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**Compulsory
Dates List for
Students**

Meetings:

- *Highland Gathering
- *Pipes & Drums
- *Lithgow P&F

**Reminder:
SCHOOL
PHOTOS
Tuesday
11.3.09**

Regular Features:

- Weekly Sport
- Sport Results
- Preparatory School
- Pre-Prep
- Lithgow Prep

School Uniform and Personal Property

With the start of the school year most students have acquired new uniform items, and other personal property.

Please be sure to mark **EVERY-THING** with the student's name. Hats are particularly subject to being left behind when moving between classes.

Items with names securely attached or written on them can easily be returned to the owner.

Senior School students can check with Mrs Shillabeer if they are seeking lost items. The Prep School maintains a lost property box near Mrs Weal's office.

P&F MEET AND GREET FUNCTION.

The P&F will be hosting their annual "meet and greet" function on **Saturday 14th February** in the senior school quadrangle, commencing at 5.30pm.

Cost is \$15.00 per person with drinks and nibbles provided by the P&F.

This is usually a very relaxed and enjoyable evening, concluding when darkness takes over.

Please RSVP to the school office. Payment on the night is ok. I look forward to seeing you there.

Ross Andrew
0427 294 869

Friends of the Pipes & Drums Meeting

**Monday, February 2nd
5:00 p.m. in the school library**

Hoping to see everyone there!

*--Mrs Cheryl Gilbert
Secretary*

2009 HIGHLAND GATHERING

There will be a meeting of the Highland Gathering committee this Friday, 30th January 2009 at 5.00pm in the school library.

Any parents wishing to offer their services to assist in the preparation and running of this year's event are most welcome to attend.

From the Headmaster . . .

Welcome to a new academic year to all our students and their families. I am sure that, along with the staff, everyone is looking forward to a year that has great potential to be a special year for Scots. The enthusiasm and excitement of the students, as I see them around the School, reflects the quality of the students that attend our school.

I would like to welcome some new staff members who bring new skills and expertise to strengthen the staff profile. Mrs Anderson will be teaching French to Year 7 and has extensive experience teaching languages, last year she acted as a tutor to some of our students who were Open High School students. Ms Cameron is a very experienced HSIE teacher and will be teaching Geography, Studies of Religion and Business Studies. Mr Christie will be teaching Drama and some Music, he has taught in a variety of schools including spending some time in New Zealand and also travelled to Ireland on a scholarship to study Irish theatre. Mrs Dawes, who many people know as she has taught locally and also taught for a term here when a member of staff was taking Long Service Leave, will be teaching Agriculture and Science. She has extensive experience in these areas and also in showing cattle and equestrian activities. Mr Press is a very experienced teacher of Mathematics who is relieving Mrs Wilson for two terms maternity leave. I know each of these teachers will bring much to our already talented and dedicated staff. I am very pleased with the energy and enthusiasm that the staff have shown as they prepare for the year ahead. Our students will be the beneficiaries of their endeavours.

This year there will be uncertainty and some difficulties in the world around us. Scots will be a place of stability and calmness where we will prepare students to live and work in an increasingly competitive and complex world. We will be able to do this job effectively if students and families are committed to the programs that we offer. I encourage students to approach all they are involved in, positively and enthusiastically. That way, 2009 will be a great year for us all.

Tim Richards

SCHOOL SHOP HOURS TERM 1 2009

Monday	8.30 - 11am	1pm - 2pm
Tuesday		1pm - 2pm
Wednesday	8.30 - 11am	
Thursday		1pm - 2pm
Friday	8.30 - 11am	1pm - 2pm

Mrs Kathy Weal is in charge of the school shop.

YEAR 12

Lion's Club Youth of the Year

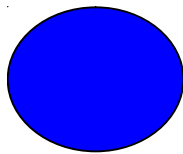
Expressions of interest are being sought from current Year 12 students to compete in the Lion's Club Youth of the Year Quest.

Anyone wishing to be considered as the Scots School nominee, please see Mrs Fleming as a matter of urgency.

The competition judging will be held on Thursday, 19th February 2009. The student successful at this level will also need to be available at the district judging on 7th March, 2009.

Mrs L. Fleming

Watch this spot!



Careers – Uni – TAFE information starts next week

MUSIC NOTES

1. Music ensembles will commence this week and are as follow:

- Stage Band- 8am Thursday
- String Ensemble- 8am Friday
- Concert Ensemble- 3.30pm Monday
- Choir- Monday lunch- Week B
Wednesday 8am – Week A

**New students will be welcome at all ensembles.

2. PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS- see Mrs Garland for details. Lessons will resume asap. If you would like to learn an instrument this year please see Mrs Garland at the Music Centre.

Mrs D Garland
Head of Music

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be assessed in writing, reading, language and numeracy. Testing will be held Tuesday, 12th May through Thursday, 14th May. Please mark these dates in your calendar as it is important that students not have conflicting appointments on these dates.

ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE

This Road Safety Message applies to Scots Bathurst and Scots Lithgow

Children's safety to and from school is an important road safety issue; please remember on school days that 40km/h speed zones operate between 8 and 9:30 in the morning and 2:30 and 4 in the afternoon.

The speed limit in school zones is 40km/h during these times. If you are caught travelling at more than 40 km/h in a school zone at these times it will cost you a minimum fine of \$128 and 4 demerit points. 40km/h school speed zones operate across NSW at all school sites on gazetted school days.

A road safety message brought to you by Lithgow City Council's Road Safety Officer or the Midwestern Regional Council's Road Safety Officer.

Kym Snow
Road Safety Officer--Lithgow City Council
Tel: (02) 6354 9999 Fax: (02) 6351 4259

COMPULSORY DATES 2009

The following list of events are compulsory attendance for senior school students. Non-attendance will result in an after school detention. Any student requiring permission to absent themselves from a compulsory event must present a request in writing to the Headmaster well in advance.

These dates are also listed on the small school calendar and in the diary.

13 February	TSS 7-12 Swimming Carnival
15 February	Chapel Service 9:30 am
20 February	WAS Swimming (4 pm @ Stannies)
20 February	Prep K-6 Swimming Carnival
10 March	SCHOOL PHOTOS
26 March	TSS 7-12 Cross-Country
29 March	Highland Gathering
16 May	Chapel Service 9:30 am
12 August	TSS 7-12 Athletics Carnival
30 August	Foundation Day Service 9:30 am
1 November	Prefect Induction Service 9:30 am
6 December	Ceremonial Parade 4:30 pm Carol Service 6:00 pm
7 December	SPEECH DAY

Education Tax Refund (ETR)

We have received the following information from Bob Debus, MP, Federal Member for Macquarie:

“The Australian Government is introducing the Education Tax Refund (ETR) to help families to meet the costs of educating their children through assistance with certain education expenses. The ETR takes effect from 1 July 2008.

Under the ETR, eligible families or independent students will be able to claim:

*a 50 per cent refundable tax offset every year for expenses up to \$750 for each child attending primary school (that is, a refund of up to \$375 per child per year); and

*a 50 per cent refundable tax offset every year for expenses up to \$1500 for each child undertaking secondary school (that is, a refund of up to \$750 per student per year).

Eligible school expenses include:

*laptops, home computers and associated costs, including leasing;

*home internet connection;

*printers and paper;

*education software;

*school textbooks, learning materials and stationery;

*prescribed trade tools.

Families entitled to Family Tax Benefit Part A for children in primary or secondary school in the relevant financial year are eligible for the ETR. Eligibility for the ETR also extends to parents with school children who would be eligible for FTB Part A but for the fact that the child is receiving certain payments or allowances, such as Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, Disability Support Pension, payments under the Veteran's Children Education Scheme and payments under the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004.

For students making the transition from primary to secondary school in a single financial year the full ETR, based on the secondary-school rate, can be claimed. Families with students who enter or leave school in any school year are able to claim the ETR for half of the financial year that they attend school.

First claims for the refund of education expenses can be made from 1 July 2009 using the 2009 individual tax return. For those families who are eligible, but not required to lodge tax returns, a separate claim will be able to be made with the Australian Tax Office from 1 July 2009.

Parents should keep their receipts for education expenses to make the most of the benefits available under the ETR.

Further information about the ETR can be found on the Treasury website at www.treasury.gov.au

The Scots Preparatory School

WELCOME

To all our new students and families a very warm welcome to the Preparatory School. For those returning it was wonderful to greet so many of you yesterday looking relaxed from the holiday but enthusiastic to get started on another school year.

Staff members have been busy preparing for their classes and are excited at the prospect of a productive year with their students. They are looking forward to meeting you at the information sessions in Week 3. The children, without exception looked magnificent in their uniforms. Thank you for your support in ensuring that they are well prepared for the year.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Zach Telfer who gained 6th place in the 200m backstroke event at the State Age Swimming Championships at Homebush in January.

CLASSES

Class structure for 2009 is as follows:

K/1	-	Mrs Inglis
Yr 2	-	Mrs Hallahan
Yr 3/4	-	Mr Alexander
Yr 5/6	-	Mrs Vance

I will be working with all children through either the Release from Face to Face program or Learning Support.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Teachers will conduct information sessions for parents at the following times in Week 3.

Monday, 9th February at 5.15pm - Year 1
- Year 5/6

Monday, 9th February at 6pm - Year 2

Tuesday, 10th February at 5.15pm - Year 3/4

I would encourage all parents to attend these sessions as important information is provided about curriculum, routines, teaching strategies, homework and co curricular activities. There is opportunity to ask questions of a general nature and of course meet the other parents of children in your child's class.

ACCREDITATION

In 2009 the Preparatory School will be under going its Board of Studies accreditation. The last one was completed in 2002. This involves an inspection of the school's policies and an on site visit from inspectors later in the year. I will keep you informed about this process.

SUNSMART

I have registered the school with the Sun Smart Primary School program for 2009. The program is conducted by the Cancer Council and once schools' comply with all recommendations they are recognised as a SunSmart School.

The program involves assessment of our current position, policy development and education in conjunction with the community and students. The students will participate in an education program as part of Health in the first half of the term and I will publish SunSmart information and facts in the Highlander each week for the remainder of the term.

The school already complies with most of the recommendations however, we are keen for our students and community to be fully informed and make sun protection the way for life. At this time of year children should be applying sunscreen before coming to school each day. Hats must be worn at all times when outside.

ABSENCE NOTES

Parents and caregivers are requested to provide a separate written note for all absences. A note in the diary or phone call, whilst very much appreciated by staff is not sufficient to satisfy legal requirements.

SCHOOL SHOP

For those of you who are not aware, Mrs Kathy Weal has taken over the duties at the school shop. This means she will be at the Preparatory School for some time every day and shop hours as advertised.

SWIMSAFE

Children in Years 1 – 6 participating in Swimsafe will need to bring their swimming gear every day for the next 2 weeks. This should include sun protection (hat, swimshirt, sunscreen), goggles (if required) swimming

Prep School continued . . .

costumes, towel and a plastic bag for wet clothes. Girls may like to bring a hanger for their pinafores. It is important during this time that every item of clothing is labelled, right down to the tie, shoes and socks.

SCHOOL SWIMMING

All students in Years 3 – 6 should bring their swimming gear to school every day as we will avail ourselves of every opportunity to cool off, during this period of extreme heat.

Swimming ability of all students will be tested shortly, however, a note will come home requesting your advice before any testing is done.

WAS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Western Area Schools Swimming Carnival will be held at Kinross on Wednesday, 4th February. It is a friendly carnival where no times are kept or points awarded. The children receive ribbons for event placings in either the A or B heat. This is excellent preparation for our own carnival and the HICES carnival at Homebush on 11th March.

*Mrs Kerry Robinson
Head of Preparatory School*

Lithgow School

Welcome to 2009!

We welcome all the new children and families starting at the Scots School in 2009. Also a warm welcome back to all current students and their families.

We trust that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed some family time together over the holiday break.

Mrs Pringle and Mrs Moore are really looking forward to a fun filled year of challenges and learning!

Healthy Minds and Active Bodies

This year we are actively encouraging healthy eating while children are at school, and we ask that parents assist by packing food or drinks in lunch boxes that are not high in sugar, fat or salt. Healthy sandwiches, fruit, vegetables, cheese and yogurt are all great, tasty options. Both Prep School and Pre Prep students will be concentrating on keeping healthy through fun exercise and eating well. A frozen drink or mini freezer block in lunch boxes is a great way of keeping food fresh and cool in this hot weather.

Hats and Water

With such hot conditions we are experiencing at the moment it is important that all students have a hat every day for protection. No Hat, No Play. It is equally as important to stay hydrated so it may be necessary to pack extra cold water bottles during this time.

Our School Is Nut Free

Just a reminder that we have an Anaphylaxis Policy to assist those students who have allergies – particularly those who suffer a reaction due to nuts. All new students will receive our information/food choice sheets this week.

Highland Dancing

Commences in week 3 on Tuesday 10th February. Both Prep and Pre-prep students can attend these after school lessons. More information can be obtained from your teacher.

Prep School News

Welcome Back

Welcome back to the preparatory class and their families. We hope you have had a relaxing break ready for the exciting new year of learning ahead!!

Parent Information Afternoon

Parents are invited to attend a general information afternoon about routines, needs and topics being studied this year on Tuesday 10th Feb after school from 3:15pm-4pm approx.

P&F

The next meeting of the P&F will be on Tuesday 10th February at 3pm. All families are welcome to attend. This will be a short meeting prior to the Prep School Information Session.

Swimming School

Students in year 5 are required to take swimmers and a towel to Bathurst each Friday this term for sport and lessons.

Garden Shed

Construction on the P&F funded garden shed has begun with the concrete slab being laid over the holidays. A BIG thank you to John Baxter for coordinating this project thus far and also to Bill Baxter for his efforts in laying the concrete in such hot conditions. Many more helpers may be needed in the erection of the shed itself!! Well done P&F!

Parent Letters and Surveys

A detailed letter has been sent home with students this week which outlines our routines and special needs for the term. The letter also contains an update of details form, library excursion note and small survey about parent and student expectations for the year. It would be appreciated if you could please take the time to fill these in and return them as soon as possible.

Lunch Order Day

Will be confirmed by the end of Week One.

Pre-Prep News

This week is an exciting time for many children starting Pre Prep for the first time. I look forward to getting to know all the new families as we work closely together throughout the year.

Pre-Prep Assistants

Our Pre Prep Assistants for 2009 will once again be Ms Lauren Harvey and Mrs Anna Bell.

Uniform Shop

Pre-Prep uniform items are available through the Uniform Shop at the Scots School Bathurst. Please phone 63312766 to place any orders. You may pay with a credit card and items will be delivered to Pre-Prep at Lithgow.

Pre Prep Information Sheet

Please make sure that you take the time to read this important information. Please see Di if you have not received yours.

About Me Sheet

This will be given to new parents to fill out this week so that Mrs Moore can gain a closer insight into your child. Please return this as soon as possible as it is an important part of your child's ongoing Pre Prep Portfolio.

Medical History Forms

If your child has a medical condition which needs attention/management while at school please see Di for a Medical History/ Management Sheet. This will ensure that your child's needs are met at all times.

*Erika Pringle
Di Moore*

Sport at Scots

Sports Bulletin Week 1 Term 1

Rugby & Netball Tours 2009

The Rugby and Netball Tours for the Mid Year holiday (July) in 2009 to the Gold Coast (QLD) will be going ahead. The 2nd instalment letter will be sent home with students next week requesting that the 2nd instalment of \$500 be paid before Friday the 27th of February. We will be busy planning the finer details of the tour such as additional activities and team uniforms in the next few weeks. I encourage all students who are interested in contributing to speak to Mr. Bailey or Mr. Adams.

Sports Training Arrangement

Summer sports training will continue as normal on Thursday in Week 1 for all students in years 8 to 12. Normal Tuesday and Thursday training will continue from week 2.

Year 7 Sport will be on Wednesdays between 3.30pm and 4.40pm beginning in week 2. Students already in current teams need not attend. All Year 7 students will be given a schedule of sports for the term so that they can dress appropriately for each sport session. Weeks 2 and 3 will be swimming based activities in the school pool.

Sport Events in the next few weeks

TSS Inter House Swimming Carnival Friday, 13 February

WAS Swimming Carnival Friday, 20 February

ISA Swimming Carnival Friday, 6 March

Mr. Justin Adams (Sports Master)

The Scots School Summer Sport Weekly Schedule 2008/9

Sport	Team	Coach	Date	Opposition	Time	Venue	Transport
Basketball	Lions	Mr. Hayward	29/01/09	BFG	7.30pm	Court 3	Please confirm
	Terriers	Mr. Hayward	29/01/09	ASC Jnr Blue	6.40pm	Court 4	transport arrangements
	Chieftains	Mr. Lee	29/01/09	Silver Miners	8.20pm	Court 1	with your coach
	Highlanders	Mr. Lee	29/01/09	Eagles	5.50pm	Court 4	
	Blue Bells	Mrs. Davis	29/01/09	ASC Jnr Blue	7.30pm	Court 2	
	Angels	Mrs. Davis	29/01/09	Mini-Miners	8.20pm	Court 4	
Cricket	12s	Mr. Chew	30/01/09	Collegians I I	8.20am	Scots Top Oval	
	13s	Mr. Mair	30/01/09	Stannies Blue	8.20am	Scots Main Oval	
	15s	Mr. James	30/11/09	Bye	8.20am		
Tennis		Mr. Matus	30/11/09	No Tennis This Weekend			
Water Polo		Mr. Adams	30/11/09	No Water polo This Weekend			

Training on Tuesday & Thursday at School Pool - 3.40 to 4.40pm

Diving

The diving schedule for Term 1:

Prep Diving Mondays 3:50 - 4:50 p.m.

Senior Diving Fridays 3:50 - 4:50 p.m.

Additional Senior Diving on Wednesdays
by arrangement with Mr Doney.