

Parramatta West A NSW Public School

The West Weekly



Issue 43 - Term 1 - Week 6

27th February 2017

Principal's Message

It was wonderful to see so many parents here last week meeting their children's teachers and finding out about the year ahead - thank you for taking the time to come up. It is also great to see so many more parents making use of our Facebook groups. I loved this comment by one parent this week - "Thank you for sharing. Last year I missed out on a lot of such info. This is turning out to be the best use of Facebook. ". If you are not in one of the closed year groups, I encourage you to join as soon as possible so that you don't miss out! Don't forget to "like" both the closed group and our open page so that you get all the feeds straight away.

Open night at Arthur Phillip HS - March 13th from 6.00pm

Many of our students are in area for Arthur Phillip HS. You may be aware that there is a fabulous new High School being built for them. If you have a child in years 5 or 6 you are invited to attend an open night to find out more about this exciting future development, due to open in 2019.

Volunteers

We love that many parents have volunteered to help at school in many different ways. THANK YOU! There are government regulations around volunteers working with children. This is to make sure that our children are all safe and being cared for by responsible people. Volunteers do not need to get a working with children check - although as a volunteer you can get a free one - but you do need to provide proof of who you are and sign a declaration at the office. This needs to be done every year. A working with children check is done every five years. Please see Patricia in the school office for paperwork.

3-6 Assembly

Our assemblies start this week for the 3-6 students. This year I plan to share some ideas with the children at assembly, and I will share them with you too. The first one I have chosen is based on a YouTube clip of Dr Jane Goodall, someone I admire enormously. I will be showing the children the beginning of the clip where she talks about influences in her life, the importance of learning, working really hard and never giving up on the things that you believe in. I believe this is an important message for all of us. If you want to watch the whole clip, the link is below.

<https://youtu.be/99qJKzINNow>

Have a good week,

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KAB Mustafa

KC Leith

KH Aaryan

KK Dharati

KN Kavvya

KS Matteen

KT Salaar

1F Shiven

1H Laura-Lye

1K Melek

1M Bethany

1S Kayley

2B Salam

2G Jenil

2L Saif

2N Rachel

2P Kashvi

Stage News

Kindergarten

Week 6 already! How the time flies, we are already halfway through term 1! Kindergarten is looking forward to another busy week ahead.

Thank you to all the parents that attended our “meet the teacher” session last week. It was wonderful to see so many parents wanting to find out what is happening in Kindy this year. If you haven't already done so, please like the Parramatta West Facebook page and you can also request to join our closed Kindergarten group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/302427203452344/> where we will be posting things specifically for Kindergarten.

We would like to remind parents that one of our school expectations is to be responsible and we encourage this in all our Kindergarten students. It is their job to look after their hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles by putting them away in their bags. If your child is having trouble doing this please practise packing and unpacking their things at home. Teachers are very busy and do not have time to look for lost items before and after school. Please also make sure that everything has your child's name and class on it so if it does get lost it can be returned. Finally, if your child accidentally brings something home that does not belong to them please send it back to school the next day.

This week in mathematics we are beginning looking at positional language – on, above, under, next to, behind, inside, top, middle, bottom. You can help by using this language with your children at home by placing objects for them to find and then giving directions “It is next to the TV, It is under the lounge” etc. We will also continue to look at number – so make sure there is lots of counting practise happening. Dominoes is a great game to play to help develop your child's skills in number.

Below are our focus sight words for this week:

KAB - I, am, can, do

KC - this, my, is, like

KH – look, at ,me, this

KK - go, to, the

KN – on, a, go, to

KS – the, like, me, this

KT – to, of, and, with

Have a wonderful week.

Mrs Armour

Year 1

Thank you to all the parents and carers that came to *Meet the Teacher Night*. It was lovely getting to meet you all and sharing some key information about the year ahead. Please start returning the Permission to Publish notes, so we are aware of who can be published on our closed page.

Maths Focus for this week:

- Ordering numbers on a number line
- Counting beyond 20
- Comparing numbers

This week's topic talks are "All about Me". This includes likes, dislikes, hobbies and favourite things.

Be sure to regularly check out our closed year 1 Facebook group for more learning links, tips, ideas and examples of our teaching and learning. Click on the link and Message your child's name and class to join.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1425486457477238/1759019137457300/?notif_t=like¬if_id=1487925552829687

Miss McSpadden

Year 2

What a great turn out at last week's Meet The Teacher night. It was great to see so many parents and strengthen partnerships in the children's learning. The link between home and school is so important.

Thank you to all the parents that have returned their signed permission to publish forms. This allows us to share photos of your child participating in learning experiences, and whole class events such as assemblies and excursions. It's great to see so many parents sending in their Facebook email addresses so we can invite them to join our closed Year 2 group. We post learning links, games, ideas and photos. Please have a look and feel free to comment on the important learning taking place!

Our students are really enjoying the Foot Steps dance classes each week. Ask your child to show you some of their groovy dance moves!

Literacy Planet and Manga High are valuable learning tools students can use to help improve their learning and consolidate what they are learning about in class. We encourage you to access these online programs at home. They are paid for as part of your enrichment fees. Logins details have been sent home. Please speak with your child's teacher if you have any issues.

Please remember to ensure your child has their hat and a labelled bottle of water each day. So many students are coming to school without a hat and having to miss out on play and sport time.

This week's Learning focus

English

Grammar- gender nouns: he or she?

Spelling- "pl" words

Writing: informative texts and the dinosaur 'Oviraptor'. Continuing our author study "Nick Bland."

Reading: comprehension

Topic talks- school expectations

Other

Creative and performing arts (CAPA): dance

Science: Up, down and all around

PDHPE: Fitness, fundamental movement skills and child protection

Maths

- To be able to count by tens
- To be able to order numbers from smallest to largest or largest to smallest

Don't forget to check on our closed Year 2 Facebook page and record your child's answer to this week's poll.

Have a great week everyone.

Mrs Batac

Year 3 and Year 4

It was fantastic to see so many parents at school last Tuesday night for our Meet the Teacher meetings. It was great to meet so many of our students' parents in person and chat about the year ahead and how we can work together. One of the big ways we will be connecting with you this way is through Facebook and it is wonderful that so many parents have already sent back their green forms and connected with our closed Year 3 and 4 pages. These pages will have photos of your children learning, important reminders about school and grade events and happenings, and learning links to keep you connected with what is happening in our classrooms. I encourage all of you to get involved and join us on Facebook! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and ask.

We had a great start to homework last week, and so many students used their creativity and imagination to present some wonderful responses to our weekly challenge. Homework is directly connected with what is happening in our classrooms each week. We understand that students are busy with lots of activities after school, which are also important. The most important parts of the homework are our weekly challenge, spelling practise, independent reading, problem solving and maths practise. Some parts of our homework are optional, which is indicated. If your child is unable to complete parts of the homework due to a busy after school schedule, please just write a quick note in their homework book explaining this. If you have any concerns or questions about homework, please speak to your child's teacher.

Reading Target update:

This year we will again have our 40 Book Challenge, which all students will work towards. The best way you can support your child in their 40 Book Challenge is to encourage them to read at home and talk to them about the books that they are reading. If your child finishes a book at home, write down the title, author and number of pages on a piece of paper, so that they can copy the book's details on to their target sheet at school.

Maths focus areas for this week:

Go to our Facebook pages for learning links!

- **Year 3** – Understanding odd and even numbers; using place value to identify numbers, add and subtract
- **Year 4** – Comparing and ordering large numbers; rounding whole numbers

Have a fantastic week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 5 and Year 6

This week we will be holding an information session about the high school application process. We will guide parents in how to fill out the 'High School Expression of Interest Form'. The details are below.

Wednesday March 1st at 6.00pm in the school library.

The High School Selective Test date is ***Thursday March 9th at Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High.*** All parents with students involved will receive notification of this in the mail. These applications were closed at the end of last year and it is too late to apply now for this test. Good luck to all of those students.

Stage 3

This fortnight the Year 6 and Year 5 teachers will be sending home the first of many ***mathematics assessments***. These assessments can inform you of your child's progress in particular areas.

Your child should now have access to both Literacy Planet and Manga high. Please ask your child to go online and access these quality programs. They will also have time during class to use them.

Please continue to ask your child how many books they have read towards their target. It is pleasing to see that some students have already read 4 or 5 novels. How can you help your child reach this target?

Miss Richards

Library News

Thanks to everyone who supported our book fair. That means more books for the library.

Book club has gone out to the teachers so you should have gotten your purchases by now.

There are still some children who are not borrowing because they do not have a library bag. Bags can be bought at Kmart for \$2.00 or Coles or other shops where they sell cheap but reliable bags.

It is important to be borrowing and reading regularly. Don't forget your reading challenge.

**Nutrition Snippet**

The simplest way

...to make one ingredient ice cream.

Treat your kids to some homemade ice cream, minus the sugar and additives. Just 100% fruity goodness. Delicious!

Ingredients:
4 – 5 ripe bananas

Method:
*Slice the bananas into small pieces (about 1.5cm thick is ideal).
*Put the slices in a Ziploc bag and freeze them overnight.
*Place the frozen banana slices into a food processor. You may need to break up the slices a bit if they've frozen together in clumps.
*Blend until the mixture becomes smooth and creamy.
*Spoon the blended mixture into a shallow dish and pop in the freezer for about two hours.
*Scoop it out and serve immediately.



Watch the video: eatittobeatit.com.au (recipes section).

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
Local Health District

Eat It To Beat It 

Cumberland Council

Out of School Hours Education and Care



Council's Out of School Hours (OOSH) Education and Care Centres cater for children aged 5-13 years who attend primary school in the Cumberland Local Government area and surrounding areas.

Services operate Monday to Friday:
Before School Care from 6.30am - 9.30am
(Pemulwuy OOSH 6.00am - 9.00am)
After School Care from 3.00pm - 6.00pm
School Holiday Program 7.00am - 6.00pm
(Pemulwuy OOSH 6.00am - 6.00pm)
All activities and excursions are included.
Services are closed public holidays.

Breakfast and afternoon tea are provided along with an interest based program aligned with the National Quality Framework and My Time Our Place.

Experienced and qualified educators develop stimulating and educational programs to meet the children's interests and needs. Homework is supported through the homework club.

Environmentally friendly initiatives are promoted within all services. Services promote child well-being and development through our safety program.

Families are welcome to visit www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au to view programs and complete enrolment forms.

Council's OOSH Centre contact details:

Guildford West OOSH:	9721 2257	0419 120 575
Parramatta West OOSH:	9633 5246	0408 241 513
Pemulwuy OOSH:	9896 6129	0427 058 227
Pendle Hill OOSH:	9631 8063	0410 553 284
Ringrose OOSH:	9636 6586	0418 442 153
Sherwood Grange OOSH:	9892 4207	0419 632 885
Widmerrae OOSH:	9757 1904	0417 647 310



The simplest way
to improve the health of your
family and save money

Come to our **FREE Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop**




Date: Thursday 9th March 2017

Time: 9.00am until 10.30am

Venue: Parramatta West Public School



Did you know that eating enough fruit and vegetables all their lives can help protect children against diseases, including some forms of cancer? This **free workshop** run by Cancer Council NSW will show you how you can easily:

-  **Save time and money making healthy meals**
-  **Learn clever ways to entice fussy eaters**
-  **Get a free recipe book simply by attending**

Don't miss out – registration is essential. To book your place please register no later than 6/3/17 by:

Calling or visiting the school front office or register online at

www.cancercouncil.org.au/eatittobeatit/register

The *Eat It To Beat It* program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.



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[Unsubscribe](#)

