Dear Parents and Friends of SGS,

Dear Parents,
Welcome to the new term. I hope that everyone had a refreshing break and that we are ready for a very special term.

ANZAC Day
Thank you to all those families who were able to support the many ANZAC services/marches in our local communities on Monday. It is very important that we encourage students to be connected to such a significant national event and help them to understand the significance of ANZAC Day. I have had very positive feedback from those who organised the ceremonies as to their appreciation of the students’ attendance. We also held our own ANZAC service at school on Tuesday morning. We were very fortunate to have Commander Dave Graham from the Royal Australian Navy as our special guest speaker. He shared a very positive message with us that encouraged us all not to believe, ‘it is all about me’. The sacrifice of service men and women has enabled us to enjoy the wonderful country that we live in today. Abby McDonald was also able to share with us her experience last year at Gallipoli and reinforced the impact of a close encounter with the site of the original ANZAC landing. This was a very significant way to commence the term.

We had a number of families arrive for Open Day, as they consider bringing their children to SGS for their education. It is always good to consider what we are offering and share that with new families.

The new building continues to take shape; the bricklayers are now on-site. The builders are on programme and the progress is very exciting.

National Primary Games and TAS Rugby Carnival
At the beginning of the holidays, Primary teams in Netball, Hockey and Rugby (U10s) represented us at the National Primary Games in Tamworth. These teams performed very well and the students gained a great deal from the experience. At the same time the Open Primary Rugby team played in the TAS Rugby Carnival also achieving some very good results and improving their rugby. All reports are that the students also represented us with pride and in an excellent manner. My thanks to the staff and parents who made these opportunities available.

KYCK
On the same weekend, a bus load of students participated in the KYCK Conference, a Youth Christian conference, in the Blue Mountains. These students enjoyed a weekend of very high quality Bible talks, wonderful fellowship and worship with thousands of other young people from across the state. Thanks also to the staff who arranged this valuable weekend away.

Our yearly Fete is fast approaching and the Fete Committee have been busily preparing for the weekend. I encourage everyone to be involved as much as you possibly can; the Fete is a wonderful community time as well as a significant fundraiser for the P & F. I look forward to working alongside many of you over this time.

Please pray for rain which is so critical to our area, and especially to those families who rely on it for their livelihoods.

Paul Smart
Principal
SATURDAY MAY 7, 2016
Markets: 9.00am - 3.00pm | Fete: 12.00pm - 4.00pm (after Parade)

- Flower Stall
- Sourdough Bread Stall
- Food Stalls
- Market Stalls
- Cupcake Competition
- Animal Corner, including Camels
- Second Hand Book Stall
- Jar Tombola
- Crockery Chaos
- Amusement Rides
- Apple Bobbing
- Balloon Dart Game
- Face Painting...
  and so much more

Fete Inquiries: 0419 449 976
Stall Inquiries: markets@sgs.nsw.edu.au
Welcome back students and families to another new and exciting term. I trust the holidays have been an enjoyable and refreshing break and I hope perhaps that some of your time was able to be spent lost in the pages of a good book (or two). I’d love to hear about any reading adventures students or families enjoyed over the break - particularly if they involved books on the web-link, which I shared last term. http://community.today.com/parentingteam/post/23-childrens-books-not-to-miss-and-why

Do let me know your thoughts about any books which were your favourites amongst this list.

One book I really enjoyed over the holidays with my granddaughter, Matilda, was ‘Watch Me Throw the Ball’, by Mo Willems. A very gifted author and a great reminder about playing to have fun. I would thoroughly recommend it.

In that spirit of having fun my congratulations go to all students who participated, both at the National Primary Games and the TAS Primary Rugby Carnival, at the start of the holidays. It was a great joy to spend time in Tamworth and Armidale sharing with all the teams as they competed and I was thrilled our students were able to enjoy these very special opportunities. All teams involved, (Hockey, Netball, Under 10s Rugby and the Primary Rugby 1st XV) were exemplary in their behaviour off the field and certainly made us all very proud through their efforts on the field. The sportsmanship, teamwork, skill development, perseverance, and wonderful sense of enthusiasm and fun were such a delight to watch and share in. I do want to acknowledge and sincerely thank the coaches, managers and many supportive parents who made this possible. What wonderful memories will be taken away by the students from these activities? 10 out of 10 from me to all involved!

Thank you to those students who turned out to represent our School at the various ANZAC Day commemoration services on Monday. This is a very important day in our national calendar and a wonderful opportunity to instil in our children a greater awareness of history, a greater sense of values, life perspectives and a deeper appreciation for the service and sacrifice of those we remember. I was greatly encouraged to see so many at the Dawn Service in Scone and also privileged to join such a strong turnout at the Muswellbrook March. Thank you parents again for your support.

A number of our Primary girls pursued their interest in cattle activities over the holidays and I was delighted to chat with them this week about their achievements. Montana and Matilda Cronin, together with Zara, Audrey and Olivia Gill, all travelled to Albury/Wodonga, where they competed in the inaugural 2016 Woodburn Murray Grey National Junior Stock Show. Each of the girls competed in a range of respective parading and show classes with considerable success.

Zara: 2nd Parading, 4th Junior Judging
Audrey: 2nd Parading, 4th Junior Judging, 4th Herdsman, 5th Steer Class
Olivia: 1st Junior Judging, 2nd Heifer Class, 4th Herdsman, 4th Parading
Matilda: Champion Exhibit, Champion, Grand Champion, 2nd Parading, 5th Parading
Montana: Champion Junior Herdsman, Champion Junior Judge, 2nd Parading

Grace Inder, also a cattle enthusiast, headed north-west to Gunnedah where she competed in the Gunnedah Show, gaining 4th in Parading and 5th in Junior Judging. Congratulations girls on your success and more so on your enthusiasm, hard work, initiative and determination to be involved.

Our Primary Leaders will participate next Monday in the GRIP Primary Leadership Seminar in Tamworth. This seminar will give the students many practical ideas to develop their leadership skills, complementing the inspirational nature of the earlier National Young Leaders’ Day in Sydney. It is a very ‘hands on’ programme, with lots of opportunity for interacting and working with leaders from other local schools, as well as amongst themselves as a leadership team. I’m sure the students will be keen to share their reflections when they return.

NAPLAN will be held in Week 3 for all students in Years 3 and 5. An information letter was emailed last term. Please speak to your child’s class teacher if you have any concerns or questions.

Good Humour for the Week

I heard about a couple who attended a fancy dress party in the holidays. The man carried his girlfriend to the party on his back and when they arrived at the door, he said, “We came as a turtle.” “So who is she?” asked the doorman. The man replied, “That’s Michelle.”

Congratulations to Matilda Raphael (Year 6 Blue), Grace Pratley (Year 6 Gold) and Hamish Davidson (Year 2 Gold) who are all celebrating birthdays this week. I do wish these students all the best as they enjoy this special milestone and share the time with family and friends.
From the Chaplain

It’s dangerous to stand ‘in the gap’. To ‘stand in the gap’ means "To expose one’s self for the protection of something; to make defence against any assailing danger; to take the place of a fallen defender or supporter."

And that’s what our fallen serviceman and women did. They stood between safety and chaos, between peace and anarchy. They did the work we could not do; they went to places many would not go, with courage most don’t possess. They ‘stood in the gap’ for us. And for that we are grateful. Not many could possibly understand what our fallen men and women did. We need those who will ‘stand in the gap’.

Jesus said, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man will lay down his life for his friends." Here, Jesus is highlighting a quality to be admired and respected. Laying one’s life down for another. I would call this ‘standing in the gap’. Jesus is actually also talking about Himself as He, not long after giving this ‘speech’ to His disciples, laid down His life for humanity also. Jesus ‘stood in the gap’ between good and evil so that those who put their trust in Him will know peace, in this life and the next. My hope and prayer for all of us is that we may come to know that Jesus also ‘stands in the gap’ for us. I hope you may be encouraged, through times that are tough, that there stands One who knows what it’s like to ‘stand in the gap’, to offer a life to save others. May we be stirred, when we think of ANZAC sacrifices, to look to Jesus; the One who laid His life down for us.

Weekly Chapel Bible passages and relevant links can be found at twitter.com/sgschapel
In Prayer this week:
Reflect on: John 15:9-15

Give thanks for: The sacrifice of Jesus made so that we can be friends with God and have new life; The sacrifices made by the ANZAC’s and those who currently serve our country in the armed services; The gift of faith in Jesus; the many opportunities to be involved in diverse school activities; Parents, teachers and supporters who truly care for us
Pray for: Fete preparations; For the school building project; For families and students who are ill or struggling at the moment; Year 3 and Year 10 students; For your son or daughter’s teacher/s! (specific prayer requests can be sent to prayers@sgsNSW.edu.au to be prayed for by our weekly prayer group- not published in newsletter)

Rev’d Nate
natkinson@sgs.nsw.edu.au
ANZAC Day Dawn Services and Parades - Scone, Muswellbrook, Aberdeen, Gundy, Murrurundi, Merriwa and Willow Tree
National Primary Games, 2016
Rugby, Tennis, Hockey and Netball
You are invited to
Families Together
this Sunday
1 May

11am at St Luke’s Church
A short child focused service, followed
by craft for children, real coffee for
adults and lunch together

Come and bring the family

RSVP for catering purposes by the day before
Jenny Sylvester – 0409 818977 or jennys12@tpg.com.au
**Community Notices & News**

**For Your Diary**

**Term 2: Tuesday 26 April 2016 - Friday 24 June 2016**

**Week 1 (B)**

**Thursday 28 April**
Years 9, 10 & 11 Drama students to Belvoir State Theatre

**Friday 29 April**
Quirindi Horse Sports
Year 9 History Excursion to Tamworth
Year 10 Ag students to Tocal

**Sunday 1 May**
Rycott Ag Camp until Wed 4 May

**Week 2 (A)**

**Monday 2 May**
Rycott Ag Camp until Wed 4 May
Year 6 GRIP Leadership Conference
Years 9 & 10 Elective Geography Excursion
HRIS Soccer Open Boys & Girls
Scone Horse Sports

**Tuesday 3 May**
Rycott Ag Camp – return
Meet The Music Years 11 & 12 Music
Year 12 PDHPE Excursion to Strathearn
CIS AFL Secondary Trials
Sing Out Loud Together – Year 6 Gold
CIS Secondary Rugby League Trials

**Wednesday 4 May**
Rycott Ag Camp – return
Year 9 Ag Fieldwork

**Friday 6 May**
HRIS Secondary Cross Country
HRIS Primary Cross Country

**Saturday 7 May**
Scone Horse Parade
SGS Fete Day

**Sunday 8 May**
Year 6 students depart for Canberra to 12 May

**Week 3 (B)**

**Monday 9 May**
NAPLAN Years 3, 5, 7, & 9 to 12 May

**Tuesday 10 May**
Year 12 Biology Excursion

**Thursday 12 May**
Years 11 & 12 Industrial Excursion, Tamworth
Year 6 Canberra – return

**Friday 13 May**
Scone Cup – Pupil Free

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**Canteen Roster**

**Term 2 - Tuesday 26 April to Friday 24 June 2016**

**Week 1 (B)**

**Thursday 28 April**
Fiona Bailey, Pip Bishop

**Friday 29 April**
Fiona Bailey, Rachel Nugent

**Week 2 (A)**

**Monday 2 May**
Jenny Crackett, Maxine Cronin

**Tuesday 3 May**
Fiona Bailey, Bernadette Holz

**Wednesday 4 May**
Fiona Bailey, Amanda Dowell

**Thursday 5 May**
Jenny Crackett, Sally Devenish

**Friday 6 May**
Jenny Crackett, Meegan O’Neil, Keren Manning

**Week 3 (B)**

**Monday 9 May**
Jenny Crackett, Danielle Saw

**Tuesday 10 May**
Fiona Bailey, Bronwyn Redgate

**Wednesday 11 May**
Fiona Bailey, Megan O’Sullivan

**Thursday 12 May**
Jenny Crackett, Karen Johnson

**Friday 13 May**
Scone Cup Day – Pupil Free

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