



Principal's Message

We have reached the end of term 1. Your children have been very busy and have learnt lots. Have you been talking to them about their learning? One of our goals this year is to help parents have conversations with their children about their learning. We know that if you do, your children will be more successful. We don't expect you to be teaching your children, that is our job, but by talking to them about their learning, you will be reinforcing it and helping them to focus on and recognize their learning.

How is the reading challenge going? The holidays could be a good time to catch up or get ahead. Both Parramatta and Merrylands library have plenty of good books, and they often have other activities on during the holidays for children.

School Toilets

The toilets in the school grounds are for students; they are not for parents. This is a child safety consideration. If you have a preschooler who is desperate to use a toilet, please ask your school aged child to take them in. If an adult is desperate to use a toilet, please come to the school office and you will be directed to a staff toilet. This is not encouraged, however, as we have only a few of these, and there is usually a queue just before class time.

We have a growing number of children taking part in some new activities this year and challenging themselves. Congratulations to our debating teams, who are learning very quickly how to take part in a debate. This week we will be hosting a debate at our school on Wednesday. We wish them all the best. On Thursday our chess team will be taking part in their first tournament. I am excited to see students wanting to try new things and not being afraid to test themselves. Thank you to Miss Mahony for enabling our children to do these things.

Next term all children in years 3-6 will be taking part in coding workshops. This is an exciting new program, paid for by parents as part of your enrichment fee. Please make sure that these are up to date. K-2 children will have theirs in term 3. The K-2 children will be having their Life Skills weekly program in term 2, also part of the enrichment fee. We know that the 3-6 children have loved these classes. There will be an opportunity for parents to attend a session this term too.

Term 2 starts back on Wednesday April 27th. This is due to Monday being a public holiday for ANZAC Day, and Tuesday is the teacher's staff development day. Teachers will be at school taking part in life skills workshops and learning about our new

friendly schools plus program.

Enjoy the holidays with your children,
Anthea Donaldson
Principal

Class Awards

| | | | |
|------|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| KA | Coco | KH | Serena |
| KK | Monique | KL | Luka |
| KN | Thanvi | KR | Ahmed |
| KS | Chris | 1F | Ceylin |
| 1G | Saif | 1H | Auldrin |
| 1J | Tzeannah | 1L | Angus |
| 1/2A | Laura | 2B | Yashri |
| 2H | Shriya | 2L | Tawsul |
| 2N | Sarah | 2/3S | Anna, Didar |
| 3B | Naomi, Milan | 3K | Tarik, Jem |
| 3/4A | Neha, Rithwik | 4H | Zara, Roya |
| 4S | Shiv, Elaha | 4/5C | Vaaimalae, William |
| 5M | Angelina, Keira | 5/6J | Phoebe, Iljaz |
| 6M | Manraj, Boxi | 6R | Kimberley, Brock |
| MCT | Zac | MCG | Rudy |
| MCS | Choong | | |

University of NSW Competitions

These competitions are available to students from Year 2 through to Year 6. Details are available from the front office.

Closing date and payment for these competitions Friday 29th April 2016.

Class News

Kindergarten

It has been a wonderful first term of school for our Kindergarten students. The students have learnt so much both academically and socially, and the teachers have really enjoyed seeing their growth! I hope that you have seen the same changes at home! The Kindergarten teachers would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the parents who have volunteered their time this term, it is wonderful to have such helpful parents.

This week will be sending home a list of this next term's sight words that you may want to practise with you children. Most importantly keep reading and talking with you children!

Next term we will be going on our first school excursion to the farm. Notes were given out last week, can you please make sure that you return the note and the money for this valuable learning experience.

Have a wonderful and safe holidays!!!
Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Wow! We've made it to week 11! Well done to all students and teachers for their hard work this term.

On Thursday we are having 'Crazy Hair Day'. Students are required to bring a gold coin donation and wear their normal uniform with their crazy hair. We will not be having sport on Thursday but classes will go out for an extra fitness session to catch up.



Year 1 and 2 had a great time at our Mini Beast Incursion. Check out the photos



We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday!

Miss Langhans

Year 3

We can't believe that it is the last week in Term 1! What a fantastic start to the year we have had. It is a pleasure to watch Year 3 students engaged in learning and enthusiastic about the challenges presented to them.

This week there will be no homework. Make sure your child keeps up their reading over the holidays and that they write down the details of any book they finish, so that they can add this to their Reading Target after the holidays. Keep asking your child about what they are reading and how many books they are up to with their Reading Target. It's great to see that 22% of Year 3 students are on track, by the start of next term we want to see all students having read at least 10 books!

This Thursday is Crazy Hair Day! This is a fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell and their school gift. Students are asked to come with crazy hair - coloured hairspray, gel, fun accessories, wigs, and fancy hairstyles. Search for 'Crazy Hair Day ideas' on Google and you will come up with lots of styles you could try. Students are to wear school uniform and bring a gold coin donation.

On Friday we will be holding our ANZAC Day assembly. Please make sure you are wearing your full school uniform for this special event.

Thank you for a terrific term of learning. Have a wonderful safe and relaxing holiday and we look forward to a great Term 2!

Keep up the reading!
Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

Reading Challenge

Have you been talking with your child about the books they reading? Last week I received a wonderful note where a parent asked if their child could change the book they were reading. The parent and the child had been discussing the book and they realised rather challenging. The most pleasing aspect was

Year 4 and Year 5 cont.....

that the parent had not only been talking to about reading but also passed on some valuable information to the child's teacher. I looking forward to being asked many more questions about what we learning.

NAPLAN 2016

After the holiday break students in Year 3 and 5 will be sitting the NAPLAN assessment. While I don't encourage children spending hours preparing for NAPLAN, I would encourage all children to keep writing, reading and accessing Manga High. This will assist in consolidating their learning from school.

Parent Helpers

Thank you to those parents who have indicated that they would like to help in the classrooms. We will be in contact this week to discuss your involvement next term. If there are any other parents / caregivers who would like volunteer, please contact your child's teacher.

Enjoy the week and have a safe holiday,
Mr Clarke

Year 6

Today all Year 6 students participated in our annual 'Growth Mindset Mini Conference.' The information and ideas put forward to the students today is vital for building strong learners. Ask your children what they learnt today?

I would like to wish all the Year 6 students and their families a wonderful holiday. Please be safe and enjoy quality time together.

The holidays are a great time to catch up on some quality reading. Please help your kids to do this by ensuring there is plenty to read in the home. Visit the local library and borrow enough quality books for kids to continue reading the genres that they enjoy.

School returns Wednesday 27th April.

Mrs Rhodes