A big welcome to all returning and new members of our school community! We have determined our student numbers for the start of the year and the children will be placed in their new classes before the end of this week.

**STARTER PACKS**

Thank you to all the parents who have ordered their children’s starter packs for the year. Many have been delivered to the school already and we have kept a record of those received. They will be distributed before the end of the week. Stationery and textbooks required by the students this year are provided in the packs.

Could you please provide students Years 1-6 with a pencil case for the year. We didn’t include them in the packs this year as we experienced some problems with them last year.

**PUNCTUALITY**

Punctuality is a habit that serves us well throughout our lifetime. It is a sign of respect and good manners. Please ensure your children arrive at school before 8.55 so that they start the school day with the rest of their class. Every minute missed is a lost learning opportunity!

The beginning of the year is the best time to establish good habits, ensuring the morning is well planned and organised so all students can be at school on time. Teacher supervision begins at 8.30 in the playground.

**ONLINE LEARNING**

The school purchases licenses for Reading Eggs (K-2), Reading Eggspress (Y3-6) and Mathletics (K-6) at a bulk rate that enables us to only charge $10 for each online program. This gives the students access both at school and home. Please read the note sent home today to ensure you have paid for this for your children.

**SCHOOL MAGAZINE**

Last year we introduced School Magazine for students Years 3-6. These were very popular with the students and a highly valuable component of our literacy program. The cost $10 for each child and the children receive ten magazines a year – one each school month. At the end of the year the children are able to keep all their magazines. Please read the note sent home today to ensure you have paid for this for your children.

Cheryl Glover  
Principal
Dear Parents & Carers,

Due to a successful year last year, Book Club is back in 2013!

Book Club magazines are being distributed to students in Years 1 to 6 this week (Tuesday or Wednesday). Orders are due back by **Tuesday 19 February 2013**. Once again, students have the opportunity to purchase great books, software, DVD’s etc on a variety of themes for great prices!

Once you and your child have had a look at the magazine and have decided that you would like to purchase resources follow the following steps.

1. **Place your order form identifying what you would like to order, along with correct money in a clearly labelled envelope with your child’s name & class on the front office.**

2. **Place the envelope in the box clearly labelled “Book Club Orders”**.

3. **A parent helper will collect your money and order form and then process your request.**

4. **A few weeks later you will receive your order to your classroom.**

When you order from Book Club you are also helping our school ‘McCallums Hill Public School’ in receiving extra resources.

Remember please make cheques payable to: **Scholastics Australia**.

Please note that no late orders will be accepted.

Thanking you all for your support.
The P&C would like to extend a very warm welcome to the new families and students joining our school community in 2013 and to the returning students and their families.

The following are your elected representatives:

President: Bassima

Vice Presidents: Julie-anne and Melissa

Treasurer: Angie

Secretary: Tracey

We meet monthly to support the school and make it a better place for our children. It is a forum to find out what is happening, hear the principals report, raise concerns, make a comment, ask questions and meet other parents and share a laugh. We also fundraise to provide facilities and equipment that are not provided under current government funding.

Our next meeting is on February 22nd @ 9am in the staffroom. Keep an eye on this newsletter and the board in the playground for upcoming meetings and P&C events.

We will be holding a morning tea at 9am on 15th February in the staffroom for all parents and caregivers. Come along and meet us and some of the parents at your school.
A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child’s health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter’s health needs or as otherwise required by law.
PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

STARTS WEDNESDAY 13TH FEB 2013
10am – 12 noon unless specified

Tafe Course, Work Skills, Life skills, Parenting Skills Group, Social Group and Recreational Activities .......
All Welcome for Parents with Children 0-12 yrs

Opportunities
Develop skills and confidence, socialise with others

Information Session
WEDNESDAY 13TH FEB AT 10AM TO DISCUSS THE TAFE COURSE FOR THE 1ST TERM OF 2013
Morning tea supplied

TO APPLY: Come to the Information Session 10am, 13th February 2013 @Riverwood Community Centre, 151 Belmore Rd, Riverwood
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: For Parents with children 0-12 yrs. This Course is delivered in Partnership with TAFE and Held at Riverwood Community Centre FEES: This course is FREE. There is child minding available. Bookings are essential after the information session on the 13th Feb. This course is held at
START: Tues 12th Feb 2013   4-5pm   5yrs to 12 yrs. (limited spaces, so book early)

OPPORTUNITIES:
- For your child to have fun, keep active and participate in an 8 week Sports program which is subsidised by AFL, Riverwood Community Centre and local clubs
- Learn New skills and gain confidence
- Enjoy sporting activities and a Healthy afternoon tea

PRIZES FOR EACH CHILD
- Kids who complete the 8 week program each Tuesday at 4-5pm will receive at the end of the 8 weeks a AFL Football
- Last day BBQ and celebration
- AFL Show bag and a Prizes

TO APPLY: Please phone Mariam or Kerrie 9533 0100 or email familysupport@riverwoodcommunity.org.au or register at the reception at Riverwood Community Centre, 151 Belmore Rd, Riverwood NSW 2210

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: To be eligible for this course you must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident. FEES: This sports program has been heavily subsidised so will cost only $10 per child for the complete 8 weeks each Tuesday for 1 hour, including afternoon tea, and presents. If you wish for your child to participate and cannot afford the fees please speak to us. Bookings are essential familysupport@riverwoodcommunity.org.au
Children’s Vision

Good vision is important for your child’s educational, physical and social development and to help them reach their full learning potential. Many children continue to experience undetected and unnecessary vision problems and often they assume that how they see is normal.

It is up to us, their teachers and parents, to be able to recognise the signs of a vision problem, and to help children look after their eyes.

As part of the 2013 Optometrists Association Australia Children’s Vision campaign, we hope to help parents to detect potential vision problems in children early, and to teach children about their eyes and the importance of good vision.

Recognising eye problems in children

Symptoms of eye problems include:

- complaints of blurred vision, headaches, or sore eyes
- delayed progress in reading ability
- a turned eye, red or watery eyes, and frequent blinking
- poor hand-eye coordination in sports
- losing their place or omitting words and skipping lines when reading

Contact us or your local optometrist for a copy of the Children’s Vision Parent Guide or visit the website: www.optometrists.asn.au/childrensvision

Optometrists Association Australia recommends that children’s eyes be checked regularly throughout their school life, and immediately on observing any problems with their eyes or vision.

Local optometrist Dr Nadine Kamareddine
United Medical Centre
116 Haldon Street
Lakemba NSW 2195
Ph: (02) 9759 0947
e: blexleyeye@optusnet.com.au

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Competition starts March 2013

Register now and receive a FREE 7 day trial* to our Health & Fitness Club

Register & receive a FREE 7 day gym trial!
FREE fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier and happier!

Do you have children 7-13 years old?
Do you think they may be above a healthy weight?

The Go4Fun Program is an established healthy lifestyle program to improve health, fitness, self-esteem and confidence in children above their ideal weight.

What happens in the Go4Fun Program?

The program runs once a week for 2 hours for 10 weeks over the school term. Sessions include: games, activities and swimming for kids; easy, effective ways to improve your child’s self-esteem and confidence; demonstrations, games and tips on healthy foods, label reading and portion sizes; and a fun supermarket tour!

Sydney Local Health District has 15 FREE places available at your local programs: Roselands Aquatic Centre, Central Avenue, running on Wednesdays 4.30-6.30pm in Term 1 2013, starting Wednesday 6th February. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis. Children need to be 7-13 years old and above their ideal weight to attend. A parent or carer must accompany each child to every session.

To find out more contact 1800 780 900 or visit www.mendcentral.org and click on ’Australia & NZ’. 