The warm weather continued again early this week, allowing the children the opportunity to once again enjoy the sand pit and grassed areas. The rain and cooler temperatures later this week are indicative though, of what is to come as Autumn hands over to Winter next week.

Just a reminder re the typical winter colds and flus that are most common during the Winter months, and the importance of keeping sick children at home until they can manage a full day back at school and are relatively symptom free.

FAREWELL BELINDA!

It is with regret that we farewell Belinda Papuni, our Canteen Manager. Belinda has won a permanent, full time job and she is excited to be able to pursue her career now that her son Jack is in High school.

Belinda has been part of our school for 8 years, since Jack started here as a reception. She has always been an active volunteer, supporting Surrey Downs in so many ways, including classroom support, helping on excursions, camps, sport’s days and community events.

More recently, Belinda has been a member of our Governing Council and this year she also willingly took on the role of Treasurer.

In her role as Canteen Manager Belinda has always been someone that the children adore! Even with no spending money, children regularly gather at the canteen during breaks just to chat to Belinda and share their stories.

Most of you would be aware that the canteen was in danger of closing last year but with lots of hard work and innovations, Belinda and her team managed to turn it around and get the canteen back on track!

Our sincere thanks to you Belinda for your contributions to Surrey Downs over the years. We hope you enjoy the following messages from the students:

*I like my hot dog and hash brown. - Asher*

*After years of dedicated service Belinda Papuni is leaving our school to do a full time job at Chemist Warehouse. Belinda, our dedicated canteen lady, has a vast variety of delicious food that I’m sure everyone likes. Belinda has also served countless students during many sports days. We think that we speak for everyone when we say that we don’t want Belinda to go. She worked even harder than usual when the school canteen was in danger of closing down and for that alone we owe her massive thanks. We also thank Belinda for being so kind and welcoming to all students and staff. We appreciate the service you have committed to this school. – Thankyou from Room 18 (Space Ninjas).*

*I’ve never had a lunch order that wasn’t good. - Dima*

*Belinda is a nice lady and my lunch orders are always really good. - Alana*

Thanks again Belinda and all the very best.
Canteen Manager Position / Operating Hours
The process is underway to find our next Canteen Manager. The advertisement is in this week’s edition of the Messenger Newspaper and the J&P is available from the front office. Please note:
Due to the time line required for the application/panel/interview process to occur the canteen will run on reduced hours in weeks 6 and 7 at this stage.
Please note canteen opening hours for week 6 and 7 are Thursday and Friday only.
In the absence of a Manager, the canteen must have two volunteers for it to run on any given day. Due to the small number of volunteers who’ve offered their support this is the best scenario we could offer. Our very sincere thanks to those volunteers for so generously giving their time to keep our canteen operating during this period of transition.

Staff Profile - Kathy Fahy
What is your role at Surrey Downs R-7 School?
I teach Year 2/3 in Room 11.
How long have you been teaching?
I have been teaching since 2005.
What is your favourite thing about teaching?
Having fun with the kids, laughing and making learning entertaining.
What are the things you do outside of school?
On weekends I spend time with my family including my husband and two sons who are both at University. I enjoy walking our dog Lincoln and buying shoes.
Tell us about something interesting about you – What would our school community be surprised to know about you?
Before I went back to University to get my teaching degree I worked in the United Arab Emirates. Between 2000 and 2003 I taught at the AL Ain American School. I was the KG1 (3 year olds) teacher. Myself and Miss Elsa, who was the SSO in the room, taught 25 children of many different nationalities including Emirate, Lebanese, Indian, Swedish, Greek, French, Finnish, American, Jordanian, Hungarian and Australian.

FUNDRAISING REMINDERS
Please consider helping out at the Bunnings BBQ and/or the Election Day BBQ and Bake Sale. We have had a few people already generously offer to donate some eggs and items for the stall but very few names have been put forth to help at the BBQs. Even a half an hour would be very much appreciated!

Can You Help??
A family in our school community is requesting support to help with getting her children to and from school. Mum is unwell and the cold winter weather adds to her fragile condition. She is happy for someone to either call past and walk with them, or collect them if the weather is wet. They live close by on Zuleika Street. If you think you could offer some assistance with this, even on an occasional basis, please contact Janet at the front office.

Habits of Mind – Thinking Flexibility
The Habit of Mind (HOM) focus for weeks 5 & 6 of term 2 is “Thinking Flexibly”. Thinking flexibly is about changing our perspectives, generating alternative ideas and considering all options. An important thing to remember for this Habit of Mind is that generating ideas is a skill, not a gift. Our brains are pattern making machines, because patterns make our life easy e.g. getting dressed and driving a car. Patterns are useful except for when we want new ideas, other points of view or to think flexibly.

Some things you can do to assist your child/ren’s development of this HOM are:
- Assist them to come at problems from a different angle or perspective
- Redefine a problem for them when it seems too hard to solve
- Encourage them to consider all options when faced with a difficult situation

A video that requires us to think flexibly is available at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKJ0KYnB5R8&feature=fvst

Fundraising Reminders
Please consider helping out at the Bunnings BBQ and/or the Election Day BBQ and Bake Sale. We have had a few people already generously offer to donate some eggs and items for the stall but very few names have been put forth to help at the BBQs. Even a half an hour would be very much appreciated!

Can You Help??
A family in our school community is requesting support to help with getting her children to and from school. Mum is unwell and the cold winter weather adds to her fragile condition. She is happy for someone to either call past and walk with them, or collect them if the weather is wet. They live close by on Zuleika Street. If you think you could offer some assistance with this, even on an occasional basis, please contact Janet at the front office.

Habits of Mind – Thinking Flexibility
The Habit of Mind (HOM) focus for weeks 5 & 6 of term 2 is “Thinking Flexibly”. Thinking flexibly is about changing our perspectives, generating alternative ideas and considering all options. An important thing to remember for this Habit of Mind is that generating ideas is a skill, not a gift. Our brains are pattern making machines, because patterns make our life easy e.g. getting dressed and driving a car. Patterns are useful except for when we want new ideas, other points of view or to think flexibly.

Some things you can do to assist your child/ren’s development of this HOM are:
- Assist them to come at problems from a different angle or perspective
- Redefine a problem for them when it seems too hard to solve
- Encourage them to consider all options when faced with a difficult situation

A video that requires us to think flexibly is available at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKJ0KYnB5R8&feature=fvst

FAMILY TIME AUSTRALIA
Family Time Australia has a team of experienced therapists where all your therapy needs are under the one roof. Occupational therapists, speech pathologists, naturopaths, psychologists and medical staff work together with you and each other. This means you receive the highest and most efficient service with all therapists working towards your goals.
For more information visit the website: www.familytimeaustralia.com