Dear Parents and Caregivers,

At our P&C AGM held on Wednesday 11 February 2015, we voted in a new P&C committee 😊. I would like to congratulate Mrs Judith Seeney who was elected as our P&C President once again.

Congratulations also to the rest of the executive committee who are as follows:

President - Judith Seeney
Vice President - Tammy O’Brien
Treasurer - Naomi Roberts
Secretary - Jenny Smith

On behalf of the community and staff I would like to thank our outgoing Committee for all their great work in 2014 and we are looking forward to another successful year 😊.

Family Contribution Fee 2015 - Helping us to achieve our goal for a laptop for each child.

A very big Thank You

ALSO to all the families who have donated their “family contribution fee” already (last year and this year) 😊. Your very kind donation will make that final payment so much easier 😊. Some families have also given more than the $70.00 contribution which was extremely kind of them and greatly appreciated.

The Family Contribution Fee, although voluntary, will make a difference to our school finances. The total cost of the Family Contribution Fee in 2015, as agreed by the majority of the parents in our 2014 surveys, will be $70.00 per family. However, if you do wish to contribute more towards this very worthwhile cause, you are more than welcome 😊.

School Gates Getting Locked

Our school gates will be locked after 9:15am to ensure our students safety. Gates will be re-opened at 2:30pm every afternoon. If you need to access the office at any time please enter the school grounds from the gate that is closest to the office. On the odd occasion when your child is running late, please make sure that you accompany your child to the office, using the gate closest to the office, and sign your child in and receive a late slip for your child’s classroom teacher.
Congratulations to Zac Maxwell, Marcus Zapirain Sam Abdulwahab for being selected in the Campbelltown PSSA Boys touch football team. We know that you will make us proud because you always give everything your best 😊

Swimming Carnival and Zone
On Monday 9 February, Kentlyn Public School had 44 students travel to Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre for the School Swimming Carnival. It was a great day with lots of students trying their best. Rhiannon Cooke-Jones broke two school records, Macarthur cheered all morning and Campbell cheered all afternoon. At the end of the day, 15 swimmers qualified for the Zone carnival, Macarthur Juniors won their relay, Campbell Seniors won their relay, and Rhiannon Cooke-Jones found out that she is not as fast as the teachers (but she had them very worried!).

Congratulations to the following Zone qualifiers: Breanna Borg, Chantel Spence, Chantelle Borg, Jacob Howe, Jamie Vossen, Koan McElroy, Laura Zapirain, Marcus Zapirain, Rhiannon Cooke-Jones, Rory Griffiths, Sadie Wyer-Manock, Sophie Moore, Thomas Ferro, Vanessa Redzic and Zachary Maxwell. Ribbons will be presented at the school assembly on Friday. Big thank you to the P&C for providing the bus.

Thank you to Mr Saunders, Miss Heriot, Miss Hagedoorn and Mrs Price for a very well organised and very well run swimming carnival 😊

School Uniform
I would like to take this time to congratulate all the students on how fantastic they look in their full school uniform including their black shoes 😊. Last week we did a quick spot check on how many students were wearing their school shoes and hats and the majority were perfectly dressed. Thank you parents for following this up with your child this year.

Now that we have 98% of students in school hats I will be kindly reminding everyone about wearing school shoes 😊

Information Communication Technology
The Mathletics program is once again available to all students K-6. Kindergarten students will also be introduced to the program later on in the term or early Term 2.

The Mathletics Curriculum contains essential material for students from K to 12. It complements and supports classroom teaching. The program responds to the strengths and weaknesses of students. Our teachers set learning activities catering to individual needs of students. Students working above stage level are motivated to extend their learning. Students gain confidence as they experience success in activities programmed to address their needs. Live Mathletics engages students in challenging other students from around the world in real time games of speed and skill. Students love competing and gain a lot of satisfaction from increasing their speed and accuracy in mental maths. Students receive instant feedback about their performance and teachers can access this information to assist in planning and reporting.

The program has many benefits for students and we are once again incorporating it as part of our homework this year. Your child will be set tasks to complete, making sure that we are catering for his/her individual level. We will be showing all students how to use and access the program at school. Please ask your child to show you his/her log in details so that you can also be part of his/her learning.

Once again a very big thank you to our dedicated and hardworking P&C who have donated the total amount of $2,200.00 to implement this program K-6

SKWIRK Website
Once again all students K-6 will have access to this great website within a few weeks. This fee was paid by the school, and this will be one great example of how the school fees contribute to your child’s education. 😊

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 was sent home earlier this week. 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.

Photographing and taking video of our students.

Most of you would be aware that it is DEC and a school requirement that we get parental permission for students to be photographed, videotaped and be put on our website. (These notes are available on our website.)

We have a number of students who cannot be photographed or be videotaped at any time. Some are for legal reasons. With all school events I ask that you please only photograph/video your child, to the best of your ability.

I understand that this is very hard to monitor however, with your support I know that we can maintain these students' privacy.

Evacuation and Lockdown Drills

Our school will be practicing our WHS (Work Health and Safety) drills throughout the school terms. These drills are compulsory for all schools and it will be to the benefit of all students and staff. Throughout the next two terms staff and students will participate in a lockdown, evacuation and fire drill. In case of a catastrophic fire warning DEC will be contacting the school the day before so that enough notice can be given to principals to contact parents. "If there is an imminent risk to schools, the State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOCON) may issue a written direction ...to temporarily close an education facility. " (WHS August 2014)

It is imperative that if you are visiting our school as a parent helper, volunteer, tradesman etc you sign on in the front office and receive your visitor’s badge. It is also important to read over our evacuation and lockdown procedures and if further information is required you can take an evacuation and lockdown drills pamphlet with you. All are available near our ‘visitor sign on book’.

It is also imperative to remember that if we did have to go to lockdown or evacuate our school our first two priorities are

- securing everyone who is on school premises, students, staff and visitors by ringing the appropriate bell and
- contacting 000.

Once the police/fire brigade etc arrives at the school they take control of the site and remain in control until the ‘threat’ is over and responsibility is handed back to the principal. Police and/or fire brigade then work with the principal to continue to manage the incident.

Please note, in the event that we do have to go to lockdown or evacuation, it is highly recommended that you listen to the media reports for updates on the school rather than driving to the school.

Refurbishment of our School Canteen

Our great P&C and I would like to ask for any community members that have experience in refurbishing our school canteen. In particular we are looking to have wire shelving to be installed throughout, old wooden shelving removed and possible new flooring and better sink storage. Please email myself at Kentlyn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or contact Mrs Seeney our school president if you are able to assist in any way.

Cooking in KG room

Mrs Seeney, Mrs Grover and KG had a very scrumptious lunch last week as well as a lesson on how to cook eggplant and enjoy it with a few side
dishes such as tsatsiki and hummus. The egg plants and capsicum were the ones that the children helped to grow in our vegie patch.

**Scholastic Bookclub**

Scholastic Book Club orders are issued twice a term to students. Please return orders by the due date. Due dates are advertised in the classrooms. Orders and money should be sent in an envelope to the Front Office. Please keep the receipts as proof of payment until your books arrive. Every bookclub order earns 20% in book rewards for our school.

A very big thank you to Mrs Muller who comes in on her day off to organise this for our fantastic students.

**Good Guys - School Dollars**

Good Guys have a promotion running at the moment where if you purchase something from their store we can get "School Dollars" that we can use to purchase anything for the school.

Mrs Ankers has started this great initiative this year and has donated vouchers to the value of nearly $374 to the school.

**No Hat – Play in the Shade**

A kind reminder to everyone that we are following and monitoring, more than ever our, "No Hat – Play in the Shade" policy. Please ensure that your child has their school hat with them every day. Students will be asked to play in the shade or undercover if they are not wearing a hat.

**Interrelate Program - See flyer at the end of the newsletter**

A session has been booked for Tuesday 24th of February 2015 beginning at 6pm at Leumeah Public School. There will be 2 sessions on offer. Please see the flyer attached at the end of the newsletter for more information.

If you wish to attend please complete the form, enclose the exact money and clearly label the envelope with your name and Interrelate Program. Please hand the envelope in to the ladies in the office. I will forward it to Leumeah Public School.

**Presentation Day**

Please save this day and time in your diaries.
DATE: FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER 2015
TIME: 10:30AM - 12:00PM

**Important Term 1 Dates for your Diary:**

Wendesday 18 February - Scripture begins
Thursday 19 February - Zoo Mobile - visiting our school K-6 (free incursion - Thank you Miss Chisholm for winning this for our school)
Friday 20 February - K-6 Assembly - School leaders to run
And Koori Education Carnival
Tuesday 24 February - Interrelate Program - Leumeah Public School hosting it. Our parents are welcome to attend.
Friday 27 February - Clean up Our School Day
Friday 6 March - GALA day
Tuesday 10 March - Zone Swimming Carnival - Bradbury Pool
Thursday 12 March - Selective High School Placement Test
Monday 16 March - Responsible Pet Program K-2
Friday 20 March - GALA Day
Tuesday 24 March - P&C McDonalds Fundraiser
6:00 - 8:00pm
Thursday 2 April - Easter Hat Parade AND Last school day in Term 1

**Allergies Reminder**

We have some students in our school who are allergic to some foods e.g. peanuts, milk products, eggs, animal fur, grass etc.

We are kindly requesting that sandwiches with peanut butter, Nutella or other peanut products NOT be brought to school to ensure that the safety of these students is maintained.

Our canteen is "Nut Free" and we wish our school to be as "Nut Free" as possible.

Thank you in advance.

**The smiles you give come back to you!**

Androula Kavallaris
Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK

DRIVER SAFETY AROUND OUR SCHOOL.
Each year in NSW children are injured and sometimes killed around schools. You can help to make our school a safer place by obeying the road rules and being patient and understanding at the peak traffic times of 8:00am and 4:00pm.

Obeying Parking Signs and Road Rules

Disabled Parking.
Unless the vehicle you are driving displays a current Disabled Person's Parking Authority and is carrying a disabled person you must not park in these areas.

No Parking
This sign means that in the area in the direction of the arrow you must not stand your car, except when you stop to pick up or set down goods or passengers. At no stage are you allowed to leave your car.

No Stopping
This sign means in the area in the direction of the arrow you must not stand your vehicle at any point on the road, kerb unless there is a medical emergency.

Bus Zones
This sign means that in the direction of the arrow you are not allowed to stand your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

School Zones
The signs school zone and 40k School Zone mean the speed limit is 40km/h. This special speed limit applies on school days and during times shown on signs.

Did you know?
- More children around schools are killed and injured at the start of school (8:30 to 9:15am) rather than at the end of the day due to parents rushing to get to work and there being more freely flowing traffic.
- Parking a little way from the school and walking to collect your child would make a big difference to the safety of all children.
- The fines for speeding 20km/h above the school zone limit around the school area can result in a penalty up to $750.

With these points in mind and the safety of our children being paramount, we are asking you to be observant with the following:
- Obey the road rules
- Park and walk
- Be patient at peak times

Homework and study planning
Most children find planning easier to understand when they have a visual representation of their day or week in front of them. Help your child learn to manage their daily tasks and responsibilities with this weekly schedule template.

Weekly schedule template:

School's back
Life seems to go from zero to 100 during the first few weeks of school. These parents have pooled their years of experience to bring you some suggestions to make the rest of the year run more smoothly. Good luck!

Back to school checklist:

Learning to read
Learning to read is hard work and can be frustrating at times for parents and their kids. Watch the video to hear what these public school teachers have to say to help, with quick tips on how to make it easier.

Learning to read:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5Om77mluKU&feature=share

Yours in Education
Tanya Neal
Community Announcements
St Patricks College Open Day Saturday 28th Feb 2015. For more details visit their website.

Campbelltown City Council
YourTutor-Free online homework help for students.
Campbelltown City Library Service proves a free on-demand access to a professional tutor for students in Year 3 to 12. Students can access YourTutor at home or in the library from Monday to Friday between 4:00pm and 8:00pm. The service offers study support from a qualified tutor covering subjects such as mathematics, science, English and assignment research skills. Students only need their library card number to login to the website. For more information contact Stephanie on 4645-4451

Principal's Award
Zoe Cooper 6A

Value of the Week Awards

Excellence
K-2
Ella - Grace Bertie KG
3-6
Sam Abdulwahab 4/5S

Respect
K-2
Sophie Mayor 1R
3-6
Ainsley Padey 2/3H

Congratulations!
When kids ask “the” questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate’s high-quality Sexuality and Relationship Education program is coming to your school! With over 85 years’ experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today, over 41,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate School and Family programs each year.

Many parents find it hard to discuss questions relating to sexuality education. We know how to help break the ice. Interrelate programs are interactive and family focused, and are conducted by highly trained and experienced educators, who adhere to a strict code of ethics.

Session 1: Where did I come from? (1-hour session, years 3-6)
This session educates children more about how their bodies work and the differences between males and females, including their understanding of conception, fertilisation, foetal development and the birth process.

Session 2: Preparing for puberty (1-hour session, years 5-6; years 3-4 at parent’s discretion)
This session prepares children and parents/caregivers for the physical, social and emotional changes associated with puberty, and addresses changing emotions and relationships with families and peers.

Interrelate School Services Presents
a Special Evening Program

Family cost*: 1 session $25 per family | 2 sessions $30 per family
*GST exclusive – GST is payable / claimable by the school or organising body

Where:

When:

Time: Where did I come from? – 6:00pm sharp | Preparing for puberty – 7:15pm sharp
Specially books are available for purchase on the night

- - - - - - - Please complete and return to the school office, with payment in an envelope labelled with child’s name and class - - - - - - -

A Special Evening Program

Name of family:

No. attending: [ ] Session 1: Where did I come from? [ ] Session 2: Preparing for puberty
Amount enclosed: $ [ ] Cash [ ] Cheque (payable to school)

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