Talent in the Arts
I was so proud of our years 1, 2 and 3 students that performed last night in the choir and dance performances at the Sutherland Shire Schools Music Festival at the Sutherland Entertainment Centre. They did such an amazing job. A special thank you to Miss. Sutherland for all the time and effort she has invested into the choir and dance groups. They really were spectacular.

Amazing Athletes
Congratulations to Annika, Evan, Nicola and Sam who will be representing the school at the Sutherland Zone Athletics Carnivals to be held the next two Thursdays at Sylvania Waters Athletics Track. These students demonstrated excellence in the track events they participated in at the Small Schools Athletics Carnival. We wish you all the best of luck!

2012 Schools Spectacular
The Schools Spectacular is a brilliantly choreographed and costumed production featuring over 3,500 singers, dancers and musicians representing NSW public schools across the state. For ticket information please visit www.schoolsspectacular.com.au.

School Policies
At our last P&C meeting, we reviewed our Student Welfare and Enrolment Policies. Please note that we have changed the name of the “Black Book” to the “Warning Book”. These policies will be uploaded shortly onto our new school website that Mrs. Hadzinnickitas is currently working on. If you would like a hard copy please feel free to request one from the office.

Congratulations
Well done to all our students that made it through to the School Finals for Public Speaking. Special congratulations to our winners who have made it into the Zone Public Speaking Finals.
Stage 1: Angus
Stage 2: Luke
Stage 3: Chris
These students will represent our school on Tuesday 28th August at Tharawal Public School.

Book Week
Next week, we are celebrating Book Week. The theme for this year is “Champions Read”. On Wednesday 22 August students may come to school dressed in a book character that they consider to be a champion. The teachers at Como are pleased with the way in which the majority of students read each night to further develop their reading skills. All of K/1 and some students in 1/2/3 and 4/5/6 have completed their Premiers Reading Challenge. Please remind children to put their library books into their school bag on Sunday evening so that they don’t miss out on borrowing from our school library.

Regards,
Mrs. V. Pantelis
Principal
Calendarr of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 16th</td>
<td>Zone Athletics. Art classes commence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 17th</td>
<td>4/5 to Como preschool.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th</td>
<td>Meeting with Graham Anneslley MP 9.30-10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd</td>
<td>Zone Athletics</td>
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</table>

**AWARDS THIS WEEK**

**Harmony Awards:**
- K/1: Tessa
- 1/2/3: Angel
- 4/5/6: Ben C

**Mathlete of the week:** Toby

**Bronze Awards:**
- 1/2/3: Dylan, Angie, Dakota
- 4/5/6: Breeze

**Silver Awards:**
- 4/5/6: Breeze

Congratulations to all Award Recipients

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**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
Maths Monkey’s Quest
The award-winning parent resource School A to Z has released a new maths game app. Maths Monkey’s Quest is a fun and interactive game designed to help sharpen your child’s maths skills. The game—suitable for students in Years 3-8—features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. Go to: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/maths-monkey-s-quest

Join your local sporting club
A new Australia-wide campaign has been launched to encourage people to join their local sporting club. Play for life ... join a sporting club urges all of us to get physically active and enjoy the benefits of good health. To find a sporting club in your local area go to: http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/gatewaytosport/

Sound advice on sleep
Did you know it’s recommended that school-aged children get 10-11 hours sleep each night? For tips on how to make sure your child gets a good night’s sleep go to: http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/school_age_sleep_nutshell.html

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Jannali Community Hall
49 East Pde & Mary St Jannali. Park St or rear car park.

PLEASE PRESENT CERTIFICATE TO YOUR 1ST CLASS. EXPIRY DATE 8/8/2012

Jannali Schedule
9.45am MON & THU
Totalcore Strength
11.00am MON & THU
Totalcore Strength
1.15pm MON & THU
Totalcore Strength
5.30pm MON & WED
Totalcore Strength
7.35pm MON & WED
Totalcore Strength
7.40pm TUE & THU
Totalcore Strength
9.00am SAT CIRCUIT
Totalcore Strength

WORK @ YOUR OWN PACE IN EVERY CLASS.
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Diane@totalfitnessjannali.com
www.totalfitnessjannali.com

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Reliable by Name Reliability by Nature
A MESSAGE TO SCHOOL COMMUNITIES FROM THE NSW MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

Right now the New South Wales Government is working with schools to advance the most far reaching changes to school education in this state in over a century – changes that are going to help all our public schools meet the challenges of education well into the future.

Nothing better illustrates this than the new way we are going to fund our public schools. We are putting students at the heart of all decision making.

On July 23 I announced the new Resource Allocation Model, known as the RAM. This delivers on my promise to change the way NSW public schools receive their funding. School communities need to have this important information.

The new RAM is central to the Local Schools, Local Decisions reform. Under the new model schools will see more of the total public school education budget and they will have more authority over how to spend it.

In NSW we are increasing the funding that goes directly to public schools to more than 70% of the total public school education budget, up from the current 10%.

The RAM takes into account the fact that students and school communities are not all the same; they have different needs and will need different levels of support. We cannot improve outcomes for individual students with an out-dated cookie cutter funding model.

The new model will provide certainty of funding for schools to employ teachers in order to adhere to the class sizes policy. No principal need worry about the cost of a teacher, principals will be able to choose teachers based on their quality and skills required to best meet the needs of their students.

The RAM will also reduce red tape. I want our principals to be innovative educational leaders, free from the constraints of too much bureaucracy. Instead of hundreds of small funding buckets to be managed and reported on, schools’ resource allocation will be divided into two components. The first will see money quarantined for staffing purposes only. These resources cannot be used for anything else. The remaining component will fund all other operational requirements of the school and any discretionary needs, which may include employing additional staff.
I am sure that you will be wondering if this is going to be better than the way schools have been funded in the past. It was always an issue for schools and their communities when a small change in enrolment numbers meant a significant change in resources. Under our current model, one or two students leaving can result in the loss of a teacher and changes to classes that impact on the students and the school community. The RAM will help fix this problem but it won’t happen overnight. It will take two to three years for implementation across all of our schools.

These changes need to be right for every school across NSW so before we finalise the model we are rigorously testing it across a range of school settings. When new funding under the RAM is received in the first group of schools it will be fairer, more transparent, and it will enable schools to plan more effectively with their communities.

If your school is part of the Empowering Local Schools National Partnership, some changes will happen faster than in other schools. These schools will be the first ones to be funded under this new model and will be able to involve their school communities in the allocation of resources to identified areas. Other schools will be funded by the RAM over the next two years.

The RAM will include loadings for socio-economic status, Aboriginality, English Language Proficiency and students with disability, as well as loadings for school size and location. It will provide a loading for each of these factors to ensure equity for our students.

This is a funding model that is student focused. It is simpler, fairer and transparent. And it will give schools funding stability so a small change in circumstances doesn’t lead to a big change in resources.

It is the critical financial enabler of everything we are trying to achieve under Local Schools, Local Decisions; build an even better public school culture; one that promotes creativity and innovation, where the staff in our schools are willing, and supported, to try out new things.

A culture that supports a principal with ideas, energy and a willing school community, to innovate and know they’ll be supported, not second guessed by head office.

It’s a big change and a long overdue recognition of the capability and professional judgement of the leaders in our schools and of the importance of local decision-making in ensuring NSW continues to have a great public school system.

You can find more information about the RAM on the Local Schools, Local Decisions website at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/lisd. Over the coming months there will be regular updates on this site.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education
Funding changes at Como Public School

Voice your concerns about direct funding changes to Como Public School due to the new “Every Student, Every School” Initiative.

Who: Graham Annesley MP (Sitting State Member)
Where: Como Public School Staff Room.
When: Monday Aug 20th 9.30am-10.00am

Como Public School has been directly affected by the funding changes that have occurred to allow larger schools additional resources, for their additional needs students. We have been successful in getting Mr Annesley along to hear your concerns about this.

In short, teachers aid funding at Como has been significantly reduced, while other schools have had an increase in funding. This means that our teachers have fewer resources available to them to manage the array of needs across their classes. It has been acknowledged that small schools will be disadvantage under this scheme, and small schools are currently being monitored to see the actual impact. It is important to let Mr Annesley know that cuts are not what small schools need.

To compensate for the reduction to teachers aids funding, we have been offered the following support under the “Every Student Every School” initiative:

- Relief days to support professional learning and planning
- Payment of the costs associated with participation in online learning courses
- Personalised implementation plan for each school in Term 3 2012 and consultation with the Principal to determine need and develop strategies, and
- Delivery of online learning program at school sites at mutually agreeable times and dates.
- On a short-term basis, support for students experiencing difficulties in literacy. The support could include face-to-face student support and/or teacher support.

These are all well received and are appreciated but they are all short term. As we know, Como is a vibrant school that has the ability, and staff, that allow it to cater for each individual child. Other larger schools have the additional long term funds to help manage the array of needs across their classes, Como is only asking for the same.

Please feel free to contact either Robyn (0432 68 33 67) or Darren (0421 226 519)

We look forward to seeing you there.
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<th>Term 3 current as at August 14, 2012</th>
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<td>- Banking(T1W2)</td>
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<td>- Maths ICAS exam</td>
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<td>- Zone Athletics (DTF)</td>
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<td>- Library(T1W2)</td>
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<td>- Art classes commence (DTF)</td>
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<td>- Sandpit. Kindy (T1W2)</td>
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<td>- Zone Public Speaking (DTF)</td>
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<td>- Middle Years Transition to The Jannali High School (DTF)</td>
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<td>- 4/5 to Como Preschool</td>
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<td>- Last day of Term 3</td>
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Note: School Newsletter references e.g. (T1W3) = Details in Term 2, Week 8 Newsletter, (DTF) = Details to follow. Past newsletters available at www.como-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
FATHER’S DAY STALL!!!

We will be holding a Father’s day stall on Friday 31st August.
Gifts will be $5 each.
Please hand your money into the office by Friday 24th August.

Any queries, please call either Jenny Easton 0417293623 or Claire Weir 0408250047.

FATHER’S DAY STALL
Name ..........................
Class ..........................
Number of gifts ............
Money enclosed ............