



Principal's Message

Thank you to all the parents who are using the school app to read the newsletter each week. This saves up lots of paper and is good for the planet! If you can't access the app and want to, please ask for help.

School drop off and pick up times

While many teachers are at school from 7am or earlier, they are at school preparing lessons and are not officially "on duty". There is a duty teacher in the playground from 8.30am, and this is when children should be arriving. If parents need to drop children at school earlier than this, they should be using our before school facility. Because of our large numbers, there is actually nothing to do before school - we don't have ball games in the morning because there are too many children, parents and preschoolers in the playground, all children do is chat with friends, so arriving between 8.30 and 8.45 is ideal. In the afternoon, children should be leaving school straight away when the bell goes at 2.55pm. They catch the bus, walk home with friends or leave with the adults who are there to collect them. Please be on time. We do not like children waiting beside the road, they should wait inside the school gates if they are being collected, but if the adults collecting them do not appear after a few minutes, when most children have left the school grounds, we ask them to come to the school office - again, this is for safety. Please contact the school if you know that you are going to be late - it is a horrible feeling for a child worrying that something has happened. Similarly, it is not nice to grow up being that child who is always picked up late. We will always look after children until they are collected, but some days teachers may have to leave on time, and in this situation if a child is not collected schools have the directive to deliver the child to the police station. Teachers are also missing important meetings that happen after school when they are supervising children in the school office. Thank you for your cooperation.

What sort of parent are you?

We have been hearing the term "helicopter parent" for a few years now - it describes the parent who "hovers" over their child, overseeing everything that they do. Last weekend I learned two terms that were new to me, but did seem to effectively describe some parents. The first is the "snowplough parent". Psychologist Judith Locke describes this sort of parent as one who "wants to clear all obstacles from their child's path and make their life road easier." "But because of this over-attention, if the child goes outside in the "wind" (has a tough day), they fall

over." Locke also uses the term "bonsai child" to describe "children today who are brought up in highly controlled environments and assiduously cultivated by their parents, where over-emphasis is placed on a child's happiness and success." Every parent wants their child to be happy and successful, and to give them a good start in life. However, parents cannot "do it for them". Children have to live their own lives, learn to make their own decisions and live with the consequences. As parents, we need to be there to advise, nurture, encourage, support, pick up the pieces... but not live our children's lives! If you think that you and your partner have some of the above tendencies, maybe you need to have a rethink. Perhaps you could ask your children!

Talking of supporting your children - how is the reading challenge going? Does your child need help? If your child is having difficulty finding books, they should ask their teacher or the librarian when they visit each week. Mrs Sell is on holiday for the next few weeks, but Mrs Baird, whom the children will remember, will be in the library for the next two weeks.

Chicken pox is now going around the school as well as whooping cough!

I hope that parents are enjoying reading some good books too!
Anthea Donaldson
Principal

Uniform Shop Hours - Parramatta West Public School

For the Month of March 2016

Monday: 8.30am - 9.15am
Tuesday: 8.30am - 9.15am
Thursday: 8.30am - 9.15am

The Uniform Shop is run by the Generosity of Parent Volunteers of the P & C.

Stage News

Kindergarten

The students were very excited about presenting their news last week. Can you please practice with your child so that they know what they are going to talk about before they get in front of their classmates.

The school expectations are "being safe, being responsible and being respectful". All the teachers and students use this language when talking about what to do at school. It will help your children if you use the same language at home. For example: "Let's be responsible and pack our school bag together", or "Don't run in the house it is not safe".

Have a great week!
Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Let's get ready for another fantastic week at PWPS! Have you asked your child about the bugs they're learning about each week? We're learning a lot of new information!

How are the Year 2 students going with their Reading Challenge? There are a few students who have already signed off at least 2 books, which is wonderful! If you have any questions about the challenge, please see your classroom teacher.

If your child is away from school, please send a note in the next day. To make it even easier, you can use the school app to send through absent notes. If the class is already in the classroom when you arrive at school, this means you are late and each student MUST get a late note from the office. School starts at 8.55am. We don't want students missing out on the start of each school day.

Have a great week everyone!
Miss Langhans

Year 3

It's hard to believe we are already half-way through Term 1! It is a pleasure to see all of the Year 3 children hard at work in their classes, challenging themselves and being proud of their achievements. Year 3 students have really taken to the Reading Challenge and are eager to sign-off any book that they have read. All children should be reading for 15-20 minutes each night as part of their homework. Make sure you ask your child questions about what they are reading and where they are up to!

Although we are technically moving in to Autumn this week, the weather is still considerably warm. Please make sure your child has a hat and water bottle each day, and that these are labeled with their name and class.

Have a fantastic week!
Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

A quick reminder, please ensure all lunch boxes and drink bottles are labelled clearly. . Please also endeavour to provide a small piece of fruit or vegetable for crunch and sip. This short break in the morning is important to give children an opportunity to refocus them and refuel their bodies prior to the next lesson.

Have a great week!
Mr Clarke

Year 6

This week we will be holding an information session about the high school application process. We will guide parents in how to fill out the 'High School Expression of Interest Form'. The details are below.

Wednesday March 2nd at 6.30pm in the school library.

Next Monday our school leaders will be attending the Grip Leadership Conference to upskill themselves about leadership and to assist them in making decisions about what area within the school they would like to lead a program or activity.

All students are now linked to Edmodo. Homework is linked to Edmodo each week as well as the weekly 'Critical Quiz.' This is a compulsory part of homework. A paper copy can be supplied if internet access is not available.

The High School Selective Test date is Thursday March 10th at Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High. All parents with students involved will receive notification of this in the mail. These applications were closed at the end of last year and it is too late to apply now for this test. Good luck to all of those students.

This week Year 6 teachers will be sending home the first of many mathematics assessments. These are pre and post topic assessments and can inform you of your child's progress in particular areas.

Please continue to ask your child how many books they have read towards their target. It is pleasing to see that some students have already read 4 or 5 novels. How can you help your child reach this target?

Mrs Rhodes

Library News

Bookclub is due back on Tuesday the 15th of March

In the latest bookclub there is a Maths dictionary for \$10. If you haven't already purchased one now is the time!

Don't forget World book online. It is a great place to start talks and projects. <http://www.worldbookonline>
Username: parrawest Password: student

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at:
<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Tuesday 1st March 2016. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

Class Awards

KA	Xavier	KH	Marjan
KK	Arie	KL	Aryan
KN	Tej	KR	Arin
KS	Neel	1F	Cem
1G	Ahmed	1H	Ghulam
1J	Montadhar	1L	Aliza
1/2A	Wilfred	2B	Dikshita
2H	Salwa	2L	Amba
2N	Nony	2/3S	Suprabha
3B	Roma	3K	Milad
3/4A	Osman	4H	Tyler
4S	Natalia	4/5C	Farhat
5M	Abbas	5/6J	Amani
6M	Timoci	6R	Boyu
MCG	Rui Huan		

Holroyd's International Women's Day Celebrations

Women of Holroyd... "Pledge for Parity"

Tuesday 8 March 2016

11am - 2pm

Piazza - Holroyd City Council Chambers
 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

Join us for fantastic entertainment, light refreshments and to browse over 20 market stalls run by women in Western Sydney including art and craft, fashion, health and wellbeing products.

For more information please contact Holroyd City Council
 T 9840 9997

E hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au

www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

www.internationalwomensday.com

Tibetan Visitors

On Friday at 12 o'clock 5M and 5/6 J went to see an amazing performance. Some Tibetan students were visiting our school. It took them a while to get ready on the stage and then they got started. They sang their alphabet. It was fabulous. Their clothes were so colourful and it was amazing the way that they kept in perfect beat and rhythm. There were two other performances. One was a girl singing solo. It was beautiful. After that some girls and boys came and did a traditional dance. It was so loud and energetic. When they had finished we got into a huge circle and copied the dance that they were doing. It was so much fun.

After that they gave us magnificent gifts that meant good luck for us and they took lots of photos to remember us. They gave Mrs Donaldson some special boxes full of Tibetan good luck symbols. We ate lunch together and had fun trying to talk to them. It was a good experience to meet children from another culture and another part of the world. Hopefully we can meet them again.

Fady and Amani
5/6 J

