From the Relieving Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians of Casula Public School,

Wow, what a fortnight we have had at Casula. The beginning of the year has been smooth and all students are settled in their classrooms. We have finalised numbers. Classes will remain as is for 2015. Now that the classes have been finalised please label all of your child’s belongings with their name and class. If your child has misplaced something, there is a *LOST PROPERTY* box outside the office. I am very pleased with the way Kindergarten has transitioned to school. They seem very settled and happy to be here. They are feeling tired as they adjust to school life – I know the teachers are tired too!

Each day you probably ask your child/ren how was school? What did you learn? They usually answer good and nothing. Here are a list of possible questions you might ask your child after a day of school:

* What was the best thing that happened at school today?
* Tell me something that made you laugh today.
* Where is the coolest place in the school?
* Tell me a weird word you heard today.
* If I called your teacher tonight, what would she/he say about you?

Casula Public School Newsletter  
Week 4, Term 1  
16 February 2015
* How did you help someone today?
* How did someone help you today?
* When were you the happiest today?
* Who would you like to play with at recess that you have never played with before?
* What word did your teacher say the most today?
* Who is the funniest person in your class? What do they do that is funny?
* If you were the teacher, what would you teach your class?

**Meet the Parent Conversations**
Last Friday we sent home a note about “Meet The Parent Conversations”. This is a time when you can meet your child’s teacher and outline their strengths, weaknesses, medical conditions, academic progress and any other important information. We urge all parents to make a time with their child’s teacher.

**School Plan 2015 – 2017**
The teachers and myself have been hard at work developing a new School Plan. We have worked on what our vision for the school is and developed some strategic directions for the future. I would like to work with parents to continue this journey. **I am inviting parents to come along on Monday, 23\textsuperscript{rd} February at 9.15am in the Community Room** to discuss the new plan with me and continue developing it for implementation in Term 2.

**School Swimming Trials**
For all our competitive swimmers we are heading to the Whitlam Centre this Wednesday for our annual swimming carnival. Good luck to all competitors!

**Planning Days**
Occasionally teachers are taken off their class to participate in planning. This happens twice a term at Casula. You will notice this week that your child’s teacher will not be in the room for one day. This professional learning is very important for teachers. We carefully select casual teachers from our list who continue with the classroom program.

**Parent Forum**
Our first parent forum of the year will be held this Friday in Mr Davis’ room. The topic is **“Selective and OC preparation and Testing”**. All parents are welcome to attend. The session begins at 9.15am and will conclude at 10.30am.

**PSSA**
PSSA games commence this Friday. I urge all primary students to return their money and note ASAP and to ensure they are wearing the sports shirt and a hat on Friday. Thank you to our dedicated teachers who give up their time to train the students and go away to compete each Friday afternoon. Good luck to all teams.
Approaching a Child

It is never OK for a parent to approach another student on the playground over an issue. Please report the incident to your child’s teacher and you can be assured that as a school we will follow up with the incident.

RULES OF THE FORTNIGHT:

Show Respect – Discuss with your child/ren what RESPECT looks like, sounds like and feels like!

Do your best – What does that mean? Do you do your best all the time or just some of the time? How do we feel when we do our best?

Uniforms

I have attached a photo of our Summer uniform that all students should wear until the end of Term 1. Our school uniform is an attractive uniform that caters for all students. We strongly encourage students to wear uniform to foster pride in our school and to develop good tone and behaviour. I also would like to encourage all parents to purchase a sports shirt for $25 from the uniform shop for your child to wear on sport days and on Friday for all primary students. This shirt looks great and I loved seeing the Kindergarten students wearing theirs last Wednesday. Black shoes should be worn to school each day and sporting shoes should only be worn on sport days. More students seemed to be wearing a hat to school. This is essential as the hot weather continues across NSW. If you need a hat for your child, they are available at the school office for $12. Teachers and the school executive will be looking carefully at uniforms over the next month and encouraging parents to send their child in correct school uniform each day.

Our school uniform is available through:
Liverpool Embroidery Shop
Shop 2/170 George Street
Liverpool NSW 2170
Phone 9601 0812
Healthy Canteen

Last P&C meeting Janelle, the manager of our school canteen, talked to the parents about new menu items and understanding how the menu is worked out. Our school canteen belongs to the Healthy Canteen Association of NSW and as a result all products are categorised as RED, AMBER OR GREEN.

Green foods are the healthiest and are a good source of nutrients to students. These foods include fruit and vegetables and are usually lower in salt, sugar and fat. Amber foods should be eaten less of the time as they contain moderate levels of saturated fats and added sugar. These foods include margarine, processed meats, ice creams and snack food bars. Red foods are not available on the menu. These foods can be eaten twice a term. This might include a cake stall.

Early Pick up and Late Pick Up

The earliest you can bring your child to school is 8.30am. There is NO supervision of students until that time. All students need to be picked up at 3pm. Some students are not picked up until 3.10pm. Those students need to wait in the office or the silver seats outside the office. We are keeping a register of late pick-ups. If it continues we will encourage parents to use our after school child care service. Thank you in advance for your assistance. You will have noticed that a teacher is now out on Holland Crescent each afternoon to monitor pick-ups and to ensure children are safe. Please do the right thing and don’t illegally park or drive unsafely around our kids.

I would like to wish our Chinese and Vietnamese communities a very happy new year- chuc mung nam moi. Enjoy the celebrations!

Have a great fortnight,

Shelley Diamond
Relieving Principal

A Message from the Deputy Principal – Mr Field

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.
I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

### Casula Public School New Award System

The award system at CPS has been updated this year and there are some exciting changes that we would like all students and family to be aware of.

The major award that students aim to receive is an “Award of Excellence”. This is awarded when 10 special awards are collected. If a student collects 10 Excellence Awards they are eligible to receive a gold medallion in year 6.

The 6 awards that students collect, in any combination, are the following:

**Merit Certificate** - Handed out by teachers each week in class.

**Term Behaviour Award** - These are handed out at the end of each term for consistently following the class and playground rules.

**Sport Award** – These are awarded by PSSA coaches and teachers weekly.

**Casula Champion Award** – When students collect 5 of these cards they trade them in for a Merit Certificate.

**School Spirit Award** - This is a special award to acknowledge students showing kindness, respect or doing something of importance for the school.

**Principal’s Award** – These awards will be given out by the Principal or Deputy Principal at assemblies to recognise students.

As this is a new award policy that the school is adopting, it may take a little getting used to. There is a system in place to cater for current students in the school from year 1 to year 6 and any new students, to ensure that they are not disadvantaged by this new system.

For now, look out for when your child brings home awards and keep them somewhere safe so they can trade them in when they have 10.
MOOREBANK HIGH SCHOOL

A partially selective co-educational high school serving the community

OPEN NIGHT FOR YEAR 7 commencing 2016

Monday, 22nd February 2016
Bangalow Avenue, Moorebank
in the School Hall
7:00pm – 9:00pm

Open night is held for potential enrolments and their parents/careers.
Teachers and students will be available on the night to give information about the school, its curriculum and facilities.

Moorebank caters for both selective students and comprehensive students from Year 7 to Year 12.

The School community has built a proud record of academic, sporting and performing arts achievement.

There is a strong emphasis on technology, student welfare and basic literacy and numeracy.

We promote an atmosphere of mutual respect, cooperation and consideration in which students can develop a sense of personal responsibility.

For further details please contact the School on 9601 3999.

Moorebank High School offers opportunities for selective placement, an extension class and effective comprehensive education.

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CASULA HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

This week at Casula High:

- Casula High Open Night is nearly here. The challenge has been thrown down to our local community of Year 4, 5 and 6 students come and ask us any question you can think of. Can’t wait to see you all here.
- Casula High want international. A delegation of Danish educators visited and saw how we flip classrooms and explicitly teach our students. What an amazing experience!
- Can Maths be fun?? It is when you are working on ‘The World’s Smallest Computer’. It is amazing what can be made enjoyable these days.
- Our Peer Support leaders continue to demonstrate wonderful leadership as they teach our new Year 7 students how to develop resilience. They are doing a awesome job.
- NASA wants us!! The Deputy Head of NASA has requested the pleasure of company of our students at an upcoming video conference.
- Our Library has gone funky. New furniture has arrived making it the perfect place to find and enjoy a great read.
- For more updates on our exciting achievements why not like us on Facebook? Find us at www.facebook.com/casula.high.school

If you have any queries please contact the school on 9602-4730. Simon O’Donnell, Relieving Transition Co-ordinator
5S have had a sensational start to the year!!! Mrs Sutarov is teaching 5S this year and she comes to Casula PS after many years of teaching Stage 3 and being on maternity leave.

Already we have been super busy in class, learning lots about characterisation and memoir writing. We have been greatly inspired by Ahn Do’s book, ‘The little refugee’.

In Science we have been learning about Earthquakes and Natural Disasters and are very excited about the different types of projects that will be on offer!

We all love our class gold coin system and we have all been trying hard to be helpful, safe and respectful learners. This helps us to earn 5 gold coins which we then trade for a super prize from our wonder box.

We are all looking forward to a great year of learning, having fun and forming fantastic friendships!!! It’s going to be a great year.
Casula Public School has a number of children with food allergies and/or a condition known as 'anaphylaxis'.

Nut products such as peanut butter and Nutella can cause severe life-threatening reactions in these children where they cannot breathe. Some children are extremely sensitive to nuts and cannot eat, touch or even smell nut products.

Our school has procedures in place to respond to these reactions.

**How we can help?**

- Avoid giving your child peanut butter sandwiches and Nutella.
- Discuss with your child about NOT sharing their food at
PLATINUM MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Family run Karate School in Casula. Have fun, keep fit and learn a Martial Art. Come along and try it out. Great deals bring your friends. Classes Tuesday and Thursday 6pm - 7.15 pm.

Please call Mani 0409033081 for further information and prices.

Stepping Out School of Dance

Unit 9/45-47 Whyalla Pl,
Prestons NSW 2170

www.steppingoutdance.com
email: rain.drops@bigpond.com
Christine PH: 96057472
Mobile 0409548396

Jazz Hip Hop Tap Ballet Irish
Drama Singing
Acrobatics/Tumbling