Important Dates
After School Sport
Monday/Wednesday afternoons

Swimming Dates
Tuesday 5th March
Tuesday 12th March

Bandaged Bear
Breakfast & Parent Info Session
Wed 6th March

Funky Hair Day
Thursday 7th March

King of the River Fishing Comp
Saturday 16th March

Harmony Day
Wed 20th March

Raw Art
Wed 27th March

Principal’s Message
Mrs Cairns and I attended a conference on Quality Teaching on the 27th 28th Feb and 1st March as part of the National Partnership Program. We both found the three days to be excellent and have come back with many new ideas to improve the quality of the learning and teaching at Spencer Public School. Thank you to Mrs Julie Blair and Ms Maria Altuna for providing the students with an educational and enjoyable program on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Our first information session this year is on this Wednesday morning after our Bandaged Bear breakfast. The information sessions will cover our excursion to Sydney, our behavior system at the school and signing of the Anti-bullying agreement for each student. There will also be information sessions to help you support your child’s reading at home. Please come and join us for breakfast at 8:30.

We have started our interviews for Personal Learning Plans and if you have not being able to come up during the allocated dates please contact the school and we will discuss a suitable time.

Funky Hair day is on Thursday 7th and we have a professional hair dresser coming for the morning.

More information is attached to this newsletter.

Rosslyn Raftery
Parents are welcome to come along to our Funky Hair Day on Thursday from 10.00am. We will be raising money for the World’s Greatest Shave in support of the Leukaemia Foundation. If you are brave you can have your hair done in a crazy style or colour for just $2.

**Funky Hair Day - Thursday 7.3.13**

Bandaged Bear Breakfast - Wednesday 6th March, 2013 at 8.30am

Your $2 donations for our yummy bacon and egg rolls will go towards the annual Sydney Children's Hospital Bandaged Bear Appeal. Thank you kindly for supporting this worthy cause! We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday morning.

Students are welcome to bring a favourite teddy bear from home.

Rachel Cairns
HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting: www.australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus
If you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink/Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Family Law Network Australia

The Family Law Network has recently launched a new website. This website is a FREE information resource and referral service for family law matters. The site address is: www.familylawmattersaustralia.com.au

Looking For Volunteer Host Families
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2013. Our students from Italy, Belgium, Finland, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands and South America are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

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