From the Relieving Principal’s Desk

We have reached the halfway point of a very busy Term 1 at Casula Public School. I would like to thank all the parents and carers who visited our school for “Meet the Parent” afternoon last Wednesday. Approximately 80% of families attended and provided teachers with valuable information regarding their child/ren. Remember you can meet with your child’s teacher anytime throughout the school year to discuss your child’s progress. The only thing we ask is that you avoid class time as the teacher needs to be working with their class.

SWOT (Students Without Technology)

From this week students in Years 3-6 will be able to access Maths Online for homework activities. This program was highly successful in 2014 so we have decided to continue with it this year. We understand that some families do not have the Internet or a computer at home so we would like to offer the library from 1.20-2pm every Tuesday and Thursday for students to do their Maths Online or assignments. A teacher will also be available to support the students during this time.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the 40 students who attended the school swimming carnival. I really enjoyed watching the students compete and was very proud of their behaviour and support of one another on the day. Thank you to Mr Beveridge for his excellent organisation and the teachers and parents who volunteered to assist with timekeeping and starting. I am very pleased to report that 17 students move on to the Zone carnival this Wednesday at Macquarie Fields. I will see all students tomorrow and present them with their new Casula Public School silicone swimming caps. Best of luck everyone!

Homework

As a school we have made some changes to our homework structure for 2015. Some grades are using a more project based approach where we are seeing nearly 100% of students handing in work regularly. Other grades are looking at a fortnightly table of tasks that students can work on at home. It is always really nice to receive positive feedback.
from parents so I thought I would include a recent email I received from a Year 1 parent:

We recently received information about a fresh approach to homework. I would like to share my thoughts with you.

I am really impressed that the teachers have taken some time to consider the homework they will be giving their students in 2015. The task based approach I find to be proactive and flexible. I can sit down with my son each fortnight and plan how we are going to complete the task.

Taking a social constructivist viewpoint, I can see opportunities for Oliver to have valuable learning experiences within a relevant context. I can already see him 'actively' engaging in the tasks. I notice that some of the tasks require him to present information orally to his peers and I think this will help him do two things. Firstly develop confidence speaking to a group. Secondly, that interpersonal communication will extend the learning process.

Our family are looking forward to a great year at Casula Public School.

Safe Driving and Parking

You may have noticed that police have been patrolling the streets around the school. They are booking drivers parked illegally, parking or stopping in bus bays, doing U turns in De Meyrick Ave and speeding vehicles. Please be aware that this patrol will continue and I urge all parents to follow the road rules and keep our children safe. I know that parking is an ongoing issue at the school and I am working with the P&C and Department of Education to see what solutions can be put in place.

Parent Forum

Thank you to Mr Davis for his excellent presentation on preparing your child for OC and Selective High Test. We had close to 100 parents attend. Lots of questions were answered regarding the tests and I urge all parents to approach their child’s teacher if they have any further questions. I would like to wish all Year 6 students the very best of luck for the Selective High tests on March 12.

Our next parent forum will be Friday, 20 March at 9.15am. This session will be targeted towards parents of students in Years 3-6. A representative from ‘Maths Online’ will attend and show parents how to use the program successfully at home. Mrs Goetz and Mrs Denner will also look at the importance of knowing and applying times tables. The session will conclude at approximately 10.30am.

Oliver Phommavanh

A great friend of mine and Casula Public School is Oliver Phommavanh, a very successful children’s author. Oliver has visited the school on various occasions sharing his love of writing with the students and signing copies of his much loved books ‘Thairiffic’, ‘Con-nerd’ and ‘Punchlines’. Oliver will be visiting us again on Tuesday, 17 March to promote his new book ‘Stuff Happens: Ethan’. Oliver will sign copies of the new book and sell them to students for $10. All other titles will be available for $15. We will send out a note closer to the event.

P&C AGM

Our P&C Annual General Meeting will occur tomorrow morning at 9.15am in the community room. All positions will be vacated and all financial members of the P&C will have a chance to vote. New parents are welcome to attend. At this time I would like to thank the current P&C members for their hard work and support of the school over the past 12 months. Thank you in particular to the President Cheryl Whitehead and her executive team for their fundraising activities. I know the students at Casula appreciate the iPads they use every day for learning.

Year 6 Fundraising

Each term Year 6 students will hold a fundraiser to support their Year 6 farewell. The farewell will be held at Liverpool Catholic Club at the end of the year. Attached to the newsletter are details of the first fundraiser of the year to be held this Thursday. Please support.
SRC members for 2015
Invitations have gone out today for parents of students that have been selected to be SRC representatives in 2015. A special assembly will be held on Monday, 9 March at 10am for all parents in the school hall. A morning tea will be held after the ceremony. Please return the RSVP slip to indicate your attendance.

School Plan 2015-2017
Work continues on the School Plan. Thank you to the parents that came along last Monday to discuss the school vision and directions. I appreciated your time and the great suggestions made. The executive team will be having a further planning session in the weeks ahead to continue the work.

Merit Award System for 2015
Last newsletter we included an outline of the new merit award system for 2015. I have included a picture of the new blue Sports Award. Sports Awards will be given out each week at PSSA, school sport and grade sport for K-2. Keep all awards safe. This is one of the special awards that will count towards an “Award of Excellence”. Once students collect 10 special awards they can bring these to their classroom teacher and they will receive their award at a special grade assembly. Our new award system is NEW this year and only awards from 2015 onwards will be counted towards an “Award of Excellence”.

5 Point Plan for Our School
Last week I spoke with the students about a five point plan that they needed to follow in the classroom and playground. Showing respect and keeping your hands and feet to yourself are the important points we have been reminding students to follow. Sometimes students are rough with others – this will not be tolerated. Please talk to your child/ren about the need to play safely and not to hurt others.

Incident Last Friday
Last Friday police attended our school to resolve a family matter unrelated to school business. As a result of police intervention and counselling the matter was brought to a swift conclusion. At no time was any student at Casula Public School unsafe. All students were in classrooms or at PSSA. If you have further queries feel free to talk to me or the deputies.

Congratulations to Robyn Edwards
I am so excited to announce that through a merit selection process Robyn Edwards will be leading teachers across 4 Sydney networks in developing their Visual Arts knowledge and skills. Robyn will stay on Kindergarten but will spend time upskilling teachers in their professional competence. This position is highly sought after and we are extremely proud of Rob.

Have a great fortnight,

“Shelley Diamond”

Rory Southwell from 5/6D receiving a cheque from the mayor of Liverpool, Ned Nanoun, for competing at the BMX World Championships in Europe last year.

Congratulations Rory we are very proud of you!
My name is Ms Brendish and I am the teacher of 1B this year. I have been teaching at Casula Public School for 6 years and I absolutely love it!

1B have been settling in to Year 1 and making marvellous new friends. We have also had the opportunity to see old friends from Kindergarten during breaks and sport on a Friday.

1B have been having a great time listening to Ms Brendish read picture books and engaging in conversations about them. Students have been learning how to take turns in conversations and respond to others’ comments. The class has also started guided reading groups and independent writing. 1B has been writing about many books we have read together. Some of our favourite books include, Lucy Goosey, Mutt Dog, Willy the Wizard, The book with No Pictures, Feathers for Phoebe and many others! Students have also been undertaking activities such as research and literacy games.

Every student in 1B has an allocated day to present news items to the class. We really enjoy listening to our friend’s news and asking questions about it. TEN (Targeted Early Numeracy) groups have also started. In these groups, students work in pairs to engage in addition and subtraction games.

We have handed in our first homework task and it was fabulous! We had to make a poster about our holidays.

We have had a very busy start to the year and are looking forward to a very productive year!
## PSSA RESULTS - WEEK 1

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<td>Vs Marsden Road</td>
<td>Win 2-1</td>
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<td>Vs Hammondville</td>
<td>Loss 0-11</td>
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<td>SENIOR A GAME 2</td>
<td>Vs Marsden Road</td>
<td>Draw 2-2</td>
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<td>SENIOR B GAME 1</td>
<td>Vs Hammondville</td>
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<td>JUNIOR</td>
<td>Vs Liverpool West</td>
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<td>SENIOR</td>
<td>Vs Hammondville</td>
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Mufti-Day

Wear your favourite ‘Footy Colours’

Thursday 5th March

Bring a gold coin donation.

This is a Year 6 Fundraiser.
**CASULA HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE**

This week at Casula High:

- It was wonderful to see our local community engage with a range of events over the last couple of weeks. Meeting parents and future students really reinforced the family feel within the school.
- Creative and performing arts are taking over again at Casula High. Dance and drama clubs are up and running and we cannot wait to see what is produced.
- A new range of graphic novels have arrived in the Library. The list of students waiting to borrow is growing. It is great to see such a wide variety of books, once for everyone.
- Tim Bailey et your heart out. Our Year 8 students are studying and predicting weather patterns with scary accuracy.
- Timber, Art or Society and Culture major works season has started. Year 12 students are busy building, constructing and researching a variety of major works for their HSC, we know you will do use proud.
- This is a Tiger week. Wests Tigers players visited this week and spoke to the students. They even remarked how well behaved they all were. Well done and go Tigers!
- For more updates on our exciting achievements why not like us on Facebook? Find us at [www.facebook.com/casulahighschool](http://www.facebook.com/casulahighschool).

If you have any queries please contact the school on 9602 4270. Simon O’Donnell, Relieving Transition Co-ordinator

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**Families Together**

**KEEPING MY CHILD SAFE**

"Helping children cope with the challenges of everyday life"

**Presented by**

Belgur Gurton

Forensic Psychologist

Kate Kinneman Psychology Services

B.A. (Hons) Psychology

M. Psych (Forensic)

The Preventive Behavioural program develops personal safety skills that can be used by children and young people to keep them safe. The program strategies can provide the basis for helping children cope at school and address problems associated with social media, bullying, drugs, alcohol and peer pressure.

The program is for families with children from 5 to 12 years.

**Bookings are essential and places are limited.**

Please call 0407 708 626 to book your place

**Families Together** is funded by the Department of Education and Communities and operated by Fairfield City Council.

**DATE:** Wednesday 1st April 2015

**TIME:** 6:30 - 9:00pm

**PLACE:** Cabarawine Diggers Club

Wattle Room

1 Barley Street

Carina Table

**CASUALS ARE WELCOME**

Please note if you do not wish to receive flyers or would like to have them withdrawal please contact the number above.

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**Families Together**

**HELP...........
My Child is Anxious**

**Presented by**

Begon Taylor

Megan is a Clinical Psychologist with over eighteen years experience working with adults, adolescents, young children and their families.

This program aims to inform parents about the nature of anxiety and to give parents with practical strategies to work with their children in reducing anxious thoughts and behaviour.

This session is suitable for parents of primary school aged children and the strategies presented will be general.

The program will also look at ideas for parenting in a way which encourages confidence, resilience and a positive outlook.

**Bookings are essential and places are limited.**

Please call 0407 708 826 to book your place

**Families Together** is for parents.

Children’s, junior, sessions, teachers, family support workers and other professionals will not be given a place. Families Together is for families living in the 21679, 21681 and 21682 postcodes areas of Fairfield, Loughmough and Bankstown.

**DATE:** Thursday 26th March 2015

**TIME:** 6:30 - 9:00pm

**PLACE:** Cabarawine Halls RSL and Sporting Club

28-32 Haigville Rd

Wolli Creek

**CASUALS ARE WELCOME**

Please note if you do not wish to receive flyers or would like to have them withdrawal please contact the number above.

Families Together is funded by the Department of Education and Communities and operated by Fairfield City Council.

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**Cubbyhouse OSNC**

**Important Notice for Cubbyhouse OSNC Enrolments!**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please note that all Enrolment Forms must be lodged with Cubbyhouse Head Office in order to be processed.

An Enrolment Form which is left at an OSNC Centre does not confirm your child’s enrolment.

It is a legal requirement that enrolments can only be activated after all forms have been completed, signed and submitted to Head Office. Parents/guardians will then be informed by email if their children have received a place and may commence care.

Unfortunately, some Parents/Guardians have assumed that their children may commence care simply because an Enrolment Form has been submitted at the OSNC Centre. Whilst enrolments are processed rapidly by our Head Office staff, it is illegal for Cubbyhouse to provide care until the process is complete.

Cubbyhouse is required to follow Regulatory protocols when providing childcare, otherwise we can lose our licence, so we ask that Parents/Guardians please follow the most efficient enrolment procedures - which are to complete the Enrolment Form online, print a copy, physically sign it and then submit it by email, post or fax to Head Office.

Your understanding and co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thanking you from Cubbyhouse Management

Signed Documents can be sent by:

- Email
- Post
- Fax

Email: info@cubbyosnc.com.au

Cubbyhouse OSNC

PO BOX 8239

Baulkham Hills NSW 2153

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Casula Public School Newsletter

Week 6, Term 1

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WHY SHOULD KIDS DO 404FUN?

The program aims to improve the health of the child through the development of healthy lifestyle behaviors, as well as increasing and positively affecting kids’ attitude to food and physical activity.

The program includes nutritional information on food serving sizes and healthy eating, support and advice talking about weight and diet management, personal improvement on physical activity and self-esteem as well as fun games incorporating fitness, movement skills and team building.

WHAT IS ABOVE HEALTHY WEIGHT?

Approximately 1 in 4 (25%) of children in NSW are overweight or obese. Kids who could be above a healthy weight include those that:

- Wear clothes sizes for an older age group
- Spend over two hours watching television (or using a computer) per day
- Are physically active for less than one hour per day
- Eat unbalanced meals, large portion sizes or more than one unhealthy snack per day.

WHERE?

Held at schools and community centers, as well as at schools’ most convenient location.

WHEN?

Run in school term 10 weeks, usually starting at 4.30pm, 5.00pm or 6.00pm.

COST?

FREE: kids get a free t-shirt, baseball cap, lunch box, under bed and lunch box.

REGISTER ON 1800 780 900
OR www.go4fun.com.au

Goshin-Ryu Karate
Self Defence & Safety Awareness Program

Established 50 years, Government Accredited Instructors

Only $10 per week

Family Rates Available.

Special classes for Adults, Children and Families Near You!

Feel free to contact us:
Ph: 02 9977 0814
Mob: 0418 410 396
www.goshinryu.com

Casula Public School Newsletter Week 6, Term 1
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