Dear parents, carers and friends of our school,

With only days left in our school year, the staff and students are busy finalising learning programs, assessments and tidying classrooms. The students have been steadily bringing home artworks that have decorated the walls of classrooms and the teachers are thinking long and hard as they cull resources that we need to consider whether or not they’ll be needed in the New Year. I’m busy signing reports and enjoying reading about each student’s successes this year. I look forward to being part of my first Shoal Bay Public School Presentation Day tomorrow where I can acknowledge and celebrate student achievements with distinguished guests, family and friends.

**Twilight Bandstand Concert**

One highlight of my last week was attending the annual Twilight Bandstand Concert at Anna Bay Public School last Thursday where Shoal Bay Concert Band joined bands from Tomaree, Anna Bay and Soldiers Point to entertain a very captive audience. This was my first band concert on the peninsula and I was very impressed with the skill and talent of all boys and girls. I also enjoy the way that our local public schools come together to celebrate the talent of our students and staff. A huge thank you to Mrs Forster and Ms Bianca Wilson who have spent so much time rehearsing with the band and to the boys and girls for their dedication to practising so hard as well.

**Choir Performance**

The second highlight for the week was last Tuesday when I accompanied the Stage 2 choir to Harbourside Haven Retirement Village to entertain the residents. Our choir sang a selection of Christmas Carols and other songs to their elderly audience. This was followed by a light afternoon tea being provided for them and the boys and girls giving out cards and decorations to everyone to wish them all a very Happy Christmas. There were many happy faces and much appreciation shown for us taking the time to visit the village. Thank you to Mrs Bzdough and Miss Day for their roles in organising this event.

**Robogals**

On Friday four students who are studying engineering at Newcastle University ran a science activity session with our Years 5 and 6 girls. Jack (mechanical engineer), Tom (physics engineer), Mitch (computer engineer) and Theo (IT engineer) introduced the girls to the idea of learning maths and science because it can be fun with the knowledge that one in ten engineers are girls. They were immersed in problem solving activities and experiments that tested their thinking and were most enjoyable at the same time.

**“Oliver”, the musical and Year 6 Final Assembly**

As well as presentation day this week, we are looking forward to our students showcasing their talents in performances of the school musical on Wednesday (dress rehearsal – students only in audience) and Thursday (12.30pm and 6.00pm). Please come along and join us for this wonderful event.

Friday afternoon will be our Year 6 students’ final assembly at Shoal Bay PS. This will be followed, next week, by the Year 6 farewell on Monday evening at Fingal Bay Surf Club. These events give us the opportunity to congratulate Year 6 on completing their 7 years at Primary school and wishing them all the very best for the years ahead as they move on to high school.

**Staffing 2015**

As the year draws to an end I would like to inform you of some staffing changes that will occur in 2015 that we are aware of this time. Ms S Riley and Miss Rebecca Asquith will be taking up new teaching positions next year and will not be returning to our school. Mrs Brealey will also be finishing her temporary role replacing Mrs White while she was on maternity leave. We would like to thank them for all that they have contributed to Shoal Bay as part of our school team and wish them every success for the future.

Miss Jessica King has been appointed to Shoal Bay in a permanent position replacing Mrs Megan Neilands who left last year. Miss King will join us next week on our Staff Development Days.

Over the past few weeks we have been planning classes and teachers for 2015. These classes may not be formed immediately until our final enrolments are known. Boys and girls will stay in 2014 class groupings for first few days and new classes will be formed as soon as possible.
Kindergarten Enrolments 2015

To assist us with planning for 2015 we are now accepting expressions of interest if your child is eligible to enrol in Kindergarten in 2015.

Please complete the form attached and return it to school and/ or pass this information on to family and friends who have children who are eligible to start school in 2015.

You could also call in at school or contact us on ph. 49811007.

School Banking

Don’t forget this Wednesday, 10 December is the last day for school banking. Any prize orders will need to be in by then or you will not get your prize till next year. Cheers Mrs Bonser, School Banking Coordinator.

Nuf Nuf Term 4

Year 6 raised $869.70 for their last Nuf Nuf. Great effort from everyone. Thanks again.

Bunnings Christmas Party

On Thursday, 4 December Bunnings are having their annual Christmas family night from 5pm to 8pm. Sponge Bob will be there ... will you? There are stacks of free activities for the whole family from 6pm including pony rides, jumping castle, bungee trampolines, kids craft workshops. Raymond Terrace Rotary will be cooking a sausage sizzle and Santa will also make an appearance. There will be competitions and giveaways. Bookings are ESSENTIAL! Please phone 4916 3100.

Donnas Kitchen

Due to the end of year, stocks will be very limited so please check before putting in lunch orders so I don’t have to chase children to change orders. We are open Monday, 8 December and CLOSED Tues, 9 Dec due to Presentation Day. We are open Wed-Fri 10-12 Dec. We will NOT be open the last week of school. There will be a new summer menu ready for next year with a few old favourites back I would like to say a big thank you to all my volunteers this year. You are amazing people who dedicate your time all year round. I know the children love seeing their parents behind the counter. I hope to see some new faces next year to join our team. I would also like to thank the P&C for your support this year. I am looking forward to a busy and successful year next year and hope you all have a great break. See you in 2015.

Donna

Our kids deserve a clean school - a note from your P&C

Did you know that the NSW State Government has decided to cut the cleaning budget of NSW Public Schools every year until 2016! This will leave schools unclean and the school toilets unhygienic. It’s an issue that goes to the health and safety of every school student and teacher in the state, including our school. The health and safety of children and young people is in the hands of cleaners in education. This invisible workforce ensures that schools and other buildings of learning are secure and sanitary - making them a good environment for young people and kids to learn and grow. But, in spite of this vital work, cleaners are being left behind. The NSW Government keeps making cuts to cleaning contracts, forcing cleaners to work in unrealistic timeframes with poverty wages and no job security. If this continues, the state of cleaning and conditions of schools may be at risk. If young people and children are to learn and grow in a clean, safe environment, the whole school community needs to stand together to try and prevent these cuts. The NSW Government needs to ensure secure cleaning jobs with enough time to provide hygienic cleaning you and your family expect.

The Clean Schools campaign is being run by United Voice, the union that represents public school cleaners across NSW. The campaign is supported by teachers, principals, parents, teachers and community members across the state. If you want young people and children to learn and grow in a clean, safe environment, the whole school community needs to stand together to try and prevent these cuts. The NSW Government needs to ensure secure cleaning jobs with enough time to provide hygienic cleaning you and your family expect. Show your support and take action today! Visit the website and see how you can support our cleaners at Shoal Bay school www.cleanschools.org.au, Shoal Bay P&C.
We will be holding an adidas School Fun Run as a major fundraising event this year. The event will be held on Tuesday, 29 July within the school grounds.

Around the School

The choir entertaining Harbourside Haven Residents

Robogals Science Fun Learning the art of engineering

Twilight Band Stand students and getting ready to perform

**COMBINED CHOIRGROUPS PRESENTS CAROLS BY THE BAY**

**FLY POINT PARK**

**SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER**

**5:30PM**

**COMMUNITY PERFORMERS**

**7:00PM**

**CAROLS AND**
P&C Fun Run

We will be holding an *adidas School Fun Run* as a major fundraising event this year. The event will be held on Tuesday, 29 July within the school grounds.

The *adidas School Fun Run* is a healthy, fun and active fundraiser that ensures we send the right message to our students about getting active, having fun and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The main focus of this event is on participation. Family support is most appreciated as we encourage all students to get involved.

All students will receive a Sponsorship Form today, to help collect sponsorship on behalf of the school. The funds raised will be used to purchase new play equipment for the Early Stage 1 playground.

We ask all parents to read the Sponsorship form and sign the front page to grant permission for their child to fundraise and participate in this event. Students who raise just $10 or more will receive a reward for their effort. In the Sponsorship form you will also find many other benefits like the chance to win a family holiday to Disneyland! Students wanting to track their progress and use online fundraising, can do so by logging onto schoolfunrun.com.au/students and creating a Student Profile Page.

Finally, we would like to welcome parents and family members to attend the *adidas School Fun Run* event day at the school on Tuesday, 29 July to help cheer on our students. If you would like to volunteer to help out on the day please contact the school on 4981 1007.

Thank you, good luck and happy fundraising!

Cara Hudson, on behalf of the P&C.