My sincere congratulations to the 17 students who presented their Captain Election speeches last Thursday. All candidates spoke very well and I was impressed by their maturity and commitment. Announcement of School Captains & Vice Captains will take place at our Presentation Assembly later in the term.

Last week we held our final Kindergarten Orientation session. I would like to thank Mrs Mercer, Mrs Rajendra and Ms Musgrove for their outstanding work throughout our orientation sessions. Through their fine organisation and commitment, our 2015 Kindergarten students have had a great start to school and I am hopeful that they (and their parents) are feeling well prepared for big school.

Our Stage 3 campers (and staff) all came back last week and spoke of a fantastic time away at the Wyee Education Centre. Photos in next weeks newsletter.

Bede Darcy

Term 4        Monday 24th November, 2014        Week 8

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 2nd December
Final 2014 P&C Meeting

Friday 5th December
P&C family event

Monday 8th December
School Fun day (Stage based)

Tuesday 9th December
Stage 2 Community Facilities Excursion

Tuesday 9th December
Year 6 Farewell

Thursday 11th December
School Presentation Assembly at 10am

Wednesday 17th December
Last day for Students

Wednesday 28th January
Years 1-6 start school

2015

Kindergarten Orientation
From our Library
A reminder that ALL library books that students have at home need to be returned to school ASAP so that stocktake can begin. Please see Mrs Bland in the library if there are any problems. Thank you for your support.

There are limited spaces available for our trip to the Sydney Writers Festival to be held next year. It is set to be a really fantastic experience with authors such as Andy Griffiths, Leigh Hobbs and Anthony Horowitz. Please contact the office if you require a new permission note and/or information about this event.

Kim Bland

Note & Payment Reminders!
♦ K-2 Botanic Gardens excursion $8.00 due by Friday 5th December.
♦ Year 6 Corrimal High visit notes (25th Nov & 2nd Dec).
♦ Sydney Writer’s Festival expression of interest (current year 2—year 5 students) $5.00 deposit required.
♦ Stage 2 Community Facilities (Wollongong) and Fun Day permission notes and payment $10

Uniform Shop
The CEPS Uniform Shop is open Monday & Friday mornings from 8:30am - 9:00am.
An order form is included on our school website located in the P&C tab.

Community Announcements

FREE BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Illawarra Junior Representative Trials 2015
Saturday 22nd November & Saturday 29th November 2014
Under 10 Boys and Girls 12.30pm - 2.00pm players from 2008 and older
Under 14 Boys and Girls 2.00pm - 3.00pm players from 2004 & 2005
Under 18 Boys and Girls 5.00pm - 6.30pm players from 1998 & 1999
Under 18 Boys Sessions 2 to be held Sunday 30th November at 10am

Illawarra Basketball Stadium “Snakepit”
Players of all standards are encouraged to trial for the teams. Selected players will receive coaching and development to improve their overall fitness, skills, strategy and knowledge of all aspects of the game.

$5.00 fee to attend Trials payable on the day (cash only)

Please note that this season will be for girls, boys, under 14, under 16, under 18, and open boys. Trials will take place on these two days for elite athletes. All other information is subject to change as of 2014.

Contact Basketball Illawarra Office on 4224 0000 if you have further enquiries.
**End Of Year Family Fun Night**
The CEPS P&C Twilight Family Fun Night is almost here. Come and celebrate with us on **Friday 5th December**. The Fun starts at 6pm with Twilight market stalls.

Stalls include:
Stitch’d Clothing ([www.stitchd.net](http://www.stitchd.net))
Fifty 5 parrots ([https://www.facebook.com/Fifty5Parrots](https://www.facebook.com/Fifty5Parrots) (Go online to check them out!))

Please remember to fill in and return your attendance note to the P&C box located in the office foyer by **Friday 28th November**.

**Family Fun Night Christmas Hamper Raffle**
A raffle ticket booklet went home with each student last week. Booklets consist of 10 raffle tickets at the cost of $1 per ticket. Each ticket goes into the draw for a chance to win one of 20 great Christmas Hampers. The Christmas Hamper Raffle will be drawn on the Family fun night, **Friday 5th December**. Please remember to return all raffle books with tickets sold or with tickets still remaining to the P&C box located in the office foyer by **Monday 1st December** (Please include a contact name and phone number on every ticket).

**P&C Meeting Reminder**
The Final P&C Meeting of the year will be held, on **Tuesday 2nd December at 6.30pm** in the library. We welcome all who would like to attend to come along and be involved. If possible, please bring along a plate to share. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Uniform Shop Volunteer**
The Uniform Shop is currently looking for a volunteer to assist, commencing in 2015. If you would like to assist and are available on Mondays and/or Fridays from 8.30am – 9.00am, please contact the Uniform Shop Officer, Angela Brakenridge on Ph: 0415 594 680 for further details.

_Lorelle Longbottom_  
P&C President  
0402 183 629  
lorellel@dgblaw.com.au

_Carol Zecевич_  
Secretary/Publicity Officer  
0401 093 475  
makeupgirlcc@yahoo.com.au
Made Fresh Canteen Showbag Day

Please ensure all orders for the Made Fresh Canteen Showbag Day are pre-ordered by this Thursday, November 27th. Please place your order in the Canteen slot.

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**Parenting Ideas Insights**

*Building parent-school partnerships*

**WORDS** Michael Grose

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**Reading your child’s report**

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

1. **Could try harder... always does her best... lacks concentration... easily distracted... a pleasure to teach... Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?**

   Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

   Reports can mean nervous time for hidden too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Not all students take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

2. **Do you believe that children learn at different rates?**

   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-on you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends' children and even you if when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. **Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?**

   Self-confidence is a prerequisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format, school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, the attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

1. **Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?**

   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pinch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. **Focus on strengths**

   Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subject.

   Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you can ask why more than that, regardless of the grading.

3. **Broaden your focus away from academic performance**

   To form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets on with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well give an indication to his future. The skills of independence and cooperation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

4. **Take note of student self-assessment**

   Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very receptive to take note of their opinion.

5. **Discuss the report with your son or daughter**

   Talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed, celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, test and reports for a while.

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COME JOIN IN THE FUN! The CANTEEN IS HAVING A SHOWBAG DAY ON THE 28th NOVEMBER.

Please pre-order by 27th NOV to ensure your child receives their FUN P PACK.

YOU WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- PIE
- POPCORN
- POPPER
- PURPLE ORCHY CUP
- PINK WICKED FIZZ

ALL FOR THE FANTASTIC VALUE OF $6.
The canteen will donate $1 for every bag sold.

(This activity is run through Made Fresh- Canteen, not the CEPS P&C Association)

NAME: ___________________ CLASS __________

MONEY ENCLOSED: ________
Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Come and join in the celebrations at the Twilight Family Fun Night on Friday 5th December!

Family and friends of CEPS are welcome! For catering purposes, can you please register your interest in attending by completing the following form:

☐ Attending Twilight Family Fun Night - Number attending .................

☐ I am able to volunteer to assist for half an hour on the night:

   Name .................................................................

   Contact Ph: .............................................

Please return to the P&C box in the foyer, by Friday 28th November.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for your support,

P&C