Southern Cross Primary School

An inspiring community where the students shine!

Mission Statement
The school community of Southern Cross Primary believes in providing a quality learning environment that encourages children to be curious, inspired and successful in their learning. We strive to achieve an educationally safe and caring environment through our daily implementation of behaviours, programs and modelling that values, understands and respects individual abilities and cultural diversity.

Blue and Red HATS now available from the office $5.00

February
24th Wednesday District Swimming at Noble Park Swimming Pool for selected students
29th Monday Foundation students – finish at 3.30 p.m. each day for remainder of year

March
22nd Tuesday AGM and General Meeting of School Council at 3.45 p.m.
24th Thursday Last day of Term 1 - dismissal at 2.30 p.m.

School Assembly
Monday 22nd February, 2016 at 9.15 a.m.

School Hours and Break Times
Playgrounds supervised 8:45 – 9.00 a.m. and 3:30 -3:45 p.m.
Students arrive 8:50 a.m.
Classes start promptly at 9.00 a.m.
Morning Recess is 11 – 11:30 a.m.
Lunch 1:40 – 2:30 p.m.
School finishes at 3.30 p.m.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
Items sent home will generally be colour coded.

- Pale Blue or White: General Notices
- Yellow: Gold Excursion Incursion
- Orange: Important Messages
- Bright Pink: Fundraising

Please read this newsletter, as it is an important communication between school and home.

DAVID COLLINS DRIVE, ENDEAVOUR HILLS, 3802 PHONE 9700 4488 FAX; 9700 4510
EMAIL: southern.cross.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au WEBSITE: www.sthcrossps.vic.edu.au

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Dear Parents and Friends,

**Student Leadership**

On Monday next, February 22, at 9.15 a.m. we will be holding an assembly in our hall to present our Student Leaders with their badges. If parents are available to attend this assembly, we look forward to sharing this exciting occasion with you.

**School Tours**

We are currently taking lots of school tours for our Foundation class for 2017. If you know anyone with a child who is due to start school next year, please let them know that we are now taking enrolments.

**School Council**

We are at that time of year again when we call for anyone who may be interested in nominating for School Council. A School Council Member is a representative of the school and is there to assist in policy renewal, facility management and areas of finance. School Council is strictly governed by the expected processes and practices of the Department of Education and its Auditors. It is an interesting role and it gives parents and opportunity to understand and be part of the success of our school and its community. If you would like to know more please contact me and I would be happy to chat with you. Nominations are now open and they close next Monday, 22nd February 2016.

**Student Banking**

Debbie Mikkor from the Commonwealth Bank will be attending our assembly on Monday, 22nd February, when you will have the opportunity to open a Dollarmite Student account for your child if you wish. Don’t forget banking day is every **TUESDAY**
HEAD LICE
There have been a number of cases of head lice in the school recently. Could all parents please check their child’s hair for these little nuisances and treat them accordingly. Thank you for your help in eradicating the spread of head lice in the school.

Finding head lice
Many lice do not cause an itch, so you have to look carefully to find them. Head lice are found on the hair itself and move to the scalp to feed. They have six legs which end in a claw and they rarely fall from the head. Louse eggs (also called nits) are laid within 1.5 cm of the scalp and are firmly attached to the hair. They resemble dandruff, but can’t be brushed off. Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:
Step 1 Comb any type of hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This stuns the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.
Step 2 Now comb sections of the hair with a fine tooth, head lice comb.
Step 3 Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.
Step 4 Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.
Step 5 Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least four or five times. If lice or eggs are found, the hair should be treated. If the person has been treated recently and you only find empty hatched eggs, you may not have to treat, as the empty eggs could be from a previous episode.

Treating head lice
Treating head lice involves removing lice and eggs from the hair. There are two ways you can do this:
1. Buying and using a head lice lotion or shampoo, following the instructions on the product
2. Using the conditioner and comb method (described under ‘finding head lice’) every second day until there have been no live lice found for ten days.
If you choose to use a head lice product always read and follow the instructions provided with the product carefully.
The following points may also be helpful:
• Head lice products must be applied to all parts of the hair and scalp.
• No treatment kills all of the eggs so treatment must involve two applications, seven days apart. The first treatment kills all lice; the second treatment kills the lice that may have hatched from eggs not killed by the first treatment.
• Cover the person’s eyes while the treatment is being applied. A towel is a good way to do this.
• If you are using a lotion, apply the product to dry hair.
• If you are using a shampoo, wet the hair, but use the least amount of water possible.
• Apply the treatment near the scalp, using an ordinary comb to cover the hair from root to tip. Repeat this several times until all the hair is covered.
There is no need to treat the whole family - unless they also have head lice.
Concentrate on the head - there is no need to clean the house or the classroom.
Only the pillowcase requires washing - either wash it in hot water (at least 60ºC) or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting.

Head lice combs
Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however, any head lice comb can be used.
Swimming Trials

On Thursday, 4th February, students from Middle and Senior Primary participated in the school swimming trials at Dandenong Oasis Swimming Pool. Mrs Harrison and Mr Altube were very impressed with the student’s behaviour and their positive approach to the trials, giving their best effort.

Thank you to Mrs Smith and Mrs Robinson who along with Mrs Harrison and Mr Altube transported the students to and from the swimming pool in their own vehicles. Congratulations to the following students who will represent Southern Cross Primary School at the District Swimming Sports on Wednesday 24th February.

Ashlee 5/6B  Kevin 5/6A  Tamerlan 5/6B  Leeshae 5/6B

Dear Parents/Guardians/Friends,

Our Playgroup session begins next week, Wednesday 24th February at 9.15am in the school hall. This session runs for an hour. So come along with your little ones and let them explore learning through play and also including activities such as story time, learning colours and alphabet.

Hope you are able to join us for this fun session and see your little ones make friends.

Kind Regards,
Mrs. Singh
(Leadership & CHaTS Co-ordinator)