



### Principal's Message

I hope that we will have lots of parents attending the Life Skills Program on Wednesday morning in the school hall. Please return the slip so that we have an idea of numbers. I am quite sure that you will gain from attending this program, both for yourself personally, and in ways that will support your children of all ages.

The school has been given a grant to purchase native plants for our native garden. Next Saturday we will be having a working bee to plant them. This will run from 9.00am-12.00pm. There is a sign on sheet at the front office. I encourage you to come along.

### Holroyd Gardens get together

Last term we had two of these sessions. There were lots of stage 1 children who attended with their parents and apparently had some fun, so we will continue these this term. As this coming Sunday is mother's day, we will not have one this week, but the following Sunday, May 15th, will be for stage 2 children. We will have a school banner there so that families know where to gather and meet up with others.

### Class Parents meeting

The community action team has proposed the idea of having contact parents from each class to improve communication between parents and teachers. We will have a meeting to discuss this idea and how it might work. If you are interested, please come along on Wednesday 11th May to find out more.

### Mother's Day Stall

The P & C will be running this on Thursday. Thank you very much to the parents who put in their time to enable our children to surprise their mums on this special day. Please send along some money (between \$1-00 and \$6-00) with your child in a purse or labeled zip lock bag.

We will soon be starting our new - look newsletter, which will be sent out by email. Please make sure that the school has an up to date email address for your family.

### Tolerance

At our last P&C meeting we had an interesting discussion about the subject of tolerance, and I was asked to write about it in the newsletter, so here goes.

I don't like the word tolerance. To me it is a negative word. If we tolerate something, it implies that we don't like it, but we put up with it - we tolerate it! We might tolerate the noisy party next door, until it gets too late and then we ring the police! I tolerate things I don't like, but have to put up with for whatever reason.

People who promote tolerance as a positive thing mean that they tolerate people with different opinions, practices, values, and religion to their own. I feel that using the word tolerate implies that we don't like other people's differences, but we know we can't be negative about them; we won't be rude or racist because we are not allowed to.

So what is the alternative? I believe at Parramatta West we should, and do, promote acceptance and understanding, we acknowledge and celebrate our diversity. We are all people who have grown up with cultural and religious beliefs and values. We live in a multicultural society where we can learn from each other. We must recognize and respect each other, not impose our own beliefs on others, but understand each other and ourselves as people, appreciating our likenesses and differences. Obviously as we all live in Australia, we are all bound by the laws, values and practices of Australian society.

### Parking

Once again I would ask that parents carefully consider their behaviour around the school when it comes to dropping off and collecting their children. While we are hoping for a new crossing, at the moment it is very dangerous, especially round home time. Please take your time, park legally, and do not expect your children to run across the road to you. Watch out for ALL children, not just your own. Thank you.

How are your children going with their 40-book challenge? I know that some children have already read 40! I love talking to the children about what they have learned about themselves as a reader, which new authors they have discovered, what new genres they are reading. If your child is struggling, please talk to Mrs Sell - it's her job to help children find the right books to read, and she has a wealth of knowledge about children's literature.

Anthea Donaldson  
Principal

## Stage News

### Kindergarten

It was so great to see all the Kindergarten students back at school and ready for learning. They certainly have grown up since the beginning of the year and it is wonderful to see how much more responsible and respectful they are being at school. We have a busy term planned for our students. This Term we have begun a program called "fun friends" where students will be talking about different things such as emotions and making friends. Our first lesson was on how to be brave. Talk to you child about what this means. This term also sees the Kindergarten students attending "Life Skills" once a week.

In mathematics we will be spending the first few weeks learning how to compare objects or measure things. This will include new vocabulary such as: long, short, heavy, light, more than, less than, compared to, volume and capacity. You might want to find opportunities at home to talk about these concepts.

The farm excursion is only a week away! It is Tuesday the 10th of May. Please make sure that you have returned the note and the money to the office otherwise your child might miss this fantastic opportunity.

Mother's Day Stall is on Thursday so if your child would like to purchase a gift please send some money and a plastic bag.

Have a great week!  
Miss Richards

### Year 1 and Year 2

Welcome back! We're ready for another fabulous term full of learning! Congratulations to Arif, Ojas and Isaak for their participation in the Cross Country Carnival last Friday.

Stage 1 sport has moved to Wednesday afternoons. All students must wear their sports uniform, which includes their hat and a water bottle. Please make sure all items are labelled clearly with your child's name. Class fitness times may have changed this term, please see class teachers for an updated timetable.

This Thursday is the Mother's Day stall. Students can bring money in to buy a special gift for mum or another special person in their life like grandma. Please have money in an envelope or zip lock bag clearly labelled and a plastic bag to put their gift in.

Homework starts this week. We're looking forward to dreaming about a holiday with the topic talks everyone will be presenting this week.

Have a great week!  
Miss Langhans

### Year 3

Welcome back to Term 2! It's great to see everyone refreshed and ready for another terrific term of learning.

Congratulations to all students who ran in last week's Cross Country Carnival, and an extra congratulations goes to those who placed in their race.

As you are aware, NAPLAN testing will occur next week. The timetable for next week's assessments are as follows:

Tuesday - Language Conventions (40 mins) and Writing (40 mins)

Wednesday - Reading (45 mins)

Thursday - Numeracy (45 mins)

Teachers will be helping students to prepare for the assessments over the next week, while continuing our regular programs. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

Don't forget the Mother's Day Stall is on Thursday!

Have a fantastic week everyone!  
Miss Stuart

### Year 4 and Year 5

Next week students in Years 3 and 5 will be sitting the NAPLAN assessment. It is important that your child is well rested and prepared for these assessments. It also important that children attend school by 8.55am as the NAPLAN assessment will be held in the morning.

Applications for Year 5 entry into an 'Opportunity Class' in 2017 are now open. All applicants with access to the internet, a printer and their own email address (not the student's) should apply online at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement). Parents / caregivers interested in their child applying for 2017 Year 5 opportunity class will need to notify myself to receive the parent information booklet.

Applications close for the 2017 Year 5 opportunity class close on Friday 13 May 2016.

All students seeking Year 5 opportunity class placement in 2017 will be required to take the Opportunity Class Placement Test on Wednesday 27 July 2016. Parents / caregivers will be notified where their child will sit the test after the closing date.

Finally, any parents / caregivers who would like to submit an application and don't have computer, internet and printer access will need to contact the school to arrange a time to complete the application at school.

Enjoy the week,  
Mr Clarke

### Year 6

Welcome back to another term at school. I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday.

Thank you to the parents for supporting your children with their reading target over the holidays. Remember, that every child is

## Year 6 cont .....

aiming to read 40 books by the end of the year. We have a small group of students that have already read 40 books and are heading towards 80 books. Students are currently having conversations with their teachers about these books and having their Book Planners signed off. Our aim is to build reading stamina and endurance.

Last week our students met together to discuss possible ideas for the graphics on their Year 6 T-shirts. This will be a wonderful memento of their time here at PWPS. Order forms will be sent home this term.

Homework starts back this week. A reminder that class/maths homework and the critical quiz is due on Thursdays.

The cooler weather is coming, please ensure your child has a school jumper that is labeled with their name.

Remember, Mother's Day Stall is on Thursday.

Mrs Rhodes

## Class Awards

KA	Akshuz	KH	Lya
KK	Illia	KL	Karanjot
KN	Daniel	KR	Kaan
KS	Mustafa	1F	Anisha
1G	Youssuf	1H	Hansini
1J	Avi	1L	Kevin
1/2A	Yazad	2B	Karen
2H	Jash	2L	Mohammad
2N	Amoura	2/3S	Mathu
3B	Sarim	3K	Ajila
3/4A	Jiya	4H	Ahmad
4S	Karthik	4/5C	Khaled
5M	Parth	5/6J	Jade
6M	Nahry	6R	Tarandeep
MCS	Shivansh	MCT	Gani

## Library News

Bookclub is due back at school by Tuesday 10th May. Please use the catalogue supplied.

It was great to see the parents on Monday. I would love for you to join us talking about reading and reading stories to your child. Mondays 2.15pm - 2.55pm in the Library. Week 2 - 9. Come along and join us.

Please DO NOT repair books at home. Simply send them back and I will repair them.

Children cannot borrow without a library bag so please make sure your child has one - preferably NOT a plastic bag.

Mrs Sell

## Stewart House

Bags have been sent home today for you to place any unwanted, clean clothing. This is a wonderful charity and our school proudly helps each year.

If you didn't receive a bag you can place your items in a plastic bag and return them to your child's classroom.

Last day for donations is Friday 27th May.  
Thank you in anticipation.

## DANCE NEWS

Last week Korina, Crystal, Mia and Dhvani attended the three-day Dance Off! camp at Kurrajong, with 120 other dancers from all over New South Wales. They were lucky to take part in a number of workshops across a range of dance styles - lyrical, hip-hop, musical theatre jazz, JFH, jazz and choreography. The girls had the opportunity to learn from some of Australia's leading instructors and choreographers, while strengthening their dance skills and technique. Congratulations girls!

Miss Stuart





## Chess Tournament

Last term our school competed in a chess tournament. Victor was in equal second place (out of 77 children) after the fifth round. The children had a great day!



## Debating Gala Day

Our school participated in the Debating Gala day last term against 5 local schools.

