Message from the Principal
Have you subscribed to receive the gazette via email?
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Celebrating the Strengths of Gardeners Road
Thank you to those parents who attended the P&C meeting on Tuesday night. It was wonderful to see some new faces as well as our committee members from last year. Congratulations to the new team – the staff and students very much appreciate the support and commitment they bring.
Below is a copy of the Principal’s Report for those parents unable to make the meeting.

Reminder and thank you
Thank you to the overwhelming majority of families that are up to date with payments for books, fees and contributions.
Please remember if you are having difficulty paying everything at once, don’t hesitate to contact me or the office to make arrangements to pay by instalment or seek assistance.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 13 March
Years 3 - 6 Excursion – Monkey Baa Theatre’s production of “I am Jack”

Thursday 14 March
P&C Manhattan Bowling Night

Tuesday 5, 12 & 19 March
1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Program for K-1 parents – 9-11am

Wednesday 6, 13 & 20 March
1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Program for K-1 parents – 5.30-7.30pm

Thursday 21 March
Harmony Day

Thursday 28 March
Easter Hat Parade

Friday 29 March & Monday 1 April
Good Friday & Easter Monday Public Holidays

Friday 12 April
Last day of Term 1

Wednesday 1 May
Students return for Term 2

Zone Swimming Reps – Making us proud
Congratulations to our Zone representatives for giving it their best shot and making us proud with their attitude and excellent behaviour. They were a credit to our school. If you would like to see a photo of our team search for it on our Gardeners Road P&C Facebook page.

Be safe, be respectful, be a learner and be a G Force member!
Gardeners Road Persuasive Writers

What's the purpose of writing an exposition?

The purpose of an exposition is to persuade others of your viewpoint.

Did Sara, Ansh and Terrence persuade you about whether pets are pests or not?

Pets Are a Pest

I think pets are not pests because they can help you out in certain situations and lots more. I know you have to feed them but does that waste any of your time? No! It doesn't! So, it's good to have a pet. And they are also very cute!

Firstly they can look after you in certain situations like if a family member died, or you broke up with your boyfriend. A pet will help keep your mind off your troubles.

Secondly they can help out people with certain diseases because some dogs volunteer to be guide dogs. The dogs get training from a young age to help. Dogs can also help you exercise and get fit.

I think pets are not pests. They are helpful, cute, adorable and loveable.

By Sara 4/3K

Pets are a pest

Would you like it if you asked your parents if you could have a pet but they say no just because they think pets are a pest? Well I may not agree with my parents. I am going to persuade you that pets are not a pest.

My first reason why I believe pets are not a pest is because when you are lonely they will come and keep you company by playing with you.

Another reason why pets are not a pest is because at night if a robber comes in the house the dog will bark and you can stay alert.

Dogs are also very loyal and friendly.

Have I persuaded you that pets are not a pest and will never be a pest? I hope you agree with me that pets are loyal and friendly and can keep you safe.

By Ansh 4/3K

Pets Are a Pest

Do you think pets are a pest? Well I think it is right.

Firstly sometimes when you walk along the street or meet friend at the park, some pets like dogs suddenly bark and jump on you. It would be scary for surrounding people and could even leave children yelling and screaming.

Secondly pets can make a mess at home, for example, when you finish cleaning your room on a raining day then your dog comes back with a wet body from outside. He quickly runs through the house covering the carpet, bed, chair or anything with dirt.

Thirdly a pet can mean it will take you more time than usual to do your homework. A pet like a dog can make a big noise and you can’t do your homework. You need to try your best and make it calm down. That means you spend lots of time to look after the pet consequently you haven’t enough time to do your homework.

Of course if your pet gets professional instruction then they will become our friend however, if they haven’t been trained then your pets will still be a pest.

By Terrence 4/3K
Senior Students getting Cyber Smart

Last week Year 6 went to JJ Cahill Memorial High School to discuss cyber bullying.

We learnt that you’re not supposed to have a fake name on facebook. We also learnt that you should only have a facebook or twitter account if you are over 13 years of age.

Other things you shouldn’t do are sending inappropriate photos or adding people as friends if you don’t know them. You should never talk to strangers online. Children often don’t know when they are giving away too much information that is personal.

Endrit 6M

Suggestions for parents and kids re cybersafety

Cybersafety is important because your child might be in danger.

Some suggestions are:

- Never have a facebook or instagram account if you are under 13 years of age.
- If you do have an account there should always be adult supervision
- Never post inappropriate messages or photos
- Don’t have a profile picture of yourself
- Don’t post your phone number, address or anything else that is private
- If you are being bullied tell someone straight away and delete the program
- Never add contacts you don’t know.

Charmaine & Joshua 6M

Helping others

In the last 14 years over a million people have shaved or coloured their hair to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation. This year Gardeners Road are proud to support Ms Mack and Izayah who have taken on the challenge to join The World's Greatest Shave.

In support the SRC will be having a crazy hair day on Friday 15th March. Children will be asked to contribute a gold coin donation to come to school with the craziest funky hair style imaginable.

The World's Greatest Shave raises about half the money the Leukaemia Foundation needs to fund its important work – providing practical and emotional support to people with blood cancer, as well as investing millions in research.

Message form Ms Mack

I’m being brave and doing the World’s Greatest Shave!!

Where: At morning assembly on Friday 15 March.

Please sponsor me.

Your donation will fund vital blood cancer research and free support for people with leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

To sponsor me online now, just click on this link to my personal fundraising page

http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/GardenersRoadGF orce?SID=212335&LangPref=en-CA

Thanks for your support!

Ms Mack

A broad and engaging curriculum

Enrichment groups have commenced for Years 3-6. Students in K-2 will take part from next term. Focus areas are ; Kitchen Garden, Technology, Poetry, Public Speaking, Choir, Chess and Band. Below are some snapshots of our engaged learners.

Ms Georgoulas assures me there will be some great poems for the Gazette before too long.

Sajid contemplates a move in his match with Mr Kubala.

Preparing the garden bed for a bumper crop of veggies.
Please enjoy this article by Michael Grose about school and home working together.

Help your child ACHIEVE!

One way to help your child achieve at school is to work together with your child’s teacher. The parent-teacher partnership takes work from both sides to become a reality. Here are some ideas that will help.

1. Know what your child’s teacher is trying to achieve. Like children, every teacher is different with their own specific expectations, goals and interests. Get to know your child’s teacher and gain an understanding of their approach and aspirations for your child’s class.

2. Keep your expectations reasonable and positive. If your expectations are too high they may give up. Too low and they will meet them! The trick is to keep your aspirations for your child in line with their ability and their interests. Also be realistic about what your child’s school can deliver. Sometimes our expectations of schools are not in line with their capabilities or their roles.

3. Support your teacher’s expectations & activities at home. One practical way of supporting your child is to take a real interest in their home-based learning tasks and follow the guidelines laid out by teachers.

4. Send kids to school ready to learn and on time. Maximise your child’s chances of success by sending them to school in a good frame of mind, with plenty of sleep and a good breakfast. Also make sure they get to school on time. It’s estimated that many kids miss up to two weeks of school a year when they are routinely late by just five minutes a day.

5. Inform teachers of your child’s challenges and changes. Life’s not always smooth sailing for kids. Family circumstances can alter, friends move away, illness happens. These changes affect learning. Make sure you keep your child’s teacher up-to-date with significant changes or difficulties your child experiences, so he or she can accommodate their emotional and learning needs at school.

6. Skill children to work with others. Schools are social places requiring children to work and play with each other much of the time. Teaching manners to kids, as well as encouraging them to share their time, space and things with others are practical ways to help kids with their social skills. Talk through any social challenges they may have, helping them develop their own strategies to get on with others.

7. Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties. Resist the temptation to solve all your children’s problems or think you have the only solution. Most learning and social problems can be resolved when teachers and parents work together in the best interests of the child.

8. Participate fully in class & school activities. There is a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent involvement in a child’s schooling and their educational success. Quite simply, if you want your child to improve his learning then take an interest in his learning, attend as many school functions as you can, and follow the lead provided by your child’s teacher. This simple strategy will have a massive, long-term impact.

9. Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience. Your child’s teachers are your greatest allies. Their training, their experience around kids and their objective professionalism puts them in a strong position to make judgement calls about your child.

10. Talk up what happens at school. Your child will take their cues from you about how they see their school. If you want your child to value learning, and enjoy their time at school then you need to support your school and make sure he or she hears positive messages about learning, teachers and the school itself. You can set a strong educational agenda at home by talking up your school.

This type of 10 point plan is easy to read but hard to put into practice, particularly when you get busy or your child has significant difficulties. Choose two or three ideas from this list to really focus on in the coming year and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place. Good luck and nurture the partnerships you have with your child’s teachers.
P & C News 2013

Manhattan Bowling Night

THURSDAY 14th MARCH
6.00PM—8.30PM

2 GAMES OF BOWLING
DJ
Lucky Door Prizes

Family Social Night

Finger Food:
Mini Hotdog
Fish & Chips
Gourmet Lamb & Rosemary Pie
Margarita Pizza
Cocktail Spring Rolls
Drinks
(Halal Meals Available)

Cost: $17pp for Adults & Children
Gold Coin Donation 4yr’s & under
All Payment Due by Monday 11th March

Bowler 1: ...........................................  Bowler 2: ...........................................
Bowler 3: ...........................................  Bowler 4: ...........................................
Bowler 5: ...........................................  Bowler 6: ...........................................
Non bowler: .................................  Non bowler: .................................

Money Enclosed: $

Note: All Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Non bowlers who will be eating still pay $17 to get their wrist band for food
P & C News 2013

The P & C brings parents and teachers together to promote the interests of the school. We assist in providing facilities and equipment for our kids through fund raising. We participate in curriculum, school issues and staff selection. We assist teaching staff at school and public functions associated with our school.

Easter Raffle

The P&C are collecting eggs for the Easter Raffle. Please ask your kids to bring in a chocolate egg by Monday 25th, they can be left in the BIG BUNNY near the office or collected at assembly. For your chance to win a basket of eggs, please return your raffle ticket money to the office. The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade on March 28th.

Would you like to be involved with the P & C in 2013?

There are lots of ways you can get involved:

- Donate your old uniforms for the uniform shop
- Wrap gifts (Easter, mother’s and father’s day)
- Run the school banking program
- Be a class representative (K–2)
- Open the uniform shop
- Cover books for the library
- Post to the Facebook page
- Run a stall at the markets
- Help at the trivia night, BBQ and other fundraiser events

Find us on FACEBOOK to keep up to date on the P&C, find Gardeners Road P & C and LIKE the page.

How to contact the P & C to find out more or to offer help

Attend a P&C Meeting (first Tuesday of the month in the staff room opposite the kindergarten rooms @ 630pm), contact us via Facebook or talk to a committee member in the playground.

Welcome to the new P&C committee 2013

President: Lisa Seigel    Vice President: Sarah Oquist
Secretary: Miriam Ross    Treasurer: Michael Bradfield
Alexandria Park Community School

Open Day

YEAR 7, 2014

An invitation for Students and Caregivers

TUESDAY 19TH MARCH

For your convenience, two sessions are available

9.15 - 10.45 a.m. or 6.00 - 7.00 p.m.

Haven’t got a child starting high school in 2014 but interested in finding out about the school? You are most welcome to join us as well!

RSVP by 6th March 2013. Call Linda, Charlene or Leanne on 9698 1967 or email linda.j.turner@det.nsw.edu.au