Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our main event this term was our P & F Fun Day. Organised by our P & F committee and run by our parent volunteers, we had a day of ‘fun in the sun’. Our students and teachers endured the heat and spent a day on fun rides as well as enjoying other group activities. Lunch was shared eating delicious home made burgers with our parents as the children were cooled down by sprays of water to fend off the heat. We would like to thank all those who helped to make this day successful. The school managed to raise just under $2000! A great effort from all.

P & F Committee

We are pleased to welcome our new Kindy 2017 to SHAPS. We had two wonderful days meeting our new school members and their families during Kindergarten Orientation.

A special thank you to everyone who attended the SNACC 10 Year Anniversary celebration. We are proud of our students, staff and community for supporting our schools.

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2 Assembly</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>6th December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6 Assembly</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7th December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luna Park Year 6</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8th December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Disco</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9th December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Year 2 Excursion**

In late October, Year 2 students accompanied by their teachers and some teachers’ aides went on an excursion to the Sydney Opera House.

Although it was a long bus ride, it was all worth it! Upon arrival, we enjoyed our recess with a wonderful view of the Sydney Harbour Bridge as well as the Opera House. Later, we went on a tour of the Opera House and were able to see views of the city from a great lookout, we also spotted some people climbing all the way to the top of the Harbour Bridge. During the tour we had the chance to sit inside the Opera House’s Concert hall and Theatre room. The structure of the Concert Hall and the way the sound is distributed in there is truly a wonder.

Afterwards, we went for a walk to explore Circular Quay. We saw the train station, where the ferries dock to pick people up and a group of Aboriginal people who were playing the digeridoo!

Then it was finally time for lunch, we ate our lunch on the grass inside the Botanical Gardens, such a pretty place it was.

Unfortunately our day had to come to an end and we hopped back on the buses and made our way home.

---

**Tree Planting**

In the beginning of spring, 40 SHAPS students from Year 5 went to the Western Sydney Parklands to do some tree planting. Doing this helps to create a safer and healthier environment and encourages more animals to live there.

When we got there, we were greeted by a man named Josh. He explained what types of trees were in the area, and said that the land is 38 kilometres wide and reaches all the way to Blacktown! Then his partner Nathan explained how to plant the trees. Firstly, we had to get a plant from the box, a bunny bag which keeps wild rabbits from eating the plants, three bamboo sticks, a watering can, and a metal pipe. We then had to put on gloves and started planting some trees.

My friend and I planted 18 trees in total and others planted more. Our school planted more than 200 plants altogether! When we were finished, we were all given t-shirts with ‘Local Hero’ printed on them.

The school and all of the students that participated should feel very proud of themselves. *Reported by: Aniela Shemon, 5F*
On Tuesday 22nd November, the SHAPS P&F committee held a Fun Day at school. All students and staff had an amazing day. A big thank you to the P&F Committee and all those involved in the planning and all the hard work on the day to make this day a Fun Day!!

Our road safety tips this Bulletin are....

- Make sure your children are in appropriate child car seats that are fitted and used correctly.
- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone as children are about and can be unpredictable.
- Look out for buses pulling out – watch for wig-wag lights.
- Always park and turn legally around schools and avoid dangerous manoeuvres like U-turns and three-point turns.
- Always give way to pedestrians, especially when entering and leaving driveways.
- Drop the kids off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area. Calling out to them from across the road is dangerous because they may run to you without checking traffic.
- It's safest for the kids to get out of the car on the kerb side of the road to be away from passing traffic.

For more information on how to stay safe on the road visit www.roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au
Dealing with the Tech Age

As we engage with modern technology, we are faced with children who are more tech savvy than ourselves.

In recent years, when it comes to children and technology and we are often finding ourselves in a place of question- Where do we draw the line?

After a social gathering with Western Sydney University Alumni, I came across an interesting article written by Dr Joanne Orland, Senior Lecturer at UWS on ‘Educating High-Tech Tots’. Dr Orlando’s research, speaks of toddlers and smartphones and the struggle of adults trying to keep up.

Dr Joanne, with a background in primary education and early childhood, talks about technology becoming a vital focus for our future. She states, “About 70 percent of children are now using technology by the time they’re one and many will own their own device by then. From about four years old, a child is constantly applying their technology skills to a number of different devices. Educators need to understand what’s happening at home. So they can bring it into their teaching and make it relevant to students’ lives.”

Technology is allowing for many advances in children’s education. Children have been given an opportunity to learn at home on their devices. Children have access to a world of apps, games and the world of Google through voice commands without even learning how to write. As it is amusing to see the prospects it provides it is also slightly worrisome for adults to manage.

Controlling what children are exposed to online is one of the key difficulties. Dr Joanne explains, “Children being able to use technology independently means they’re often left alone with devices as they would be with toys. They can easily stumble across violent images and other adult content without parents necessarily knowing and being there to explain them. Gaps emerge here, and there and questions around what this means for a child’s understanding of these images.”

We would like to share some of Dr Orlando’s tip for parents on Managing Children and Technology:

- Knowing what children are doing online and talk about it. “If they come across something inappropriate, this is when it can be address,” Dr Orlando says, “What children do online should be something the family talks about, not something that’s private or hidden. It’s part of understanding what’s going on in your child’s world.”
- Get involved. “It shouldn’t always be the child alone in the lounge with their iPad, Dr Orlando says. “You can use it together to look at pictures, listen to songs and teach them to talk and say names. Be aware of how often you hand your child a device to keep them quiet.”
- Take note of your behaviour. “If you as a parent are constantly answering your phone or texting in the middle of a conversation with your child, you’re sending strong messages around who has priority, “Dr Orlando says.
- Control it, don’t ban it. Most children use technology confidently by the time they start school, and risk being left behind if they’re not exposed to it. Dr Orlando suggests focusing on the content on the screen, rather than the screen itself: “TV is passive- children just sit there, so they could be better off playing a creative art game on the iPad. Look at what they’re doing- are they creating, problem-solving and investigating?”

You can read more research topics from Western Sydney University at westernsydney.edu.au/research

- Miss Benjamin