Welcome back..............

I hope you had a safe and relaxing break with your families and are ready for a busy Term 4. A reminder that students return in their summer uniform for Term 4.

Kindergarten 2017 - Orientation Day

On Tuesday 8 November, St Euphemia College will be holding its Kindergarten Orientation for the newest members joining our School community in 2017. Orientation Day will begin at 9:30am in the New School Hall and will include performances from the current Kindergarten classes as well as a tour of the School. Morning tea will be provided for the parents/caregivers and their children. After morning tea, the new students will have the opportunity to join the current Kindergarten students in their classes for some enjoyable learning activities. We look forward to seeing all our new students and their parents/caregivers on the day.

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2017

Kindergarten places are filling up very quickly. There are only a few vacancies still available. If you have not yet enrolled your child, please see Ms Kiahidis or Ms Tomaropoulos urgently. A limited number of vacancies are also available in some other grades. If any parents have relatives or friends that are interested in enrolling their children in any of the other grades, they should contact the Primary School Secretary and arrange for an Enrolment Pack to be sent out.

School Fees

A reminder that School fees must be paid prior to the commencement of each term. If there are any parents who have not yet paid, please make arrangements to do so as soon as possible. Thank you to the parents who are up to date with their payments.

Yearly Exams

The Yearly Exams for the Primary grades have been scheduled as follows:
Monday 24 October—Writing Exam and Greek Exam
Tuesday 25 October—Comprehension and Language Exam
Wednesday 26 October—Mathematics Exam
Best of luck to all the students!

OXI Day - Sunday 30 October

Friday 28 October commemorates the anniversary of OXI day when former military general and Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas said ‘No’ to an ultimatum made by the Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini to allow Italian forces to occupy strategic locations in Greece or otherwise face war back in 1940. We remember this day in our Greek calendar with a sense of pride and gratitude. On Sunday 30 October, at the conclusion of the Church service, some students from the Primary School will be taking part in a short celebration to commemorate this event.

Preparing for Holy Communion

Some parents in the Primary school have asked me how they should prepare their child for Holy Communion. There are some simple guidelines which the Church has taught us. Both children and adults need to approach Holy Communion with reverence and faith in God. We prepare by praying and fasting. The issue of fasting is confusing for many parents. We normally fast every Wednesday and Friday of the year and during important feasts such as Easter and Christmas. Before Holy Communion we should try and fast for a couple of days (if we don't fast properly throughout the year). On the morning when we receive Holy Communion we fast completely, meaning no food or drink (no Breakfast). The only exceptions are those who are sick or mothers of young babies. The service usually finishes early enough and the children receive the 'antideron' (blessed bread) after Communion. Also, parents should be aware that Communion in our Church is reserved for Orthodox Christians (Greek, Serbian, Antiochian, Russian, Rumanian). You are welcome to discuss this further with one of the priests.
Taekwondo Champion— Anthony Zacharias
Congratulations to Anthony Zacharias from Year 2 who won a gold medal in the 2016 NSW Junior and Senior All Schools Taekwondo Tournament. Anthony competed against 40 children from his division with over 260 children in total competing in the tournament. Anthony won gold in his division in his first ever tournament. He has been training for the last 2 years and holds a blue belt. Congratulations Anthony!

Sport Bus / Transport Levy
The Term 4 bus levy of $30 is due by Friday 14 October. Please ensure that the money is paid to the class teacher.

Sport News........

Winter PSSA Grand Finals
Congratulations to our Boys Junior Newcombe Ball Team and Girls Senior Soccer Team who due to the washed out Grand Final were crowned joint premiers. A fantastic accomplishment for all the players and their coaches.

PSSA Summer Sport Competition
PSSA Summer Sport Summer PSSA competition resumed during Week 8 of Term 3. Training for the summer teams for Term 4 resumes on the following days and will continue until at least Week 3 depending if teams make the semi-finals and finals

Jnr Girls/Boys Basketball— Mr Nicodemou (Wednesday 12 October in the School Playground until 4:15pm)
Snr Boys/Girls Basketball B—Ms Chalhoub (Thursday 13 October in the School Playground until 4:15pm)
Snr Boys/Girls Basketball A—Ms Gallo (Thursday 13 October in the School Playground until 4:15pm)
Junior Cricket—Ms Pozoglou (Thursday 13 October at Bankstown Sports Complex until 4:00pm)
Boys T-Ball/Softball—Ms Vourtsanis (Thursday 13 October at Bankstown Sports Complex until 4:00pm)
Girls T-Ball/Softball—Ms Yiorkas (Thursday 13 October at Bankstown Sports Complex until 4:00pm)

A reminder to parents to please pick up their children from their respective training sessions promptly either from the park at 4:00pm or from School at 4:15pm. Parents are reminded not to leave siblings unattended at School during training.
Last month...

Debating
On Friday 9 September, our debating team versed Tara in their final round of the debating competition. The topic was that education is the key to success. It was a challenging but very insightful topic the students were delving into. They tried hard and it was close for both the affirmative and negative teams. Our affirmative team celebrated with a win but unfortunately our negative team just missed out. Overall all debaters tried very hard and should be proud of their efforts. Congratulations to all the students and we wish them luck in Gala day to be held in Term 4.

Public Speaking
In the final weeks of Term 3, all students who made it through to the semi-finals of the Public Speaking Competition then progressed into the Grand Finals. All students were well prepared and tried very hard delivering entertaining and engaging speeches. We would like to congratulate all students and teachers who were involved and made this program such a great success. Once again a big congratulations to all the students who participated.

The winners of the 2016 Public Speaking Competition are:
Mariah Philippou
Christopher James
Jonathan Kyriakidis
Peter Papaharalambous
Marissa Sentas
Georgia Gravaris
Mia Georgis
Athan Glekas
Georgia Lathourakis
Leander Koglu
Tiana Sentas
Nathan Gregoriades
Stephanie Gounaropoulos
Lachlan Mansour
Gabriella Benjamin
Anastacia Divanis
Anastasia Kyriakidis
Rosie Gounaropoulos
Anastasia Lamprinos
LAST MONTH......

Kindergarten Excursion– Centennial Parklands
I really liked the flying kites. – Reneee Kritikos KA
I liked seeing the black swans today. – Jonathan Dinoris KA
I made a kite and then I went into the park to fly it. – John Valaskas KB
I saw geese and swans in the water. – Maria Joannou KB

Kindergarten Excursion– The Gruffalo
I Liked the mouse in the play. – Jenny Tirekidis KA
I loved the Gruffalo because it was funny. – Thomas Papadam KA

Year 1 Excursion– Wildlife World Sydney
Last month, Year 1 visited Sydney Wildlife Zoo at Darling Harbour. The students loved meeting the Australian animals and getting up close with them. They also enjoyed the free time they had with their friends at Tumbalong Park.

“At the excursion I liked that we went to the park. I also liked seeing different types of animals” Michael Lignos.

“I enjoyed the excursion because we got to meet the animals. I also liked sitting near the trees to eat lunch and walking around with my friends” Peter Papaharalambous.

“I liked the zoo because there were different animals like snakes and kangaroos” Chrissy Glavas.
K-2 Pet Incursion
On Thursday 1 September, Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 all took part in the Responsible Pet Education Program. All students were excited to meet the pet for the day and learnt great insight as to how to be safe around dogs. It was also nice to see the students involved in role play and one on one time with the visiting pet.

Year 3 Excursion – Royal National Park
On Wednesday 2 September 2016, Year 3 together with their teachers and four parent volunteers visited the Royal National Park in Audley.

When we arrived, the rangers that were in charge of our group guided us to go to the look-out and see a magnificent view of the Royal National Park. What a sight it was! It was truly breathtaking. At this moment, our teachers thought it was a great opportunity to take a whole grade photo and have our recess. We did just that!

After our recess, we walked back to our meeting point and the guides met with us once again. We sat for a while at a small amphitheatre where the rangers introduced themselves and briefly spoke to us about a variety of interesting facts about the Royal National Park. Did you know the park was named ‘Royal’ because the Queen visited it in 1955? They continued speaking to us about a range of animals that were found in the park and then they showed us some examples. These examples were actually stuffed animals that a taxidermist put together.

Furthermore, our teachers selected 7 students who had the amazing opportunity to dress up in costume to show everyone the people that help the Royal National Park stay safe.

After the talk, we travelled down the Honeymoon Track to get to the lake that was at the bottom. It was quite tiring, but we all enjoyed it. Our rangers told us that we actually travelled 600 steps to get to the bottom!

We then gathered around the lake to have lunch. After lunch, we did our activities which consisted of the mini beast hunt and building a replica of the Royal National Park using whatever we found in the environment. Some groups found insects such as ants, spiders and tiny caterpillars. Soon after, we got together in groups again and designed a mini Royal National Park. We built the stairs we came down from, and the bridge we crossed over. We let our imagination run wild!

It was then time to travel back to school. We farewelled our awesome rangers and on the way back, we thought we were the luckiest grade to be given this opportunity to visit a world heritage site. Thank you to Ms Brazil and Ms Koliris for organising such an awesome day out!

by: Claudia Divanis 3A and Allan Dinoris 3B
Year 4 Excursion– Cockatoo Island

Last month, Year 4 went by ferry to Cockatoo Island. The history of the place dates back to the convict days. The buildings built from sandstone quarried on the island are just magnificent. We also enjoyed walking through the industrial precinct that still housed some of the old machinery from the ship building days. Cockatoo Island was the primary ship building and repair facility in the country. Up on top of the hill in the historic residence there was a great photographic display from the ship building period between 1857 and 1991. There is also a docks and ship design precinct. All are well worth the visit. I just loved the idea that you can go and camp on the island. What a fabulous view from your tent.

Year 5 Camp– Bathurst

On Wednesday 14 September, Year 5 went to camp to Mogo Zoo. Everyone arrived at School at about 6:30am. When we got to Mogo Historical Goldfields our tour guide, Trevor, gave us a tour of the Goldfields. We got to learn about the living conditions of convicts and how they used to pan for gold. Later on we made Damper and then we ate dinner which was schnitzel, boiled vegetables, mashed potato and bread. Afterwards we settled into our cabins and went to sleep. Mrs Phillips, woke everyone up to have breakfast. We had cornflakes, juice, and toast. We then got our suitcases and packed them onto the bus. We all said our goodbyes to our tour guide Trevor. We headed onto the bus to go to Mogo Zoo. We all looked at the animals and how they adapt to nature. Then we got on the bus and we watched a movie. When we arrived at School we all gave our parents a very big hug and went home to see our family. We all had lots of fun at our Year 5 camp!

Anastacia Divanis 5B  Andrea Koutsiofi 5B
Year 6 Camp – Canberra

It was a cold Monday morning at St Euphemia College. Excitement was running high and you could see happiness on everyone’s face. The day had arrived! It was our Year 6 camp! Endless amount of photos were taken and kisses from our parents as if they were never going to see us again.

Quick stop at the one and only McDonalds to fill our stomachs that were rumbling, and before you knew it we were back on the bus and had arrived at the Old Parliament House. Our tour guide Rachael took us into ‘The National Electoral Education Centre’ into a small room and showed us a video on what parliament is. We then learnt how to vote and we used our experience on an election, on which fruit is the best. Out to the beautiful Old Parliament gardens we ate our recess. Afterwards we were back on the coach travelling to the Australian War Memorial. Year 6 watched a sad documentary of world war that made us realise how lucky we are to be living in a free country like ours. We toured the Memorial in 4 groups and we were amazed by all the exhibits we saw which were bewildering. It was then time to show our respect at the War Memorial service for a nurse that showed great bravery in the world war.

Tuesday morning had come and we had a big day ahead of us. After breakfast we boarded the bus and we drove around all the embassies of all the different countries. Greece was the one we got to take a tour of. Afterwards, we went to Parliament House and took a tour with our tour guide (who was awesome) of the Senate and House of Representatives, and not to mention that we were very lucky to see the premier of Bankstown, Mr Jason Clare. The Royal Australian Mint was our next destination. Before we entered we had our lunch outside the building. A very nice tour guide took us around the Mint and talked about all the different coins they have accumulated over the years. We were lucky enough to make our very own coins. Questacon!! The greatest science museum alive. There was excitement on the bus. Everyone was so happy we had reached Questacon. We were just amazed with all the hands on activities. The best part of Questacon would have to be the free fall which was a 3 metre high slide. Our final destination for Tuesday was the AIS (the Australian Institute of Sport). First, we played all different types of sports, in an area with games such as soccer and basketball. It was fun competing against each other. We then took a tour of all the different facilities where our Australian Olympians train. We also got the opportunity to see our two Australian gymnasts train.

It was now Wednesday morning. Quick stop to the dining hall where we went to have our breakfast. We got back on the bus and headed to the Cyprus High Commission. They talked about the island and what makes it so unique. Our next stop was the National Film and Sound Archive. We watched a facilitated program on how films were once made. We had the opportunity to view a piece of the original Ned Kelly film. We departed from the Film and Sound Archive and travelled to Zone3 Laser. We were split up into 4 groups, 2 of the groups versed each other along with the teachers. Then the other 2 groups versed. We had 2 games each. The competition was miraculous, everyone wanted to win.

Unfortunately, our Year 6 camp was coming to an end. It was time to depart Zone3 Laser and travel back to St Euphemia College. It was an unforgettable experience for everybody. We laughed, we cried and we made many unforgettable memories.

By Leon Gravaris and Anastacia Kyriakidis 6A
Greek Incursion
On Wednesday 7 September, the students in Year 5 and 6 had the opportunity to view the theatrical production of the Hippo Theatre Group entitled: ‘A different kind of trip’ (Ένα ταξίδι αλλιώς’). After the performance the students participated in a drama workshop which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Combined Athletics and IPSHA Carnivals
St Euphemia College attended both the IPSHA Athletics and Combined Athletics Carnivals last month. Our students represented our school in a variety of running and field events. We were very proud of their efforts and achievements and commend them on their excellent behaviour on these days. Well done to our athletes.
Art Competition

Congratulations to the winners of the Book Week Art Competition. We were completely blown away with the talent of our students.

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Here are the winning drawings from our Book Week Art competition. Congratulations once again to the very deserving winners!

Paul Tsekenis—KA
Anastasia Theodolou—KA
Deanna Tzirkas—KB
Christopher James—KB
Achilles Rigas—1A
Chrissy Glavas—1A
Marissa Sentas—1B
Matthew Sorras—1B
Alexia Dunks—2A
Athan Giekas—2A
Daniel Ypermahou—2B
Mariah Mihalopoulos—2B
Leander Koglu—3A
Claudia Divanis—3A
Tiana Sentas—3B
Andreas Gavrielatos—3B
Marina Kyriacou—4A
Adam Demetriou—4A
Mary Glekas — 4B
Lachlan Mansour — 4B

Soultana Ponirou — 5A
Stefanos Roussos — 5B

Eleni Kalantzis — 5B
Angelo Kallianiotis — 5A

Jovan Jankovic — 6A
Joanna Karagiannis — 6A

Eleftheria Papoutsaki — 6B
Kosta Perdikaris — 6B
Australian Government assistance for National Capital excursion

Students from our school will soon be undertaking, or have recently undertaken, an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participate in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist you (the parent) in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) programme toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour are outlined elsewhere in the newsletter.

We hope that the excursion is a rewarding experience for all students.
Thank you
for your enthusiasm and excellent behaviour during your
Mogo Excursion: 14 – 15 September 2016

Congratulations!

ST EUPHEMIA COLLEGE

You are a credit to your teachers, your school and your community!!

Signed  Macquarie Educational Tours Team

Macquarie
EDUCATIONAL TOURS
Thank you
for your enthusiasm and excellent behaviour during your Canberra Excursion: 12 – 14 September 2016

Congratulations!

ST EUPHEMIA COLLEGE
You are a credit to your teachers, your school and your community!!

Signed Macquarie Educational Tours Team