Dear Parents and Carers

Support for you at Report & Interview Time

Today I have included two resources from renowned parent educator Michael Grose to support you to get the most from the school report and the follow up interview with your child’s teacher. Your child will bring the Semester 1 2015 Student Report home on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 June.

1. The Reading your child’s report video is on the Parenting Ideas TV YouTube channel. Click on the link or enter the address http://youtu.be/YM2Lrm19_A0 into your internet browser. Michael has recorded a brief video to support parents when reading their children’s reports. It will help make sure parents focus on the right things, taking a positive view of their children’s reports

2. Reading your child’s report
   This practical, positive article, included later in this newsletter will help you as parents to focus on the right things when you read your child’s report.

Uniforms

The expectation is that all children are now wearing their winter uniforms. Since June 1 was the first day of winter this is the perfect time to set a deadline regarding moving from summer to winter uniforms. Our school website has some recent photos of the school winter uniform if you are unsure of the style and colours. Uniform order forms can be collected from the office. Please assist with this matter as a consistent uniform across the school looks fantastic.

Social Skills Playground

The Social Skills Playground has been installed adjacent to the fixed equipment playground area. We have been advised to allow the artificial grass to settle in for a few weeks but in Term 3 the lunchtime social skills program will commence. A huge thank you to our P&C for investing in this very important initiative and supporting the children. Photographs will be placed on the school website once the program is in operation.

Resource Allocation Model (RAM)

In Term 2 we have utilised our RAM funding to provide extra support to classrooms and our Beginning Teachers. We have increased the Staff Learning Support Officer (SLSO) time in several classrooms and provided additional funds for our Beginning Teachers to access quality professional learning experiences. The RAM funding is having a positive impact on student outcomes and in developing teacher quality. In Term 3 additional funds will be allocated to SLSO time for further support to the staff and students.

Important Reminders:

- P&C meeting: Tuesday 9 June at 7:30pm
Important Reminders:
- Sports Captains and Vice Captains will receive their House colour badges TOMORROW, Friday 5 June, at the Stage 3 Assembly, starting at 1pm.
- Payments for Book Week and NAIDOC Week are due.
- Entertainment Book sales close tomorrow.
- Book Club orders close tomorrow.
- Don’t forget to go online at www.schoolinterviews.com.au to book your Parent Teacher Interview. Code: KSUCA

Regards
Stephen Vrachas
Principal

P&C News

P&C Meeting
Our next meeting will be held next Tuesday, 9 June at 7.30pm in the staffroom. Mr Vrachas will be reporting on the school’s financial management and discuss updates with the student welfare policy that was held over from last month’s meeting. If you have issues that you would like raised at the meeting in ‘General Business’ please email us at carltonpandc@gmail.com with ‘Agenda’ in the subject line before Monday, 8 June at 3pm.

Dates for your diary:
- P&C meeting - Tuesday, 9 June at 7.30pm.
- Bunnings BBQ – Saturday, 18 July at Bunnings, Rockdale (end of Week 1, Term 3)
- Family Photo Fundraiser – Sunday, 1 November

School Banking
The school banking coordinators rostered on for next Tuesday are Paula K, Fadia A-S, Angela and Kate M.

Rewards
Please remember that the Intergalatic Rocket and the Invisible Ink Martian Pens are the new awards that are available this term. Please read the reward redemption slips that will tell you the term/s that the rewards are available in. Term 1 rewards are still available.

Classroom Achievement Award – KT and IT are the winners this week
Congratulations to KT and IT who are the joint winners of the achievement award for this week. Well done!

Silver Awards
Silver awards are presented to children when they have received 5 Bronze Awards = 50 tokens. A fantastic effort! Parents are most welcome to attend the assembly to see their child receive this very special award. Congratulations to the following students who will receive their silver awards at the assembly on the date listed below.

K-2 Assembly – Monday, 15 June, 2015 (Week 9) at 2.00pm in the school hall.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1J</th>
<th>2J</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun L</td>
<td>Maahir M, Joshua M, Edward K, Zainab H, Joshua M</td>
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Y3-6 Assembly - Monday, 15 June, 2015 (Week 9) at 11.25am in the school hall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6B</th>
<th>5/6F</th>
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Class Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KM- Sofia N; Miraj K</th>
<th>KJ- Ahmad T; Soha B</th>
<th>KF- Luke P; Zeinab S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KT- Hadi T; Gina L</td>
<td>KCN- Kathy L; Bethany H</td>
<td>KIB- Irene C; Ryan Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5/6F Gold Science Investigations

This week 5/6F undertook investigations into the properties and uses of gold as part of their Science & Technology studies this term.

From our investigations we have made the following discoveries:

Gold is a precious resource that can be used in many different ways. It can be used in jewellery, as a decoration on food, art, in technology like mobile phones and played a very important part in the lives of Ancient Egyptians. (Clare)

Gold is malleable and can be rolled out so thinly into gold sheets that it is almost transparent. (Jenna)

Gold is ductile and a very small amount of gold can be made in to fine gold wire. This wire is used in forms of technology like computers. (Grace)

After reading about Archimedes and his method of weighing metals like gold, I used the displacement method to measure the mass of “gold nuggets”. The gold had a combined mass of 300g, which is almost 10 troy ounces. (Dylan)

Gold was an important resource in Ancient Egypt, many artefacts were found in the tombs of the pharaohs. I wrote my surname using the Hieroglyphic alphabet, it was challenging because this alphabet is phonetic. (Mindy)

When calculating my weight in gold I found that gold is measured in troy ounces. One troy ounce is equal to 32 grams. (Andrew)

I can’t believe that gold is edible. It can be used as decoration on cakes, Easter eggs and chocolates. (Jessica)

We used a choc chip cookie to test the effects of gold mining on the environment. The choc chips were the gold and the cookie was the land. If we took all the chips from the cookie the cookie broke into crumbs. If this were real mining the land would become eroded and barren. (Gary)

We conducted an experiment to calculate our value if were made of pure 24 carat gold. After weighing myself and completing a complex calculation, I calculated that I am worth $1 447 000! (Christina)
**Arabic News**

In Term 2 Arabic students are learning about family and culture. Here is some vocabulary and some activities related to all stages:

- **Ab  أب** Dad  
- **Am  أم** Mum  
- **Jadd  جد** Grandpa  
- **Jaddah  جدة** Grandma  
- **Akh أخ** Brother  
- **Okht  أخت** Sister  
- **Am عم** Uncle (father's side)  
- **Khal خال** Uncle (mother's side)  

(for a boy): Jameel  جميل  beautiful  
Taweel  طويل  Tall  

(for a girl): Jameelah  جميلة  beautiful  
Taweelah  طويلة  Tall  

**Kindergarten** are learning to copy family members.

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**Stage 1 and Stage 2:** Introduce themselves and talk about their daily routine. Draw and label family members. Use adjectives to describe them.

- Year 1 students are learning adjectives.
- Year 2 students are playing a game  

- Year 2 class work  
- Year 3 Art activity
As "Mirath in Mind" is not-for-profit organisation, founded in 2010 to promote and keep alive the cultural legacies of the arts, heritage and culture of the Arab and Lebanese world in Australia. Each year "Mirath in Mind", celebrates a different artistic legend. In 2015 the artists are Sabah and Philemon Weihe.

Students from Stage 3 are doing some of the following activities of "Mirath in Mind":

Quizzes, Drawing, Dancing, Fashion Show and Multi Media.

Thankyou Mrs Zana El-Hajj for accepting to be Carlton Public School’s parent representative for "Mirath in Mind". Mrs Zana El- Haji’s email is: aqualineren002@outlook.com

Stage 3 is learning about Family and culture. They watched a movie called "Al Mawal" for the artists Sabah and Wadieh el Safi. Students took notes and are going to answer quiz questions in June. The movie shows life in the village and in the city. Stage 3 students differentiate between the village and the city.

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**The difference between the village and the city**

- The village is small. It has few houses and few cars.
- The city is big. It has lots of buildings, lots of people and lots of cars.
- The village is quiet and the traffic is quiet.
- The city is crowded and it has lots of traffic.
- The village has lots of trees, the air is fresh and the people are relaxed.
- The city has fewer trees, the air is polluted and the people are busy.
- The village has farms of fruits and vegetables, the products are local.
- The city has lots of factories and companies.
- The village has few shops.
- The city has many shops and everything is available.
- The village uses local transport.
- The city uses public transport.

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**الفرق بين الضيعة والمدينة**

- الضيعة صغيرة، البيت فيها قليلة والسيارات قليلة.
- المدينة كبيرة، فيها العديد من المباني، العديد من الناس، والسيارات.
- الضيعة هادئة وسمر فيها هادئ.
- المدينة عاجزة، السمر فيها مزدحم.
- الضيعة فيها الكثير من الأشجار وال潟ات النفاذ والماء.
- المدينة فيها قليل من الأشجار، وال潟ات، والهواء القصد والماء.
- الضيعة فيها مزارع الخضروات والفواكه والمنتجات المحلية.
- المدينة فيها العديد من المصايل والشركات.
- الضيعة فيها محلات قليلة.
- المدينة فيها العديد من المصالح وكل شيء متوف.
- الضيعة تستعمل المواصلات المحلية.
- المدينة تستخدم مواصلا النقل العامة.

Mrs Awad
## Term 2 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7 – 1 June – 5 June</th>
<th>Week 8 – 8 June – 12 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mon 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mon 8</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Incursion</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY – no school today</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30am Y3-6 Assembly</td>
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<td>2.00pm K – 2 Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney Schools Debate</td>
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<td>Parent/ teacher Interview Bookings</td>
<td>Commence</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tue 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tue 9</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Banking 9am</td>
<td>Student Banking 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 2)</td>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2 Excursion</td>
<td>7.30pm P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wed 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7.45am ICAS Science Test</td>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thur 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1 Excursion</td>
<td>Semester 1 reports sent home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multicultural Public Speaking Competition</td>
<td>Area Cross Country</td>
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<td>Last day for Entertainment Book orders</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fri 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fri 12</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Club orders close</td>
<td>Parent/ teacher Interview Bookings close</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entertainment Book orders close</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9 - 15 June – 19 June</th>
<th>Week 10 – 22 June – 26 June</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mon 15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mon 22</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Interviews commence</td>
<td>Recorder Group Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Incursion</td>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.50am K-6 Whole School Assembly</td>
<td>change of day</td>
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<td><strong>Tues 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tues 23</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Banking 9am</td>
<td>Student Banking 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premiers debating Challenge</td>
<td>NAIDOC Week performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 17</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wed 24</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 1)</td>
<td>Dance 2 B Fit (Stage 1)</td>
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<td>Mufti Day – Crazy Hair &amp; PJ’s</td>
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<td><strong>Thur 18</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thur 25</strong></td>
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<td>Y3-6 Athletics at school (Day 1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Premiers Debating Challenge</td>
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<td>BandFest Performance</td>
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<td><strong>Fri 19</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fri 26</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parent Interviews completed</td>
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<td>3pm Happy Holidays!!</td>
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**SCHOOL UNIFORM SALES** · Contact: George 0414 937 837

School Shop Open:        Monday 8.30am – 9.30am Thursday 2.30pm – 3.30pm
Retail Shop Open:        Shop 7 & 8, 309 Forest Road, Hurstville 22220 (Between MacMahon Street and Queens Road)
                          Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (Not Wednesdays) 9.30am – 5.00pm
                          Saturday, 10.00am – 4.00pm
Reading your child’s report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder… always does her best… lacks concentration… easily distracted… a pleasure to teach… Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?
   Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

Focus on strengths
   Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

Broden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

Take note of student self-assessment
   Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

Discuss the report with your son or daughter
   Talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.