



Cammeray Public School Parents' Guide
"For parents, by parents"



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About this document

This guide has been informally compiled with ideas from parents about information they wish they'd been told at the beginning of the year. It is not an official guide to all events held throughout the year, and it is possible that details will only be finalised by the teachers close to the date.

It is expected this list will continually change, so if you have suggestions to add please forward them to contact@cammeraypandc.org.au

Events through the year

DESCRIPTION	ORGANISED BY	2017 DATES	WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
Swimming Carnival	CPS	Tuesday 21 Feb 2017	For Years 3-6 and Year 2 students turning 8 during the year
Welcome BBQ	Year 1 families	Friday 24 Feb 2017	A casual way to meet and catch-up with other Cammeray families
Harmony Day	CPS	Tuesday 21 March 2017	Children wear orange OR traditional dress from your culture
Easter Hat Parade	CPS	Friday 7 April 2017	Kindy kids make their hats in class with materials supplied by parents; all other grades make theirs at home
Mothers' Day Breakfast	Year 2 families	Friday before Mother's Day, 12 May	Before school starts 7:30am-9:00am; kids love hosting Mum at this special event
Trivia night	P&C	Term 2 – date to be confirmed	Social function for parents; some optional fundraising is done for school resources
Athletics Carnival	CPS	Tuesday 25 July 2017	Includes all children from Years K-6
Cammeray Fun Run	Year 6 families	Sunday 25 June 2017	Run by Year 6 students and families
Night of Notables	CPS & Year 6	7 Sept 2017 TBC	Year 6 students present their major project about a "notable person"
Fathers' Day Breakfast	Year 4 families	Friday before Father's Day 1 Sept 2017	Before school starts 7:30am-9:00am; kids love bringing Dad to this special event
Spring Fair	Year 6 families	Sunday 17 September 2017	A great day at the school with jumping castles, performances by children, food and community stalls; not to be missed!
Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day	CPS	Monday in October (TBC)	Grandparents (or special friends) visit the school to see what the children are doing; there is an opportunity to donate Library books.

Cockatoo Island Camping	P&C	Term 4 weekend (TBC)	Optional – families camp on Cockatoo Island for a Saturday night
Peddlers' Parade	Year 6	Term 4	Mini fair run by Year 6 at school for fundraising for the Year 6 farewell
Art Show	CPS	Term 4 – Thursday afternoon; date to be confirmed	An Art masterpiece is created by every student in every class. This work is displayed at North Sydney Leagues Club. Always an impressive standard and worth seeing.
End of year concert	Classes	Term 4	Christmas theme; simple coloured clothing usually required
Talent Quest	CPS	Term 4	Organised by teachers and student leaders; held at lunchtimes
A-Day Assemblies	CPS	At the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3	Different aspects of achievement are celebrated at the end of each term
A-Night Assembly	CPS	At the end of Term 4	Awards event for Academic and other achievements
Balmoral Picnics	CPS	End of Term 4	Each year group has a picnic at Balmoral Beach

Note: for each of these events more information will be sent out when available

School Assembly:

There is a whole school assembly every Monday morning at 9.10am. Upcoming events, achievements and other relevant school information is shared at this forum.

Stage Assembly:

These occur fortnightly during term time 2-2.45pm and each fortnight a different class does an item for assembly. There often is little notice when your child will be performing so keep an ear out for news!

Kindy Assembly: Wed Odd weeks Year 3/4 Assembly: Thurs Even weeks

Year 1 Assembly: Tues Even weeks Year 5/6 Assembly: Thurs Odd weeks

Year 2 Assembly: Tues Odd weeks

School Discos

There are School Discos at the end of most terms in the hall for Years 1-6. (Kindy children will have a Friday lunchtime disco option)

Konnective

Konnective is a communication tool used by the school to get messages out to families and parents in a quickly and timely manner. You can join either through the Konnective app on your smartphone or go to <https://www.konnective.com.au/konnective/access/registermember.html> sign up, search for Cammeray PS and join.

House teams

All students in Years K-6 are placed in team houses to build team spirit and unity across the school. These house groups “compete” for house points at the Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals. House Point Competitions operating throughout the year are another way to encourage positive behaviour and team work.

The four houses for our school are: Cook (red), Flinders (blue), Tasman (yellow) and Wentworth (green). Children are placed into their team house on enrolment. House based coloured t-shirts are available from the uniform shop (red, blue, green, yellow).

Parents and Citizens Association

The P&C is an active parent body that aims to organise events to enhance the school community and raise funds to improve the resources at the school. The P&C meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month during term time and everyone is welcome to attend the meetings. It is a great way to get involved with the school, especially if you are unable to assist at the school during school hours.

Class Parents

The aim of a class parent is to organise opportunities for social interaction outside of school. The social activities should be all inclusive and therefore include “free” events throughout the year. This helps parents get to know each other and the children in the class. The class parent is also a part of the school’s communication network and may be required to send specific information from time to time – especially if the year is involved in organising an event.

The first task is to provide contact details of other parents to the whole class and this should be done as soon as possible. This list is for school use and should not be used for purposes outside school (organising social sport teams is acceptable).

Teachers enjoy having parents help within the classroom for a variety of reasons. Examples of assistance that can be requested are Literacy or Numeracy groups, props for assembly items, reading one on one with children, and many more. The teacher will liaise with the class parents to organise this assistance where required.

Please note – it is NOT necessary to buy gifts to thank Class Parents. Words of gratitude are enough. Gifts are discouraged.

School Playground Names

Zone 1 - Kariong - (Meeting Place)

Zone 2 - Bong bong (out of sight - referring to the cubby houses)

Zone 3 - Turronganka (kids)

Zone 3 Equipment - Kindulin (to laugh)

Zone 4 - Wirrah ooroongala (go run)

Zone 4 Adventure - Watta (scrub/bush)

Hall - Nungun (sing)

Quiet Zone- Warre paiolla (walk and talk)

Frog Hollow - Bingeeye (waterhole)

Social Events

Playdate in the park (for the whole family) – once/term, weekend family picnic term 1 works well.

Mothers' Dinner – once/term

Dads' Dinner/Drinks – 1 or 2/year (popularity of these varies)

Park suggestions

St Thomas Rest Park

St Leonards Park

Green Park

Tunks Park

Hallstrom Park

Naremburn Park

Restaurant suggestions

Infuzions, Cammeray

Flat Rock Brew Cafe, Naremburn

Xenos, Crows Nest

Ms Miller, Cammeray

Wild Sage, Cammeray

BAHBQ, Crows Nest

North Sydney Leagues Club, Cammeray

Papaya Thai, Cammeray

Small Bar, Crows Nest

Drinks suggestions

Flat Rock Brew Cafe, Naremburn

Small Bar, Crows Nest

Ms Miller, Cammeray

The Greens, North Sydney

Cammeray Craft, Cammeray

Public, Cammeray

Wilcox, Cammeray

By Class

Kindergarten

Events through the year

<i>Description</i>	<i>Approx. Date</i>	<i>What you need to know</i>
Easter Hat parade	April (end of Term 1)	Parents help in class with the craft activity of making hats. Your teacher will advise.
Talent Quest	Term 4	Auditions are held in class about the week of, or the week before, the final Talent Quest

Helpful hints

1. Sight Words

A good tip is to laminate the sight words when you get them and then cut them up. Even when your child moves to a new colour, revise the previous colours regularly. Especially for the first 100 sight words.

Learning is not a competition, nor is it a race. It doesn't matter what someone else's child is doing. If you have any concerns – ask your teacher.

2. Uniform Shop & Canteen

Easy to order online using Flexi-schools. Links are on the school website. Kindergarten children cannot buy items over the counter from the canteen.

3. Uniform – what you need minimum

Girls: 2 summer dresses, 3-5 pairs of socks, 2 winter tops. 1 winter skirt / dress, 1 jumper, 3 pairs of tights.

Boys: 3 summer tops, 2 shorts, 3-5 pairs of socks, 3 winter tops, 2 Trousers.

Label everything - because at some point something will be misplaced - lunch boxes, bottles, clothes, hats.

4. Literacy and Numeracy groups

Many teachers welcome parent assistance with Literacy and Numeracy groups. This is a great way to be involved in your child's schooling and get to know the other children and parents in your class.

5. Listen to your child

Sometimes Library days change or the children are asked to bring an item into school (favourite book, leaves, a bug!). Listen to your child as they are proud of their new responsibility and independence. These messages don't always get relayed to parents directly and it is good for the children to be responsible.

6. Athletics Carnival

All students are included in the Athletics Carnival in Term 3. Children dress in their house colours and are taken by bus to an athletics field, where they play games and compete in activities against their age group. Many parents come along on the day to support their kids and assist with the activities. A very fun day, especially for the younger kids.

School Event Responsibility

Description: None during Kindy, but Year 1 do Welcome BBQ in February each year so Kindy Class parents need to be working on it very early in the new year.

Contact for organising: Jenny Riseborough

When: Friday, 24 February 2017 – 2018 TBC

What's involved: Organising food, rosters

Year 1

Helpful hints

For the first few days of school, children go back to their old classes and revise work from the previous year. During the 2nd/3rd day, the new classes and teachers are allocated. That afternoon can be a little chaotic finding your child, but it is also exciting for the kids and sometimes a little stressful. Agree on a meeting point with your child, then they can find you! From Day 4 on, it all settles down and gets back to routine.

1. Canteen

Children from Year 1 can buy items over the counter at the canteen – many don't, but they are able to.

2. Literacy and Numeracy Groups

Literacy and Numeracy groups usually continue in Year 1. Some class teachers may ask for parent support.

3. Opportunities

There will be more opportunities during Year 1 and beyond for children to take part in other aspects of the school (Choir, Dance etc). This happens during school hours and children are asked if they want to participate – if they don't put up their hand you may never know about it!

4. Athletics Carnival

All children participate in the Athletics Carnival in Term 3. Children dress in their house colours and are taken by bus to an athletics field where they play games and compete in activities against their age group. Many parents come along on the day to support their kids and assist with the activities. A very fun day, especially for the younger kids.

School Event Responsibility

Description: Year 1 do the Welcome BBQ in February each year so be ready to Volunteer to help out.

Contact for organising: Jenny Riseborough

When: Friday, 24 February 2017

What's involved: Organising food, rosters

Year 2

Helpful hints

1. Literacy and Numeracy Groups

Literacy and Numeracy groups continue in Year 2. Some class teachers may ask for parent support.

2. Opportunities

There will be more opportunities during Year 2 for children to take part in other aspects of the school (Choir, Dance etc). The biggest opportunity is to try out for the Cammeray School Band at the end of Year 2 – Junior band begins in Year 3.

3. Swimming and Athletics Carnivals

All children participate in the Athletics Carnival in Term 3. Also, children who turn 8 years old during Year 2 have the opportunity to take part in the Years 3-6 Swimming in Term 1 if they wish to compete. This is not compulsory.

4. ICAS - University of NSW Competition

ICAS tests are an optional external competition where children have an opportunity to challenge themselves. The first opportunity is Year 2 with English, Maths and Science. There is a cost involved, but they are not mandatory.

5. Swim Scheme

All year 2 students have the opportunity to be involved in swim scheme. Every day for 2 weeks, the Year 2 children go to North Sydney Pool to take part in a swimming program. They are assessed and put in groups of like ability. It is a real lesson for the children in organisation (not losing or forgetting anything for 2 weeks!) and also in stamina. They get extremely tired over the course of the 2 weeks.

School Event Responsibility

Description: Year 2 co-ordinate the Mother's Day breakfast each year so be ready to volunteer to help out.

Contact for 2017: TBC

When: Friday morning immediately prior to Mother's Day

What's involved: Organising food, rosters

Year 3

Helpful hints

1. Literacy and Numeracy Groups

Literacy and Numeracy groups continue in Year 3. Some class teachers may ask for parent support.

2. Cammeray School Band

The Cammeray School Band starts for Year 3 students with a lesson and 2 rehearsals each week. One rehearsal will be 7.30am before school and the other at lunchtime. Lessons happen either before school, during the afternoon after 1pm or after school – children are taught for ½ hour by their assigned band tutor. It is truly amazing how quickly the children learn music under the guidance of the Band Coordinator. The cost of that first year could add up to approx. \$2,500.

3. Carnivals

Primary swimming and athletics carnivals are in full swing and the most important thing is to learn your house songs, participate and have fun. Some can even run/swim/jump really, really well!

4. ICAS - University of NSW Competition

ICAS tests are an optional external competition where children have an opportunity to challenge themselves. From Year 3 the tests are English, Maths, Writing, Spelling and Science. There is a cost involved, but they are not mandatory.

5. NAPLAN tests

National Tests for Literacy and Numeracy are timetabled for May for Years 3 and 5. The school prepares the children for NAPLAN tests, so there is no need for additional study outside school. The children need a good sleep and good breakfast. Every child completes NAPLAN tests. These results give detailed information to students, parents and the school on the children's progress.

6. Sport

Year 3 students are involved in organised sport, and this is done by an online process early in each term. The choices vary each term and some sports have an additional cost. During years 3-6, your child may represent the school in a range of PSSA sports (against other schools). PSSA sports have included Netball, T-Ball, Soccer and AFL. There is usually training to attend during the week for PSSA teams.

7. Opportunities

There are again more opportunities for children to do extra-curricular activities and also within the class. French is introduced in class from Year 3 onwards.

Year 4

Helpful hints

1. Cammeray School Band

Many students continue in the band until they finish in Year 6.

2. ICAS - University of NSW Competition

ICAS tests are an optional external competition where children have an opportunity to challenge themselves. The tests are English, Maths, Writing, Spelling and Science. There is a cost involved, but they are not mandatory.

School Event Responsibility

Description: Year 4 – Fathers' Day breakfast

Contact for 2017: TBC

When: Friday morning immediately prior to Father's Day

What's involved: Organising food, rosters

Year 5

Helpful hints

1. ICAS - University of NSW Competition

ICAS tests are an optional external competition where children have an opportunity to challenge themselves. The tests are English, Maths, Writing, Spelling and Science. There is a cost involved, but they are not mandatory.

2. NAPLAN tests

National Tests for Literacy and Numeracy are timetabled for May for Years 3 and 5. The school prepares the children for NAPLAN tests, so there is no need for additional study outside school. The children need a good sleep and good breakfast. Every child completes NAPLAN tests. These results give detailed information to students, parents and the school on the children's progress.

3. School Camp

There is an overnight excursion to look forward to this year – details will be given by your teacher as the destination changes depending on topics being focused on.

School Event Responsibility

Description: Year 5

Contact: N/A

When: N/A

Year 6

Helpful hints

Watch out, your child will grow up so much this year. School work changes and there are major projects during the year which the children do mainly in class but also at home – including Night of Notables.

1. ICAS - University of NSW Competition

ICAS tests are an optional external competition where children have an opportunity to challenge themselves. The tests are English, Maths, Writing, Spelling and Science. There is a cost involved, but they are not mandatory.

2. School Camp

There is a Year 6 camp! It is to the Great Aussie Bush Camp and they are away for 3 days/2 nights in Term 1. They will come back very tired. In addition to this there may be another overnight camp, details will be provided.

3. Parent Volunteers

It is very important for the Year 6 parents to get involved and volunteer their time and expertise where needed. The various events run during the year require planning and many helpers. The funds raised go towards the Year 6 Dinner Dance which is enjoyed by all.

4. Peddlars' Parade

Year 6 families gather lots of pre-loved books/toys etc during the year to sell to younger students at the Peddlars' Parade.

5. Year 6 Dinner

The Year 6 Dinner for children and parents is held in December each year. The fundraising throughout the year is to subsidize the cost of the dinner (and to raise money to give a gift to the school).

6. Year 6 T-shirt

Each year at the beginning of Year 6, a Cammeray School shirt is designed with all of the children's names on it. This is the only top your Year 6 child will want to wear during the year. Do not top up on uniforms in Year 5!

School Event Responsibility

Description: Year 6 – Discos, Fun Run, Spring Fair and Peddlars' Parade

Contact from 2017: Year 6 teachers

What's involved: Lots of volunteers to help

Last day of school

The school has a wonderful tradition of farewelling the Year 6 children through a tunnel made by all the students of the school on the last day of Term 4. There is a final assembly, a final performance and then they all go down to Balmoral to jump off the wharf. Your journey at Cammeray has come to an end and, yes, it can be very emotional!