

FACTA NON VERBA

Term 1 – 18. 03 .2009



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Building the Education Revolution (BER) is a \$14.7 billion Commonwealth Government's initiative to improve the quality of facilities in Australian schools. The Commonwealth aims to build learning environments to help children, families and communities participate in activities that will support achievement, develop learning potential and bring communities together. However, its first objective is to create jobs across Australia. The funds must be used immediately, so that the economic benefits occur now, when they are needed.

One of the priorities is: **Primary Schools for the 21st Century** which consists of the following:

*Building halls and libraries in those schools where these facilities do not exist, or are not considered adequate under the Primary School Facilities Standard

*Replacing demountables or other buildings that support long term enrolments with permanent buildings

*Refurbishment of existing facilities

*Projects which are coordinated within a community of schools to provide educationally beneficial outcomes.

It is important that you are aware that figures reported in the media suggesting total funding of \$3.2 million per school are incorrect. The Commonwealth has set out indicative funding caps for each school based on enrolment numbers of which \$3.2 million is the maximum. For Concord, with enrolments of 222 our funding cap is \$2 million dollars. Also remember these are indicative figures only and do not represent a set amount of funding for each school. However, we have been told that every school will have some funding for improvements to facilities.

Principals had to submit all nominations by 16 March 2009.

I submitted four applications for Concord. Fortunately I had the opportunity to discuss these at the P&C Canteen Meeting last Tuesday. Our applications are:

1. New separate School Hall with an attached new Canteen
2. New Canteen as a stand alone facility
3. Multi purpose building, consisting of rooms for art, music, science etc with an attached new Canteen
4. New Canteen and a refurbishment of the old Canteen into a student cooking facility.

I will discuss these projects again at the P&C Meeting on Wednesday night. Hopefully we will hear soon about what project/s will be funded for Concord.

Organisation

As you will read in Mr Goldie's note on our You Can Do It Program children will be discussing Organisation this term. Many students are arriving to school late due to this very skill – The following are things you or your child can do the night before to ease the morning rush; why not prepare a few things the night before.

**Iron clothes and have clothes, shoes and socks laid out.

**Help your child list all of their activities that need to happen in the week on a weekly planner

**Fill in the planner with the times that are set, such as time spent at school, sleeping, travelling to and from school and any regular out of school activities

**Get your child to allocate a regular homework time that suits them

**Prepare your child's lunch and pop it in the fridge.

**Help your child to pack their school bag, including all their homework, pencils, rulers etc

**Keep brushes, combs and hair bands in a regular place, easy to find

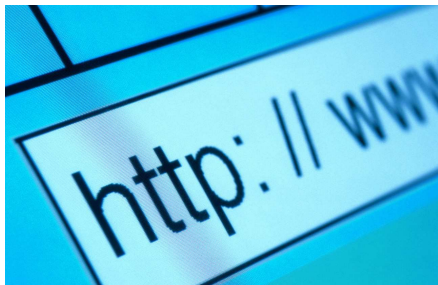
**Leave home 5 minutes earlier in case of traffic problems

** Ask them/Discuss: Are you ready for your day? Have you got everything you need?

Reminder about our Harmony Day celebrations on Friday 20th March. Hoping to see as many parents and other community members who can attend.

Have a great week, Pina Passarello

CYBERSMART **INTERNET SAFETY** **BROCHURES**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child will receive two brochures about your children's online safety with this week's FACTA. These brochures are a part of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) CyberSmart program designed to raise awareness of using the internet safely for enjoyment and learning.

Additionally, students will receive an additional two brochures regarding mobile phone safety and information for parents about internet safety with the last FACTA of Term 1.

Continuing this safety awareness program the school is looking to provide student and parent internet safety presentations run by the ACMA in Term 3. However, as the parent presentation requires a minimum of 25 participants per booking the school requires an expression of interest before a presentation can be arranged. It is projected that the presentations would take place at 9am or 2pm on a school day.

If you would like to know more about how to keep your children safe during their time spent with online activities Bebo, Facebook, Myspace and Runescape at a parent information session please fill out the expression of interest cut-off section at the bottom of this page and have your child return it to their classroom teacher.

Safe surfing!
CPS ICT Committee

CYBERSMART INTERNET SAFETY
PRESENTATION
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

I, _____
(print name) would like to express my interest in attending a parent internet safety information presentation in 2009.

Child's Name _____

You Can Do It!

This term the children are learning about one of the Five Foundations of the You Can Do It program. The Five Foundations are Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Confidence and Resilience. This term all the classes are focused on Organisation.

Organisation means...

Setting a goal to be successful / to do your best in your school work

Listening carefully to you teacher's instructions

Planning your time so that you're not rushed

Having all my supplies ready

Keeping track of your assignments' due dates

Some examples of Organised Behaviour are:

- making sure I understand my teacher's instructions before I begin work
- planning when I'm going to do my homework so I have enough time
- bringing to school important materials
- having a neat desk and school bag so I can find everything
- recording my assignments and their due dates
- handing homework in on time
- having neat folders with handouts

Peter Goldie

SOFTBALL UPDATE

Four rounds of the softball season have passed with one game cancelled due to wet weather. The Junior and Senior Boys teams have enjoyed a promising start to the season which can be contributed to their hard work and positive attitude.

Although the girls' teams have encountered a difficult start they are demonstrating a pleasing level of continual improvement their skills and team work with every game.

Following the final game for Term 1 against Strathfield North PS the softball season will recommence in Term 3. Students are reminded that they must wear mouth guards and shin pads to Tuesday training sessions and PSSA games.

Boys Softball Results				
	Juniors		Seniors	
vs Haberfield	W	17-8	L*	
vs Summer Hill	W	20-12	W	10-8
vs Enfield	L	13-11	W	24-12

* Loss via technical forfeit due to fielding 8 team members through player absence

Girls Softball Results				
	Juniors		Seniors	
vs Haberfield	L	18-14	L	16-7
vs Summer Hill	L	20-12	L	17-2
vs Enfield	L	23-18	L	17-9



NEWS FROM THE P&C

Canteen

Our Canteen Volunteers meeting and morning tea was held at school on Tuesday 10th March and was extremely well attended. Our thanks to everyone who came along and participated in the meeting, contributed morning tea, shared their thoughts and offered their suggestions for the best way forward.

As a result of the meeting we have formed a couple of sub-committees to co-ordinate operational and maintenance issues and asked all volunteers to nominate available days and times and the sorts of tasks which they would prefer to become involved in. If you were not able to come to the meeting but would like to offer your help, there are many jobs, big and small, which will help. Of course, there are tasks such as serving, taking lunch orders, doing the weekly shopping, preparing and distributing lunches, banking and many others. But there are also many smaller jobs which, shared amongst many, would certainly lighten the load for everyone. Please take a look at the list of smaller tasks which Julie Vellios has kindly put together.....

"These are the jobs which no one considers, but they are really important and basic to the running of the canteen. Any of these jobs can be done in less than ten minutes. People can access our canteen by asking for the key from the office. Money can be reimbursed to you for any purchase made. Getting involved may mean doing any of these jobs, even once a year would be a help.

- mopping the floor
- cleaning the fridge or freezer
- washing up
- cleaning the benches and/or shelves
- purchasing milk and /or bread and/or some fruit weekly
- purchasing spray and wipe or detergent or handwash monthly
- cutting up and possibly freezing pineapple or grapes or oranges

taking home tea towels to wash at the end of the week
refilling the iceblocks and/or dry snacks every so often
checking the stock
unpacking stock
restocking the fridge with water or juice or milk
emptying the bin
putting boxes into recycling

I think that the canteen is important for these reasons.....

It can be the first instance of a child gaining experience in dealing with money and in making choices regarding what food they like to actually put in their own mouths. This is no small thing. Imagine being 4 or 5 again and having a little bit of freedom to request and pay for something that you like. Imagine feeling THAT important again - that a grown up person is actually listening to your order and serving you with respect and kindness. It is also important that there is a facility where children without food, or enough food, can be provided with something nutritious on any given day. This may not be a constant need, but it is a need which must be met in any case. By us! It has been pointed out that it is necessary to provide lunches regularly and I think that this will be wonderful, provided that we get enough people to give their time to the canteen. I so hope that this happens. It seems to me that as we are all so time-poor, then sharing the load does make sense."
(Julie Vellios)

The canteen has been up and running for snacks at lunchtime and on Fridays after school for the past few weeks, thanks to the generosity of a group of volunteers who have offered to make rosters, co-ordinate stock orders and serve on the counter, amongst many other jobs. We aim to have lunch orders available on Mondays and Wednesdays from the start of term 2. If you can help out please contact **Jo Turner** via email at jast5@msn.com or call her on **9706 7614** to discuss your availability. Many hands really DO make light work! Please help where you can.



Next P&C Meeting

Our next meeting will be this Wednesday 18th March from 7pm in the staff room and we always aim to have the meeting over by 8.30pm at the latest. A warm welcome is extended to all so please do come along and join us. Some of the items on the agenda for this meeting will include the canteen, the recent Federal Govt School Grant, up-coming Fund-raising events and other P&C related school issues.

Kylie Montague, P&C President.

Harmony Day, Friday 20th March 2009

Reminder about our Harmony day celebrations. The key message of Harmony Day 2009 is **Everyone Belongs**. It's about community participation, inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Therefore all parents and other community members are welcome to attend our celebrations. As well as class activities students have been involved in this week the following events will take place on Friday.

The P&C will be holding a Welcome Morning Tea for parents from 10.30am. Tea and Coffee with a selection of cakes will be available, for a gold coin donation. Parents are also invited to bring along a picnic rug and at 11am go and sit with their child and share this event with them.

Morning Tea for students will be held from 11.00am. Students are invited to bring a plate of food from home that represents their cultural/ethnic background that will be shared with classmates.

Remember: Please send finger food, suitable for children that needs no re-heating so that it is easy to serve. Students with nut and other allergies can be seriously affected so please write down ingredients for any food sent in and attach this to the plate of food. Parents of children with allergies can send in separate food for their child as well. Please discuss with the class teacher.

Has your child bought in their message to write on their hand cut- out ??
Harmony Day Committee