

Parramatta West A NSW Public School



The West Weekly

Issue 15 - Term 2 - Week 5

23rd May, 2016

Principal's Message

Thank you to the 399 people who opened their newsletter email last week. It is nice to know that our messages are going somewhere! We hope that you find it a useful source of information.

There were, however, quite a few emails that "bounced". This may be because people's email inboxes were full, or because we have mistyped your email address into the system. If you know someone who gave us their email address, but did not receive the newsletter last week, or this week, please ask them to check at the office, or send it in to us, written VERY CLEARLY. Thank you.

We will soon have the option of "opting in" to the newsletter on our website.

Maths Meetings

We had lots of parents attending our maths meetings last week - thank you. We will place the PowerPoint messages on our website for you to return to, or to share with others who did not attend. It will be under the parents tab on the website, follow the numeracy link.

Our community

As we are growing, I thought it was time to update my information about our community. We currently have 736 students, who speak 57 different languages. Their parents were born in 66 different countries, and our children were born in 39 different countries. I think this is something to celebrate!

The community action team is planning to celebrate our multicultural community in term 4 this year. The plan is to involve the community in working together to set up displays of cultural items in the hall as a sort of "expo". The teachers will act as contact people and the children may get involved as well. Then we will have some days when the classes will spend time in the hall learning from the displays, maybe they will have a "passport" to stamp as they work their way around or quiz questions to find answers to. We are still developing our ideas. There will be a separate information note coming around soon, which will ask parents to volunteer to be part of a cultural group who will set up one of the displays. This is just information to get you thinking and talking to your friends about possibilities.

WhatsApp Groups

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be class parents, and to the parents who have returned their information to become part of the groups. If your class is not listed and you think you could

take on this role, please let us know, or ask if you want more information on what is required.

Current classes covered: MCT, KA, KR, KN, KS, 1L, 1G, 1F, 1H, 1J, 1/2A, 2N, 2L, 2/3S, 3K, 5M.

Kindergarten 2017

If you have a child who turns 5 before the end of July 2017, they are eligible for school next year. As the school is growing so fast, it is important that we receive information about numbers sooner rather than later. I am particularly concerned about siblings who are now living out of our school catchment area, as I may be told that I cannot enrol them next year, even if they have a brother or sister currently in the school. This may depend on the numbers of such families involved. Please let me know if you are in this situation, and your child can at least be put on a waiting list.

There will definitely be NO out of area students enrolled who do not have siblings at the school.

Holroyd Park gatherings

I hope that the stage three students who went along yesterday had a good time together, and that the parents were able to meet someone new as well.

This weekend, Sunday May 29th, we are back to Kindergarten again. There was the first group to try out this idea, hopefully this time we get a few more families going along. We now have the white school banner there to show people where to meet up, so hopefully new parents will find someone to talk to. Please encourage your children to introduce you to their friends, especially if you are a parent who doesn't get up to school very often.

Keep Kids Safe: #parentscheckthecheck!

Parents or carers who engage the services of a private tutor or coach have an important role to play in helping to keep their children safe.

From 1st April 2016 adults who provide private tuition or coaching services to children will need to obtain a new Working With Children Check.

The Certificate for Self Employed People will no longer be valid after their expiry date and the certificate holders will need to apply for a new Working With Children Check.

Parents or carers should ask their child's tutor or coach for their name, date of birth and their Working With Children Check number.

They must then go online and verify the tutor or coach is not barred from working with children in NSW.

Verifying that a tutor or coach can work with children is quick and easy – just follow the simple steps at <http://parramattawestpublicschoolcreatesend1.com/t/i-i-hkhydud-i-y/>

If you suspect that an adult is providing services to children without a Working With Children Check you can go online to make a confidential report or phone (02) 9286 7219.

Help to keep kids safe by sharing **#parentscheckthecheck** with your family and friends through your own social media networks.

Have a good week,

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KA	Xavier	2L	Kaiden
KH	Herin	2N	Nedal
KK	Simirthi	2/3S	Tyrone
KL	Jaya	3	Sheraz
KN	Jannat	3K	Franz
KR	Mokhtar	4A	Malka
KS	Taike	4H	Aziza
1F	Cem	4S	Pheonix
1G	Rudraa	5M	Hamza
1H	Avantika	5/6J	Aditya
1J	Florence	6M	Mahir
1L	Tanush	6R	Dale
1/2A	Muntazir	MCG	Edric
2B	Sajin	MCT	Saran
2H	Aksel		

Stage News

Kindergarten

It was great to see all the parents who showed up for the maths sessions in Kindergarten last Monday night, they were very full classrooms. It is important to get the conversation going about maths. We are still learning about measurement in class this week. We are focusing on using words such as comparing,

ordering and aligning.

Sunday the 29th of May at 2pm it is Kindergarten's turn to meet up at Holroyd park for an opportunity to see some of their friends out side of school. It would be great if you could go and enjoy this time with your children.

Have a great week

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Thank you to all the parents and guardians that were able to attend our maths meetings on Monday. We loved having you all here and sharing with you! Thank you to all of the Stage 1 teachers for a great evening!

How are your children going with the reading challenge? We already have students who have reached 40 books or are very close! There are a few year 1 students that have joined the challenge which is just wonderful to see!

Don't forget to label everything – this includes hats, drink bottles and lunch boxes. Teachers are regularly finding property that is not labelled and is never claimed. Labelling items is important especially during this time of the year when students are getting warmer throughout the day and removing their jumpers.

Have a great week!

Miss Langhans

Year 3

Thank you to all those parents who attended our Parent Meeting on Wednesday night. It was fantastic to see so many parents attend and great to have a discussion about your children and their attitudes and strengths in maths. This week we are finishing off our most recent topic on subtraction concepts and strategies. We are beginning our new topic on measurement, this week focusing on estimating and calculating length in centimetres and metres.

It has been another terrific week for our reading challenge, we have now had 4 Year 3 students read 40 books and they are now on their way towards reading 80 books. Is your child reading every night at home? Reading is part of Year 3's daily homework.

This term students are thoroughly enjoying their coding lessons. Ask your child to explain the exciting things that are happening in those lessons. We may have some future coders and computer programmers on our hands! Coding is part of our Enrichment Program for the year. Please make sure that you are making payments towards these fantastic learning opportunities.

Good luck to all of our cross country runners who will be competing in the Zone Carnival on Tuesday.

Have a fabulous week!

Miss Stuart

Year 6

Thank you to all the parents who attended the mathematics meetings last week. Having an understanding about how mathematics is taught to your children will enable you to assist more at home.

Topic Three Mathematics Pre and Post results will come home this week. Please ensure you find a moment to sit with your child to discuss their strengths, find the weaknesses and look at progress made. The following questions can assist you....

- What have you been learning?
- What strategies have you learnt? How do these help you?
- What questions did you find easy?
- Did you make any silly mistakes? What should you have done?
- What do you still find difficult?
- How have you improved?
- What's the next step for you?

Mathematics Focus Area

- Looking for patterns in decimal charts.
- Estimating sums and differences in decimals

Year 6 Reading Target Results

Successfully Achieved 40 Novels = 6 students

Do you know how many novels your child has read?

If your child is going to 'The Great Aussie Bush Camp' in Term 4, please continue to pay your instalments to the front office.

Mrs Rhodes

Library News

We would love for you to join us on a Monday afternoon at 2.15 for the parent workshop.

A great time to talk about books and reading and to read to your child.

Our Woollies Earn and Learn Rewards have arrived. We received a listening post, some books and some seeds for our garden. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

Mrs Sell

Stewart House Clothing Appeal

The last day to bring in to school any unwanted, clean clothing for The Stewart House appeal is this Friday **27th May 2016**.

Stage 1 Year 6 Fundraiser – Jersey Day

Next Wednesday 1st June stage 1 is holding Jersey Day as a fundraising effort in support of the Year 6 Farewell. This day has been chosen because it is the date of the first NRL State of Origin game between the NSW Blues and the QLD Maroons. Students are encouraged to wear either a jersey or colours of their favourite sporting team. The colours can be from any sport of students' choosing, not just NRL. **Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation** to help raise money for our year 6 students. Students need to wear appropriate footwear (closed-in shoes) and students are not to wear any footy boots with spikes. If your child has sport on this day, please ensure they are dressed comfortably for physical activity. We look forward to seeing everyone in their jerseys and sporting colours!

The simplest way

...to keep kids' thirst at bay.



A day at school is thirsty work!

So be sure to pack a drink in the lunch box.

Water, or milk, is the best drink for kids, not fruit juice.

Top tip: Freeze a drink bottle of water, or a milk popper, to help keep the lunch box cold and food fresh.

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
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