Cambridge Park Public School
Exceptional learning opportunities for all

Term 1, Week 6

Upcoming Events:

- Fri 8 March — Preschool Photos
- Wed 13 March — Stage 1 Excursion
- Fri 15 March — National Day of Action Against Bullying
- Fri 15 March — PBL Assembly
- Wed 20 March — P&C AGM
- Thurs 21 March — Harmony Day
- Fri 22 March — PRD Information session in library
- Tues 26 March — Easter Celebrations
- Wed 27 March — School Cross Country
- Fri 29 March — Good Friday
- Mon 1 April — Easter Monday
- Wed 3 April — Stage 1 'Me Box' presentation
- Tues 9 April — Stage 2 Excursion
- Wed 11 April — ANZAC Day service

Pre-School Vacancies 2013

We still have a few vacancies in the preschool for 2013 which we are very keen to fill. If you know anyone who has a child turning four by July 31st 2013 who is looking for a pre-school placement, please pass this information onto them.

- No waiting list.
- High quality learning experiences based on the National Quality Framework.
- Qualified professional staff.
- Fee reduction or exemption on request for anyone having financial difficulty. You are entitled to ask for fee relief or fee exemption.

Keyword Signing

In term four 2012 as part of the teachers professional development, we were instructed in the use of keyword signing to assist in communication between teachers and students requiring this extra support. Each fortnight lessons are prepared by the Cockatoos and the Kingfishers and are available to each class for all students and teachers to learn and practice. Further information on keyword signing is included in this newsletter.

Parking around the school

Just a friendly reminder that parents parking around the school need to be mindful of the residents and not block their driveways. The council has been informed and will be making regular visits to the areas around the school.

Cambridge Park PS Facebook Page

Just a reminder to like us on Facebook to gain access to school news, information and articles. We also use the page to send last minute reminders. When an event is posted, join the event to get a reminder closer to the event date.

You are also welcome to make a comment or ask questions. However, the school reserves the right to delete any inappropriate posts and this page is not for students.

New Canteen Opening Hours

The canteen will now be open Monday—Friday for morning and lunch trading only. There will not be canteen facilities available for recess. Please ensure your child/ren have adequate food and drink packed for recess each day.

Responding to the needs of our community through regular and open communication between school and home
Naplan

Once again Naplan testing will be held in May. Included in this newsletter is information for parents containing the dates of the testing as well as explaining what NAPLAN is about. All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with a disability may qualify for adjustments which reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated. A formal exemption or withdrawal from the NAPLAN testing may be granted and the school principal can provide you with information on the process required. All exemptions or withdrawals need to be lodged with the principal by 30th April, 2013.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is on 21st March and this year’s theme is Many Stories – One Australia. The teachers will be encouraging participation of this event through lessons in the classroom and students work will be displayed around the school. You can check out what events are happening in our local area by logging on to the website www.harmony.gov.au

National Action Day Against Bullying and Violence – Friday 15th March

Mrs Vancuylenberg has been running a poster competition to raise awareness around bullying and violence. The winners of the competition will be announced at the next PBL assembly. The posters will displayed around the school.

Mrs J Clack
Relieving Principal

University of New South Wales International Competitions 2013

The University of New South Wales International Competitions are offered to students 3-6. This year competitions are offered in the following areas: Computer Skills, Mathematics, English, Spelling, Writing and Science.

If you wish your child to be involved in these competitions please fill in the form below and return to the office with payment by Friday March 29th.

Mrs Spry
Organising Teacher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>2013 Entries Closing</th>
<th>2012 Test Date</th>
<th>Entry Fee per student</th>
<th>Tick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Tues 23rd April</td>
<td>AUD $8.80</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Tues 8th May</td>
<td>AUD $8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Mon 20th May</td>
<td>AUD $18.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Tues 21st May</td>
<td>AUD $12.10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Tues 3rd July</td>
<td>AUD $8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Tues 16th July</td>
<td>AUD $8.80</td>
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Responding to the needs of our community through regular and open communication between school and home
**Morning Routines**

Students are expected to arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.55am. They can leave their bag at their classroom and then go to the western quad where the canteen is located to be supervised by the duty teacher. If parents stay with their child they can come into the western quad as well and wait until the bell rings.

Parents are requested to leave the assembly area as soon as the school assembly begins to allow students to be settled and to have a smooth start to school routine.

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**Morning Assembly**

As of last week students are having morning assemblies. This means that when the music starts at 8.55am students need to get ready to go into their lines. They need to be in lines at 9.00am waiting for the teacher who is on the stage. As there appears to be some confusion about where to line up following is a quick guide to where each class should line up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Daisies (Mrs Bell)</th>
<th>Koalas (Mrs Blunden)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quokas (Mrs Kew)</td>
<td>Blue tongues (Mrs MacKinnon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallabies (Mrs Copeland)</td>
<td>Geckos (Mrs Lodge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desert Peas (Mr &amp; Mrs Devitt)</td>
<td>Waratahs (Mrs Wallace)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingfishers/Cockatoos (Mr Thompson &amp; Miss Cook)</td>
<td>Banksias (Mrs McKeown)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharks (Mrs Richards &amp; Mrs Wiggins)</td>
<td>Sugar Gliders (Mrs Clack &amp; Miss Chalker)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echidnas (Mrs Scott)</td>
<td>Cassowaries (Mr O'Neill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flying Foxes (Mrs VanCuylenberg)</td>
<td>Tasmanian Devils (Mrs Searle &amp; Mrs Brown)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bilbies (Mrs Jobson)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Stage**

- Flagpole
- Paper Daisies (Mrs Bell)
- Quokas (Mrs Kew)
- Wallabies (Mrs Copeland)
- Desert Peas (Mr & Mrs Devitt)
- Kingfishers/Cockatoos (Mr Thompson & Miss Cook)
- Sharks (Mrs Richards & Mrs Wiggins)
- Echidnas (Mrs Scott)
- Flying Foxes (Mrs VanCuylenberg)
- Bilbies (Mrs Jobson)

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**Morning Fitness**

Fitness is part of the school curriculum that is operating in the school for the first 15 minutes of the day, Monday through to Thursday unless it is raining. The first three weeks there was a health hustle conducted by Mrs McKeown. Since then there have been a series of fitness activities stationed throughout the school which the students perform with a partner class. Teachers have been given copies of a timetable and school map showing where each activity is to be performed. These activities will commence straight after the morning assembly. Students need to be at morning assemblies promptly so they can move with their class.

Derris Devitt  
Lorna MacKinnon  
Assistant Principal  
Relieving Assistant Principal
Key WORD Sign

What is Key Word Sign?
Key Word Sign is the use of signs and natural gesture to support communication. It is used to encourage and support language development in children with communication difficulties.

What is the vision for KWS at C.P.P.S?
The vision is for Key Word Sign to be adopted right across the Cambridge Park Public School community. It’s important for all children to learn KWS so they can communicate with students in our school who have difficulties feeling heard and understood.

What does learning KWS involve?
Every fortnight a small number of signs will be introduced in the form of a short video staring the students themselves. Teachers can use this video to introduce signs at a time that fits in with their classroom program.

How will KWS be shared across our school community?
Every fortnight, each new KWS video will be played at our school assembly. Members of our school community are welcome to come along and join in the fun! These signs will also be shared in our school newsletter so that students and their families can practice at home.

If you would like any more information about Key Word Sign please contact Ms Cook or Mr Thompson (Cockatoo and Kingfisher rooms).

Library Corner

Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the Adam, Riley, Jake, Courtney and Mikhayla who completed the Summer Reading Challenge. Prizes were handed out in our assembly last Friday. We are very proud of our active learners.

Request a Book Service

This term we are trying to find new ways to be responsive to the needs of our school library community. The first books requested by students from the book club catalogues are being processed and will shortly be available to be borrowed. Look out for Issue Three catalogues early next term to have your chance to request a book.

Premier’s Reading Challenge


The Premier’s Reading Challenge site is now live to add books to student booklists. Year 2 has already been busy adding their first books. On Friday 22nd March 2013 interested parents and caregivers are invited to an information session at 2:30pm in the school library about the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Learn about the rules, the booklists, navigating the website and entering books online. Please indicate your attendance by completing the slip and returning it to Mrs Sivanandan in the library.

Book Bonus

Book Bonus is a new online read-a-thon directly linked to the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge. Students can participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge without choosing to be involved in the Book Bonus or may choose, with parental permission, to opt in. For further information see www.bookbonus.org.au.

Mrs Sivanandan
Teacher Librarian

Dear Mrs Sivanandan,

Yes, I will be attending the Premier’s Reading Challenge information session on Friday 22nd March 2013 at 2:30pm in the school library.

Parent: _________________________________________________________________

Student(s): ______________________________________________________________

Please indicate your student(s) so that I can make sure we have the appropriate log in information available.

Responding to the needs of our community through regular and open communication between school and home
EASTER ‘EGG’STRAVAGANZA 2013 

Tuesday 26th March 2013 
School Hall 

All Students, Preschool to Year 6 are encouraged to participate in our Easter ‘Egg’stravaganza. 

‘Egg’ displays are to be made at home and brought to the school hall between 8:30am and 9:00am on the day. Please label the students creations with their name and class. 

Students will be able to view the Eggsibition in class groups on the day. 

Categories: 

Preschool & Kindergarten: Decorate an Easter basket using boiled or chocolate eggs OR choose a favourite teddy, doll or truck and decorate it with an Easter theme. 

Years 1 & 2: Portray your favourite character from a book or nursery rhyme. This requires the entrant to decorate an egg as their favourite book or nursery rhyme character 

Years 3 & 4: Portray your favourite sports person or television character. This requires the entrant to decorate an egg as their favourite sportsperson or television character. 

Years 5 & 6: Eggs-ceptional eggs. This requires entrants to create an egg model using an “egg” word as its theme. E.g. Eggs-am (exam); Eggs-cited (excited) etc. 

Presentations & Awards: 

Eggs may be hard boiled or blown. To blow eggs, a hole, a little larger than a pin hole is required in each end of the egg. The contents are removed by blowing fiercely into one end. Models may be presented in either an egg cup or regular sized shoe box. 

Mascots from AMF Bowling Centres and Go Bananas are coming to join the fun, judge the eggsibition, award prizes and draw the Easter raffle. All entrants will receive a participation award. 

Viewing & Collecting Models: 

Parents are invited to view the display between 10:30 am and 11:00am on the day. Preschool students who do not attend on Tuesdays are welcome to visit the ‘Eggsibition’ with their parents. The P&C will be running a sausage sizzle and a cake stall on the day. 

P&C Show bags and Eggsibition prizes will be delivered to classrooms after recess for the students to take home. 

Students will be able to collect their models from the hall between 2.50pm and 3.00pm. 

Mrs Spry 
Organising Teacher 

Responding to the needs of our community through regular and open communication between school and home
NAPLAN 2013 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Language Comprehension</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Language Comprehension includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy includes number; space; algebra; function and patterns; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the Numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, there is one Numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and core where it is not.

NAPLAN 2013
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy

Information for Parents

What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Comprehension (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have committed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested, and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. The content of each test is informed by the National Statements of Learning for English and Mathematics which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The Writing task requires students to write a persuasive text.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task can be accessed on the NAPL website: www.naplan.org.au

Who can help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are already learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments which reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions, or who has recently arrived in Australia and is then a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can provide you with more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass or fail-type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has ten bands and all year bands are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands will represent the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully at that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Whenever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 17 May.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website.

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- Visit www.naplan.org.au
- Contact your child’s school
- Contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAPL website)
Belonging at school makes a difference

Tommy’s Aunt Sue had just arrived for a visit.

“Hi Tommy. You’re a big school boy now! How is school?”
“Good,” Tommy said.
“What do you like about it?” asked Aunt Sue.
“Friends - Allan and Georgio.”
“Great! You’ve made some friends already.”
“I like my teacher too.”

Aunt Sue also talked to Tommy’s friend, Lulu, who had come over to play.

“What about you Lulu? How do you like school?”
“It’s good. If I need the teacher then I have to put up my hand. But if I need help at playtime I can ask Jackie,” said Lulu.

“Is Jackie your friend?”
“Jackie’s my buddy. She’s a big girl.”
“What does a buddy do?”
“She helps me if I don’t know where to go or other stuff. She helps to look after me ‘cos she’s big and I’m new.”

Starting school is a big change for kids...

Not only do they have to cope with schoolwork and teachers, but they also have to get used to being part of a class and a whole school. A lot more is expected of children when they start school and there are lots more people to get on with. It helps kids to know that there are people at school who will look after them.

Belonging improves mental health and learning

All children need to feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging at school. Belonging is very important for mental health.

Children who feel that they belong at school are happier, more relaxed and have fewer behaviour problems than others. They also learn better, are more motivated and more successful with schoolwork. Research into children’s mental health has found that a sense of belonging at school helps to protect children against mental health problems and improves their learning.

Making friends and having positive relationships with teachers helps children develop a sense of belonging at school. Having older “buddies” to turn to helps younger children feel that school is a place where they can get help if they need it. Looking after younger children encourages caring and helping in older children and helps to reduce conflicts and bullying. These are some of the ways that children’s sense of belonging at school can be supported.
More ways schools can help create a sense of belonging

As part of KidsMatter Primary, schools look closely at ways they can continue to build strong positive relationships with all students and families. This includes things like:

- Making the school environment welcoming for all students and families
- Encouraging teachers to get to know all their students and their families
- Identifying ways of improving communication with families
- Making sure that school policies on safety, welfare and discipline are clearly communicated and support a sense of belonging for children and families.

What parents and carers can do

Parents and carers can work with school staff to help create a bridge between home and school. When the adults responsible for children take a positive interest in what happens at school it helps children feel at home with school. It also makes it easier to pick up any problems early when they are easiest to resolve.

- Find out about the school and what your child is learning; participate in information sessions
- Make time to listen to your child tell you about what he or she is doing at school
- Let your child’s teacher know if he/she is having difficulties and discuss what kinds of things you can do at home and school to help.

This resource is part of the KidsMatter Primary initiative. We welcome your feedback at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing
Beyonder
APS Australian Psychological Society
No smoking in spectator areas at public sports grounds

Section 6A of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 makes a number of outdoor public places smoke-free.

From 7 January 2013, smoking is banned in spectator areas at public sports grounds and other recreational areas in NSW. However, smoking will only be banned when an organised sporting event is being held.

Major sporting facilities are included under the definition of a public sports ground and will be required to comply with the new law. Other outdoor sporting facilities, such as Local Council playing fields, are also covered by the new law.

**Will smoking be banned only in spectator areas which are covered?**

No. The smoking ban applies to all spectator areas at sports grounds and other recreational areas when they are being used for an organised sporting event. The law applies to both covered and uncovered spectator areas and whether seating is provided or not.

**Will the ban only cover the time that the players are competing?**

No. The smoking ban applies during the entire duration of the organised sporting event. This will include not just when the players are competing but pre match and half time games and entertainment that form part of the sporting event.

**Will there be signage to indicate where smoking is not permitted?**

Due to the vast array of different sports grounds and recreational areas, the new law does not require signs to be displayed to indicate that smoking is not permitted in spectator areas at sports grounds and other recreational areas during organised sporting events. However, signage may be required in the future if regulations are made requiring a class of sports grounds or other recreational area to display signs.

**What is a spectator area?**

A spectator area is an area set aside for or being used by spectators to watch an organised sporting event at a sports ground or other recreational area, but only when an organised sporting event is being held there.
How will this be enforced?

NSW Health is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000. NSW Health Inspectors are authorised to enforce the ban at public sports grounds and recreational areas during organised sporting events.

Some major sporting facilities have already banned smoking in outdoor seating areas but permit smoking in designated outdoor smoking areas within the facility. The new law will prohibit smoking in all spectator areas of the facility, regardless of whether seating is provided or the area is covered. Where major sporting facilities have already introduced smoke-free outdoor policies which extend beyond the new laws, these can continue to apply.

Penalties of up to $550 apply to individuals who smoke in spectator areas at public sports grounds or other recreational areas during organised sporting events.

Why is this new Act in place?

Public sports grounds are a popular public outdoor setting for exercise and recreation and often attract large numbers of people, particularly families with children.

There is no safe level of exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke. This is the smoke which smokers exhale after inhaling from a lit cigarette.

In adults, breathing second-hand tobacco smoke can increase the risk of cardiovascular disease, lung cancer and other lung diseases. It can exacerbate the effects of other illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis. Exposing ex-smokers to other people’s tobacco smoke increases the chance of relapsing to smoking.

For children, inhaling second-hand tobacco smoke is even more dangerous. This is because children’s airways are smaller, and their immune systems are less developed, which makes them more likely to suffer negative health consequences of second-hand tobacco smoke such as bronchitis, pneumonia and asthma.

Creating smoke-free outdoor areas, such as in public sports grounds and recreational areas, can provide a supportive environment for those who have quit and make smoking less visible to children and young people.

How does this affect Local Council bans on smoking?

Many NSW councils, under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, have progressively introduced their own smoking bans. Where these bans are in place, they can continue to be enforced by Local Council rangers.

NOTE: The ban on smoking in commercial outdoor dining areas and within 4 metres of a pedestrian entrance to or exit from licenced premises, restaurants and cafes does not apply until 6 July 2015.

For more information

Please contact the Tobacco Information Line on 1800 357 412 or visit the NSW Health website: www.health.nsw.gov.au

The Tobacco Information Line can be accessed by non-English speaking people via the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50.
Our School

Expectations

To Be Safe

To show Respect

To be Active Learners

For your convenience when your child is absent from school please complete the note below and return to your child’s teacher.

ABSENCE EXPLANATION NOTE

STUDENT’S NAME .......................................................... CLASS ......................

DATES OF ABSENCE .........................................................

REASON ...........................................................................

PARENT/CAREGIVER’S NAME ..............................................

SIGNED .............................................. DATE ..........................