



Principal's Message

The community action team - CAT - is looking for ways to connect our community, help people get to know each other and build understanding. Next Sunday we are inviting all families with kindergarten children to go to Holroyd gardens at around 2.00pm so that the children can have fun together and the parents can meet the parents of their children's friends. We don't expect all families to be able to attend, but we do hope that many will take this opportunity. Holroyd gardens is a lovely place for children to play, there is grass to run around on and play games or picnic, equipment to climb and play on, and a bike track for bikes and scooters. Kindergarten children will also receive an invitation with the details. After Easter we will set a date for stage 1 children. If you go along, we encourage you to meet some new people. When your child asks for a play date or to go to a birthday party, it is much easier to say yes if you have already met the other child's family. Let's build our community!

Email addresses

Please return the email address form as soon as possible.
Thank you to those who have done so already.

Ethics classes

If your child attends non scripture currently and you are interested in ethics classes as an alternative, please return the form this week.

NAPLAN results

I hope that parents were watching the news last week. Parramatta West was mentioned on the news several times as being one of the most improved schools in our NAPLAN results. Our children are excelling particularly in their progress from years 3-5. We have implemented many good programs and are working hard with your children to ensure that all children are making progress. We are proud of how well they are doing. So many of our children come with backgrounds other than English, and they work very hard with our teachers to learn. It takes seven years to become proficient in academic English language, but by year 5 we are seeing the results of many years of hard work. Well done to the students and the teachers, we are proud of you.

National day of action against bullying and violence

This Friday is the national day of action against bullying. At Parramatta West we do not accept bullying. One action of pushing, name calling or other anti social behaviour is not

bullying, but if it is ongoing then it certainly is. Children do not always tell teachers if they are being bullied. If parents are concerned that their child is being bullied, please let us know so that we can address the issues. We also teach children not to be bystanders. Bystanders are people who stand by and watch when someone else is bullying. In this situation we teach children to look after the child who is being bullied, rather than become involved with the child who is doing the bullying. The strategy is to befriend the child who is hurting and remove them from the situation, and then tell a teacher. If bystanders do not act, they are encouraging the bully to continue.

Anthea Donaldson
Principal

Class Awards

KA	Saanvi	KH	Arya
KK	Darci	KL	Marwa
KN	Kooper	KR	Aliyana
KS	Sanaa	1F	Samyuktha
1G	Hussein	1H	Ruhan
1J	Sachi	1L	Safiya
1/2A	Angelina	2B	Dvity
2H	Maddison	2L	Amy
2N	Jay Jay	2/3S	Sebastian
3B	Elyas	3K	Isabella
3/4A	Hamza	4H	Sameep
4S	Mozamel	4/5C	Hiru
5M	Robert	5/6J	Aarya
6M	Nazim	6R	Matthew
MCT	Gani	MCG	Edric
MCS	Reyaz		

P & C News

Easter Raffle goes out this week and tickets are \$1-00 each. Please return bought tickets and money to the office before 23rd March 2016. Prizes are a large, medium and small Easter basket.

Tuesdays are Banking days. Just a reminder when you choose a prize for your child send a note back with the wallet and it will be delivered to your child when it arrives from the Commonwealth Bank.

Stage News

Kindergarten

This Tuesday is our Teddy Bear's Crunch'n'Sip picnic. The students need to bring a small piece of fruit or vegetable, a teddy bear and a gold coin donation to give to charity. This event also sees the introduction of 'fruit break' in the Kindergarten classes. From Tuesday onwards we will be taking a quick break at 10am to have a healthy snack to recharge our batteries. So please provide your children with a small healthy snack along with their recess and lunch.

Please talk to your children about not sharing food at school. We do try to express to the students that we can not share food because of some children's allergies and cultural beliefs. We have a lot of students who are allergic to nuts in our school. It would be appreciated if you did not give your children peanut butter/Nutella or other nut based foods at school. Also please tell your child if they have a lunch order from the canteen, so they know to tell the classroom teacher on the day.

This Wednesday is 'Meet the EAL/D teacher' night at 6pm in the library. EAL/D stands for English as an Additional Dialect. If your child is receiving support to learn English, he/she would have given you an invitation to attend. Please come along and learn more about how your child is supported to learn English and what you can do at home to help.

Have a great week!
Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

It's a busy week at Parramatta West this week! Tomorrow we have our 'Teddy Bears Crunch n Sip Picnic'. All students K-2 are asked to bring their teddy bear and a gold coin donation for our picnic that is fundraising for Westmead Children's Hospital. On Thursday it's Harmony Day! There will be more information to come about what to wear on the day.

On Friday you would have received a note about our 'Mini Beast' Incursion that is happening in Week 9 and 10 for Stage 1. We are asking parents and caregivers to pay \$10 as soon as possible and return permission notes too. It is different from how our enrichment program has run before as excursions and incursions are now a separate cost. The students have LOVED learning about insects and other bugs and this incursion will be a great way to make connections to their learning.

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A friendly reminder: If students are riding scooters or bikes to school they must wear a helmet and cross the road with an adult. During the morning it is very busy on the roads around our

school and we want to make sure everyone is getting to school safely.

Have a wonderful week everyone!
Miss Langhans

Year 3

This week we have lots of great events happening at Parramatta West.

Year 2s in 2/3S will be raising money for Bandaged Bear Day and Westmead Children's Hospital with the other K-2 classes on Tuesday at school. They will be holding a Teddy Bears Picnic during fruit break - remember your fruit break, teddy and a gold coin.

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Thursday is Harmony Day. Harmony Day is held each year to celebrate culture diversity. The message of Harmony Day is 'everyone belongs.' Children will be involved in different activities with their class on Thursday which promote inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging; messages which are important every day! Students are to wear orange or their cultural dress.

We are also holding our annual Clean Up PWPS Day on Friday. Students will be involved in cleaning up an area of the school, which we want to keep clean every day!

Next week school photos will be taken on Monday and Tuesday. Students will be notified later in the week as to which day their class will be photographed. Please return your notes and money this week. If you did not receive a photo day note / envelope, please see your child's teacher.

Have a fantastic week!
Miss Stuart

Year 6

High School Expression of Interest forms are due this Friday 18th March. Please ensure all forms are filled out correctly and signed in the appropriate section. If you are unsure, please don't hesitate to ask.

This week all students will bring home a series of assessment tasks that were given throughout their first topic of mathematics - Number and Place Value. The assessments consist of pre and post tests given before a new concept and after a concept has been explicitly taught. Post tests generally contain more complex questioning and are designed to be more challenging. Please look carefully at these assessments, locate any weaknesses

Year 6 cont.....

and focus any revision work on those areas. The concepts taught in this topic will be necessary for a solid understanding of the next topic - Properties of Addition and Multiplication. These are only one form of assessment used in mathematics throughout the year.

Most places for 'The Great Aussie Bush Camp' have been reserved. Parents will need to continue making payments regularly throughout the year.

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Don't forget to keep updated with your child's progress towards their reading goal. We are impressed with their reading so far!

Mrs Rhodes

SRC News

Teddy Bear's Picnic

On Tuesday 15th March, K-2 will be taking part in a Teddy Bear's Fruit break. This event is to raise money for the Westmead Children's Hospital in conjunction with their Bandage Bear Appeal. Students are asked to bring in a gold coin donation, their teddy bear and their fruit break on this day.

Clean Up Australia Day

Clean Up Australia is a nationwide event that empowers communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment. Every year we support this initiative during the month of March. This Friday 18th March, Years 3-6 will take part in cleaning up our school.

Canteen News

Ordering on-line is now set up. It's quick and easy just go to flexischools.com.au and search Parramatta West Public School and register your child. Payment options include credit card, paypal and direct deposit.

Ice-creams will not be delivered with your child's lunch. They will be put on a list to be picked up at lunch time. This is due to melting.

PARENTS NEEDED FOR 15-MINUTE SURVEY

Parents are invited to complete an anonymous, 15-minute online survey to explore their thoughts and feelings about childhood behaviours. We are interested in learning how parents from different cultures interpret childhood behaviours and how they respond to them.

All participants will go in a draw to win a \$50 Westfield gift voucher.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Caucasian or Asian ethnicity
- Have a child between the ages of 7-13

To complete the survey, please go to:

https://utshealth.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_0T9hiLz0VeUl4gd

If you have any queries, please contact Sarah-Anne Nguyen: Sarah-Anne.H.Nguyen@student.uts.edu.au

The Dad Shed Program

The Dad Shed Program focuses on the practical side of raising a baby and becoming a new parent from a father's perspective. The program aims to educate fathers on child development, infant communication, play, sleeping and settling. The program will encourage fathers to be actively involved and confident in caring for their child and it will provide an opportunity to meet and share their experiences with other fathers.

We are seeking expressions of interest for key people (fathers or male role models) who are interested in facilitating this program.

If you have an interest in child development and want to share your personal experiences, please contact Council for an expression of interest form by 15 April 2016.

Train the trainer session will be held on Saturday, 30 April 2016, 10am - 2pm at Holroyd City Council.

For more information on the Dad Shed Program, please contact Brooke Capovilla 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands NSW 2160
T 9840 9904 F 9840 9915
E brooke.capovilla@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Harmony Day

We will be celebrating Harmony Day this Thursday. Parents and students are invited to wear either orange or their traditional/cultural wear.

We welcome parents to participate in their own parade followed by a whole school parade with teachers and students after morning assembly.

Students will then complete some Harmony day activities in class. Bring a gold coin to donate to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC).