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Austinmer PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal's Report for Wednesday 3rd August 2011

Buildings and Maintenance

Our Hall heaters have been installed. Whilst they do effectively heat the hall, they are very noisy. I believe that as a school and with P & C support, that we should complain about the design of these heaters. Please pop in and 'hear' what they are like when you get a chance.

New Server Success

We have waited a long time to make the successful transition to a new school server. Installed over the weekend of 18-19th June), the new unit is so much quieter and more stable. We still have some issues with power fluctuations, but these are slowly being sorted out.

Working Bee 19th June

We had our regular team of supports, but an amazing amount of work was completed. Whilst we had to leave some jobs, the students in school "Dirty Day" clean up certainly finished things off. Our collective thanks to Dan for coordinating the event, and the trees he sourced.

Nude Food Day

This Student Representative Council initiative was very well received across the school. It is this type of event, where we are working on making the SRC a more responsive group, that works on raising awareness to social issues in the school (rather than raising funds). The SRC is planning to revisit this exercise several times throughout the year.

Illawarra Music Festival Rehearsal, Banksia Opera House Concert Series & Southern Stars Dance Rehearsals

Preparations for both these three events are well under way. The students are excited, as are their teachers. My thanks to all of the parents who will be transporting, practicing and preparing their children for the performances.

Education Week

We have a fantastic week of events planned and trust that we will have lots of visitors to the school throughout the week. Teaching really is the only profession that works to truly create the future. I am very proud of all the achievements that happen in every classroom, everyday here at Austinmer and hope that we have hundreds of parents visiting us to get a taste of what learning is like here at Austinmer Public School.

2012 to 2014 School Plans

By the end of the year all public schools will need to complete their long term school planning for this triennium.

I believe it is important for our school community to be involved in this process and seek P & C support and suggestions for how this might be equitably achieved.

The school plans must follow the broad strategic directions of the NSW State Plan and the Department of Education and Communities plans, which should be released on 8th September.

Getting the plan right, will take time. Even without the state guidelines, we can be pretty sure of the major areas that we will need to follow. So the sooner we can gather a team started the better.

Noise Concerns with Hall Usage

I have received notifications of a neighbour's complaints to the Office of Environment and Heritage regarding excessive noise levels from our Trivia Night. As a school we do not ever want to upset our neighbours. Last Thursday Sheralee and I attended a meeting with the neighbour and hope to have a solution that will suit both the needs of the school and our sorted shortly.

Congratulations to our Senior Choir

Monday night our choir under the tutelage of Mrs Burns with Mrs Theo as support sounded beautiful. It was lovely to return to the Wollongong Town Hall and with Mrs Burns choral skills I can only see even more exciting performances in the future.

Congratulations also to our Trivia Team

As with all events, there must be one person who pulls it all together and full credit for the success of the night goes to Lorraine Holmes. Lorraine pulled together a top team including Tina, Nick and Peter, to ensure a fun filled evening for all.

Future Events of Interest and to Note...

By the time of the next P & C Meeting the school will have completed its involvement in...

- ***Southern Stars,***
- ***Opera House Banksia Concert Series,***
- ***Seacliff Community of Schools Debating & Public Speaking Competitions,***
- ***Another Bunnings BBQ,***
- ***A P & C Fathers' Day Stall,***
- ***Wollongong City Council Surf Education Sessions for Years 2, 4 and 6.***

Paul Petersen
Principal
26th July 2011