Dear Parents and Carers,

Relay team makes it to STATE!

Congratulations to Jack S, Sam T, Mitchell A and Toby F who produced a sizzling performance in the regional swimming relay event last week. These boys will now have the opportunity to represent the school at state level in Sydney during week 11 this term. We are all very proud of your efforts and would like to wish you the very best of luck in your next race!

Emergency Lockdown Practise

Under Work Health Safety requirements and to provide a safe learning environment, we are required to conduct regular lockdown and evacuation drills in the school. This week we are scheduling an emergency lockdown with the whole school. All staff and students will be participating in this exercise and will be commenced by the sounding of four long bells. Students and staff will be required to go to the nearest available building which will be ‘locked down’ for the duration of the activity. If we have parents, carers or other visitors in the school, it is important that you also participate in the lockdown. Generally, you should remain in the current building or with the class teacher you are associated with at the time. If a building has already been locked down you will not be able to access it. In this instance, you should proceed to the admin building to gain admittance. As you could imagine, in a real scenario a lockdown is designed to limit the access to staff and students from other persons who may be in the school. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance with this important safety drill.

Cyber Safety

As we move through the digital age, our 21st century children are immersed in a wide variety of on-line activities from research to social networking. It can sometimes be daunting for parents to keep up with technology and the know how to successfully guide our children on the right path for its safe and responsible use. There are three articles available from the following web site to help you support your children. http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cybersafety

Attendance

Last week I was conducting a review of student attendance data for the school. While this is an ongoing process throughout the year, I have noted that there have been a number of students not providing explanations for their absences. The Education Act (1990) requires parents to ensure that their children of compulsory school age attend school on each day that the school is open unless there is a good reason for them not attending. If students are absent, parents are required by law to provide the school with an acceptable explanation within seven days of the absence. When writing the absence notification, it is important to write the current date, the date of the absence(s), the reason for the absence and your signature. A proforma is also available from our web site by navigating to: "parent info newsletter" -> "Notes for Parents" which can be printed out and used for this purpose.

Great books for tweens to read

Favourite books from the Premier’s Reading Challenge team that will inspire kids aged between nine and 13 to read read read! Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/hu/homework-and-study/english/my-book-club/helping-tweens-to-love-reading/ideal-books-for-tweens-to-read

Science assignment starters

Not sure where to go to help your child find out about electricity, natural disasters, the solar system or other science projects? Have a look at our project starters. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/science-project-starters
Tomaree Breast Cancer Support Group Inc
If anyone needs any support from the Tomaree Breast Cancer Support Group, we have some brochures and business cards in reception. If you want to check them out online you can go to www.tomareebreastcancersupport.com.au. Alternatively you can call Taurie on 4984 9142, Sandra on 4984 3042, Ros on 4984 9763 or Liz on 4919 1503.

P&C
The P&C AGM was held last Tuesday night and your P&C executive committee members for 2014 are:
Sharon Molloy (President), Katie Hughes (Vice President), Jo Banner (Vice President), Emma Butler (Treasurer), Colleen Knight (Secretary), Cara Hudson (Fundraising Coordinator).
The P&C is contactable by email shoalbay-pc@hotmail.com.au or by sending a message through the school office staff. We look forward to working closely with teachers and parents to support the school in its various fundraising efforts and other activities this year and are happy to receive feedback and comments from parents, grandparents and carers at any time.

Movie Night
Thursday 20th March 6pm – 8pm
$5 drink and snack deal
Showing “THE CROODS” rated PG
“This prehistoric comedy adventure follows the world’s first family as they embark on the journey of a lifetime when the cave that has always shielded them from danger is destroyed. Traveling across a spectacular landscape, the family discovers an incredible new world filled with fantastic creatures…” More – and their outlook is changed forever.”
Sign in 6pm - sign out 8pm. BYO Cushion to sit on!

Athletics Sausage Sizzle
The P&C will be having a sausage sizzle at the oval on Thursday, 27th March. Volunteers welcome.

Easter Hat Parade and Easter Raffle
Our annual Easter celebrations will be held on the last day of school, including a hat parade from all students and a massive Easter egg raffle. Donations of eggs can be placed in the box in front office and raffle tickets will be sent out soon, if you need extra’s please see the office, after the raffle tickets go out.

Sushi Meal Day
As part of our P&C fundraising this year, we are introducing Sushi Day on Monday, 24th March. All children will be getting an order form sent home with your choices of sushi and the prices. This is a fantastic opportunity for Shoal Bay kids to try something new and promote healthy eating habits. All the sushi rolls will be made by two Japanese mums. This is a rare opportunity for your children to enjoy authentic Japanese sushi.
Regards Naho & Kazumi.
NB: the canteen will be open for normal ordering on this day.