FROM THE PRINCIPAL.....

Last year the school applied for a grant to implement the Active After School program. It’s a program sponsored by the Commonwealth Sports Commission where a local sporting coach is employed by the school for an hour after school to introduce a group of children to the basic skills of a sport. The children can then link up with the local club if they wish to continue the sport on the weekends or competitively. The sports offered can range from archery to bike riding to dance to cricket – it just depends on the availability of local coaches, and the clubs to support the program. We are hoping to line up two afternoons a week, Wednesday and possibly Thursday. The sessions will be an hour.

To start the program off at Cessnock West PS, we will offer Tai Kwon Do to Year 5 and 6 students. 20 students will be able to learn Tai Kwon Do for the semester (ie 2 terms) from 3.15-4.15pm. As we would like to start next week, an expression of interest form will be sent home to Stage 3 children this week. We are still trying to confirm the second sport.

The children are certainly looking forward to the school swimming carnival this week, with war cries being practised, and lots of school spirit being stirred up by the new sports captains.

Our P&C meets once a month, with the first meeting of the year on this Tuesday from 6.30pm in the school library. The meetings are only an hour or so. They are casual and they provide a great opportunity for parents to share ideas for the betterment of our school for our children. We talk about canteen, the playground and classroom issues - so if you are able, please come along as new ideas and people are always welcome.

At the beginning of each school year it’s important to ensure that all details about each of the students at our school are up to date, so this week forms are being sent home with each child. The ‘General Permissions’ form that permits photos for school use; internet and email access at school and involvement in the child protection program in Term 3.

Another form regarding updated medical information is important to return to school asap. Revised legislation requires that all children who have a medical condition must have a current Action Plan signed by their doctor. This must be passed onto the school to ensure proper procedures are followed at all times. This includes anaphylaxis, allergies, asthma, epilepsy and any other chronic medical condition.

If you have changed phone numbers, contact people or changed court orders etc please let the school office know.

Please ensure they are returned to school asap so our records can be adjusted if necessary.

Many parents find it easier and more reliable to contact the school via phone and email.

Coming Events
Week 4
19th Feb  P&C Meeting 6.30pm Library
22nd Feb  Zone Swimming Carnival
23rd Feb  Cessnock Show

Week 6
4th Mar  School Photos

www.facebook.com/CessnockWestPS
http://twitter.com/CessnockWestPS
to receive the school newsletter via email. If you would prefer this, please send the school an email at cessnockw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Cathie Ferguson

IMPORTANT ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH ALLERGIES AND/OR ANAPHYLAXIS

The safety and wellbeing of children and young people in NSW government schools is paramount. At Cessnock West Public School we take this responsibility very seriously. The Department of Education and Communities has recently announced a range of new measures to support students and staff who have allergies, and those persons who are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction.

Our staff undertake regular face-to-face and/or online training in CPR, emergency care and anaphylaxis management.

In the next few weeks the school will contact parents who have indicated that their child has allergies and/or those at risk of anaphylaxis reaction to request further information and update health care plans where necessary.

PLEASE NOTE: If your child has an allergy, or is at risk of anaphylaxis, and this information has NOT been provided on the child’s enrolment form, or if it has changed (eg. severity of reaction, allergen, medication, hospitalisation due to reaction, etc) – please contact the school immediately to update our records.

ANAPHYLAXIS

The Department of Education and Communities announced at the end of 2012 that all government schools would receive a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an EpiPen) for their first aid kit. This does not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with an adrenaline autoinjector and ASCIA (Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy) Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed and dated by their doctor when their child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis.

Instead the general use adrenaline autoinjector is intended to be used if:

□ An undiagnosed student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
□ There is a misfire of the adrenaline autoinjector that has been prescribed for a student
□ A student requires further adrenaline autoinjector to be administered after his or her own adrenaline autoinjector has been administered

Please contact the school if you would like further information in relation to this matter.

PLAYGROUND RADIO

The following students will be presenting their Radio Show on the School’s Playground Radio Activity during this week and Monday and Tuesday of next week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY 20 FEB</th>
<th>THURSDAY 21 FEB</th>
<th>FRIDAY 22 FEB</th>
<th>MONDAY 25 FEB</th>
<th>TUESDAY 26 FEB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel R</td>
<td>MENTOR RADIO</td>
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<td>Grace B</td>
<td>Tammy C</td>
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<td>Connor W</td>
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<td>Zye C</td>
<td>Laurelee B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoebe C</td>
<td>SHOW “MUSIC”</td>
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<td>Izzymay H</td>
<td>Nerissa J</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colin C</td>
<td></td>
<td>“MUSIC”</td>
<td>Takah M</td>
<td>Ellie-Jane M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron D</td>
<td>FROM THE MOVIES</td>
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<td>Tessa J</td>
<td>Zac S</td>
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<td>Ebony M</td>
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<td>Grace B</td>
<td>Joshua S</td>
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<td>Lahlhye V</td>
<td>Laura B</td>
<td>Cloe K</td>
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<td>Sylvia C</td>
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To listen to their Radio Show Podcasts and check out what’s happening on Playground Radio go to our Website:

http://cwps-playground-radio.wikispaces.com/