Uniform Shop hours
Payment by cash or cheque only.
Monday 2:30 to 3pm
Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 to 9:30am

Calendar
Important Dates

Term 1
Week 9
Monday, 24th March Debating at Westmead Public School.
Friday, 28th March Movie night at The Meadows Public School.

Week 10
Monday, 31st March Young Leaders Day.
Tuesday, 1st April CARES excursion 4/5/6D & 3-6S + any choir students.
Thursday, 3rd April CARES excursion 5/6H.
Thursday, 3rd April BMF rehearsal

Week 11
Tuesday, 8th April P&C Meeting 9:15am Community Room.
Wednesday, 9th April Easter Scripture Assembly 9:15am.
Thursday, 10th April Easter Hat Parade starts at 12 noon in the hall.
Friday, 11th April Last day of Term 1.

Term 2
Week 1
Tuesday, 29th April Students return to school.

Principal’s Message
Police visit The Meadows
This week, Constable McDonald, the Police Youth Liaison Officer and Senior Constable Elahmadieh visited our school to speak with our Year 3 to 6 students about cyberbullying. The police officers talked about different types of cyberbullying, explaining that it includes not just the internet but also sending text messages. They also discussed cybersafety and what children need to do to keep safe when using the internet. Constable McDonald and Senior Constable Elahmadieh had a great time out on the playground at lunchtime with the students, often joining in on the games. We are looking forward to them visiting again in the near future.
A great website for you and your children to visit to learn more about cyberbullying is http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/cyberquoll/

Longneck Lagoon
On Monday this week, Mrs J, Miss Bell and Mrs Regan took our Year 3 – 6 Leadership Team to Long Neck Lagoon for a Leaders Day. The students participated in a number of activities that built on and strengthened their leadership skills. From all reports, everyone had a fantastic day and were well-behaved and great ambassadors for our school. Thank you to Gauri’s dad who helped with the transport on the day.

Changes to Canteen Ordering
If you need to order your child’s lunch or recess, we ask that you visit the canteen when you first come into the playground in the morning. Some parents are leaving ordering their child’s lunch until after the assembly and this in turn holds up the ladies in the canteen starting their preparation. From next week the shutters on the canteen will close when parents and friends are asked to leave the school so that we can begin our day. Any late orders will need to be placed in the office. Please note we are not able to give change at the office.

Lisa Littlejohn
Principal
CONGRATULATIONS
Award Winners!

Week 7
Teacher Awards (1 point)

KH Khazarn
Harmony

1R Ebony-Rose
Ali

1/2L Jacob
Boen

3-6S Salesi
Bianca

2B Shauna
Sharthy

3/4F Enoch
Kokul

4/5/6D Daniel
Rishi

5/6H Rebecca
Alisha

Week 8
Teacher Awards (1 point)

KH Hugo
Raina

1R Ryly
Souha

1/2L Arshi
Tia

3-6S Rachelle
David

2B Annika
Timothy

3/4F Kyen
Meet

4/5/6D Kirusha
Tahli

5/6H Taje
Palvisha

The Meadows we are Safe,
Responsible Learners!

P&C Meeting

The next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8th April. Join us as we discuss fundraising ideas and matters relating to our school. This will be our Annual General Meeting starting at 9.15am in the Community Room. Everyone is welcome.

Attendance

Why must I send my child to school?
Education in New South Wales is compulsory. This means all children from six years of age and under the minimum school leaving age are legally required to attend school.

Schools are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance. Principals are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified. For this reason, Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness.

If Principals don’t consider an explanation to be satisfactory, they will record the absence as unjustified.

It is important to understand that the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities may prosecute parents (including carers) if children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unjustified absences from school.

Must I send my child every day?
YES. It is a condition of enrolment that you send your child to school every day. A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

• has to go to a special religious ceremony
• is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (eg a funeral)
• is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

Our school values and encourages regular attendance at school. Each week, the class with the highest rate of attendance is announced at our Monday Morning Assembly and draws a prize from the Attendance Prize Box.

Congratulations to the following winning classes for their outstanding attendance:

Week 6 winner: KH
Week 7 winner: 4/5/6D

Renai Diamond
Deputy Principal
2014 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

This year, we will be providing the opportunity for students from Years 3 to 6 to participate in the UNSW International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3 to 12 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

All students who participate receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. Certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating students.

Your child may sit any or all of the competitions, however, you will need to complete the permission note and provide payment for all entries together. The following competitions are available:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Approximate Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 20th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Wednesday 4th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>Monday 16th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 29th July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like your child to participate in one or more of these competitions, please complete the permission note that was provided. Alternatively, please speak to your child’s class teacher if you require another note. All entries and payment must be given to your child’s teacher before Wednesday 2nd April, 2014. Unfortunately no late entries can be accepted.

If you have any questions please see Mrs Diamond.

Renai Diamond
ICAS Coordinator
2014 SRC

On Wednesday 19th March, we held our first Student Representative Meeting for 2014.

At the meeting, the students and I discussed the role of the SRC, the format of our meetings and fundraising initiatives for 2014. We also elected students to the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and Publicity Officers.

What does an SRC do?

Members of the Student Representative Council represent the students in the school and participate in the school decision-making process. They also raise funds for the improvement of facilities or donations to charity.

What is the role as an SRC member?

As an SRC member, it is expected that students will follow the school expectations of being safe, being responsible and being a learner at all times.

As part of their role they will need to:

- talk with students in their class and in the playground to find out what they would like to see happening in the school;
- listen to their ideas, suggestions and concerns;
- attend all SRC meetings to present ideas, suggestions and concerns; and
- report back to their class any issues discussed at SRC meetings.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of working together to continue to make our school a happy and productive place for all.

Renai Diamond
Deputy Principal – SRC Coordinator

P&C EASTER EGG DONATION

It’s only weeks away and The Meadows Public School P&C are asking Parents, Carers, Family Members and Friends if they could kindly donate Easter Eggs, Baskets and Plush Easter Toys. All donations will be made up into Easter Hampers and raffled off at the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 28th March.

Class Points: All donations can be handed to the class teacher or dropped at the office in a bag with your child’s name clearly marked. Each Easter egg/basket or toy donated will be awarded points, and the 2 classes with the highest points, at the end of the Easter Drive will receive an ice block/ice cream.

Raffle Tickets: These will be sent out with a note later. They will have 5 tickets attached selling for 5 for $2 or .50 cents each.

Thank you in advance, and please don’t hesitate to approach any of the P&C Committee with any queries or suggestions you might have.

P&C Committee

Cool Kids Music Co.

Music lessons held at the school every Thursday afternoon
For enrolment please call 0457 668 742
For lesson times please go to www.coolkidsmusic.com.au

STAY COOL AT SCHOOL THIS SUMMER!

Complete 3 deposits into your Youthsaver account through School Banking between 28/01/2014 and 11/04/2014 to help your school have the chance to win a 3m x 3m Marquee. You will also go into the draw for a chance to win 1 of 2 $50.00 deposits into your School Banking account.

Student banking is every Tuesday.

GREAT THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU SAVE
Focus - Reading

Reading is a life skill that everyone needs in order to excel, and its usefulness lives past school. Reading can open a window on the world, bringing chances to learn, enjoy and create. Even though schools teach reading and writing, home is the first and best place for your child's love of reading to grow.

Reading should be enjoyable for you and your child. All children, regardless of age, like to be read to. Make a special time whenever possible for reading with your child away from interruptions.

How can you help your child in reading?

- Show your child that you value reading by reading whenever you can.
- Encourage a positive attitude to books.
- Provide a variety of texts for your child to read to you, eg stories, comics, poems, plays, cartoons, reference books, magazines, children's recipe books.
- Encourage your child to borrow books from the library.
- Point out words on street signs, packets and labels.
- Encourage your child to predict what a book is about from the cover and illustrations.
- Talk about illustrations and diagrams in books and discuss how they add meaning to text.
- Talk about the different purposes for reading a picture book, a novel, a television guide, a newspaper, a telephone directory, a recipe book, an encyclopaedia.
- Point out the different size and shape of words.
- Point out the first sound of a word and encourage your child to think of other words that begin with the same sound.
- Encourage your child to read books for enjoyment as well as for information.
- Encourage your child to talk about characters and events in texts.
- Ask your child to think of possible beginnings and endings for stories read and heard.
- ‘Sound out’ difficult words and/or give clues to the meaning of difficult words.
- Praise your child when they are reading, eg ‘well done — that was a difficult word’.

- Encourage your child to have a go at reading words that are unfamiliar.
- Ask your child to read on past the unknown word to gain clues from the rest of the sentence.
- Show your child how to find the meanings of unfamiliar words in dictionaries.
- Encourage your child to watch films and videos of books they have read.
- Talk about the ways in which a film version of a book compares with the print version.
- If your child is having difficulty with reading, or not enjoying reading, ask your child’s teacher for help.

Renai Diamond
Curriculum Team Coordinator

Community Noticeboard

The Meadows Public School, as a service to parents, will advertise community events that may be of interest.

The Meadows Public School does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility for the management or organisation of these events.

SKOOL IS KOOL WITH KARL’
FUNDRAISER FOR OUR SCHOOL

Shop 17, HomeBase Shopping Centre Prospect
PHONE: 9849 3000

For every $25 spent at the Good Guys Prospect, $1 will be donated to our school. Just make sure you mention our school’s name at point of purchase. The more you buy the more we earn.
Focused Playtime

A free program for children who are starting school in 2015. The program is designed to give both parent/caregiver and their child the experience of learning through play in a structured environment. It aims to promote parent and child's interaction and enhance the understanding of your child's learning needs.

Feedback from parents who participated in the program last year:

“I definitely have a more precise understanding of her weaknesses and strengths.”

“Lots of ideas for me to take home I share. It was great. It helped me and gave me a fresh look.”

“Thank you so much, Anabel and I have both learnt so much. This is such a fantastic program, will be back in 3 years with my son.”

“A really great program. Looking forward to attending each week. One on one time with child, Focused and activities aimed at their level. More stimulating than playgroup which is a great addition.”

Children will get to experience many activities that are designed according to the key areas of pre-kindergarten skills which are required for a positive start for kindergarten.

A parent or caregiver will need to accompany the child and be actively involved in guiding their child for some of the activities.

Free child care will be provided for younger siblings of participating children on request.

Starts: 6 May - 17 June 2014 (Tues) 9:15am - 11:15am for 7 weeks

Places are limited. To secure a place, please complete the following ‘Reply Slip’ and return it to FACES, Fuller St Seven Hills (on grounds of The Meadows P.S). Or email details to sevenhillsassoc@gmail.com

Registration form can be downloaded on website:
https://sites.google.com/site/sevenhillschildrenplaycentre/home

Registration open until all places are filled.

For more information please phone 0423 798 961/9896 7514.

FACES (Families and Children Early Start) is a project funded under the Families NSW program, administered by NSW Department of Education and Communities for families in Seven Hills and the surrounding areas.

Further Details
2014 Program Dates:
March 2014
June 2014
August 2014
October 2014

Cost:
$45 p. (3-day) per week
$90 p. (5-day) per week

Times:
5:30am-7:45pm

Workshop Categories:
Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

www.inspirationeducation.com.au | 1300 677 336

Go4Fun at The Meadows

FREE fun programs for kids to become fitter, healthier & happier

Go4Fun Tip God a healthy breakfast and beat the brain drain!

Call now for more information or to find a program near you!

1800 780 900

Go4Fun www.go4fun.com.au

Do you have a child 11 to 13 years old?
Are you worried about their weight?
Go4Fun can help, how to enrolment & weekends.

KILDARE ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE
ANGELINE VIOLI

Exercise Physiologist, B.App.Sci.(Ex.Sci.Fd) ESSAM

Angelina completed a degree in exercise & Sport Science at Sydney University and is an accredited Exercise Physiologist with Exercise and Sport Science Australia (ESSA). With experience in aged care, rehabilitation, weight loss and chronic disease management, Angelina will create an individualized exercise program to help you achieve your goals. Angelina has developed diabetes management and falls prevention programs for the community and believes in a multidisciplinary approach for all health concerns.

To make an appointment with Angelina, call Reception on 8822 3000.

OPEN 7 DAYS 8:00AM TO 8:00PM

Book your GP appointment online at: www.kildaremedical.com.au
36 Kildare Road, Blacktown 8822 3000
Next to Westpoint

NSW Government

Education & Communities