A Message from the Principal

Stage 3 Campers
From all reports the overnight excursion to Canberra was a success on many fronts. Not only did our senior students get the opportunity to learn about democracy in Australia but they were well behaved at every encounter. Mrs. Callan and Miss Poier report great behaviour from all our students...albeit a little sleep deprived from Monday night. My thanks to all students and to our wonderful two teachers for their efforts.

Early Action for Success (EAS)
As mentioned in previous newsletters EAS is an initiative of the NSW Government to support literacy and numeracy pedagogy K-2 in public, independent and catholic schools. Campbellfield has been a member of the Ingleburn Hub that has seen two Instructional Leaders work across five schools. Our two leaders are Mark Diamond and Nicole Cameron and the five schools include, Sarah Redfern, The Grange, Curran, Guise and Campbellfield.

As we draw nearer to the end of the first twelve months of the EAS initiative we have commenced reflection on our successes and our areas for improvement. This morning I met with Dr Bob Carbines and our instructional leaders as part of the government’s formal evaluative processes. Further to our discussions was Dr Carbine’s discussion with a focus group of teachers and further still will be a survey undertaken by our Year 3 cohort of students.

At this early stage of the evaluation process Dr Carbines is very pleased with the pedagogical progress being provisioned through EAS at Campbellfield and our fellow Ingleburn Hub schools. It is important to gain positive feedback for all the hard work Campbellfield staff are providing to ensure the success of EAS.

Campbellfield Principal
Last week, I mentioned through this newsletter, that I have received a promotion to Principal, Unanderra Public School to commence January 2014. In discussions with Mr Brad Mitchell, Acting Director – Public Schools NSW, it is apparent that the principal position here at Campbellfield will not be filled this year.

Mrs Holt has accepted the offer of Acting Principal for Term 1 2014. During Term 1 next year Mr Mitchell will progress the vacant principal’s position through Staffing and hopefully be given permission to proceed to advertisement. I have every confidence that whoever is fortunate enough to replace me substantively will have the best interests of your children and our staff in mind. Campbellfield is a great school and one that I will miss as my career progresses.

Principal Assessment and Review Schedule (PARS)
Mr Mitchell, Acting Director – Public Schools NSW, visits Campbellfield at least once per term to discuss my performance as principal through PARS. Mr Mitchel visited last Monday and left our discussion pleased with my performance and the great things our staff are doing to support your children in their learning.

Merit Selection Training
Quite often when schools are asked to form merit selection panels they find it difficult to fill the community representation position, and this only because not enough people are trained. To avoid this concern I generally hold merit selection training for our community once a year. Last year I trained two people, this year I would like at least that many yet again.

Training in merit selection processes just means that if need arises you can be called upon to be part of a merit selection panel. Michelle Mittiga is our ‘go-to’ person for this role and as you are all well aware, Michelle will not be available in 2014.

If you are interested in being trained to sit on a merit selection panel please ring the office ladies and inform them of your interest. Training takes about an hour and I will hold training on Tuesday 19th November here at Campbellfield from 2:00pm.

2014 Extra Staff Position
You may be aware that recently our school purchased 40 iPads for educational purposes. As yet, the iPads are not in active use by all classes as I would prefer that staff have a clear purpose for their educational use. With that in mind a decision has been made to employ an above-establishment teacher, ie an extra teacher to that which we are provided by the department. The focus for this teacher will be to support the professional development of staff directly with the use of iPads and to support programs implemented in our MCU. I am hopeful that an Expression Of Interest advertisement will be placed on the department’s SchoolBiz website by
next Friday at the latest. I hope to settle this position by Week 8 or 9 this term in readiness for 2014. A trained parent representative will be required to assist with the shortlisting and interviewing of prospective candidates.

**P&C Meeting**

Last week I carried the message about the successful 2014 P&C executive. Mrs Samantha Hawkes, P&C President has called a P&C Meeting for Thursday 14th November at 9:00am to further discuss additional executive members and to discuss support for the canteen and uniform shop. Be aware without your support, the canteen and uniform shop may not function! Michelle Mittiga can only train prospective canteen workers in Week 7 and Week 8. As it is currently Week 5 there is very little time to waste.

The P&C is your association and as such needs your support. Please make yourself available next Thursday 14th November 2013 to support our 2014 P&C.

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**Quote**

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.

*Colin Powell*

Craig Redfern
Principal

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**Kindergarten Orientation**

A special invitation is extended to all parents and 2014 Kindergarten children.

**When:** Wednesday, 27th November, 2013

**Time:** 9.15 - 10.45 am

**Where:** The orientation will be in the school library for parents and in the school readiness room for children.

**What to bring:** Please bring the child’s original birth certificate or passport and the immunisation certificate if you have not already done so.

The Kindergarten orientation session will provide the information you need to make you and your child feel more confident about beginning school.

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**4/5P and 6C Canberra**

**Australian Government assistance for National Capital excursion**

Students from our school will soon be undertaking, or have recently undertaken, an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participate in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist you (the parent) in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20- per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate programme toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour are outlined elsewhere in the newsletter.

We hope that the excursion is a rewarding experience for all students.

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**P&C Information**

Lolly and slice drive orders are due back no later than Wednesday 13th November 2013. Additional order forms are available in the front office or see Michelle in the canteen.

Would you like to be trained in OHS and Food Handling? A special one-off training day will take place on Tuesday 12th November at 9am. Anyone interested in working in the canteen, please attend this training day. See Michelle in the canteen for further information.

Canteen stock is slowly running low and as we approach end of year, a new order will not be filled. Please check availability of stock before ordering.

Tickets for our massive Christmas raffle will go home on Wednesday 20th November 2013. Please show your support for this important fundraiser and be in the running to win some amazing prizes!
Canberra Camp. 4\textsuperscript{th} – 5\textsuperscript{th} November 2013.
Mrs Callan.

Our students visited numerous venues and participated in a range of activities to strengthen their knowledge of government, science, war and money. Here are some highlights from our trip.

Electoral Education Centre

Electoral Education Centre

Royal Australian Mint - Titan the robot.

Questacon

Australian Institute of Sport - Interactive rowing.

Electoral Education Centre.

Australian Institute of Sport – Sportlex Centre.

Electoral Education Centre.

Australian Institute of Sport – Interactive cycling.

Parliament House- The Senate.