Message from the Principal
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Celebrating the Strengths of Gardeners Road
A great strength of our school is the students who are learning to be informed and active citizens of Australia. Harmony Day is an ideal time to reflect upon the fact that of our 267 students, 167 students come from a family with a language background other than English. Thirty eight language backgrounds are represented at our school. Our students come to school together to learn and have fun while respecting the culture of others. That's something to celebrate!

Help Make the Saturday Markets a success
Much work has gone into the last two years to establish a Saturday market in our school grounds. The first market was held last Saturday from 8.00am to 2.00pm. This will be a weekly event. The market is operated by a company called Specialty Markets owned and operated by Ms Maria Stranieri. Maria won the public tender that was advertised by the school in conjunction with Department of Education. Maria submitted a DA application and gained approval from Sydney City Council. A licence agreement was then signed and approved.

What this means for our school
The success of the markets will be a great benefit to our school and provide a valuable revenue stream to support teaching and learning programs for all of our students.

What this means for our community
The markets provide a great shopping alternative and fun family activity. There’s fresh produce, meat, baked goods and lots of delicious food available. There are pony rides and a jumping castle for the kids as well as some art and craft stalls.

What can you do?
Come along and have a look this Saturday and spread the word to friends and family!

Years 3 – 6 visit the theatre
On Wednesday 13 March students and teachers in Years 3 – 6 went to the Monkey Baa Theatre production of I Am Jack at Darling Harbour. We have all been reading the novel I Am Jack in our classes. It's a very interesting story about a boy called Jack and how he’s been bullied for a long time. Jack learns how to stand against bullying with the help of his friend Anna.

We recommend the book to read. The play was good but the book lets you imagine what’s happening. When you watch a play the Director and actors decide what you see. We learnt that reading a book and watching a play are very different experiences even if the story is the same.

We all loved it because it showed us how to stand up against bullying.

The day was really fun because we got to play in the park, climb and play tip.
Sienna & Zoey 6M

Parenting – an enjoyable but challenging role
Some of our Kindergarten and Year 1 Parents have been attending a three week long 123 Magic & Emotion Coaching Program presented by Karen Burt (District Guidance Officer/School Counsellor). The
Program has been extremely successful and all parents who participated gained some valuable knowledge and strategies for parenting - never an easy job for any of us.

Following are some of their comments from the evaluation. All parents rated the program highly. I recommend this program to all parents. Keep a look out for information about possible future programs.

Great job Karen!

"I actually learnt to step back and “have an out of body experience” when I’m interacting with and parenting my children. I was able to see that I was doing way too much talking and yelling. I am on the way to making changes. Thank you for this course – it hit the nail on the head for me"

"This is a great program, full of common sense and practical tips but with good explanations to support them. Karen is a great presenter. Highly recommended.

"Really powerful and useful stuff. I feel better prepared to not only control my kids better but ultimately enjoy them more.”

"I would like to thank Karen for opening my eyes to some of my children's behaviours, walking me through this course and giving advice on how to deal with the emotions and “big rocks” in my children’s lives.”

The World’s Biggest Shave – Gardeners Road helping others as active citizens
Congratulations to Izayah Tuigamala and Ms Mack for putting themselves out there to support the important work of the Leukaemia Foundation.

Congratulations and thank you to all the students who participated in the Crazy Hair Day and made a gold coin donation. The Gardeners Road community supported this cause generously. At this stage $1096.60 has been collected through the school. This doesn’t include money raised through online sponsorship. An update of the figure will be published as it becomes available.

This was an outstanding achievement by all.

Debating Workshop
Eight Stage 3 students had the opportunity to take part in a Sydney Region Debating Workshop held at Chifley Public School this week. Students were able to learn about and practise their debating skills with the help of experienced adjudicators and teachers. Ms Mack was happy to report they displayed excellent speaking skills and exemplary behaviour. Well done David, Luka, Maya, Nicola, Leigh Anne, Isabel, Nafisa and Halle.

Reminder and thank you
Thank you to the overwhelming majority of families that are ensuring their children are in correct uniform. It's great to see!

Winter uniforms are available at PSW Uniforms Kingsford.
Upcoming Events

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 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

Important reminder: Due to the introduction of the NSW English Syllabus there is an additional School Development Day for teachers.

Monday 29th April
Teachers return to school

Wednesday 1 May
Students return for Term 2

Congratulations to our G Force members!
The following students have achieved 20 or more G Force cards. They have been “caught” being safe, respectful learners.

Stevany 1B  Ha Young 1B  Jennifer 1B
Uddhav 1B  Murat 1B  Clarence 1B
Adem 1B  Anna 2L  Cherilyn 2L
Andrea 2L  Chloe 2L  Jacob 2L
Gianne 2L  Cameron 3R  Aysha KM

Happy Harmony Day - Poems by 5/4 G Students

Harmony
I see peace
I see fun

People should be included old or young

I think of life
I think of love I think of all
They all become one

I think of friendship
I think of people getting along

By Jasmine

Harmony
Harmony makes me smile
Harmony keeps me safe
Harmony makes me clap
Harmony is peace
Harmony belongs to everyone

By Yasmin

Harmony
Harmony is happiness
Harmony is when you give a hand
not a fist

Harmony is when you feel a smile
Crawling along on your lips
Harmony is accepting people in any activity or place
Harmony is happiness
Harmony to all.

By Noah

Harmony
If you’re slim or tall,
Big or small,
If you want to be free,
No problem at all.

If you’re a man or a woman,
A father or a son.
You’re allowed to choose,
Where you belong.

Cultures coming together,
From country to country,
If we all get along,
We can be who we are.

Laughing, smiling and other joyful things
will make the world a peaceful, harmonious place.

By Rhys
NEWS FROM THE CREATIVE ARTS ROOM

In Creative Arts the students of Gardeners Road have enjoyed learning about and experimenting with a range of percussion instruments. Here are some of their beautiful artworks showing some of the instruments they have played to a range of patterns and music.

The Cat In The Hat
The students have also started discovering the world of the amazing Dr Suess. Here are some of their Cat in the Hat portraits.

I am so proud of our amazing artists. Keep up the great work.
Mrs Anderson (Creative Arts Teacher)
P & C News 2013

A big thanks to those who attended the bowling night meet and greet. It was a great night out and opportunity for families to meet one another. The kids really enjoyed themselves and one lucky family won a bowling party thanks to the generosity of Manhattan bowls.

Easter Raffle
Thank you to the generosity of our families for their chocolate egg donations for the Easter Raffle. There is still time to donate an egg and you can do so 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.

Gardeners Road Weekly Markets
Markets have started at the school every Saturday from 8-2 and the P&C have the opportunity to have two stalls every week (for free!). A sub committee has been set up to consider ideas and how we can support not for profit community groups associated with our school, teachers and students. If you are able to volunteer your time one Saturday, know someone who wants to run a stall to raise funds for a charity or not for profit organisation or have some ideas as to the type of stall we could run, please email Miriam on creativitywild@hotmail.com

**The P&C will be running an Easter Raffle stall at the market this Saturday 23rd March, please drop by and say hello**

Second Hand Uniform Shop
Open first Wednesday of every month from 830am. Thank you to families for your donations. If you have any old uniforms to donate, please drop them at the office. Items sold from $2

How to contact the P & C to find out more or to offer help
Attend a P&C Meeting (next meeting Tuesday 2nd April in the staff room opposite the kindergarten rooms @ 630pm), contact us via Facebook or talk to a committee member in the playground.

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

👍 Like