

Parramatta West A NSW Public School

The West Weekly



Issue 46 - Term 1 - Week 9

20th March 2017

Principal's Message

It is great to see so many parents connecting with school through our closed Facebook groups. I know as a parent I would have loved to see photos of what was going on in class when my children were at school. There is also useful information about class activities and homework, so if you are not connected yet, I encourage you to do so!

Parrachatter is happening every Monday morning from 9.00am in the spare room in E Block. This week we talked about NAPLAN. There is always a topic, and also time for general chat and questions. Do you have a topic you would like to talk about? Let me know.

The NAPLAN tests are for all year 3 and 5 students who have been in Australia learning English for at least a year. They take place next term in week 3, from May 9-11. I will place the PowerPoint that I used at the meeting today on the year 3 and 5 Facebook pages. There are links in it that will take you to other places for more information as well. Teachers of year 3 and 5 children will be preparing them for the assessments. We must remember that they are only one assessment among many that are done during the year, and children should not be made to stress too much about them. They will not perform their best if they are stressed.

P and C

Thank you to our new P and C executive who have put their hands up to work together for our school community this year. Don't forget that everyone is entitled to be on the P and C as ordinary members. We have set up a P and C Facebook page to improve communication so that people know when things are happening and help is needed. Ask if you would like to join in!

President Renee Addoug

Vice President Jamilah Leseberg and Jigna Joshi

Treasurer Katerina Robinson

Secretary Rae Pagaspas and Manisha Gupta

Bike Safety

At the P and C meeting last week we had a visitor talking about bike safety. She told us about free bike safety lessons which take place every week. You meet at Barry Wild Bridge, Parramatta from 10am - 2.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Bring your own bike, or hire for \$10. Mums can go on Fridays, 9-11 with free bike hire.

Did you know that children under the age of 12 can ride on the footpath, but over the age of 12 must be on the road. If an adult or older child is riding with a younger child, they can be on footpath too.

Tell Them From Me surveys

The children in years 3 and 5 will be completing these online surveys between now and the end of term. Parents received information last week about them, and should have returned a note if they do not wish their child to take part. All surveys are totally anonymous, but give the school useful information about our teaching and learning programs and children's feelings about school.

Cultural Dances

Do you belong to a cultural group which has a particular dance? Do your children know how to perform any cultural dances? Would you be able to share this knowledge with other children at the school? We would love to have a celebration of cultural dance and music at the end of this year, but we need your help. We would like as many cultures represented as possible - after all, we currently have children speaking 65 languages at this school! Please let me know if you, or someone you know, can help us out.

How is your child's reading challenge going? Do you know how many books he or she has read? This rainy weather is good for library visits and reading indoors.

Happy reading,

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KAB Cassi

KC Johanna

KH Aaryan

KK Jaden

KN Musaid

KS Ometh

KT Arif

1F Melak

1H Kaan

1J Sania

1K Arleive

1M Maleah

1S Connie

2B Rahaf

2G Siddhant

2L Ahmed

2N Tanush

2P Anisha

MCT Gani

Kindergarten

Welcome to week 9! Thank you to all the families who donated a gold coin towards our Teddy Bears Picnic last Friday. The children had a wonderful time eating their healthy snacks and raising money for a very worthwhile cause.

School Photos

All Kindergarten classes will have their photos on **Tuesday 21st March**. Please make sure your child is in full school uniform and that you have returned your photo envelope if you wish to order pictures.

Wet weather

Last week we didn't get outside much due to the rain. However, the Kindergarten students were mostly very sensible and continued to follow our school expectations of safe, responsible and respectful. Many children had umbrellas with them to keep dry but with so many of them we found that it became a little dangerous. If possible could you please send your child to school with a raincoat rather than an umbrella? This will help avoid injuries to eyes and faces from pointy umbrella ends.

Topic talks

We have had a lot of questions about topic talks from parents. Your child is expected to present a topic talk (news) every week. Each student has been allocated a day during the week when they present. This term there is no set topics but some ideas might be bringing a favourite toy or book to speak about, sharing a drawing or photo with the class, explaining something that they did on the weekend or after school. Please see your child's teacher if you are unsure what day your child presents

Home Readers

Please make sure that you are signing your child's home reading card after they have read to you. If the card is returned to school unsigned then the book will not be changed. Thank you to all the parents that are assisting with this program.

Maths

Over the next three weeks will be focusing on all numbers 0-10. Students will be working on recognising, writing and ordering numbers as well as learning which numbers come before and after a number. You can support this learning by giving your child lots of opportunities to practise counting and recognising numbers at home. Get them to count the number of plates, cups, knives, forks and spoons needed for dinner, ask them to identify numbers on letter boxes or on speed signs or get them to count their toys as they pack away.

Sight words

Here are our focus words for the week

KAB – get, me, some, you, with, my

KC – to, look, at, me

KH – and, that, was of

KK – can, see, this, is

KN – in, look, went, at

KS – this, is, and, that

KT – am, can, look, play

Have a wonderful week,

Mrs Armour

Year 1

It is hard to believe we are already in Week 9. We had a great week last week and it was lovely to see so many students supporting our Teddy Bears Picnic. School photos for Year 1 took place today. This Wednesday 22nd of March we will be celebrating Harmony Day. Students are encouraged to wear their traditional cultural dress or orange on that day.

The last few weeks we have been noticing an increase in the number of students bringing Pokémon cards to school. We are happy for this to continue however, it is important that students are not selling or trading these cards at school. Please speak to your child about this if they are currently bringing cards to school.

This week's topic talks are "All About My Family". Students are asked to create an information report about their family. You could tell the class who you live with, the language/s that you speak at home, where your parents and/or grandparents were born and a description of your family members.

Maths Focus for this week:

- Writing addition number sentences
- Making numbers in different ways

Next Friday is our excursion to the Australian Museum; we are busily preparing ourselves for some of the dinosaurs that we may encounter.

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

It was great to see so many students with their teddy bears at last week's Teddy Bear's Picnic. The rain didn't stop us from having a chat and enjoying ourselves. Thank you for supporting a great cause. Money raised will be donated to The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Our excursion to The Australian Museum, on Friday 7th April is getting closer. We want every student to attend, so please make sure you have returned the signed permission note and the cost of \$28. Which dinosaurs will we see?

Just a reminder to ensure your child has their hat and a labelled bottle of water each day. It is upsetting for a child to miss out on sport with their class because they do not have their hat.

Could you please remind your children that there is to be no trading, buying, selling or swapping of Pokemon cards or other toys at school. Children are welcome to play with them at recess and lunch, but not in the classroom.

This week's Learning focus

- English

Grammar- number adjectives. How many? E.g. There are **ten** students in the classroom. I stood **first** in class. I wrote **many** letters to you.

Spelling- "cr" words e.g. crown, cross, crocodile, crop

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

Reading: comprehension. How is your child going in the reading challenge?

Topic talks- Construction Time! It's time to show us your skills! Have a go at making your dinosaur using your design from last week. Remember to use recycled materials and have fun! We can't wait to hear about the process you went through to make your dinosaur.

- **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

Our Year 3 and 4 students had their school photos today and it was great to see them dressed smartly in full school uniform. Let's do this every day! In particular, it has been noted that many Year 3 and 4 students are wearing different hats to school. Please make sure that your child has a school hat – these can be purchased from our Uniform Shop.

Wednesday is Harmony Day! We are very excited to be celebrating our cultural diversity. Children are encouraged to wear either their cultural dress or orange clothes on Wednesday.

Pokemon cards are very popular at the moment, however there have been a few upsets about lost cards and those cards which have been 'traded' with other students. There is to be no trading of cards at school! Please talk to your child about this. The cards they bring to school must be the cards that they take home at the end of the day!

Reading Target update:

Last Thursday our students were involved in a 'Book Tasting', which was designed to give them a taste of the different reading genres that we use to sort and describe different types of books. I encourage you to ask your child what genres they learnt about last week and what genres they are interested in exploring.

Maths focus areas for this week:

Go to our Facebook pages for learning links!

- **Year 3** – Rounding numbers to the nearest ten or hundred; using our place value knowledge to add

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

- **Year 4** – Adding numbers of 3 or more digits

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

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 5 and Year 6

Last Friday we talked about "national day against bullying". This is an important issue to keep talking about with the students. I put a video on the closed Facebook groups so that you can also watch what the students watched and can discuss it with them. If you are not members of the closed Facebook groups you can always join by following the link below:

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

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

This Wednesday we are all celebrating "**Harmony Day**". This is a special day to celebrate the wonderful diversity that we have within our school and our country. Students can wear cultural dress or the colour orange. I love seeing the beautiful traditional clothing of our students backgrounds.

A reminder that the **School Photos** are taking place this week. The Year 5 classes would have had their photos taken today, and the Year 6 students will have their class photo and graduation photo taken on Tuesday. Family photos will also take place today and Tuesday.

Also Mrs Rhodes will be holding auditions for the Stage 3 drumming this Thursday, so get your rhythms ready!

The maths homework this term has focused on the revision of times tables. It is an important skill because we use this knowledge almost every maths lesson. So keep up the practice!

Maths

The maths homework this term has focused on the revision of times tables. It is an important skill because we use this knowledge almost every maths lesson. So keep up the practice!

Year 5: Students are working on different addition strategies, including using the number.

Year 6: Students are learning about 'elapsed time' and how to use their recent learning of properties of addition to help them solve problems relating to time.

Year six

High School Expression of Interest forms should have been collected. They will now be passed on to Mrs Donaldson for signing and then sent on to the nominated schools. You will receive information regarding placement later in the year. If you are still yet to return the high school forms please do so as soon as possible.

Have a great week, hopefully with less rain!

Miss Richards

Library News

Bookclub is due tomorrow and the order will be done this week so the books will be back sometime next week.

This week is the last week to borrow over the holidays you can visit the local library and see what they have to offer.

Remember your book challenge is a challenge not a race. Read books that you are interested in reading at your reading level.

Mrs Sell

P & C News

The P & C will be selling Easter Raffle tickets on 27th March from 8.30am - 8.55am each morning next week in the upper playground. Tickets are \$1-00.



Regional swimming carnival

Congratulations to Liam, 4S, who represented Parramatta West in the regional swimming carnival last week. He swam incredibly well and came 4th in his race - as well as swimming seven seconds faster than his previous personal best! Well done Liam!

Cancer Council Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to get behind Fruit & Veg Month.

Get loud for fruit and veg!

Planning is now under way for **Fruit & Veg Month** (28 August to 22 September), a free health promotion program for NSW primary schools that puts a positive focus on fruit and vegetables.

With a theme of *Get Loud for Fruit & Veg!*, the Healthy Kids Association initiative provides free classroom and school resources that promote kids eating more fruit and vegetables.

For information and registration: healthy-kids.com.au.

Get ready at home with *Eat It To Beat It* tips to boost the amount of fruit and veg the family eats: eatittobeatit.com.au.

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.

NSW Health **Eat It To Beat It**

LIFT OFF! Friendly Parenting Tips

Tip #3

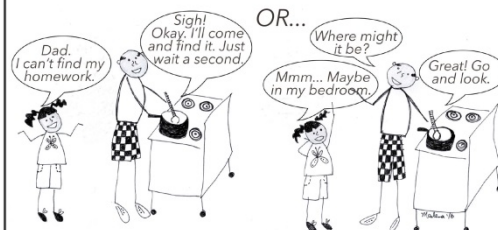
Support your child to solve their own problems.

Why is this good for your child?

It increases their resilience, strengthens their self-confidence and builds their self worth. Being given independence, choice and responsibility can be empowering and exciting at a young age.

Try this...

When your child comes to you with a simple problem, invite them to come up with the solution and to act on it. Acknowledge them for their effort.



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



Parramatta West Public School
Cnr Auburn & Young Sts Parramatta, NSW, 2150
P: 02 9635 9347
F: 02 9687 1151
E: parramattw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
[Unsubscribe](#)