Welcome
I would like to welcome our new art teacher Ms. Lloyd to Como Public School. Ms. Lloyd will be conducting an enrichment program on Thursdays for students who demonstrate talent in the creative arts.
I would also like to welcome back our language teacher Mrs. Borderias who will be teaching Spanish to our K-6 students for the remainder of the year. Thank you to our families who support our markets and fundraising initiatives to make this possible.

Communicating with Teachers
Our teachers rely on their time off class to communicate with other teachers and office staff to help plan for the day or upcoming events, prepare and plan for lessons, etc. The teachers are always happy to talk to parents about their child’s progress or any issues or concerns but please make an appointment at the school office to organise a time. It is inappropriate to interrupt teachers whilst they are talking to others unless it is an emergency situation.

Middle Years Project
Last week I attended a middle year’s conference that focuses on enhancing the educational outcomes of students across the state from years 5-9. Our school is part of a project called “Growing Together” that involves the year 5, 7 and 9 students to work in multi-age groups collaboratively together in teams to replicate (in the form of a model) the growing conditions of an African country in the Sutherland region and trial different seeds to recommend replacement crops. Students will publish and share their results as a real life solution to what is becoming an increasing global issue. Please refer to the attached notes. We would like the email address of parents of year 5 students involved in the project so that you are able to keep up to date with your child’s individual progress throughout the project. Our year 6 students will also be conducting workshops at The Jannali High School to assist with their transition into High School.

National Literacy & Numeracy Week
Next week we are celebrating National Literacy and Numeracy Week. Literacy and numeracy skills are fundamental life skills that enable students to progress in school, further study, training and work. The promotion of strong literacy and numeracy skills in young people is critical to Australia’s future prosperity and position in the world.
At Como PS we have a strong emphasis in our School Management Plan on further developing our students’ literacy and numeracy skills. One of our strategies to assist in the continued development in this area is participation in a writing and mathematics project across a community of schools. This has enabled us to have ongoing consultancy support and access to many resources.

Stewart House
Stewart House clothing bags were distributed to children last week. Please return bags by Monday 3rd September 2012 for collection. Bags can be left in the corridor outside the 1/2/3 classroom.

Zone Athletes

Regards,
Mrs. V. Pantelis
Principal
**Calendar of Events**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd August</td>
<td>“Champions Read Day’ – Dress up for Book Week Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd August</td>
<td>Zone Athletics, Art &amp; Spanish Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 24th August</td>
<td>4/5 to Como Preschool, Father’s Day stall money due</td>
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**AWARDS THIS WEEK**

**Harmony Awards:**
- K/1: Tessa
- 1/2/3: Toby
- 4/5/6: Dean

**Mathlete of the week:** Georgia

**Bronze Awards:**
- 1/2/3: Annabel, Michael, Max, Lucas
- 4/5/6: Carly

**Silver Awards:**
- 1/2/3: Max
- 4/5/6: Carly

Congratulations to all Award Recipients

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Find a movie**
Watching movies together can be a great family activity. Check out these movie recommendations and reviews, and find films suitable for your child’s age and maturity level - from latest releases to classics.
Go to: [http://raisingchildren.net.au/movie_reviews/movies_landing_page.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/movie_reviews/movies_landing_page.html)

**Animal welfare**
Is your child fascinated by all creatures great and small or interested in animal welfare? The World of Animal Welfare website features fun interactive games, fact sheets as well as information about the RSPCA. The site is split into sections according to age: 8 and under and 9-13. Go to: [http://www.woaw.org.au/](http://www.woaw.org.au/)

**Perfect punctuation**
Want to help your child with their punctuation? Help them remember when to use a semicolon and when to use an apostrophe with a downloadable help sheet from the School A to Z website. The site also has a range of help sheets on English terms and usage. Go to: [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/help-sheets](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/help-sheets)
Up-date on Como Public School funding reductions due to the introduction of the “Every Student, Every School” scheme.

Yesterday, an extraordinary P and C meeting was held and Mr Graham Annesely (sitting State MP) attended our school to listen to parents concerns about the impact of the “Every Student, Every School” scheme on our school.

The staffroom was full with 17 parents attending to voice their concerns.

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 disadvantaged under this scheme, and small schools are currently being monitored to see the actual impact.

The meeting was positive with Mr Annesley identifying that Como has been adversely affected by this funding change, and that he will argue for Como to have the funding reviewed. He has committed to help but has also highlighted that he can give no guarantees' that the issue will be resolved.

It was also decided that a working party be established to coordinate the process.

What can you do to help?

- **Write an email to Mr Annesley to voice your concerns.** Mr Annesley will be sending his documentation to the Director General of Education on this Friday the 24th Aug, and he has asked for as many Como families as possible to email him their concerns about the Como funding, by close of business Thursday 23rd Aug.
  - His email is [miranda@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:miranda@parliament.nsw.gov.au).

Please feel free to have a chat to me, if you would like further details of what others have put in their letters or just a heads up about what happened in the meeting.

If you do take the opportunity to voice your concern to Mr Annessley, could you please let me know so I can follow up with his staff to ensure all of our documentation has been received. Just send me a text on 0432 68 33 67.

I look forward to working with you all, and keeping you in loop with this important issue.

Kind regards
Robyn Martin
(0432 68 33 67)
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 ........................
21 August 2012

HOTSCOS

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Our school is part of a community of schools called “HOTSCOS” – Heart of the Shire Community of Schools. Recently we were successful in our application in implementing a project called “Growing Together” aimed at enhancing the transition into Year 7 for students.

The Years 5 and 6 students will be visiting The Jannali High School and working with students in Years 7, 8 and 9 on an inquiry based project.

Our school will be visiting on Monday 10th September 2012 and Monday 19th November 2012. Students will need to be dressed in full school uniform and bring their recess, lunch, drink and hat in their excursion bag on these days.

A bus will pick up the children and return them to school during normal school times. Please sign and return the permission note below by Friday 31st August. Transport costs are covered.

We will keep you up to date with progress of the project via our school newsletter at the end of this term and next.

Mrs V Pantelis
Principal

HOTSCOS
Monday 10th September & Monday 19th November 2012

I give my child/ren ____________________________ of Class __________________ permission to participate in the community of schools project called “Growing Together”. I understand that travel will be by bus to and from The Jannali High School, on Monday 10th September and Monday 19th November 2012.

I give permission for my child to be photographed/ video footage of their participation in the project. I understand that this may be used to show other departmental personnel in relation to student progress during the project.

☐ Yes
☐ No

Signed: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

(Parent/Guardian)
21 August 2012

Dear Parents/ Caregivers of Year 5,

Our learning community - HOTSCOS (Heart of the Shire Community of Schools) was successful in receiving funding to support an educational plan with the focus on middle years pedagogy.

At Como PS we would like to trial an online student learning management system called “Knowledge NET”. This system facilitates the effective sharing of student’s work between school, as well as home and school. It helps engage learners in the 21st century by using learning processes and tools in a collaborative and interactive online learning environment.

One of the system’s features is that it allows parents to access their child’s account to see their progress on the project. It would be appreciated if you could complete the slip below and return it to school by Tuesday 28th August, 2012. Any enquiries please contact Mrs Roffey or myself.

Mrs V Pantelis
Principal

----------------------------------------
HOTSCOS

Student name: ________________________
DEC email address: __________________
Parent name: ________________________
Parent email address: __________________

Genoa Street, Como NSW 2226
Phone: 9528 9003 Fax: 9528 3407
como-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM
Who we are...

SSLDSG is a parent self-help group which provides information and support to parents of children who are experiencing difficulties with learning. Services provided include:

- Telephone Help Line
- Information on local services, educational programs, therapists, schools and special needs classes.
- Support and advocacy for children and their families
- Quarterly information evenings
- An extensive library of books, audio and video tapes for parents and professionals on a wide range of topics including ADD/ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Sensory Programs, Autism and Aspergers Syndrome, Behaviour and Parenting
- Workshops for parents and children
- Resources for teachers

Sutherland Shire Learning Difficulties Support Group Inc.

Meetings & Office:
Multi Purpose Centre for the Disabled
239 Flora Street
Sutherland NSW 2232

Phone/Fax:
(02) 9314 1905
E-mail: sldsg@idex.com.au
Website: www.learningdifficulties.org.au

All Mail:
PO Box 580
Sutherland NSW 2232

SSLDSG is a non-profit organisation of parents, teachers and professional persons interested and involved in the field of

Donations are tax deductible

Does my child have a Learning Difficulty?
Sutherland Shire Learning Difficulties Support Group Inc.

Some children struggle with school. They need extra help to learn the skills of childhood and become confident, capable adults.

**Recognising the child with specific learning difficulties.**

The areas in which children may experience difficulties include:

- **Motor skills** which can affect:
  - Coordination
  - Playing sport
  - Learning to dress themselves
  - Writing, drawing or cutting

- **Communication** which may include:
  - Problems with expression - mixing up words
  - Difficulty understanding what they hear
  - Taking a long time to tell a story
  - Repetition
  - Talking for a long time and not changing the subject

- **Perception** which includes:
  - Difficulty interpreting what they see and hear
  - Little understanding of time
  - Confusing left and right
  - Difficulty in linking sounds
  - Problems understanding space and distance

- **Attention** which includes:
  - Lack of concentration and often unfinished work
  - Easily distracted by the least little noise or movement
  - Hyper-focused or “switched off”

- **Impulsivity** which includes:
  - Inability to wait
  - Compulsion to touch and handle everything and everyone around
  - Acting and speaking before thinking

- **Hyperactivity** which means they:
  - Are always and continuously moving
  - Fidget and go from one activity to another
  - Are unable to sit still
  - Run rather than walking
  - Daydream
  - Procrastinate

- **Conservatism** which includes:
  - Resisting changes in routine
  - Repeating an action over and over, long after the need for it has ceased

- **Social Skills** which may include:
  - Sensitivity and being irritable, moody and hard to live with
  - Having sudden temper tantrums, often without cause
  - Panicking easily and having a low tolerance for frustration and failure

As a consequence of learning difficulties, a child may be emotionally highly strung and develop a poor self-image and emotional problems.

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All children exhibit some of these behaviours. The presence of one or more may not be significant, but a cluster of these behaviours requires further assessment. No two children with learning difficulties are the same and therefore should not be compared.
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<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Every Week</td>
<td>-Banking(T1W2)</td>
<td>-Garden Club(T1W2)</td>
<td>-Canteen(T2W7)</td>
<td>-Art &amp; Spanish Classes(T3W1)</td>
<td>-Sport Uniform (T1W2)</td>
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<td>-Library(T1W2)</td>
<td>-Band Tutorials (T1W2)</td>
<td>-Band Rehearsal (T1W2)</td>
<td>-Zone Athletics</td>
<td>-Canteen(T2W7)</td>
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<td>-Sandpit, Kindy (T2W2)</td>
<td>-Sandpit, Yr 1 (T2W2)</td>
<td>-Sandpit, Yr 2 &amp; 3 (T2W2)</td>
<td>-Deadline Letters to Graham Annesty</td>
<td>-Dance Bill (DTF)</td>
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<td>-Assembly, Hall 2-2.30pm</td>
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<td>-“Champions Read Day” Fancy Dress</td>
<td>-Sandpit, Yr 4 (T2W2)</td>
<td>-Sandpit, Yr 5 &amp; 6 (T2W2)</td>
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<td>-Zone Public Speaking (T3W5)</td>
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<td>National Literacy and Numeracy Week</td>
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<td>-Father’s Day Stall Note &amp; Money due(T3W4)</td>
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<td>-Rugby workshop</td>
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<td>-Father’s Day</td>
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<td>-Markets K/1 Cake Donation(DTF)</td>
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<td>-Kindy 2013 Orientation (DTF)</td>
<td>-Rugby workshop</td>
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Note: School Newsletter References e.g. (T2W6) = Details in Term 2, Week 8 Newsletter, (DTF) = Details to follow. Past newsletters available at www.como-p.schoollnsw.edu.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.
Canteen Manager - Casual  
Sylvania Heights Public School  

Job Description  
The P&C Committee of Sylvania Heights Public School is seeking to employ an enthusiastic self motivated person to manage the school canteen operations. The position is casual for minimum 20 hours per week during school terms with employment conditions in accordance with P&C and Other Associations Retail Award. Starting time at the school is 8:30am and working till 12:30pm Monday to Friday.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the day to day operations of the canteen as well as ensuring that the future business directions of the canteen as determined by the P&C are carried out to ensure best practice in food service is provided to our students.

We are looking for an applicant who:
  • has excellent interpersonal skills as they will be dealing with students, staff and parents
  • has excellent organizational skills as they will be leading a team of volunteers
  • good time management
  • is experienced with negotiating with suppliers
  • is a good team player including the demonstrated ability to contribute to and foster a positive team environment

How to Apply  
Interested parties should send their resumes through to shpspandc@gmail.com. Successful candidates will be contacted for further interviews. Applications close 31 August 2012.