Principal's Report

2017

I am finalising the 2017 calendar which we will distribute when school returns in 2017. The calendar will set out all of the events that we are able to schedule at this stage. These events include special school assemblies, celebrations, excursions and events. P&C activities will also be included.

We still have vacancies for 2017 in all year levels. Please encourage any neighbours to select Somerset Hills for their child in 2017.

We have several important events coming soon. Please check the calendar of events to know what is on the horizon.

School Uniform

Please note that the P&C have endorsed our Uniform Policy which will require that students wear black shoes as part of the uniform in 2017. This is especially important as we are developing a Somerset Way which includes how we present ourselves to the community. Please ensure that when you are purchasing new school shoes for 2017 that you purchase black or mostly black shoes or sandals for your children.

Library Books

All library books are to be returned before the end of the year. If however during your Christmas clean-up you discover any library or home readers please return them to school early in 2017.

Year 6 Graduation

This year's Year 6 Graduation ceremony will be held on Tuesday 6 December beginning at 6 pm. Students and their immediate family are able to attend. Tickets may be purchased through Eventbrite (SHSS Graduation Dinner 2016 tickets). Ticket costs are: Adults and siblings over 14 years $25, Graduating students-$10 and Siblings of graduating students (aged 3-14yo): $15 (under 3 free). Dress is smart casual. Private caterers will provide the food.

Booklists

The 2017 booklists are with the provider for quoting. The booklists will be available before the end of the year. Several items may be carried forward from this year such as chair bags and headphones.
Bunnings Fundraiser

Thank you to Dr Anthony Lynham, our generous helpers from Nexus Church and City North Baptist Church and to the families from the Somerset Hills SS community! Together we managed to take about $3500 at our Bunnings BBQ today, before the storm arrived. Our final profit will be around $2500 which will be put to good use providing extra resources for our school.

Pizza Day

Pizza will be for 2nd break. Only over the counter snacks and drinks will be available to purchase for both breaks on the day. Please remember to fill out order forms and send them either in a envelope or zip lock bag to the office. Cash only - No EFTPOS payments at the office. All orders with payment must be at the office no later than 9:00am Monday 5th December 2016. Later orders will NOT be accepted.

Tuck Shop

For the last week of term 4 the Tuck shop will only be open on the Wednesday 7th for the last Pizza Day of the year & over the counter drink and snack sales. There will be no food orders processed on the day as we are currently running down all stock for the end of year. Tuckshop will not be open on the Friday as I will be doing stocktake and cleaning. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year - Mrs Peta Congrev (Tuck shop Convenor)

Food at School

Parents it is important that your child is provided with healthy lunches each school day. Staff may check if students have lunches and are eating them at the correct time. If your child eats all their lunch before break time it may be that they need a little extra as they may be going through a growing phase. Your support in this matter is vital.

Chess

Coaching days & time: Thursday mornings (7:30-8:30am).
Experience: Chess Club is open to all students from Prep to Year 6.
Venue: Library – Somerset Hills SS | Cost: $99 per student (9 weeks - GST inclusive).
Dates: Term 1 – February 2 to March 30 (students can start at ANY time during the term).
Disclaimer: Payment is required by week 3 of the program. The fee is based on a class full of students, so there are no refunds for absences (unless written notice is given in advance).
Note: We offer a first time trial lesson for students that want to try out the program.
All Chess instructors hold a Blue Card.
Please email to info@chesspeople.com.au
With Christmas and the school holidays looming just around the corner, I thought I’d do something different this newsletter. As my own children have got older I’ve seen the value in having our own family traditions. If I try and deviate away from what we always do, my young adult children get really upset and want to stick to our family traditions.

According to the University of Illinois, family traditions are important in building strong family relationships and give us all a sense of belonging.

So here is a list of fun things to do in the holidays that may be the beginning of a family tradition for you and your children:

1. Create a CD or playlist of all your favourite Christmas songs and have it as your background music over the holidays.

2. Make Christmas decorations with your children for the Christmas tree. Imagine decorating the tree when your children are teenagers and looking back on the decorations you made together.

3. Find a charity drive in your community where you and your family have the chance to give to others.

4. Have a movie night with your favourite Christmas movie and your favourite Christmas treats.

5. Take your little kids to Bargain City and let them pick out gifts for their siblings.

6. Have a biscuit decorating party. These also make lovely gifts for grannies and aunties.

7. Get family pictures taken.

8. Go out for a cheap dinner and keep the restaurant the same every year. After dinner drive around and look at all the Christmas lights. Research ahead of the time, to see if there are any extra wild and wonderful lights on display in your area.

9. Attend your local Carols by Candlelight or a local Christmas concert.

10. Go on a train ride.

11. Decorate a gingerbread house.

12. Bake a Christmas treat and visit an elderly relative or member of community who may need some encouragement.

13. Let the kids open a present on Christmas Eve – new pyjamas! Not only is this a fun tradition, but it ensures they will be dressed nicely for all those early morning Christmas pictures.

Wow, I better stop… But reading all these fun ideas definitely makes me excited for Christmas and the upcoming holidays. Have fun and make the most of the time you have together with your family.