



Principal's Message

We have arrived at the last week of term - congratulations for staying the distance! Today the children are bringing home their school reports. If parents are concerned by any aspect of their child's report, please ask the teacher for an appointment. I encourage you to look at what the child has learnt, and the things that they are working on. I also encourage parents to continue to read with their children, and encourage their children to read, through the holidays.

Talent Quest

As we have so many children taking part in the talent quest this year, and we want to make sure that we have time to award the prizes at the end, we are moving it to Thursday instead of Friday. Please make sure that all children have everything they need for their performance.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our presentation assemblies this week, the year six farewell and on Friday as the year 6 students take part in their final passing out parade. I'm sure there will be tears!

Mrs Donaldson's Presentation Day Speech

As 2016, and my tenth year as principal of Parramatta West, draws to a close I have been reflecting on the changes that have taken place in our teaching and learning programs, the school environment and our learning community.

Probably the most obvious change is in the number of children now attending our school. We grew two classes this year, and expect to grow another two next year. This has sadly resulted in us losing some beautiful trees, but we are doing our best to enhance the areas left to us. Our veggie patch is blossoming and our Aboriginal native garden has been enriched. The variety of plants has been expanded and we now have a native beehive. There are also now signs describing the use of many of the plants and there will be more signs installed next year. This is becoming a wonderful learning space for our children.

With increased numbers of children has come new teachers, and with the new teachers, expanded opportunities for our children. The variety of extra curricular options available to children is wonderful, encompassing creative arts, sports and academic areas. From debating to science to glee club and sports, children should be able to find something of interest to them. One thing we will be pursuing next year is involving more boys in our creative arts areas.

Children have had a number of new opportunities this year across the school. All classes took part in coding lessons and life skills classes. Gymnastics continued to be successful.

2016 was the second year of our latest three year plan. Part of this plan was to involve our community more, not just in attending events, but in coming together as a community to learn and share together. The community action team has been active, coming up with a variety of ideas, including the whatsapp class parent groups, which have been highly successful in some class groups. The year groups catch ups at the park have enabled some parents to get to know each other better. We started the year with a new format for parent teacher meetings where we provided more information on reading in term 1, and maths in term 2. Our report format was changed in response to parent feedback, and we introduced a special report for children receiving English as a second language lessons. Most recently, the community came together to celebrate our diversity at our multicultural week event where parents, teachers and students set up displays in the school hall to educate us all about a variety of our represented cultures. I think this will grow next year! Watching our children proudly parade in their national costumes on the Monday morning was a very special time and brought tears to more eyes than my own. Our children are learning to celebrate diversity and respect difference ... this is the only way we can change the world for the better.

Our parents also continue to support us in many ways week to week. The parent reading program, which operates every afternoon Monday to Thursday in the library has resulted in several children making fantastic progress, and they love it. Thank you to the parents who dedicate their time to these children. We look forward to seeing more parents next year. The P and C has run the home reading program, school banking and the clothing shop, as well as organise fund raisers. Thank you to the dedicated team of parents. Many parents also help us in the classrooms, teaching the violin group, and supporting teachers when help is needed. Thank you all!

Most recently we held our community forums. We had a great turn out of parents who spent time giving us their suggestions and ideas to make our school even better next year. We look forward to implementing some of their ideas.

This year saw us move into the realm of social media. We now have many dedicated followers on Facebook, but also many who have yet to find us. The closed Facebook pages for each year group are providing parents with a safe place to find out information about what their children are doing in class, obtain homework support and share ideas. We look forward to increasing the uptake of parents to this medium next year so that all parents can be more informed about their children's learning and school events.

Academically we have had a good year. Our children continue to make excellent progress, and we are working towards our targets of ensuring that all children make the desired progress. Next year we will have increased support for our children with learning needs, increased speech therapy time across the school, increased support for our English language learners and we will be employing an occupational therapist one day a week. All this has been made possible due to increased government funding. It is so important that this funding continues into the future to enable these programs to remain and to grow.

None of this would be possible without the support of a fabulous team of teachers and support staff. Parramatta West Public school has an excellent mix of people with a wide variety of skills who support each other and work together to provide the best possible learning experiences for your children. As is always the case, this year has seen some teachers come and others leave. While we recognize that this can be disruptive for some children, I haven't yet found a way to stop teachers having babies or being promoted to other jobs.

We do our best to try to give children who have had a disrupted year one year to give them a more stable year the next. This year we will be farewelling Miss Giles, who has received a promotion to assistant principal at another school. I would like to personally thank her for the amazing job she has done this year as acting assistant principal while Ms Grammat has been on maternity leave, and wish her all the very best for the future.

At this point I would also like to farewell Mr Clarke - although this may only be for a year. Mr Clarke has taken a position at a school close to home which is in need of an assistant principal for a year. We wish him all the best for this new position.

As a result of Mrs Rhodes' appointment to our second deputy principal position from the start of next year, her assistant principal position has been advertised, and will be filled by interview next week. At this stage we do not know whether Mr Ta will be back next year. If he isn't, we will have a second acting deputy principal. I will be continuing to work 4 days a week next year - indeed my babysitting duties will be increasing at Christmas time as my daughter is about to have her second.

I would now like all our teachers and support staff to stand - look at these amazing people - they have worked tirelessly for the last 11 months for you and your children. I think they deserve a BIG clap - and a holiday!

I wish all families who are leaving us all the very best for the future in education, and for those who will be returning next year, a very happy holiday and I look forward to seeing how much the children have grown when they return next year.

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KA Fadel

KH Myar

1H Raheen

1J Kashvi

1L Fubing

KK	Sahil	1/2A	Buse
KL	Meleh	2B	Akilesh
KN	Chernor	2H	Edwin
KR	Rafah	2L	Eshaan
KS	Melisa	2N	Tyrell
1F	Sereen		
1G	Raima		

Stage News

Kindergarten

What a fabulous year of learning and fun we have had. It is hard to believe that the students first year of school is almost over! To celebrate such a successful year we will be having our party day this Wednesday.

Kindergarten Party Wednesday 9 - 10:30 am in the lower cola

Parents are invited to come and celebrate with Kindergarten students and teachers from 9am in the lower playground. We ask you to bring a picnic blanket and some breakfast appropriate food (such as fruit and sandwiches). Students can wear mufti clothing with closed in shoes and school hat.

During the morning you will have opportunity to play games, play sport, read stories and talk with your child, their friends and their teachers. We are really looking forward to spending the morning with you. After 10:30 the students will go back to spend time with their own class.

Reports will be going home today. Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions about them. Please note that the last day of school is this Friday, please return any library books or home readers that you still have at home.

Thank you to all the parents who have helped make this year's Kindergarten a very successful journey. Have a wonderful holiday!!

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

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

2L: Thawtar

Even with 4 days to go, there's still time for students to reach their target! I am sure there will be students reading over the holidays. Let us know what you're reading on our Facebook page!

Party Day: Wednesday 14th December. Students have organised their Party Picnic in class with a small group of students. Students have chosen to bring something to sit on, eat or drink etc. Snacks and drinks only need to be provided for that small group. We look forward to celebrating a year of hard work and learning!

Reports: Reports go home today. We encourage you to look at what your child has learnt this year and discuss this with them. Be proud of the achievements they have made and celebrate the successes!

Talent Quest: Has moved to Thursday 15th December. Students who are involved in the Talent Quest need to make sure they have everything they need for their performance. It's going to be a great day!

Wow! We made it! What an incredible year it's been for everyone. The students in year 1 and year 2 have come so far this year and they could not have done that without the support of our wonderful parents and caregivers. Our teachers have worked extremely

hard this year and should be proud of everything they have achieved with their students. We are all ready for a holiday! Please stay safe over the holiday period, enjoy time with your family and don't forget to get outside and enjoy the sunshine!

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Miss Langhans

Year 3

What a fantastic year of learning we have had! It has been a pleasure to work with your children this year and see how they have grown in confidence and maturity.

This week there are lots of exciting events happening, to celebrate a great year of learning:

- *Monday 12th December – Presentation Day*
- *Tuesday 13th December – Sports Presentation Day & Russ the Bus*
- *Wednesday 14th December – Party Day*
- *Thursday 15th December - Talent Quest*
- *Friday 16th December – Last day of term!*

Russ the Bus will be coming tomorrow! Please make sure your child has their books ready for the book swap. Keep your eyes on our Facebook page to see photos of Russ!

Party Day is set for Wednesday. Your child has organised to share a picnic with a group of friends. Please help them to be ready and have their food or items for this. We are sure to have a great day!

Your child will be bringing home their report this afternoon. Take the time to discuss your child's learning with them. Celebrate their successes, the effort they have put in and their improvements. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

I hope to see many of you up at school this week for the presentation days. Wishing all of our families a safe and relaxing holiday and a festive holiday season!

Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

As this is the final newsletter of 2016, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the students, teachers and parents on another fine year. There has been a lot of hard work and many of us have been challenged to become better learners throughout the year. Well done and I'm sure the wonderful learning will continue in 2017.

Reports are going home today. If you would like to discuss your child's report please make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

We have a huge week of assemblies and performances. The presentation day was today and the sports presentation is tomorrow. We would really like to see as many parents and family members as possible at these events to celebrate a wonderful year.

Don't forget that all home reading and library books need to be returned as soon as possible.

Enjoy the week and have a wonderful Christmas break,

Mr Clarke

Year 6

School reports will go home today for all students. We hope the reports give you an insight into what your child is excelling at in school and how each student can improve and strengthen their learning. We are very proud of the achievements of the students this year, they have accomplished a great deal and should be very proud of their learning successes.

This Wednesday is the Year 6 Farewell. It is going to be a very special evening where we

formally farewell the students.

Arrival Time: 6.20pm

Start Time: 6.30pm

Parent Arrival Time: 8.30pm

Please be reminded that students can leave school early on **Wednesday from 12.30pm** onwards but must be signed out by a parent or have written permission to leave with another parent. The students are not allowed to walk home from school before 2.55pm. We are looking forward to an enjoyable evening.

The Year 6 students will receive their graduation bears/balls this week to have signed by their friends and teachers.

The **Year 6 'Walkout'** will take place on Friday 16th **December**. All students in Kindergarten to Year 5 will form a tunnel for the year 6 students to walk under. It is going to be a very special moment. Parents are welcome to come along and join us. The walkout will begin from 2.20pm with a short speech from the school captains, year 6 dancing and then the tunnel.

This will be the final newsletter for the year. On behalf of the year 6 teachers I would like to wish all the students and their families a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We wish our year 6 students the very best in high school and know they will transition successfully into this next phase of their lives. We thank them for their dedication and commitment to learning and are extremely proud of their achievements this year. We will miss them very much!

Mrs Rhodes

Library News

I would like to thank all the children and parents for a great year and I am looking forward to another next year. Take care during the summer holidays and return to school well rested and ready for another year of enjoyable reading.

Be Prepared! Bring a proper library bag when you return to school we will be borrowing from day 1!

No plastic bags a real library bag that will last you all year.

Put it into your bag and have it ready for the first week and you will be the first people to borrow.

Regular library days will not be set yet but we will be borrowing from the first week so be prepared.

Mrs Sell

Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to slice up a citrus salad.

Ingredients

Salad: 1 avocado; 1 orange; 1 grapefruit; 3 cups baby spinach leaves.

Dressing: ½ tsp pepper; 1 tsp canola oil; ½ tsp Dijon mustard; 1 tbs balsamic vinegar.

Decoration (optional): 1 orange, finely sliced; 1 grapefruit, finely sliced; 1 cup bean sprouts.



Method: Chop avocado into one-centimetre cubes. Segment orange and grapefruit. Toss in a bowl with baby spinach. In a small bowl or glass, whisk together pepper, canola oil, mustard, and balsamic vinegar. Serve dressing on top of salad or as a side. Arrange orange and grapefruit slices around the serving plate. Top with bean sprouts.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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

Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District

Eat It To Beat It

Cumberland Council

Out of School Hours Education and Care



Council's Out of School Hours (OOSH) Education and Care Centres cater for children aged 5-13 years who attend primary school in the Cumberland Local Government area and surrounding areas.

Services operate Monday to Friday:
Before School Care from 6.30am - 9.30am
(Pembury OOSH 6.00am - 9.00am)
After School Care from 3.00pm - 6.00pm
School Holiday Program 7.00am - 6.00pm
(Pembury OOSH 6.00am - 6.00pm)
All activities and excursions are included.
Services are closed public holidays.

Breakfast and afternoon tea are provided along with an interest based program aligned with the National Quality Framework and My Time Our Place.

Experienced and qualified educators develop stimulating and educational programs to meet the children's interests and needs. Homework is supported through the homework club.

Environmentally friendly initiatives are promoted within all services. Services promote child well-being and development through our safety program.

Families are welcome to visit www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au to view programs and complete enrolment forms.

Council's OOSH Centre contact details:

Guildford West OOSH:	9721 2257	0419 120 575
Parramatta West OOSH:	9633 5246	0408 241 513
Pembury OOSH:	9896 6129	0427 058 227
Pendle Hill OOSH:	9631 8063	0410 553 284
Ringrose OOSH:	9636 6586	0418 442 153
Sherwood Grange OOSH:	9892 4207	0419 632 885
Widmere OOSH:	9757 1904	0417 647 310



Parramatta West Public School

Cnr Auburn & Young Sts Parramatta, NSW, 2150

P: 02 9635 9347

F: 02 9687 1151

E: parramattw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

[Unsubscribe](#)

