



## Principal's Message

What a wonderful celebration of multiculturalism was held at Parramatta West last week! Thank you so much to the parents who assisted with this celebration by sharing their time and beautiful artefacts, clothing, pictures... the time that you put in to this event was very much appreciated. Those of you who attended the morning parade will have noticed how choked up I became following the parade. It was enormously moving to see so many wonderful children proudly representing their country of origin, and standing in friendship beside so many others from around the world. If we can do something towards teaching our children the value of all people, to celebrate difference as a point of interest, not a negative, then we have made the world a better place. Parramatta West is a special place, and it is made so by our wonderful families. I encourage you to see the photos on our Facebook site if you haven't already been there.

### **International teachers' day**

This is celebrated around the world in early October. In Australia it is celebrated towards the end of October. At Parramatta West it was overlooked this year for some reason, but we are rectifying that, and will celebrate our wonderful teachers this Tuesday morning with a special breakfast. Teaching is a wonderful job, seeing the growth in children's development, especially at this time of year when you think back to how far they have come, is special. Teachers change lives. However, it is also an all-consuming job that you cannot put down when you go home. I know far too many teachers who lie awake at night worrying about a child, about how to solve a problem, about what to do to help a particular child learn something, about the organisation that they have to do for an event, about how to communicate effectively with a parent about their child's needs... the list goes on and on. As we celebrate our teachers, I encourage parents to encourage their

children to make an effort to do something as simple as "say thank you". Children cannot really comprehend the time and emotional energy teachers put into teaching them, but the best reward a teacher can receive is a personal thank you, a letter or a hand made card.

### **Community Forum - December 6th**

Thank you to those who have already responded to this either through the Facebook event or through the paper invitation slip. We really want as many parents as possible to attend this meeting to hear about how we have been going, what some of our plans are for next year, and give us your ideas and suggestions for the future. If we work together we will have a greater impact on your children's education. We have a day session and a night session so that everyone should be able to attend one or the other. We want to fill the library - twice!

### **Air conditioners**

The school and P & C combined are looking to put more air conditioners into our hottest classrooms. We are wondering if there is anyone in our community who works in the industry who could support us in this. Please let the office know if you can help.

### **End of year events to remember**

November 28- December 9 - swim school

November 29 - captains 2017 elections

December 6 - Community Forums at 9.00am and 6.00pm

December 12 - Presentation Day - 9.10am - K - Y2 (including MCT and Year 2 from 2/3S), 11.30 - Y3 - Y6 (including MCG, MCS & Year 3 from 2/3S)

December 12 - student reports sent home

December 13 - Sports Presentation

December 14 - Party Day and Year 6 Farewell December 16 - Talent Quest and last day of school.

## Reading challenge

I am so excited by the conversations I am having with the children who have been reading so many books! Congratulations to all those who have reached the target and beyond. Congratulations also to those who have reached 20, or even less, if this is a big improvement on previous years. There are still 3 weeks of school left too - time to read some more books, so why not set an end of year target? Targets are reached in stages, not necessarily all at once. If your child read only a handful of books last year, and this year has read 15 or 20, then they should be congratulated too. They have not failed, and should be encouraged to write down this achievement, and commit themselves to beating it next year. They may need help from you to set aside time to read, to help them choose suitable books, or to take them to Merrylands or Parramatta library over the holidays. Don't stop reading over the holiday break, this is a time to get into, or stay in, the rhythm of daily reading ready for next year. When was the last time you read a good book yourself? Maybe the holiday time is an opportunity for everyone!

Happy reading everyone,

*Anthea Donaldson*

*Principal*

## Class Awards

|              |          |      |         |
|--------------|----------|------|---------|
| Class Awards |          | 4S   | Zakir   |
| 2/3S         | Joshua   | 5C   | Shaahid |
| 3B           | Dion     | 5M   | Jessica |
| 3K           | Chloe    | 5/6J | Hassan  |
| 3J           | Sharleen | 6M   | Batool  |
| 4A           | Holly    | 6R   | Diyari  |

4H Ibrahim

MCG Shreya

MCS Tammy

## Stage News

### Kindergarten

#### Swim school

For the next two weeks some students will be attending swim school. If your child is attending please talk to them about being responsible for looking after their belongings. Students need to wear their swimmers under their uniform and bring: a separate bag with flip flops, a towel and underwear. They all need to be able to dress themselves efficiently.

If your child is not attending swim school, they will be staying at school and participating in sport and play-based learning activities.

#### Topic Talks

This is the last week of topic talks for the year, so please help your child be prepared. This week students are to write a letter to a parent or teacher describing the things they have learnt in their first year of school. The teachers can not wait to hear these letters!

#### Home readers/Library

There will be no more home readers or library for the year. Please return any books that you still have at home. A **HUGE** thank you to all those parents who have helped with the home reading program. The students are very lucky to have such dedicated parents!

Have a fabulous week splashing around in the pool!

Miss Richards

## Year 1 and Year 2

Reading target: Congratulations to the following students for reaching their 40 book target!

2L: Kaiden    1J: Mannognya    1/2A: Whitney    2N: Youssef

Congratulations to Evan (1/2A) for reaching 80 books!

There are still 3 weeks to go for students to reach their 40 book target. Let's keep going!

Speaking and Listening Task: Congratulations to all the students who prepared and presented their speeches last week. We were so impressed with the amount of effort students put in. Some students from each class will be presenting their speeches again this week to either year 1 or year 2.

Swim School: Don't forget to rinse your swimmers each night and dry your towel over night.

Thank you for everyone involved for Multicultural Week. We loved learning about different cultures!

Do you still have library books at home? Try to return them this week please.

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Miss Langhans

## Year 3

I hope many of our families came up to school last week to see the wonderful displays as part of Multicultural Week. Thank you to all of our families who contributed to making

last week a success – putting stalls together, sharing their knowledge with students, dressing up their children in national costume. It was such a fantastic event! I hope your child has told you about what stood out for them.

Swim School starts today! I am sure the children going swimming will have a fantastic two weeks while learning a valuable life skill. Please make sure your child is ready for swimming each day and has all of their belongings clearly labelled in a plastic bag. Remember to rinse and dry out your swimmers and towel each afternoon so it is ready for the next day!

### ***Maths focus for this week: Subtraction Concepts and Strategies***

Look for learning links on our Facebook page.

- Using number lines to subtract 2-digit numbers
- Using models to subtract 2-digit numbers
- Using written methods to subtract 2-digit numbers

### ***Reading Target Update***

- 48% of Year 3 students (51 students) = achieved 40 Book Target
- 59% of Year 3 students (63 students) = on track for success

Check in with your child and see how close they are to completing their 40 Book Target. We're almost there!

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

## 2017 School Leaders

I would like to thank all the students who submitted 2017 School Leaders applications. There was a lot of effort and thought put into them. We have carefully read the applications and interviewed students with the strongest applications. We have now selected the candidates for the 2017 Student Elections. The candidates will present a two-minute talk to all students in years 2 to 6 tomorrow afternoon. Teachers and students who are in the audience will then have opportunity to vote for our 2017 School Leaders.

We will then count and announce our 2017 school leaders at Presentation Day.

## Swimming Scheme

A reminder that the swimming scheme started today and will continue for the next two weeks. Our session is from 11.30am, so students will need to put on their sunscreen at school prior to leaving for the pool.

## PSSA

Finally, I would like to wish all teams that made it through to the PSSA finals the best of luck for Friday's games.

Enjoy the week,

Mr Clarke

## Year 6

Permission notes for the **Year 6 Farewell Rehearsal** need to be returned to the office this week. We also ask that parents let us know if your child will be unable to make it to the Year 6 Farewell dinner. We need to have accurate numbers for catering and table placement.

This week students will participate in a **transition program** at school in preparation for

high school. Students will be grouped for fitness sessions, English classes, Maths classes and their chosen electives. We have asked that each student is equipped with a folder to transfer their books and papers between classrooms. We hope they enjoy and learn from the experience.

Students who are attending swimming school this week must be prepared with all of their belongings each day.

Please encourage your children to continue working towards their reading challenge, whether that be 20, 40, 80 or 120 novels. There is still 3 weeks to go – plenty of time for reading.

### ***Year 6 Reading Target Results***

- Successfully Achieved 40 or more novels = 41 students
- 47% of the grade have achieved their target
- 62% of students are on track to achieve their target of 40 novels.

### ***TOPIC 8 Mathematics Focus Area – Percentages***

- Understanding percentages
- Using models to represent percentages

Will you be attending the PWPS Community Forum on December 6th? Please RSVP via Facebook or at the office. We need as many parents as possible!

See you there,

**Mrs Rhodes**

## **Library News**

Book club has been ordered and should be here sometime this week.

Keep returning those books. Please come and see me if you have some sort of issue with an overdue book.



Library has closed for the year so there is no more borrowing and all books need to be returned.

I still have no name for the book club order presented in the small ziplock bag. If this is yours please come and see me.

Mrs Sell

## Power with Purpose - Tae Kwon Do



### Last Days 2016 & First Days 2017



Our last and first classes for the year will be we will be:

|           | Monday                 | Tuesday                | Wednesday         | Thursday               | Saturday       |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
|           | Parramatta West Public | Toongabbie west Public | Toongabbie Public | Parramatta West Public | Shelley Public |
| Last Day  | 12/12/16               | 06/12/16               | 14/12/16          | 15/12/16               | 17/12/16       |
| First Day | 09/01/17               | 10/01/17               | 11/01/17          | 12/01/17               | 14/01/17       |

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for all their help and support and look forward to working with you in the new great Christmas and a safe and prosperous new year.

All the best *The P<sub>o</sub>*

# The simplest way

...grow your own.

Want to get kids excited about vegetables? Then plant the seed!

A vegie patch is a great spring or early summer project and just one way to help entice fussy eaters to sample something from the garden.



Plant some vegetables or herbs in the yard or grow them in window boxes or small pots.

Seeing the plants grow makes them much more interesting to eat.

Want to know more about enticing fussy eaters and preparing fruit and veg-filled family meals?

Ask your school to book a **Fruit & Veg Sense** workshop for parents, or find a workshop in your area at [eatittobeatit.com.au](http://eatittobeatit.com.au).

**For more information visit [www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au) or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://facebook.com/eatittobeatit)**

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.

# Cumberland Council

## Out of School Hours Education and Care



Council's Out of School Hours (OOSH) Educate children aged 5-13 years who attend primary Government area and surrounding areas.

Services operate Monday to Friday

Before School Care from 6.30am to 8.30am

(Pemulwuy OOSH 6.00am to 8.00am)

After School Care from 3.00pm to 6.00pm

School Holiday Program 7.00am to 5.00pm

(Pemulwuy OOSH 6.00am to 8.00am)

All activities and excursions are subject to availability

Services are closed public holidays

Breakfast and afternoon tea are provided along with a program aligned with the National Quality Framework

Experienced and qualified educators develop programs to meet the children's interests and needs through the homework club.

Environmentally friendly initiatives are promoted to promote child well-being and development through play.

Families are welcome to visit [www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au) and complete enrolment forms.

### Council's OOSH Centre contact details:

Guildford West OOSH: 9721 2257

Parramatta West OOSH: 9633 5246

Pemulwuy OOSH: 9896 6129

Pendle Hill OOSH: 9631 8063

Ringrose OOSH: 9636 6586

Sherwood Grange OOSH: 9892 4207

Widemere OOSH: 9757 1904



## Information for parents, guardians and students

Our school has partnered with Transport for NSW to use the new online process for you to submit school travel applications.

This means we will be able to process your applications online, making it easier and faster for parents, guardians and students to apply for school travel.

Applications for school travel in 2017 are now open, including for travel to Mascot and Green Square station and for private ferries. Parents, guardians and students are encouraged to apply as soon as they are able via:

### **Applications for 2017 school travel are now open via [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)**

A new application is required when:

- applying for a School Opal card or travel pass for the first time,
- enrolling in Kindergarten, or
- requesting an additional entitlement as a result of a shared parental responsibility situation.

You will need to do an update application if the student has a current school travel pass and:

- is progressing from Year 2 to Year 3,
- is progressing from Year 6 to Year 7, or
- changes address, or
- changes school or campus.

Already have a School Opal card or travel pass?

- When you've updated, and you are eligible for free school travel next year, Transport for NSW will send you an email confirmation once your application has been processed. For travel in rural or regional NSW, we'll also inform your nominated transport operator(s).
- If you already have a School Opal card that does not need updating, or you've successfully re-applied, the Opal card will automatically be updated for travel next year. Do not throw it out as you'll be able to use it when the school year starts in 2017.
- If you currently have a printed travel pass provided by your transport operator, a new pass will be ready at the beginning of the new school year.

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