Harmony Day
Harmony Day (March 21st) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. In 2015 it is the 15th anniversary of Harmony Day. In the past our students have worn orange or an item of clothing that is orange to show our support for Harmony Day. We ask students to once again add a touch of orange to their uniform or come dressed in orange on Friday as we recognise that we all belong to one fantastic country.

National Day of Action Against Bullying
As part of our Personal Development and the lead up to National Day of Action Against Bullying, all classes have spent time learning what bullying is, about the signs of bullying, how to deal with bullying and reporting bullying incidents. Our school has a clear policy aligned with the Department of Education and Communities policy. Our shared definition of bullying is as follows: “Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group.” Please be aware that the policy also states that: “Conflict or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying.” I have attached to today’s newsletter a copy of the Departments “Preventing and Responding to Bullying in Schools Policy”. Please take time to read this document and others available through the department’s website at www.det.nsw.edu.au

Staff, students and parents at Sussex Inlet Public School continually work together to address bullying and anti-social behaviour in the playground and in the classroom. On Friday 20th March we will recognise the National Day of Action Against Bullying by making and wearing bracelets with this year’s slogan – ‘Take a Stand Together’

There are several attachments with this week’s newsletter for parents’ and students. Further information and great resources are available at www.bullyingnoway.gov.au website.

It is through strong and positive conversations and actions that we can work together to ensure bullying is not an issue at our school.
P&C New Members
I would like to thank the outgoing members of the 2014 P & C executive for their hard work and ongoing support of the school as they complete their terms in office. It has been wonderful working with a team of dedicated and passionate parents. Thank you also to the parents who attend the monthly meetings and work in so many supportive roles as part of our community. At last night’s Annual General Meeting, several new faces were elected to the executive team. Congratulations and thank you to those parents who have volunteered their time and energy to supporting our students and our school in 2015.

Professional Learning
Mrs Glasson attended the Tournament of the Minds training workshop today. We are hoping to enter two teams in this year’s competition. Mrs Nevin attended AUSTSWIM training today. This valuable professional learning will assist with the Schools’ Swimming Scheme we offer later in the year.

Easter Hat Parade
All students are invited to participate in the SIPS Annual Easter Hat Parade on the concrete play area, K - 2 parade and 3 - 6 are spectators. Please mark this date in your diaries – Thursday 2nd April. This is the last day of term 1.

Cross Country / K-2 Fun Run
Students in 3-6 will be competing in the schools cross country carnival on Thursday 2nd April. Our Kindergarten Year One and Two students are actively encouraged to participate in the Fun Run. If your child turns 8 this year they can run in the competitive event or the fun run. Details and a program will be sent home in the coming weeks.

ANZAC Day
This year we acknowledge the Centenary of ANZAC Day – 100 years since Australian and New Zealand troops landed on the coast of Gallipoli. Our school have been asked to march and our choir have once again been invited to perform at the community service on Saturday 25th April. It would be fantastic if we could get as many students as possible to represent our school in this year’s march and service. Please complete Expression of Interest slip and return to your child’s class teacher by Thursday 2nd April.

ICAS University of NSW Competitions
Students at Sussex Inlet Public School will once again be offered the opportunity to participate in these external competitions. If you would like your child / children to participate please complete the form which can be collected from the office. Forms and payment to be returned to the office no later than Friday, 20th March.

Kindy Sport
Our Kindergarten students have been actively participating in their fundamental movement skills program with the support of our primary students. As you can see – they are loving it.

Variation to School Staff Development Day
Staff at Sussex Inlet Public School have identified the need to successfully and effectively integrate technology into our 21st century teaching pedagogy as a priority for 2015 - 2017. They have an opportunity to access professional learning as a whole school staff from a recognised provider and will undertake a Saturday training in lieu of one Staff Development Day at the end of Term 4. This will ensure consistency and collaborative learning, planning, programming, developing and implementing sequential, engaging and relevant learning units for students using technology.

Dragon Tag Gala Day
Junior Dragon Tag Gala Day will be held this Friday at Thomson Street Sporting Complex. Please return notes tomorrow, Wednesday 18th March. Please let Mr Douglass know if you assist on the day.
Jasmine – State Swimming
Congratulations to Jasmine Greenwood who will be competing in the State Swimming Carnival to be held at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March. Jasmine will compete in the multi class 50m butterfly, 50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke and 50m backstroke. Good luck Jasmine.

Sports Awards
Sean Donald, Jed McDowall and Rory Kennedy. Absent: Saxon McCracken

Star Fish Awards
Presented 11.03.15

Positive Behaviour for Success PBS
This week’s targeted behaviour is:
* Play fair
* Hat on, play on
* Follow rules of the game
* Use equipment correctly

Be SAFE in the PLAYGROUND

Julie Hickman

Attention Yr 5 & 6 parents
Payment of deposit for Canberra was due last Friday.
At this stage we will not be able to proceed with the excursion due to lack of student numbers.
Please send in expression of interest and deposit tomorrow if you haven’t already.
Final decision will be made tomorrow at 3.00pm.
K-2 Easter Hats
Please send in your child’s hat base and decorations for our Easter hat making next week.

2015 EASTER HAT PARADE/FUN RUN/CROSS COUNTRY 2nd April
All events are on one day to save parents coming up on a multitude of days.
Approximate times for the day:
Canteen: is doing lunch orders. Please have these in by 9.30. They can come in prior to the day.
9.15 Easter hat parade K-2
On the concrete play area K-2 parade and 3-6 are spectators.
10.00 Munch and crunch
10.10 Children sit in house groups
K-2 walk their course
3-6 walk their course
10.20 Meet back in house areas for chants
10.30 K-2 Fun run
Kindergarten boys and girls
Year 1 boys
Year 1 girls
Year 2 boys
Year 2 girls
Presentation of certificates and placings
11.10 recess
11.30 Children reassemble in house areas
2km course 8 year boys and girls
9 year boys and girls
10 year boys and girls
3km course 11 year boys and girls
Open year boys and girls
War cries whilst points are tallied
Presentation of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons
Presentation of cross country trophy
Picnic lunch

Julie Hickman

Plastics….Yuk!
On Wednesday 11th March, Years 5 and 6 were lucky enough to have Mr Anthony Hill, from the Australian Marine Debris Initiative, come to Sussex Inlet Public School to talk about the plastic pollution in the ocean and how it affects marine life. He showed us some pictures of how the water was all dirty and full of plastic and then how it should be - clear and clean. He told us about some of the animals and how it affects them. He showed us some pictures of animals, like turtles being stuck in plastic rings and seals being caught up in nets. He taught us about micro plastic and told us a story about how his friend built a raft with plastic bottles and sailed in the ocean. His friend caught a fish that had heaps of bits of micro plastic in its stomach. We learnt micro plastic is just little bits of plastic. Did you know that over 640,000 garbage trucks full of rubbish go into the world’s oceans every year? Year 5 & 6 learnt so much about the problem of plastic and it makes us feel sad and want to do something about it. We are thinking up some ideas about how to stop plastic pollution and save the seas. We had a fantastic time learning all about it.
Kai Verkroost, 5C

School Photos
Please return envelopes to the office by Wednesday 25th March.

ICAS
Note and money must be returned to the office by Friday 20th March.

Student Emergency Contact Detail Report
Please return even if there are no changes. If your child has any medical changes please note underneath the doctors section on the form.

Medical Forms
Please complete and return medical form to the office as soon as possible. We are unable to use band aids etc. on your child if this note is not returned.

It is most important that the above forms are returned to the office as this information could be vital to your child in case of an emergency.

School Paint
To protect your child’s school uniform could you please ensure your child has a paint shirt to wear when painting.
If your child gets paint on their uniform wash in cold water and it should wash out.
Hot water sets the paint and you will never get it out.

Talking Tactis
On Thursday the 12th of March, Stage Three had a special presentation night to show our parents what Anne-Marie and Di taught us about drugs. All the kids had a part to play that night Some were an MC or they were in a play. Some of the plays we did were “Roles We Play”, “Hidden Thoughts”, and “The Hot Seat”. All of the plays dealt with factors that influence kids to try drugs. We supplied snacks for the parents. Some games we played with our parents were “Harm Ranking” and “Trivia”. It was also very funny when we needed parent volunteers from the audience, like when we had Mrs Walker, Mr Moroney, Mrs Crehan and Mrs Penrose. Overall everybody there had a great time!

By Torah Solari & Gabbi Walker

Notes accompanying this newsletter
Invitation KidsMatter Launch
Bullying – No Way
Bullying Policy
Hot Cross Bun order form
ANZAC Day March & Service
**P & C News**

**AGM**

Last night was the P&C's annual general meeting. We would like to thank our outgoing committee members Leah Hollier former secretary, Nicole Horvat former vice president, Rachael Banwell former vice president and Leanne Robinson former canteen coordinator. Your help over the last year has been invaluable. Our new committee is:

President- Alicia Jurd  
Vice president- Tracy Solari  
Vice president- Natalie MacDonnell  
Secretary- Nicole Collier  
Treasurer- John Nevin  
Publicity Officer- Heidi Goodwin  
Canteen Coordinator- Maree McNeil  
Uniform Coordinator- Jody McCullough

**Next meeting.**

It has been decided, because of the number of items on our agenda that even though the third Monday of next month will fall on a pupil free staff development day at the start of term, we will still hold this meeting. So the next meeting will be on April 20th at 7pm in the staff room. If you have any items you wish to be raised contact us by email at sipandc@gmail.com

**Hot cross bun drive.**

We have again attached the order form for the hot cross buns. These orders will need to be back to school by Monday 23rd March. The buns will be ready to be picked up on Wednesday 1st April in the afternoon or can be picked up on Thursday the 2nd at the Easter hat parade/cross country. Remember the child with the biggest order will receive an Easter surprise.

**Uniform Shop.**

As we now have a permanent uniform shop volunteer we are now back to being open two days per week. These will be Wednesdays and Thursdays every week between 8:45 and 9am. If you cannot make it at these times you can always get an order form from the office, return it with your money and it will be filled ASAP.

We have also received our backorder of sports shirts, so anyone waiting on a sports shirt come and see us in the uniform store.

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**Uniform committee.**

After investigating the need to change our sports shirt and polo, it has brought to our attention a few issues with other items of uniform especially relating to the number of items currently available. Because of this, it has been decided that we will form a uniform committee to review the entire school uniform. This committee will look at the uniform as a whole and represent the parent community relating any changes that need to be made. The committee is open to all parents and carers as we value everyone’s feedback. If anyone would like to be part of this important team let us know by talking to a P&C member or by email.

**Canteen Volunteers.**

Our canteen is in short supply of volunteers at the moment. If anyone, parents, carers and grandparents can spare a day from 10am until 1.30pm, as much as once a week or as little as once a term, come and see Chris in our school canteen. This is an easy and enjoyable way to put back into our school community.

Tracy Solari- Vice President.

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**Canteen Roster**

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The Canteen is looking for a donation or to purchase a bench top oven the size of a large microwave. Please keep a look out. Thank you.

Volunteers are required from 10am until approximately 1.30pm. If you are unable to attend please call Chris Parth on 44412921.