Happy Education Week!
This year’s theme for Education Week is “Creating the Future”.

It was wonderful to have so many families join us today for Open Day. Thank you to so many families that donated a book for the school library. It is greatly appreciated by the students and staff. If you were unable to attend the “Open Day” but would like to donate a book, please see Mrs Hadzinickitas in the office to arrange this.

Creative Talents
Last Wednesday students attended the ‘Look’ exhibition at Hazelhurst Art Gallery. They admired original picture book artworks, were inspired by author Libby Hathorn and experienced what it would be like to be an illustrator.

Great Golfers
Last Thursday afternoon, the 1/2/3 class enjoyed a free golf clinic run by an instructor from The Ridge Golf Course. The students were introduced to some basic golf skills while participating in a range of fun activities. Each student was awarded with a showbag at the end of the session for their outstanding participation.

Environmentalists
The K-6 students participated in several exciting activities last Friday at The Point Preschool. These activities included tracing around their hands to help decorate a tree sculpture, yoga, learnt and participated in some bush care with Bradley from Bush Care, weed and mulch the bush areas, sang-a-long with musician Peter Morgan and met Jon Dee, Australian of the Year 2010; co-founder of Planet Ark and now founder of DO Something… and of course planted trees!

I received a lovely message from the Director of The Point Preschool and wanted to share it with our school community.

“Thank you so much to all the teachers and students from Como School. What amazingly nurturing, polite and hard working students you have at Como school.”

Dazzling Dancers
This Friday, the junior dance group will be performing for their first time at Westfield Miranda for Education Week. The students have been very busy practising their dance which revolves around the Olympics. The performance will begin at 12pm outside Myers on the bottom floor.

Regards,
Mrs. V. Pantelis
Principal
AWARDS THIS WEEK

Harmony Awards:
K/1: Lewis
1/2/3: Max, Martin
4/5/6: Sofia

Mathlete of the week: Michael

Bronze Awards:
1/2/3: Isaac, Jessica, Georgia, Angel
4/5/6: Ava, Niki, Sofia, Madeline, Lucy, Angela, Sam, Chris

Silver Awards:
1/2/3: Georgia, Jessica

Congratulations to all Award Recipients

Golf Day – Thursday 26th July 2012
Guessing Competition

Starting next week, Year 6 will be holding a “Guess how many lollies in the jar” competition. Students will be able to estimate the total number of lollies in the jar for 50 cents a guess. The student that guesses closest to the actual number will win the lolly jar to take home. All monies raised will go towards the end of year gift given to the school from Year 6.

Happy guessing everyone!
The Year 6 Fundraising Team

Tree Planting Day – Friday 27th July 2012
24th July 2012

Flight & Weather Show: Kindergarten – Year 6
Thursday 2nd August 2012

Dear Parents,

As part of Education Week, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 will be participating in a Flight & Weather Show on Thursday 2nd August 2012 held here at school from 12-1pm.

Cost of the show is $4.00. This amount should be included with the permission note below and returned to your child’s teacher by Monday 30th July.

Mrs V Pantelis
Principal

Flight & Weather Show: Kindergarten – Year 6
Thursday 2nd August 2012

I give my child/ren ________________________________ of Class _______________ permission to participate in the Flight & Weather Show on Thursday 2nd August 2012.

I have enclosed $ _____________ ($4.00 per child) to cover the cost of the show.

Signed: _______________________________ Date: ____________________
(Parent/Guardian)
P&C News

Craft Club at the Como Markets, 12 August.

We need a few adult and senior student volunteers to help guide activities at the craft club during the next market, Sunday August 12, 9 am to 2pm. If you would like to volunteer please email, phone or msg Tina Barclay 0466 522 851 tina.barclay@gmail.com.

Cake Donations for August Markets

For the August Markets, Class 4/5/6 are asked to donate baked goods for the canteen.

P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held next Monday 6th August at 6.30pm in the staff room at Como Public School. Everyone is welcome.
MARKET DAYROSTER NOTICE

Please check your schedules for the next three Markets and inform Rebecca if you are not available or would like to change shifts.

**SUNDAY 12th August**

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>CANTEEN</th>
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<td>8.00 to 10.00 am</td>
<td>Jenny Robertson, Rebecca Harvey, Jenny Easton</td>
<td>Greg Priestley, Matt Hewett, John Mason</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 to 12.00 am</td>
<td>Claire Weir, Shiona Jinks, Rebecca Harvey</td>
<td>Aaron Barclay, Paul Guerreiro, John Mason</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 to 2.30pm</td>
<td>Malcolm Cluett, Kim Wilson, Loreline Gabriel</td>
<td>Darren Martin, Alison McNamara, Chris Gorodecki</td>
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**SUNDAY 9th September**

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<tr>
<td>8.00 to 10.00 am</td>
<td>Jenny Robertson, Rebecca Harvey, Jenny Easton</td>
<td>Greg Priestley, Matt Hewett, <strong>Volunteer Required</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 to 12.00 am</td>
<td>Rebecca Harvey, Donna Isaacs, Claire Weir</td>
<td>Aaron Barclay, Paul Guerreiro, Blake Scriven</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 to 2.30pm</td>
<td>Malcolm Cluett, Kim Wilson, Loreline Gabriel</td>
<td>Darren Martin, Alison McNamara, Mat Froggatt</td>
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**SUNDAY 14th October**

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<tr>
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<td>Malcolm Cluett, Kim Wilson, <strong>Volunteer Required</strong></td>
<td>Darren Martin, John Mason, Mat Froggatt</td>
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**WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELPERS, SO HAVE A GO, IT’S ONLY 2 HOURS**

**or if you would like to go on to the reserve list you are most welcome**

**Call Rebecca on 0419 425 303**
Helping kids with homework

For many parents homework is that time of the day when they routinely harass, hassle and harangue their child to JUST DO YOUR HOMEWORK! Here are some ideas that may help.

Homework causes more headaches for parents than it does for children. Some parents worry because their children don’t seem to do enough while others are concerned because they do too much.

But for many parents homework is that time of the day when they routinely harass, hassle and harangue their child to JUST DO YOUR HOMEWORK!

Okay, what to do?

The first step is to know the homework policy of your children’s school and understand what is expected of you as a parent. Most schools have parent interviews and information sessions at the start of the year. Next year, make sure you get a good handle on how your children’s teacher expects you to assist your child.

It is also useful to find out what your child’s teacher will do if your child doesn’t complete set tasks. Homework is basically an agreement between a teacher and a child so it should be up to the teacher to ensure the homework is completed. That means the teacher becomes ‘the bad guy’ and puts some consequence in place if the homework is not completed. Your role as a parent is to support the school if a consequence is put in place, such as completing work in recess or whatever the school deems appropriate.

Here are practical homework tips:

1. Establish homework time and stick to it each day. If children tell you they don’t have any formal homework then they can read, revise or organise their work. My feedback tells me sticking to a routine even when no formal homework is set is extremely useful and helps avoid battles.

2. Put the onus back on your children to take responsibility for their work. Ask children at the start of a homework session to state how much homework they will do. At the end of the session check to see if it matches with their intentions as well as yours. If you are more concerned about homework than them, your children are not the ones responsible for their homework.

3. Homework is as much a time management issue as anything else. Encourage children to work reasonably quickly and efficiently. Have a set time limit, which they should stick to. There is little point slogging away once they become frustrated or tired. Give them an egg-timer or use a clock and get them to work hard for small chunks of time. A little work each night is more productive than packing it into one weekly session.

4. Help children decide the best time to do homework and then encourage them to stick to those times. Maybe on some days homework is tackled after dinner for any number of reasons. If doing homework straight after school is important to you then consider feeding children ONLY after homework is completed. Food can be a huge motivator for some children! (As mentioned in point one, homework routine is important but the timing can vary.)

5. Establish a good working environment for students. Make sure they have a quiet, well lit, well ventilated area away from distractions. A desk or table makes a good workspace, although don’t be surprised if they spread work all over the kitchen table. Some kids hate to be stuck away in their rooms and prefer to work at the kitchen table and can do so productively. Others are easily distracted and work in short bursts. Work out what is best for your child.

6. Use the motivating factors of technology. The Internet and other forms of electronic learning are quick, convenient and give access to huge amounts of information. Nevertheless, children still should know how to access information from more traditional means such as books. Check with your child’s teacher as to their specific recommendations and preferences.

7. Encourage children to get organised. Help them think ahead to plan their homework around extra-curricular activities. A weekly planner or diary will help older students get organised. Assisting children to become organised is perhaps the best way parents can help at home.

8. If you are helping with a particular task, keep your explanation simple and practical. If you become frustrated or upset and the atmosphere becomes tense – stop helping.

9. Be realistic – don’t expect to solve all homework difficulties. When in doubt send a note to your child’s teacher letting him or her know the problem. The teacher will appreciate this good communication.

10. Communicate any concerns. If you have concerns about how much or the difficulty of homework your child is set, contact the teacher and arrange a time to discuss your worries. Such discussion is the basis of a true partnership between you and your child’s teacher.

The place of homework is routinely questioned by education authorities now is currently one of those times in Australia but my gut reaction is that children will always have homework. The name may change and the activities may vary but it will always be homework.

Schools generally try to make sure homework is varied, interesting, engaging and purposeful for children and parents.

Parents also need to be patient with both children (if they struggle) and schools that are trying to find a balance between too little and too much.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<th>Wed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every Week</td>
<td>Banking(T1W2)</td>
<td>Garden Club(T1W2)</td>
<td>Canteen(T2W7)</td>
<td>Language (DF)</td>
<td>Sport Uniform (T1W2)</td>
<td>4/8</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sausage Sizzle</td>
<td>English ICAS exam</td>
<td>Flight &amp; Weather</td>
<td>Storybook challenge</td>
<td>- 8.3 to Como Preschool</td>
<td>4/8</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>- P&amp;C Meeting 6.30pm</td>
<td>- Maths ICAS exam</td>
<td>- Public Speaking School Finals</td>
<td>- 2/3 choir rehearsal (T1W9)</td>
<td>- 4/3 to Como Preschool</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>- 2/3 Choir Evening Performance (T1W9)</td>
<td>- Zone Athletics (DF)</td>
<td>- Art classes commence (DF)</td>
<td>- 4/3 to Como Preschool</td>
<td>- Father's Day Stall (DF)</td>
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<td>Term 1 current as at July 31, 2012</td>
<td>National Literacy and Numeracy Week</td>
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<td>National Literacy and Numeracy Week</td>
<td>Father's Day Stall (DF)</td>
<td>4/3 to Como Preschool</td>
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Note: School Newsletter References e.g. (T2W8) = Details in Term 2, Week 8 Newsletter. (DF) = Details to follow. Past newsletters available at www.como-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
SSMBA
BABIES & KIDS MARKETS

Everyone welcome!!!
New and good quality preloved babies & kids goods; loads of large items including high chairs, cots, playpens, walkers, bouncers and prams, clothes, shoes, toys, books and lots more.

Come join the fun and bargains!
If you have multiples, or are expecting them, this is definitely the market for you!!!

SUNDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER
From 10am to 12.30pm
Kirrawee High School Hall
21 Hunter St, Kirrawee, NSW
$2 entry, Kids Free

CASUAL SALES ONLY - NO EFTPOS

Email: ssmbabiesandkidsmarkets@hotmail.com

For regular updates and more info follow us on Facebook at "Southern Sydney MBA Babies & Kids Markets (SSMBA)"

Coffee & treats available for purchase on the day too!

Dyslexia Support Group

Do you have a child with Dyslexia?
Do you want to meet other families who are in a similar situation?

The Dyslexia Support Group for the Sutherland Shire and St George area is a forum where parents can talk, exchange ideas, information, resources and experiences with other parents. This support group keeps in contact via email, phone and meeting over coffee on the 4th Monday of the month at 10.30am at a café in Sutherland.

If you are interested as a parent or as professional in attending the meetings or going on the email list please call
Paula Goulden on 9528 4638 or email psgoulden@tpg.com.au

This summer we’re looking for the next generation of bowlers, batters and catchers. There’s lots of ways you can get involved in cricket with your local club, association or indoor centre. Sign up now with your local club or find out more at...

playcricket.com.au

We sincerely thank our advertisers for their support of our school. The NSW Department of Education and Training and Como Public School do not endorse these companies or their services and products.
COMO PUBLIC SCHOOL
ABSENT NOTE

Child’s Name:__________________________________________________ Class: _____________________

Date of Absence: ____________________________ Reason: ______________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

Signed: __________________________________________________          Date: _______________________

Parent/Guardian

News Briefs

Asthma awareness
Does your child suffer from asthma? Asthma affects about 1 in 9 school-aged children. The Asthma Foundation has great information for parents of children who suffer from asthma. For more information on how you can support a child with asthma, go to http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/

Cycling fun
Cycling is a fun and healthy activity for people of all ages. The NSW Government has set up the Bicycle information for NSW website. The site includes information of what to look for when choosing a bike, suggestions on great bicycle paths around NSW and safety tips. Go to: http://www.bicycleinfo.nsw.gov.au/index.html

Play at Powerhouse
The Powerhouse Museum’s Play at Powerhouse website has a range of fun and interactive activities and games for primary school children. Activities range from how to make your own musical instrument to easy science experiments. Kids can also choose to play a number of interactive games designed to develop fine motor skills and problem-solving. Go to: http://play.powerhousemuseum.com/