As I said in our last newsletter, we have had a great start to our school year, and for that I am very grateful. One of the many blessings we have received this year is the fact that we have commenced our building program.

This building project will consist of a new Science Laboratory and associated storage and preparation area, three general learning areas and a Sport and PE storage area that will open up directly onto the school oval.

This development is a result of the wonderful level of growth our school has experienced over the last few years. For example, some of our high school rooms have an occupancy rate of over 95%. This means that the rooms are empty for less than 4 periods per fortnight.

Once this building is finished it will enable all primary classes to be in the one area and will relieve some of the pressure on some of the high school classrooms. However, there is a cost involved in any construction project. We have been very blessed in being able to secure a financial grant from the Federal Government to assist with the funding of this building. In this case our school will be responsible for over 40% of the total cost. It is this 40% that enables the “fit out” of the building, eg desks, chairs, interactive whiteboards and landscaping.

One way that we can fund this amount is through our school’s Building Fund. This is a Deductible Gift Recipient fund that is established by the school with strict rules about its use. The first thing to know is that all donations to this fund are tax deductible. Secondly, the money in this fund can only be used for the purchase and maintenance of capital items. Also, these funds cannot be used for the daily running of the school. As I said previously, there are quite strict controls on the use of this money.

The importance of donations to our Building Fund cannot be over emphasised. This fund helps parents and supporters of the school, link with the past, the present and the future. The association of our parents and friends with our school has no boundaries as far as time is concerned. Those families that made donations to build the original buildings are still an important part of the story of our school, along with all those that will contribute in the future. Remember we are building a school for the future as well as the present.

If you believe that you can support our school by contributing to our Building Fund please contact our office for details on how to donate.

God Bless

Graham

School Dedication Service
Sunday 1st March @ 10:00 am
School Hall

Parents, students and friends of our school are invited to this important event. This is an opportunity to dedicate all members of our school community and the year ahead to God and to ask for His guidance and wisdom.

Please come and join us
Primary Assembly every Monday at 2.20pm
High School sport is on Wednesday Week A (sports uniform for High School)
High School PE is on Fridays (Week A&B sports uniform to be worn Year 7-10 only)
School Banking Day is Thursday

K-6 LIBRARY DAYS:
Tuesday - K, 1, 2
Wednesday - 3, 4
Thursday - 5, 6

KOORONG KIDS book club is out now. Orders are due back to the office FRIDAY 13th MARCH

Term 1 Calendar

Thursday 19th February - P&F Meeting 7pm in the school hall (3rd Thursday of each month)
Friday 20th February - PCS swimming carnival
Tuesday 24th February - K-4 Shire Library visit

Sunday 1st March - School Dedication Church Service 10am in the school hall
Wednesday 4th March - Parent/Teacher interviews
Thursday 5th March - Parent/Teacher interviews
Wednesday 11th March - The Importance of Being Earnest Performance
Wednesday 18th March - Years 7, 11 &12 Immunisations
Tuesday 24th March - K-4 Shire Library

Kindergarten Encouragers

The kindergarten ‘Encouragers’ have settled in fantastically and have now finished their introductory unit called ‘In The Garden’ which combined creative art, science and literacy activities together in one fun unit. As well as learning about insects like butterflies and lady bugs they also looked at garden pictures and paintings including Monet’s water garden paintings before making several art and craft items of their own.

On Thursday we were very excited to officially start the Jolly Phonics program. Even though we have only formally learnt a couple of sounds the students are already starting to blend and make words. This is such an exciting and important year as we strive to build a strong academic and spiritual foundation for the rest of their schooling and the rest of their lives and the ‘Encouragers’ have made a great start.
Year 8 Science Excursion

The Year 8 students went on an excursion to the Parkes Dish on Thursday 12 February. We travelled by bus, with Mr Butler, Mrs Butler and Mrs Hope. We had an excellent speaker who told us many interesting things about the work at the Parkes Telescope. We discovered that it was because of the work done at the Dish that the world now has wifi and we discussed the role Parkes played in the first moon landing. But most importantly we caught a glimpse of just how big and amazing our universe is. We found out about our planets in our solar system and lots of information about galaxies beyond. We finished our visit by participating in an information scavenger hunt.

Overall it was a very enjoyable and informative visit. The teachers and people from the Dish were very impressed with the behaviour and enthusiasm of the students. Many thought provoking questions were asked and answered on the day. Who knows how many future scientists will come from our Year 8 contingent of students as a result of this excursion!

Swimming Carnival Information

Our school swimming carnival will be held this Friday, 20 February, from 9am to 3pm.

All students from K-12 must attend the carnival.

Our regular school buses will pick up students from Parkes High School and drop them at the pool in the morning. K-2 students will return to the school at lunchtime. The buses will pick up students from the pool at 2.30pm in order to transport them to Parkes Christian School in order to pick up the K-2 students before heading back to the Parkes Public School/Parkes Christian School interchange bus stop.

Parents can drop off their children at the pool in the morning and pick them up in the afternoon. Students being picked up or staying at the pool after the carnival, need a note from home giving them permission to do this. These notes need to be given to the student’s roll call teacher at the beginning of the carnival.

Parents and family members are most welcome to attend the carnival as spectators. Please note that the Parkes Pool charges a $2 fee for spectators. Entry is free for students, but students who stay at the pool after the carnival need to pay an entry fee or use their season ticket.

Students should dress up in their house colours, and bring a hat, sunscreen, towel, water and food or money for the canteen.

Girls must wear a one-piece swimming costume. Board shorts and rash shirts can be worn at our school carnival but can not be worn at the Zone carnival.

If you have any questions about the carnival, please call the school on 6862 4164.
Mufti Day - Moomba Birdman Challenge

Year 12 students from PCS have partnered with members of the Sports Aircraft Association of Australia and the Parkes Aero Modellers Club to build an aircraft to enter the Melbourne Moomba challenge is on 7, 8 and 9 of March. All money raised will be going to charity and also helping our students with travel costs of getting their plane to Melbourne.

We are having a full school MUFTI DAY this coming THURSDAY 19th February to raise money for our students travelling to Melbourne. Students that want to wear mufti need to bring a GOLD COIN DONATION and the class that raises the most money will receive a prize!

PARENT INFORMATION

P&F Meeting this THURSDAY 7pm in the hall

We will be holding our first P & F meeting on Thursday 19 February at 7.00pm in the school hall. We would like to encourage all our families, both new and old to come along. As this is the start of a new year and with election of positions to be held shortly, this is an important time to hear the values and objectives our P & F is committed to. Our committee is focused on supporting our school, our families and reaching out into the community while firming walking beside the school in a supporting role and adhering to its core values. We have put a team in the GP cup and last year we attended both the Parkes Rotary Fun Run and Relay for Life with everyone having many laughs and perhaps coming away having used muscles they haven’t used in a very long time.

The P & F have only been in operation for a short time, and during this time, our committee and helpers have done an amazing job helping at our sporting events, canteen days, help when required to assist at school events and of course our Spring Fair, that raised an amount of money, far exceeding anyone’s expectations. Please come along and join with others who have the desire to support and intention to uphold our school. Remember we need people not only for major roles but also to lend a hand when they are able.

See you in the hall – Thursday 19 February at 7.00pm.

Free autism workshop for families in Forbes and Parkes

Like all school-age students, children with autism spectrum disorder benefit from strong, positive relationships between the home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and carers in your local community.

Details for the upcoming 1 day workshop
Dates: 11th March 2015
Venue: Forbes Services Memorial Club
Cost: Free - including resources, lunch, morning tea and refreshments
Full details and online registration at www.positivepartnerships.com.au

The workshop is funded as part of an Australian Government Department of Education initiative to support school-age children with ASD across Australia.
Community Announcements

Sparks Kids Club

...starts Thursday 5th February.

It is held on Thursday nights 4:30pm to 6:30pm during the school term at the Parkes Baptist Church Hall - Corner Currajong & Church Streets.

Cost: $3 per person or $5 per family

Sparks is a mid-week church program for children in primary years 3-6. The program includes games, Bible talks, memory verses and chat groups, singing, dinner and more games!

For more information call or email SPARKS coordinator:
Julie Layton: 0427 605 618 or email: jhayton0675@gmail.com
or Jenna Held: 0417 220 799.

St George’s Anglican Church

Kid Church Term 1 2015

service times

TUESDAY

Little Acorns 10am - 11am
Toy Library 11:30am - 12pm

THURSDAY

Lunch Club 12:30pm
3pm - 4pm

FRIDAY

Reception 9am - 10am
10am - 11am
11:30am - 12pm
1pm - 2:30pm

SUNDAY

10am

ANC Hot Shots

ANZ Hot Shots tennis is the fastest growing junior sports program in Australia with more than 200000 kids aged 4-12yrs registered.

If you would like to be part of Hot Shots Tennis in Parkes it runs after school on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays at the town courts.

The 8 week program costs $85 and includes a FREE racquet and t-shirt.

Ratio of coach to player is 1:4 so plenty of personalised attention is assured.

Next program starts on Monday February 9th. Register today by phoning Helen Magill on 0407 253 888 or email helenmagill@bigpond.com

Private Music Lessons

in school or after school are now available.

Beginner to advanced:

Guitar ....Bass ....Drums Vocal and Music Theory

Charges: $30.00 for 30 minutes
$15.00 fifteen minutes

If there is interest, please contact 0421 416 261

or fill in name and contact details and leave with front desk

Name / age

Instrument

Phone

Doug Richards is
dr.music

Guitar • Bass • Drums • Theory • Vocal

H: 02 6862 6562 • Mob: 0421 416 261
E: dr.music@live.com.au