

Parramatta West A NSW Public School

The West Weekly



Issue 45 - Term 1 - Week 7

13th March 2017

Principal's Message

P & C AGM

Tomorrow is our Parents and Citizen's annual general meeting, which will be followed by the ordinary monthly meeting. I encourage parents to come along and find out what is happening. The meeting will be held in the spare classroom in E Block.

Home Reading Program

Some days we are struggling to get enough parents to change the children's books over. Having a new book to read every night is really important for our beginning readers, and we have many more children and classes to cover than when this program first started. We would like to have a volunteer parent from each class to go on a roster so that we can make sure we have enough people, and it is not the same few people who are doing it every day. Please let your class teacher know if you are available.

Lost Property

There is far too much of this. From now on we will put all the latest lost property out on a Monday morning on a table. Please look through it and take what is yours. Please LABEL your children's clothing, I suggest that you actually write with texta on the inside collar of

jumpers and jackets rather than on a label that can come off. Please also label all drink bottles and lunch boxes. Thank you.

Litter and convenience foods

Last week our year 3-6 classes did "clean up Australia" in our environment- thank you to our teachers for organising this. The playground looked wonderful when they had finished. However, we shouldn't need to do this. Wouldn't it be wonderful if next year they did it and couldn't find anything! Too many children eat something in the playground, and just leave the rubbish where they were sitting, or drop it as they play. Please talk to your children about this.

You might want to watch this clip that I showed the children in assembly today about a boy who wanted to make a difference to the environment.

<https://www.facebook.com/storyofstuff/posts/10155962505615884>

On Friday morning I picked up a piece of rubbish in the playground before school had even started. It was an LCM wrapper. A child had probably been given it for recess and was hungry, so ate it before school, or maybe a parent was in a hurry, and it was actually the child's breakfast - after all, it does contain rice bubbles - I don't know. However, I looked at the ingredients - that little snack contained 34% SUGAR. Would you give your child several spoons full of sugar for breakfast? Or for morning tea? That is what is in some of these packaged snacks. I encourage you to check the labels of the foods that are promoted for children, this much sugar is not good.

Tell Them From Me survey

Students in years 4-6 are invited to complete an online survey giving their opinions about school life and their learning at Parramatta West. The survey provides the school with very useful information about how the children are feeling about their learning at school. All the results are combined, so no child's answers can be identified - it is completely anonymous.

They will then complete the survey again towards the end of the year.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

A note is going home today to all children in years 4-6. If you DO NOT want your child to participate, please let us know. Otherwise, all children will complete the survey at school before the end of term. Notes must be returned by Friday this week, they will start doing the survey next week.

Parrachatter group

We met for the first time last week, and again today. Next week the topic for conversation will be NAPLAN. If you have a child in year 3 or 5 I encourage you to come along, or if you are just interested to know more, come along. 9am Monday mornings.

What to talk about with your child after school?

Parents have asked for advice on how to have conversations with their children about their learning, so we will be giving you ideas of questions to ask. This week's question:

"What are you learning at school to make you a better writer?" Children may have difficulty answering this question, so you could prompt them by asking about success criteria, the things they need to remember to do when they are writing. You could also ask them what sort of writing they are learning to do. This will vary according to their age.

Have a good week,

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

2L Zoe

2N Jiya

KAB Pranshi

KC Lemar

KH Bhavika

KK Muntadar

KN Abhinav

KS Analeigh

KT Layan

1F Ahmed

1H Tiana

1J Myar

1K Aarna

1M Riyana

1S Mujtabah

2B Ayaan

2G Kish

2P Buse

2/3H Shaurya

3K Prisha

3P Tirth

3S Baris

4H Krisha

4J Jasmeet

4S Joshua

4/5M Naomi

5A Leila

5D Luisa

6H Amir

6J Jessica

6R Jessica

MCD Ronakh

School Photos

School photos will be taken on 20th and 21st March 2017. Once a timetable has been organised your child will know which day is their class photo day. Personalised photo

envelopes have been sent home last week. Please place CORRECT money inside the envelope and return to the school office. Each child needs to have their OWN envelope on photo day.

Family envelope are available from the school office. Online ordering is also available. Cash or money orders are accepted as payment. **MSP Photography does not accept cheques.** All late orders placed with the photographer will incur a minimum \$20 - \$30 late fee (per order).

Stage News

Kindergarten

Week 8 already! This term is certainly going fast! All Kindergarten students are busy learning many new things.

Teddy Bears Picnic

This Friday (17th March) students in Kindergarten will be taking part in fundraising event for The Children's Hospital at Westmead to celebrate Bandage Bear Day.

Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation and join their classmate for a Crunch 'n' Sip picnic with their teddy bear. Students will still need to bring normal lunch on the day and their healthy Crunch 'n' Sip (fresh fruit, vegetables and water) for the picnic.

What to bring

- Teddy Bear
- Gold coin donation
- Crunch'n' Sip (water, fruit or vegetables ONLY)
- Blanket to sit on

Morning lines

We are having lots of trouble getting to class of a morning due to the number of people and prams in the lower playground. The walkways around the school are quite narrow, especially the two exits in the lower playground. Parents staying after the bell to say good-bye to their children are continually blocking them. We ask that once the bell has gone (or even a bit before) that you drop your child at their class lines and begin to exit the school. There are teachers on duty in the lower playground from 8:30am so they will be supervised. If it is raining please do not follow children to class covering them with an umbrella, the walkways are covered so they will not get wet. Please help us by keeping the walkways clear so that we can all move around the school safely.

Facebook

We are so glad to see so many parents enjoying our PWPS Facebook page and the closed Kindergarten group. Please keep in mind that teachers are not able to post pictures every day. We will be posting these once or twice a week to show you what has been happening in our classroom but we simply don't have the time to be taking pictures of everything we do each day – we are busy teaching. Finally, if you need to send us a message or ask a question at any time, please send these to your teachers DET email rather than through messenger, as this is usually checked daily and Facebook messenger is not.

Maths

We continue to work on positional language and number this week – lots of hands on practice counting, ordering and recognising numbers.

Sight words

Below are our focus sight words for the week

- KAB – I, to, do, and
- KC – in, went, the, play
- KH – that, play, on, went

- KK – play, was, then
- KN – was, of, see
- KS – on, it, can, in
- KT – is, this, girl, boy

Mrs Armour

Year 1

Year 1 has been working very hard and we have some very exciting events coming up in the next few weeks. Our upcoming excursion to the Australian Museum is in week 10 (Friday, 31st March). Notes and money are due back THIS FRIDAY, if you require another note please see the attachment on the Year 1 Facebook page or contact your child's teacher.

The Teddy Bears Picnic is this Friday. This is a SRC fundraiser for the wonderful Westmead Children's Hospital that serves our community so well. Students are encouraged to bring in a gold coin donation as well as their teddy bear and fruit break.

If you would like your child to see the visiting optometrist please ensure you fill out the note and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible. This is a great initiative and the tests are covered completely through medicare.

Next week are school photos and it is our school Harmony Day celebration. Please start returning your photo envelopes to the office if you would like to order photos. Harmony Day is the 22nd of March with students encouraged to wear traditional dress or orange on that day.

This week's topic talks are about their "favourite book". They are required to explain the characters, give a description of plot and why they enjoy it.

Maths Focus for this week:

- Adding to 8 & 9
- Using the plus sign

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.

Miss McSpadden

Year 2

We are already in week 8 of this term. It is flying by! Students have settled in to their class routines and are continuing to make progress with their learning goals.

We encourage you to regularly check our closed Year 2 Facebook page. We are posting weekly learning links, games, photos and ideas for how to support your child's learning at home. Have you responded to one of weekly Facebook polls? Talking with your child about the question in the poll helps to engage them in their learning and make connections. Plus it helps to show you are interested in what they are learning at school.

It's great to see so many students returning their permission notes and payments for our upcoming excursion to The Australian Museum, on Friday 7th April. The closing date for payments is Friday 17th March, so please make sure you have returned the signed permission note and the cost of \$28. I wonder which dinosaurs we will encounter!

Remember to send your child to school with their favourite Teddy Bear on Friday for our K-2 Teddy Bear's Fruit Break Picnic. They may like to bring along a towel or picnic rug to sit on. We will be eating our fruit or vegetable snack and water during this time.

Just a reminder 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- adjectives describe nouns by answering one of these three questions: What kind is it? How many are there? Which one is it? e.g. blue, seven, yesterday, round etc.

Spelling- "br" words e.g. brown, bring, bright, brother

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

Reading: comprehension

Topic talks- Design a Dinosaur! This is your chance to get creative! Design your own dinosaur out of recycled materials you have around the house. **You do not need to make it this week.** This week we want to see a labelled diagram of what your dinosaur will look like and how you plan to make it.

Other

Creative and performing arts (CAPA): dance

Science: Up, down and all around

PDHPE: Fitness, fundamental movement skills and child protection

Maths

Numbers and place value beyond 100

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

Addition concepts and strategies

- To be able to add numbers in any order

- write a number sentence to show their understanding

Have a great week everyone.

Mrs Batac

Year 3 and Year 4

What a great job our students did when cleaning up PWPS on Friday as part of our support of Clean Up Australia Day! Have you seen our photos on Facebook? Let's try and keep our playground as rubbish-free as possible all the time!

Many of our Stage 2 students work with our specialist EAL/D teachers throughout the week to improve their English. This Wednesday night is our Meet the EAL/D Teacher night, at 6pm in the Library. Those students who work with these specialist teachers have received an invitation to this evening. I encourage all parents of these students to attend, so you can find out more about your child's English language development.

Reading Target update:

This year, our Stage 2 students will be looking at ways that books can be classified according to genre. This is a way to sort books according to their similarities and also assists students in choosing books that they may be interested in reading. Stage 2 students will be involved in a special 'Book Tasting' this Thursday, which will give students an introductory taste to genre. Stay tuned! There will be photos on Facebook at the end of week!

Maths focus areas for this week:

Go to our Facebook pages for learning links!

- **Year 3** – Ordering and comparing numbers; rounding numbers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/576767419169276/>

- **Year 4** – Using mental maths to add; using models to add 3-digit numbers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1718622788411033/>

Have a fantastic week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 5 and Year 6

This Wednesday is **'Meet the EAL/D teacher'** night at 6pm in the library. EAL/D stands for English as an Additional Dialect. If your child is receiving support to learn English, he/she would have given you an invitation to attend. Please come along and learn more about how your child is supported to learn English and what you can do at home to help.

Last Wednesday the school leaders and Ms Jameson had a wonderful day at the LEAP conference. Those students got to discuss different ways that they can make a difference as a leader at school. We can't wait to see what ideas they put into action!

Maths

Year 5: The students are continuing to look at place value. This week they are continuing to explore the relationship between fractions and decimals and how they relate to each other. They are also learning to place these values onto a number line along side whole numbers.

Year 6: The students are starting to explore the order of operations for both multiplication and addition. It is an important pre-skill that will help them with algebra once they are in high school. Please ask your child what they now know about 'associative' and 'communicative' properties.

The Tests for topic one will be coming home this week.

Learning links will be placed in the closed year Facebook groups to assist learning. If you have not joined up to our closed groups yet, please do so by clicking on the links below:

Year 5: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1726807364254755/>

Year 6: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1793131167574809/>

High school applications for year 6 students

High School Expression of Interest forms are due this Friday 17th March. Please ensure all forms are filled out correctly and signed in the appropriate section. If you are unsure, please don't hesitate to ask.

Have a fabulous week!

Miss Richards

Library News

Bookclub is due on Tuesday the 21st of March please be prompt as there can be no late orders. They will not be processed in time to be returned this term.

Lovely to see so many children borrowing remember the reading challenge is a challenge and not a race. Are you being challenged in the books you are reading.

Mrs Sell

SRC News

This Friday the 10th March K-2 students will be taking part in the Teddy Bears Picnic. They will be encouraged to bring a teddy bear, their fruit break and a gold coin donation. These donations will be going to the Westmead Children's Hospital.

3-6 students took part in Clean Up Australia last week. They were all given areas of the school and surrounding areas to clean up. This initiative aims to limit the waste and litter across the nation and sustain the environment and animals. Thank you for all of their hard

work!



SunSmart Snippet

The simplest way

...to protect your skin.

Almost all skin cancers are preventable by reducing exposure of skin to ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

Did you know?
UV radiation causes damage when the level reaches 3 or above. Even though we cannot feel UV radiation it can still be damaging on cooler or cloudy days.

Stay protected!
Protect your skin from damage when UV levels reach 3 and above by:

- Downloading the SunSmart app or check the online widget (www.sunsmart.com.au/uv-sun-protection/uv/uv-widget) to discover the daily UV rating.
- If the UV rating is 3 or above, use sun protection.

Slip

Slop

Slap

Seek

Slide



Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

- Minimise your time outside from 11am – 3pm (DST) from October through to March.



Health

Western Sydney

Local Health District

To help keep your kids safe, check your schools SunSmart status by heading to www.sunsmartnsw.com.au





Volunteering Workshop A Pathway to Your Future

**Free workshop, Child Minding and
Afternoon Tea provided**

What is volunteering? Why volunteer?
What kinds of volunteering are there?
How can volunteering help me?
Learn the answers to this and more!

Thursday 30th March 2017
12noon to 3pm
In the Library

REGISTER AT THE OFFICE
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL INDU: 9568 0280



P & C News

Ride Safely to School

A guest speaker will be attending the P & C meeting tomorrow morning at 9am to speak about the ride safely to school program.

Easter Raffle

It's that time again.....!

We are holding an Easter Raffle

We will be selling Raffle tickets

From 15th March until 5th April

Please have all tickets handed in to the Office by 5th April. \$1-00 a ticket

1st prize - Large Easter Basket

2nd prize - Medium Easter Basket

3rd prize - Small Easter Basket

Tickets will be drawn on the 6th April 2017.

Parking Survey

A survey has been sent to each family about the traffic around the school. Please complete the survey and return to the school office. We will be taking the completed surveys to our local council, Cumberland Council, to see what can be done about the safety of our children.



Friendly Parenting Tips

Tip #2

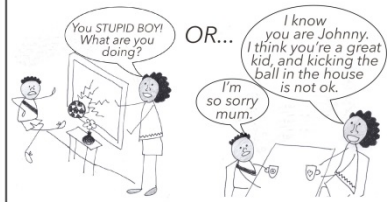
Manage your child's challenging behaviour by separating the person they are from their behaviour.

Why is this good for your child?

By dealing directly with the behaviour while staying gentle on your child, you keep their self-esteem intact while teaching them personal responsibility. They will know they are loved for who they are, despite what they do.

Try this...

Start by acknowledging that they are a good person, then identify the behaviour that is not okay.



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 8.30am - 9.30am
(Parramatta OOSH 8.00am - 9.00am)
After School Care from 3.30pm - 6.00pm
School Holiday Program 7.00am - 6.00pm
(Parramatta OOSH 8.00am - 6.00pm)
All activities and excursions are included.
Services are closed public holidays.

Breakfast and afternoon tea are provided along with an internet 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:

Castell Hill OOSH	9725 2257	0419 120 515
Parramatta West OOSH	9653 5246	0408 241 513
Parramatta OOSH	9686 6129	0427 058 227
Pondville Hill OOSH	9653 5063	0430 955 284
Ringsdale OOSH	9636 6686	0416 442 153
Sherrwood George OOSH	9892 4107	0419 632 186
Widmore OOSH	9757 1904	0417 647 330



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