

Parramatta West A NSW Public School

The West Weekly



Issue 18- Term 2 - Week 9

20th June, 2016

Principal's Message

Reports

Next week your children will be bringing home their half yearly reports. This year we have tried to make the reports more reader friendly, and look forward to your feedback on how well we have achieved this. The children will receive A-E grades, as always, this is government policy. As always, the C grade is the expected level, and children should know that they have achieved the outcomes if they receive a C grade. There is also a description under each key learning area that describes what has been taught during terms one and two. Then in English and maths teachers have listed three things that your child has done particularly well in, or things they have worked hard to achieve, and then three things that they are working towards achieving next. This second list are the things that parents can help their children with. Then there is the general comment at the end. I would also like parents to take note of things like their children's attendance, their home reading and library records, and their homework rate. These things have an enormous impact on children's learning, and they are things that parents can have a direct impact on.

Parent Teacher Interviews

The online portal for booking times will be open next week. Interviews will be held on Wednesday July 27th. Parents of children who have moved classes should book an interview with the new class teacher.

Facebook

The school is launching a number of Facebook groups. There will be a public Facebook site, but also several closed groups. A separate note will be going home today inviting parents to give us their email addresses that they use for Facebook so that you can be invited to the closed groups. Initially these will be based on year groups, but later on we may create more groups. These should become important ways through which we can communicate with you and share school stories.

Newsletter

We are still chasing some parents email addresses for the newsletter. If you are reading this then you are obviously connected. Please talk to your friends and see if they are receiving it. If they are not, please encourage them to sign up by going to the school website, or by giving their email address to the school office. We want to reach everyone. If you know someone without an email address, but who has a smart phone, maybe you could show them how they can set up a free account on their smart phone.

Make Mum's Day

Thank you to the hundreds of mums who came along last week. I thoroughly enjoyed the morning in the hall sharing with them - even though there were a few tears - mums are all very special people who do the most important job in the world! (Don't worry, I know dads are important too!) It was great to see the fun that everyone was having in the classrooms afterwards too. There will be photos at the end of this newsletter and also on our website.

School Gates

In order to ensure the safety of all our students, from Tuesday June 21st, the large gate near I Block which goes out on to Franklin Street will be closed at 8.55 am. Parents who are attending the school lines will need to leave the school by any of the gates which have the pool gates, the front entrance or Railway street gates. These pool gates must be closed when you leave, and not propped open after 8.55am. Thank you.

Kindergarten Cake Stall

Thank you to all the parents who brought cakes along, and to all those parents and children who bought them! Everyone braved the less than perfect weather and made it a great success - thank you for your patience with the lines, and thanks to all the teachers who assisted.

Stay warm and dry.

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KA Afnan	2N Youssef
KH Sarim	2/3S Kaedon
KK Sam	3B Izel
KL Tanisha	3K Zahra
KN Prince	3 Taiba
KR Arleive	4A Anmol
KS Melisa	4H Arsh
1F Aarya	4S Mehak
1G Samir	5C Areej
1H Shulamit	5M Nisworth
1J Mustafa	5/6J Shireen

1L Jiya

6M Batool

1/2A Shuab

6R Korina

2B Rameen

MCG Buvi

2H Kavya

MCS Choong

2L Shervin

Stage News

Kindergarten

Thank you to all the mums/carers who came along last Friday morning. The students loved having you in the classrooms to share activities with them. It was so nice to see the interactions with your children.

A **HUGE** thank you to all those parents who helped make the Kindergarten cake stall so successful. We sold out all the tasty treats in record time. I know that the Year 6 students really appreciate the money we help to raise for their farewell (over \$1000).

This week's focus for topic talks is "**My Cultural Story**". We can't wait to hear all about where your family comes from, what languages they may speak and the special foods that you eat. It is always beneficial to practise with you child at home.

Please ensure that your children are getting enough sleep. They should be getting 9-10 hours sleep every night. We have been seeing some students coming to class tired and yawning, this makes it hard for them to concentrate in class.

Have a great week!

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

This week each student will be presenting a new character to the class using the template sent home last week. We are looking forward to seeing how creative students are coming up with their own characters. These characters will be turned into a class character book that we can use for inspiration with our imaginative writing.

Did you know that 2 more students have achieved the 40 book challenge? Congratulations to Bhakti and Jash! There are about 5 more students that are very close to reaching their target. Let's see if they can finish before the holidays!

It was great to see so many mums and carers here on Friday to celebrate 'Make Mum's Day'. We had a fantastic day and hope you enjoyed sharing some special time together.

Have you got lots of silver coins at your house? Bring them to school to help your class fill their bucket!

Have a great week everyone!

Miss Langhans

Year 3

It's hard to believe that we only have two weeks left of this term! Friday was a fantastic morning spent with our mums, grandmas, aunts and carers as part of our annual 'Make Mum's Day'. Thank you to everyone who came up to school and took part.

It was impressive to see students plan their ideas for their speech as part of their homework last week. Teachers have given students feedback and will be discussing their talks further in class. Students are to practise this week and improve their speech as part of their homework task. Ask your child how they are going to make their speech interesting and engaging for the audience. How will they convince their audience?

Our class bucket challenge is well underway and our buckets are getting heavier as more and more coins are added. Make sure you are saving any change and bringing it in for the *Bucket Challenge*, raising money for Camp Quality and World Vision.

Maths focus for this week:

- We are finishing off our *measurement* unit, focusing on calculating perimeter.
- We will also be starting our unit on *multiplication concepts*.

Have a fantastic week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

I would like to thank the parents and students who attended our Year 5 planning meeting last Wednesday afternoon. We received some great ideas and we'll now plan our next term's teaching and learning units to include as many of these ideas as possible. If you weren't able to make the planning meeting, please feel free to write a note to the class teacher and we'll add your ideas to the list we already have.

How many books has your child read towards the 40 book reading challenge? Students should be aiming to have read at least 20 books by the end of the term. If you or your child need some help choosing some great books to read please see your child's class teacher or Mrs Sell (our school librarian).

Finally I would like to congratulate all the students who represented the school at the area cross-country carnival last week. Once again, the effort was outstanding by all of those who competed.

Enjoy the week,

Mr Clarke

Year 6

Reports will be sent next this week. We encourage you to read the report with your child and allow them to talk to you about their progress. We spend a great deal of time reflecting on learning with the children, so they will be able to provide you with added detail about the comments provided. We are very proud of our Year 6 students. They show commitment and motivation towards their learning and have worked very hard this first semester.

I would encourage **all parents** to book an interview with your child's classroom teacher to gain an insight into their progress and also to learn how you can assist at home. We would like to see all Year 6 parents at these meetings. It is a crucial time in your child's life and we will be able to let you know how they are going with

regards to their high school readiness.

Thank you to the mum's who visited our classrooms last Friday, it was great to welcome you into our rooms.

Year 6 T-shirt money is due this Thursday. Please pay your money to the school office.

Mathematics Focus Area

- Dividing Decimals by 10, 100 or 1000
- Using number lines to add and subtract decimals

Year 6 Reading Target Results

- Successfully Achieved 40 Novels = 10 students
- 11% of the grade have achieved their target

Enjoy the long weekend.

Mrs Rhodes

Library News

Thankyou to all the parents who attended the parent workshops on Monday afternoons. Today was the last for the term.

We are not borrowing this week as it is our last library lesson for the term. Please send in the library bags in week 1 next term read to borrow.

Please make sure all books are returned this week.

Don't forget your local library is eager for you to borrow from them.

Our subscription for worldbookonline is available in the holidays.

Username: parrawest

Password: student

Mrs Sell

Teacher/Librarian

Borrowed Clothing

It is a good idea for younger children to have a change of clothes in their bag if they accidentally wet themselves at school. Our supplies in the office are running low, so if we have lent you some clothing, please wash them and return ASAP. Thank you.

The simplest way

...to make a mezze plate.

A mezze plate is a great snack or starter and perfect for sharing.

It is ideal hands-on food for kids, and junior chefs can help prepare it too.



Options are limited only by imagination. Just remember to include plenty of veg! Our plate, pictured above, includes:

- Baba ghanoush and Middle Eastern bean dip (or try hummus and tzatziki).
- Dolmades (vine leaves stuffed with rice and herbs).
- Olives.
- Cucumber and carrot sticks (capsicum sticks, green beans and baby corn work well too).
- Flat bread cut into wedges.
- Tabbouleh.

**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.



2015 LUMP SUM CLAIM FORM FACT SHEET FAMILY TAX BENEFITS

What is Family Tax Benefits?

Family Tax Benefits are paid by the Family Assistance Office (FAO) to help with the cost of raising children.

The payments, known as **Part A** and **Part B**, are **Income Tested** but **NOT** asset tested.

What are the Income Tests?

The income tests are based on a Financial Year and is usually what is shown in your Annual Income Tax Return with some adjustments to include things like additional salary sacrificed superannuation, Fringe Benefits & Child Support Payments.

The income tests will also depend on how many children you have and their ages. Basically the more children you have and the older they are, the higher your income limit will be.

As a rough guide only, a family with two children under the age of 13 years old, should be entitled to some Family Tax Benefit Part A if their annual combined income is less than \$112,000. In addition, if the Parent with the lowest income is less than \$20,000 (as long as the higher Income Earner is less than \$100,000), they will also be entitled to some Family Tax Benefit Part B.

We suggest you contact Family Assistance Office or Centrelink to determine if you are eligible to receive any Family Tax Benefits.

2015 LUMP SUM CLAIM FORM FACT SHEET FAMILY TAX BENEFITS

In or around June each year, the Family Assistance Office will send each Registered Parent a letter requesting them to update their Income estimate for the next financial year. Included in the letter is the estimate made by them for the previous year. The letter explains if the FAO does not hear from the parents, the previous estimate will again be used (not the previous year actual).

If you don't receive this letter, it probably means that you are no longer registered.

This reconciliation is not done until both parents (if not single) Income Tax Returns have been lodged or the ATO has been notified that a Tax Return was not Necessary.

If you don't lodge your Income Tax Returns within 12 months of the end of the Financial Year, the FAO will request you to return all the amounts you have been paid.

What if I don't want to receive fortnightly payments?

If you estimate your annual income to be under the threshold, you will automatically receive the fortnightly payments unless you contact FAO or Centrelink directly.

Anyone can elect to have their Family Tax Benefits paid as a Lump Sum and not as fortnightly payments. This can only be done by contacting the FAO directly. It cannot be done on-line.

Contact FAO directly on 136 150 and quote your CRN.

How do I claim these Benefits?

The majority of people "register" with the FAO or Centrelink. They are given a CRN (Customer Reference Number) and can use this to register their children for Family Tax Benefits, Child Care Benefits and Child Care Tax Rebates.

As part of the FTB registration process, parents are asked to estimate their future income. Based on their response, they will start to receive payments for both FTB Part A and Part B on a fortnightly basis. If the income estimate is higher than the income threshold, no fortnightly payments will be received.

What if my income estimate was wrong?

The FAO don't attempt to check the income estimate. Your word is taken to be correct.

It is also important to know the FAO use the same income estimate to calculate your Child Care Benefit (CCB) percentage, if applicable.

However, at the end of the financial year the FAO will receive your actual income from the ATO and reconcile what you should have received in FTB to what you actually received fortnightly. They may owe you, or you may owe them, depending on how close your income estimate was to your actual.









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2015 LUMP SUM CLAIM FORM
FACT SHEET
FAMILY TAX BENEFITS



2015 LUMP SUM CLAIM FORM
FACT SHEET
FAMILY TAX BENEFITS

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graph TD
    A[Have you received any  
FORTNIGHTLY Family Tax Benefits  
(FTB) Payments during 2014/15] -- YES --> C[Have you lodged your  
2015 INCOME TAX RETURN  
or let the Australian Tax Office  
(ATO) know that you are NOT  
REQUIRED TO.  
(This must be completed  
by 30 June 2016)]
    A -- NO --> B[Did you notify the Family Assistance  
Office by phone that you wanted to  
receive your benefit as a  
LUMP SUM PAYMENT]
    B -- YES --> D[No LUMP SUM FORM required.  
FAO will automatically calculate  
your benefits.]
    B -- NO --> C
    C -- YES --> D
    C -- NO --> E[YOU MUST  
Complete an online or paper  
LUMP SUM CLAIM FORM  
before 30/06/2016  
https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/forms/fa043]
  
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Have you received any
FORTNIGHTLY Family Tax Benefits
(FTB) Payments during 2014/15

YES

NO

Did you notify the Family Assistance
Office by phone that you wanted to
receive your benefit as a
LUMP SUM PAYMENT

YES

NO

Have you lodged your
2015 INCOME TAX RETURN
or let the Australian Tax Office
(ATO) know that you are **NOT**
REQUIRED TO.
(This must be completed
by 30 June 2016)

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or let the Australian Tax Office
(ATO) know that you are **NOT**
REQUIRED TO.
(This must be completed
by 30 June 2016)

YES

NO

YOU MUST
Complete an online or paper
LUMP SUM CLAIM FORM
before **30/06/2016**
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/forms/fa043>

No LUMP SUM FORM required.
FAO will automatically calculate
your benefits.



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Balloon twister

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<http://bounceforthehouse.eventbrite.com.au>



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