Welcome Back to Term 2!

Term 2 is always a very busy term with NAPLAN, assessment tasks, Semester 1 reports and Parent/Teacher interviews. I wish all the students the best of luck for the upcoming term.

Uniform—Change over date

Students are required to wear their Winter Uniforms during Terms 2 and 3. I am happy to allow a one week transition period. By Monday 9 May, all students should be wearing their Winter School Uniform.

2017 Kindergarten Enrolments

Have you enrolled for Kindergarten 2017 yet? I would like to remind all our existing parents that if you have a son or daughter, relative or friend who is intending to enrol in Kindergarten in 2017, they must complete their application form as soon as possible and submit it to the School Secretary, Ms Kiahidis.

School Arrival Time

Parents and caregivers must ensure that their children arrive at School on time each morning in order to develop a regular routine. The morning bell rings at 8:35am. Parents must ensure that their children are at School on time to start the first lesson. It is extremely disruptive to the class when students arrive late and the teacher has to explain the learning activities planned, several times in the first 15 minutes. A reminder also that the names of students arriving late are recorded and these late days are entered onto the student’s School Report.

Student Banking

School Banking is continuing in Term 2 with the Commonwealth Bank. The program teaches children about the importance of saving and money management. Students wishing to bank must bring their bank books to School and hand them to their class teachers on Thursday morning. Happy saving!

Co-curricular Classes

Our fantastic co-curricular Program for Years 3-6 will begin again in Week 2 (Monday 9 May).

The classes are as follows:

Cooking Club: 3:15-4:00 pm
Mrs Dinoris
Mrs Apostolou

Please ensure that students are picked up promptly at 4pm.

Church Attendance Years 1 and 2

Church attendance has been scheduled for Sunday 29 May for Years 1 and 2. Please meet your teachers at the front of the church hall foyer by 10am for entry into the church. Please be advised that students will need to be picked up straight after church so we encourage parents to stay and take part in the Sunday mass which should be finished by 11 am.
School Fees
Any outstanding Term 1 fees need to be paid to the Bursar as soon as possible. A reminder that Term fees are payable a term in advance.

NAPLAN Testing
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy
The purpose of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is to assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The results of these tests will provide useful information for teachers and parents. In particular, they will help assist teachers in their ongoing efforts to address the literacy and numeracy needs of their students.

Testing for Years 3 and 5 will take place on the following days:
Tuesday 10 May—Language Conventions and Writing
Wednesday 11 May—Reading test
Thursday 12 May—Numeracy test
Friday 13 May—A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who were absent.

Half Yearly Exams
The Half-Yearly Examinations for all students in Years 3-6 will take place as follows:

Monday 23 May—Writing Exam & Greek Exam
Tuesday 24 May—Comprehension & Language Exam
Wednesday 25 May—Mathematics Exam

Best of luck to all the students in their examinations!

ICAS
Primary students in Years 3-6 have the opportunity to take part in the external competitions set out by Educational Assessment Australia of the University of NSW. Students may take part in the following competitions:

Wednesday 15 June—Writing—$19.00
Tuesday 2 August—English—$9.00
Tuesday 16 August—Mathematics—$9.00

Even though the competitions are not compulsory, the students are encouraged to participate so that they are exposed to different forms of testing. At this stage we are only collecting money for the Writing Competition. If you would like your child to participate in the writing competition, please pay $19 to the class teacher by Monday 9 May.

Debating
The School Debating Team competes annually in the IPSHA Debating Competition. The team will be taking part in their first debate for the year on Friday 20 May against Danebank College. Debating training sessions will commence on Wednesday 4 May between 7:50 am—8:35 am and will continue during Terms 2 and 3. Training sessions will be held in the 1B classroom with the Debating coach Ms Pappas. Good luck to the team for their upcoming season of Debating.

Chess
Lunch Chess Club commenced on Tuesday 21 April and will continue every Tuesday for 10 weeks during Terms 2 and 3. Students will be coached by an experienced chess instructor. Students need to forward their payment of $75 to their class teacher ASAP.

Maths Olympiads
Maths Olympiads classes will commence in Week 2 on Thursday 5 May. Students will need to arrive at School by 7:45 am. Classes will take place in the 3B classroom with Ms Koliris. The Maths Olympiads Competition will involve 5 tests, taking place over Terms 2 and 3. Students will be preparing for the tests in class by completing a variety of challenging problem solving questions.
Excursions....

Kindergarten
Kindergarten will be attending an excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm, Fairfield on Friday 20 May as part of their English unit ‘The Farm’. The cost of the excursion is $50. Please put the money in a sealed envelope with the child’s name on the front and hand it to your child’s class teacher by Friday 13 May. Students will need to bring their own packed recess, lunch and a water bottle. (No nut products). Students are to dress up as farmers for the day. They may wear a shirt with jeans or overalls and a farmer’s hat of course! Please note that in the event of wet weather, the excursion will be cancelled.

Year 6
On Thursday 12 May, Year 6 will be visiting Sydney Learning Adventures at Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, The Rocks. This excursion is part of their Science unit on ‘An Ancient Land’, where they will be exploring and investigating ‘Pieces of the Past’. The students are to arrive at school by 8.30am. They are to wear their winter sports uniform including their hat and bring a packed recess, lunch and their water bottle. The cost of the excursion is $36, payable to the class teacher by Friday 6 May. In the event of wet weather the excursion will proceed as planned and students will be required to bring wet weather gear.

Sport News......

Infants Athletics Carnival—Tuesday 3 May
The Infants Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 3 May at the Crest Athletics Track, McClean St, Bass Hill. We invite all parents to come along and cheer on our students on the day. Coffee, tea, drinks and a sausage sizzle will also be available on the day for parents and friends. Any parents who are able to help can contact Ms Michael, the School Bursar.

Summer PSSA Sport
Well done to all the students who took part in Summer PSSA. We’ve had some outstanding results in the competition so far. We look forward to the competition resuming late in Term 3.

Winter PSSA Sport and Training
The Winter PSSA Sport Competition begins in Week 1, Friday 6 May. Training begins on Thursday 5 May. Please note the following training schedule.

Boys soccer—Ms Koliris (Training on Thursdays at Bankstown Sports Complex 3.00pm to 4.00pm)
Girls soccer—Ms Gallo (Training on Thursdays at Bankstown Sports Complex 3.00pm to 4.00pm)
Netball—Ms Stamos (Training on Wednesdays—school playground 3.10 -4.00pm)
Newcombe Ball Boys—Ms Phillips (Training on Thursdays lunch in the school playground).
Newcombe Ball Girls—Ms Pozoglou (Training on Thursdays—school playground 3.10pm to 4.00pm)

Sport Bus / Transport Levy
The Term 2 bus levy of $30 is due on Friday 6 May. Please ensure that all bus levy payments are made by the due date.

Last month....

Parent/Teacher Night
Thank you to all the parents who came to see their child’s teacher on our scheduled Parent/Teacher Interview evening. These Parent/Teacher interview evenings are scheduled at the end of Term 1 to help facilitate meaningful communication between the teacher and the parents and to address any issues or concerns at an early stage in the year. I commend each parent for taking the time to come and discuss their child’s progress with the staff, and in this way supporting their child in their studies. I encourage parents to continue to monitor their child’s progress and recommend that if they have any questions or concerns, to contact their child’s class teacher.

25th March Performances
Years 5 & 6 put on some excellent performances during our recent 25 March National Day Assembly. The afternoon showcased a variety of songs, poems and dances. Congratulations to all our students and their teachers for their fantastic performances.
P and F News ....

Mother’s Day Stall
The P & F Committee will be holding a Mother’s Day stall on Thursday 5 May. If you would like your child to purchase a gift, return the money to the class teacher by Wednesday 4 May. All gifts cost $8 each. Volunteers are needed to help with the stall. Please call Ms Michael, the School Bursar, if you are able to offer your services on the day.

Mother’s Day High Tea
To celebrate Mother’s Day, the P & F Committee will be holding a Mother’s Day High Tea on Friday 6 May in the St Euphemia School Hall (New) between 1-3pm. The cost of the High Tea is $20 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the School Office by Tuesday 3 May. All funds raised will go towards a stage curtain for the new school hall.

Easter Raffle
A reminder that the Easter raffle will be drawn on Thursday 5 May. Please return your tickets to your child’s class teacher ASAP. The first prize is the picture shown below. Good luck to everyone.

Primary School Disco
The Primary School Disco held on 11 March was a huge success. We would like to thank all the children, parents and staff that came along and supported the event. Also thank you to the parents and teachers that helped on the night. We raised $1,289. These funds will go towards the purchase of a stage curtain for the School Hall.

The P and F has an email. You can email event feedback, ideas and donations (prize or cash) to p&f@steuphemia.nsw.edu.au. This email address is for P and F items only.

The P and F would like to thank: Manhattan Superbowl, Louise Novelty Cakes and Cupcakes, Sweet Fantasy Cakes, Total Girl Magazine, K-Zone Magazine and Waratah Florist for their kind prize donations.

Upcoming Events
Mother’s Day Stall – Thursday 5 May
Mother’s Day High Tea – Friday 6 May
St Euphemia Fundraising Dance – 20 August
Father’s Day Stall – Thursday 1 September
Father’s Day Breakfast BBQ – Friday 2 September
St Euphemia Spring Fair – Sunday 18 September

The Building Fund
Please note that if you pay a one off amount of $2,000 you do not have to pay the building fund as part of the school fees in the consecutive years school fees, even if you have another child start at the school. In simple terms paying the $2,000 upfront is a savings of $600 for the first child. The savings increase with the more children you have enrolled at the school.
25th March Celebrations
St Euphemia College had an excellent turnout for the annual 25 March commemorating Greek Independence Day. It was a wonderful day of speeches, poems and of course, Greek dancing. Our School also commemorated the occasion by laying a wreath and singing the Greek and Australian National Anthems. Thank you to the students, parents and staff for making the effort to attend. It was wonderful to see such a huge turn out. Our school looked amazing as we entered The Opera House. Thanks to everyone who participated.
75th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete
To mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Crete, soldiers of the Greek Presidential Guard—the Evzones paid a visit to Sydney. Working alongside Sydney Light Rail and the New South Wales Police Force, they carried out the rare honour of standing guard at the Sydney Cenotaph in Martin Place. Crowds got to see the Evzones up close and personal as they marched down George Street and onto the Cenotaph every day from the onset of the Battle of Crete commemorations, right up to the commemoration of ANZAC Day.
Harmony Day
Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21 March each year. It’s a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The day is also the United Nation’s International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. St Euphemia College celebrated Harmony Day and used the day to help emphasise the importance of unity, understanding and tolerance. Students from K-6 all had the opportunity to do some Harmony Day artwork and also participate in a wide variety of activities with their class teachers including singing, drama and art.
Teddy Bears Picnic

Last month, another fun filled activity was organised between Kindergarten and their Year 6 buddies. To coincide with the Kindergarten students learning the letter ‘Bb’, the students of Kindergarten and Year 6 had the opportunity to bring in their teddy bears and have a Teddy Bears Picnic in the School playground. What a great morning it was for all! The Kindergarten students entertained their buddies with a performance of a collection of bear songs and enjoyed each other’s company during their picnic. It was a wonderful bonding experience between Year 6 and their buddies. We look forward to more activities in the near future.
Infants Easter Hat Parade

This year our School continued to showcase one of the best Easter Hat Parades. The students, as they do every year, sounded and looked fantastic with their wonderful hats and their beautiful voices. But the best part for the students was when the Easter Bunny showed up to watch the parade too! Certainly a highlight of the day which brought smiles to all our faces. The students entertained the audience with a selection of delightful songs and dances and paraded their very creative Easter hats for all to see.
Primary Athletics Carnival

Both teachers and students had a wonderful time at the St Euphemia Primary Athletics Carnival at The Crest last month. The students participated enthusiastically in their events and made the most of the fun day out. Congratulations to all the students who attained fantastic results in the various events. Also, a special thanks to the parents who assisted on the day. Congratulations to Athena for winning the Carnival. Well done to all the houses.

1st = Athena  
2nd = Apollo  
3rd = Aphrodite  
4th = Zeus
Incursion—Last Term
Brainstorm Incursion: ‘Being Brave’

Last month students from K-6 watched a production titled ‘Being Brave’ by Brainstorm Productions. This performance focused on giving students strategies to deal with their emotions through good communication, persistence and positive self talk, making them more resilient.

Excursions—Last Term....
Kindergarten
I liked the spiders and the webs.
Jonathan Dinoris KA

I saw the Australian bees and I went on a train ride.

Peter Vourtsanis KB
Year 1

On 30 of March, Year 1 visited Hazelhurst Art Gallery. They viewed the Year 12 Art Express exhibition and viewed art in its many forms. They also took part in two art classes, making a 3D clay fish and painting a still life portrait. The students had a great day exploring the art gallery and taking part in the hands on activities.

Year 2

On Monday, Year 2 went to the Royal Botanic Gardens for an excursion.

First we did dip netting. I caught a snail. Next we went into the garden to dig for creatures. I caught a centipede.

After we went into the classroom and did some activities. We looked at worms and stick insects.

Before we left, we went for a walk. I saw lots of things. It was a very good day.

Alexia Dunks 2A

On Monday, Year 2 went to the Royal Botanic Gardens for an excursion.

First we went dip netting. My team didn’t catch anything but other teams caught snails, tiny fish and tadpoles.

Next we went into the garden beds and caught bugs. I caught ants, a white beetle, a mosquito and a weird creature.

After that, we went into the classroom. I held a baby stick insect and an adult one.

Before we left, we went for a walk. I saw a banana tree, the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge.

It was the best excursion!!!

Alexander Rigas 2A
Year 3
On Wednesday 23 March, Year 3 together with their teachers had the opportunity to be part of a next generation Samsung Digital Discovery tour at the Sydney Opera House. Samsung Electronics Australia in partnership with the Sydney Opera House had launched a digital-learning app that allowed the Year 3 students to further experience and understand the iconic building which was part of their Science and Technology unit titled, ‘Buildings and Structures’. Guided by two very hilarious tour guides, the students explored the Sydney Opera House using Samsung Digital Tablets and discovered the extraordinary architecture, structure of theatres and acoustics of the famous structure. Overall, a very fun and educational day was had by all.

Year 4
On 9 March, Year 4 visited Wannabee’s Community Centre for their Term 1 excursion. We learned about shops and their services in the community. My favourite place of the vast sites on preview (The Construction Site, The Hospital, The Supermarket, TV Studio, The Fire Department, Café, Post Office and the Police Station) was the hospital because of the many wonderful services on offer. I also learned about the Nursery, the Operating Room and the Dental Clinic. I had a fun day and I am sure our teachers Ms Stamos and Ms Chalhoub had a great day too.

By Nathan Gregoriades (4A)

Year 5
Last Term, Year 5 visited the Nan Tien Temple which is the largest Buddhist Temple in the Southern Hemisphere. It overlooks Mount Keira and Mount Kembla. The students learnt many wonderful things that reinforce the HSIE topic covered in class. From creating a lotus flower, using origami, to blessing baby Buddha statues, eating traditional Buddhist monk cuisine and performing traditional Tai Chi, they all had a fantastic time.
Year 6
On Tuesday 29 March, Year 6 students, alongside their teachers had a lovely day out in Darling Harbour. Firstly, we all sat down on the benches and enjoyed our recess overlooking the gorgeous harbour water. We played for a while and off we went to the IMAX.

When we first arrived at the IMAX we were amazed as we were standing in the biggest IMAX in the world! We bought our Slurpee and went into the huge theatre. The screen was enormous and this meant that every seat in the house was a great seat.

Finally, the movie began. It was titled “The Forces of Nature”. The movie was about how the earth was formed and how it is today. It was describing how natural disasters occur and how it felt to be involved in such disasters. The documentary explained it in such good detail that I pictured myself in that very position! There was lots of explosions from volcanoes, harsh winds from tornados and massive under sea volcanic eruptions causing tsunamis. It was extraordinary to see how the earth was formed and how different things were back then to now!

After the documentary was finished, Year 6 went to have lunch. Year 6 students spilt up into groups with their friends and had a ball in the amazing playground. We had the chance to play on the big slides, the flying fox and the climbing ropes. We were all having so much fun although unfortunately we knew that the day had to end!

Overall, the excursion was a huge success with all the students thoroughly enjoying the day!

By Anastasia Lamprinos 6B

Wishing everyone a wonderful term ahead.
Ms Xanthoudakis - Director of Primary