free Day Activity!
28th of April

Engadine Anglican Church
~Waratah Rd.

Bible Teaching ~ Games ~ Craft ~ Singing ~
~And Symbio's Coming!

Snakes, Water Dragons, Lizards, Stick Insects, Frogs, Turdus, Possum, Tawny Frogmouth, Baby Alligator and more!

* Kindy to Year 6
* Sign in: from 8:30-9 am
* Pick up: from 3:30-5pm (movie from 3:30-5pm)
* Lunch and afternoon tea provided
* Cost: $25 for the first child and $20 for subsequent kids

Register online today: www.eac.org.au
ph: 9548 2296
Finding it difficult to cope but don’t know where to turn?

Call the South Eastern and Northern Sydney Family Referral Service on 1800 066 757.

- We can help you find useful services in your local area.
- You can speak to us by telephone, you can visit our offices, we can meet you in your home or somewhere convenient for you.
- We link young people, children and families to culturally sensitive services wherever possible.
- We provide free interpreters.

Your link to support
Tel: 1800 066 757
Email: sezfamilyservice@barnardos.org.au
Web: www.barnardos.org.au
Hours: 8am-6pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays)

We can link you with services to help with:
- Domestic violence
- Migrant and Settlement
- Financial assistance
- Counselling and mediation
- Child and Parenting programs
- Youth support
- Housing and accommodation
- Mental health support and any other services you may need.

Family Referral Services are a Keep Them Safe Initiative funded by the NSW Government to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and families in NSW.