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Our focus is on EVERY CHILD

February 2017

## From the Principal ...

Welcome back to the new school year everyone. In particular, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students and their families.

### Staffing

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with detailed information about our teaching and administration staff and what each person's role is within the school.

I am delighted to announce that Miss Kimberley Thomson, who was employed last year on a temporary contract, has been appointed to our school as a permanent staff member.

We welcome two new temporary teachers to Sherwood Grange, Mrs Deborah Lopez and Mr Billy Koutzas. Both are proving to be an excellent fit for our school.

Mrs Bisignani, a highly respected and much loved teacher, has returned from Maternity Leave and is back with us two days a week.

We have 344 students enrolled this year, our highest number in my 12 years here. The staffing allocation assigned to our school has allowed us to establish 14 classes.

Our class teachers this year are:

Class	Teacher
KD	Mrs Dennis
KE	Miss Kim
KR	Miss Reinhard
1G	Mrs Ghantous
1L	Mrs Lopez
2K	Mrs Khouzam
2S	Mrs Straub
3/2F	Miss D Fares
4/3D	Mrs Dias

4/3K	Mr Koutzas
4/3M	Miss Montgomerie
6/5J	Mrs Mobbs
6/5M	Mrs Manning (M,Tu & Th, F) Mrs Ugarte (Wednesday)
6/5T	Miss Thompson

Support/Specialist teaching roles for 2017 are:

Mrs Parnis	Teacher Librarian Mon-Thurs
Mrs Ugarte	English as a Second Language (ESL) Monday & Tuesday
Miss H Fares	Reading Recovery & Release from Face to Face (RFF)
Mrs Bisignani	Release from Face to Face (RFF) Wednesday & Thursday
Mrs Nada Madjar	School Counsellor Wednesday

Our Administration Team is:

Mrs McManus	School Administration Manager (SAM)
Ms Gullen	School Administration Officer (SAO)
Mrs Lillas	School Administration Officer (SAO) Mon, Tues
Mr Jeff Sayers	General Assistant (GA) Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
Mrs Williams	School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) & Admin Support
Ms Colette Walsh	School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) Part Time

My Leadership Team for 2017 is:

Teacher	Role
Mr Shearer	Assistant Principal - Student Wellbeing K-6 - Learning Support K-6
Miss Amargianitakis	Assistant Principal - K – 2 Coordinator - Teaching & Learning Leader
Mrs Manning	Relieving Assistant Principal - 3 – 6 Coordinator

As I have said on many occasions, I am fortunate to have a talented and dedicated team of teachers and admin staff here at Sherwood Grange. I am equally fortunate to have delightful students and a supportive parent community.

Warm regards,

*Vicki Robertson*

## Safety Spotlight

### NO SCHOOL HAT, NO PLAY

This rule is an integral part of our Sun Safety Strategy.



If a student is not wearing a school hat he/she is expected to sit in a designated spot in the shade.

To maintain the exceptional standard of adherence to the wearing of school uniform at Sherwood Grange every student is expected to wear a **school hat**. **Kindergarten students are expected to wear the wide brim style hat.**

## Upcoming Events

### Week 4

Friday 17/2	Swimming Carnival PSSA Round 1
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### Week 5

Tuesday 21/2	P&C Meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 22/2	Meet the Teacher Evening

### Week 6

Wednesday 1/3	Zone Swimming Carnival Holroyd High Open Day Year 6
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### Week 7

Monday 6/3	Merrylands High Open Day Year 6
Wednesday 8/3	School Photographs

## Student Safety

At Sherwood Grange student safety and wellbeing is always our first concern. In order to keep student dismissal safe and smooth we ask all K-2 parents to enter via the middle gate (near the car park) and wait outside the canteen area. Teachers will not dismiss students to parents waiting at the top gate. Parents of students in Years 3-6 may collect students at the bottom gate or safely outside the school grounds. We thank all parents for working with us to keep dismissal time as smooth and safe as possible.

We would like to remind parents that all students must be collected at 2.55pm.

## Student Wellbeing Officer Spot

Welcome to all of our new students in 2017! By way of introduction, for those of you I am yet to meet, I am Kim Whale and I work Monday and Tuesday at school. My role as Student Wellbeing Officer (SWO) began last year and it has been great working with all staff to ensure our students continue to be supported in their social and emotional learning.

What does an SWO do? Sometimes I am in the classroom assisting a teacher or student, at other times I am withdrawing students from class to focus on a particular skill (this won't start until Term 2). You can also find me on the playground getting to know students and providing some 'passive' play activities.

I will be running some Pop-Up Cafés through the year and would love to use them as an opportunity to get to know you better and hopefully you will get to know one another better over some afternoon tea. Checkout the Skoolbag App for notifications letting you know when our Pop Up Cafés will take place.

I look forward to sharing more with you in the future, in the meantime, if you have any questions or would like to touch base with me, I can be reached at [kim.whale2@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kim.whale2@det.nsw.edu.au) or you may wish to leave a message for me at the office and I will contact you as soon as I am able.

Kim Whale  
Wellbeing Support Officer

## Birthdays ... Cup Cakes Only

We would like to remind you that we are happy to celebrate birthdays within classrooms by singing "Happy Birthday" and handing out cup cakes (enough for each child in the class) supplied by parents or carers. Anything else, however, is not appropriate within the school setting.



## Skoolbag

**You could be missing out on important information.....**

**Remember that we send important notifications out on our Skoolbag App.**

**If you have access to the technology, please make sure that you are in the "communication loop" and download it if you haven't already.**

## Skoolbag App

Our school has an app called Skoolbag which is an iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our community. This is used in conjunction with our website which is updated regularly. Our aim is to increase our communication whilst at the same time reducing our use of paper.

We are kindly asking parents to install our **free** Skoolbag School App. Instructions on how to download are below



### For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name into the search bar, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open".
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

### For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.



1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search bar.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

## Early Arrivals

Children are not to arrive before teacher supervision starts at our school. Supervision of students commences at 8:25am. It is not safe for your child/ren to be at school earlier than this.

If you need your child supervised prior to this time the *Sherwood Grange of School Hours Care* (OOSH) is available on site at our school. Please contact them on 9892 4207.

You should be aware that no responsibility can be taken for students who arrive at school prior to 8:25am unless they have been asked to present prior to that time for extracurricular activities or excursions.

Students are advised to arrive at school between 8:25 and 8:50 am

## Anaphylaxis

As we have students enrolled at Sherwood Grange who have been diagnosed as being at risk of having an ANAPHYLACTIC reaction to certain foods we seek your assistance and ask that you **do not** send the following things to school with your children:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Nutella sandwiches
- Bars or biscuits that contain nuts

Thank you for your support.



## Library News



Welcome back to Library in 2017!

It is great to see so many students bringing their library bags to school and already borrowing books.

If you do not have a material library bag, they are available for sale from the P&C Uniform Shop or you can sew one of your own design or purchase novelty bags from many stores. Just make sure the bag is

big enough to fit books into and has your child's name on it.

Well done also to those students who found their 'lost' library books during the holidays and have returned them to school. Remember you cannot borrow any books if you have an overdue loan.

Looking forward to an exciting year in the library.

Mrs Parnis  
Teacher Librarian

## P&C News

We would like to extend a warm "Welcome!" to all the new families to Sherwood Grange and to all returning families, "Welcome Back!"

As you may be aware we have many fundraising events held within the school year and we want to extend an invitation to everyone to participate in our P&C events throughout the school year. All P&C activities/events are run by volunteers. We have all heard the adage that "Many hands make light work". With that in mind, we would love to see as many parents as possible helping to make our events a resounding success and it is an extremely rewarding way to get involved with our children's school lives. If you feel you could spare some time to help out at any point during the year please email us at [sherwoodgrangepandc@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodgrangepandc@gmail.com)

### Payments to the P&C

The P&C cannot accept payments made through the school's online payment system. Please ensure that all P&C payments are made through the **BLUE BOX** in the main office with either the exact cash or a cheque made payable to Sherwood Grange P&C. We are unable to accept Credit Card or EFTPOS.

### Athlete's Foot

The Athlete's Foot stores in Parramatta and Merrylands provide sponsorship to Sherwood Grange Public School in the form of a \$5.00 donation for every pair of shoes sold. Please

remember to mention Sherwood Grange Public School when purchasing shoes from these stores.

## COLA

Towards the end of Term 4 in 2016 we received some fantastic news from our local member of State Parliament, Ms Julia Finn, that we had been successful in our application for a Community Building Partnership grant of \$40,000 towards the construction of a Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) at the school. This area will consist of an artificial turfed area with a shaded area to provide shelter for our children while they are out on the oval at recess and lunch and also when our fantastic teaching staff wish to take their classes outside to learn.

Ms Finn made the announcement at a morning assembly mid December 2016. You may have noticed that the turf has already been installed over the school holidays with the shade cover to follow. Many thanks to Nancy Hemakumara for her work in applying for and securing this grant.

## Uniform shop

Due to lack of volunteers to run our on-site uniform shop we have found it necessary to outsource our uniform supply. We are currently negotiating contract terms with Merrylands West School & Workwear Centre. They are located at 455-457 Merrylands Rd, Merrylands, NSW 2160. Their contact number is 02 9637 4502. They currently have stock of some items that we longer have stock of on site.

The following items are still available in varying stock amounts at our on-site shop until sold out:

Girls short sleeve shirts - sizes 6, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20

Girls long sleeve shirts – sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20

Girls bottle green skorts – sizes 4, 6, 14, 16, 18

Girls bottle green long pants – sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16

Boys short sleeve shirts – sizes 4, 6, 10, 14, 16, 18, 20

Boys long sleeve shirts – sizes all 4 to 20

Boys grey shorts – sizes all sizes 4 to 16

Boys long grey pants – sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18

Sports shirts – sizes 4, 6, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22

Sports shorts – sizes 12, 14 & adult small

Sports long black pants – sizes All sizes 4 to adult medium except size 18

Zip up Jackets – sizes 4, 14, 16, 18, 20

School bags and Library bags

The onsite uniform shop is open from 8.30 am to 9.15am on Friday mornings until stock is sold.

## Dates to remember:

Next P&C Meeting – Tuesday 21st February 6:30pm. The meeting is held in the Staffroom which is located in the Administration Building.

All parents & carers are welcome to attend.

Dee

P&C President

## Student Banking

Student banking takes place every Thursday. All parents are reminded that bank books are to be handed in to the office on Thursday morning before school. Bank books are returned to the class teachers after processing for distribution to the students. Students receive tokens for every deposit and are allowed to exchange these tokens for small prizes after 10 deposits are made.



## Ice Blocks



The P&C may sell ice blocks at a cost of 50 cents on extremely hot days, so you might like to ensure that a few coins are left in your child's bag so they don't miss out.



## Keeping kids safe in School Zones

### A Road Safety message from Cumberland Council

For more information contact  
Cumberland Council's Road Safety Officer on  
Phone: 9840 9880

## Take care when in School Zone

Due to their nature, children are impulsive, less predictable and harder to see than adults. Extra care should be taken during drop off and pick up times near schools.

Safety around schools is everybody's responsibility. We must all be conscious of the need to make safety a priority by observing the speed limits and parking signs at all times, but especially around school zones.

Safety steps for parents/carers to keep your child safe;

#### ALWAYS:

- drop-off and pick-up your child on the school side of the road, where possible

- have your child enter the car on the left hand side door
- use a pedestrian crossing where possible.
- Hold your child's hand when crossing the road
- drive below 40km/h through School Zones
- obey parking signs
- set a good example
- give way to pedestrians when driving.

#### NEVER:

- call a child across the road
- leave your child unattended in a vehicle
- double park across other vehicles

### Our School Expectations ...

**BE SAFE**

**BE RESPECTFUL**

**BE RESPONSIBLE**

### Our School Values ...

<b>CARE</b> Being kind Helping others Being compassionate Showing empathy Supporting others	<b>FAIRNESS</b> Taking turns Sharing Playing by the rules Thinking of others Listening to others	<b>EXCELLENCE</b> Doing your best Showing pride in our school Striving to improve Having high expectations
<b>INCLUSION</b> Being friendly Inviting others to participate Accepting difference Respecting others Welcoming others	<b>INTEGRITY</b> Telling the truth Doing the right thing Being trustworthy Making good choices Being honest	<b>PARTICIPATION</b> Having a go Encouraging others Being resilient and bouncing back Being an active learner

## General Notices



### Wenty Waratah Netball

Wenty Waratah Netball Club are seeking more 10 year old players (born 2007) to ensure they have a full team in 2017. If you are interested please email [wentywaratah@hotmail.com](mailto:wentywaratah@hotmail.com)

Look how well our K – 2 students have settled in ...



