

Parramatta West A NSW Public School



The West Weekly

Issue 44 - Term 1 - Week 7

6th March 2017

Principal's Message

Happy International Women's Day - Wednesday March 8th

If you google girls' education you will find many sites which list the inequality between boys and girls, and many different statistics, but they all agree that there are millions of girls over the world denied an education. Thankfully in Australia all girls have to go to school, just like boys. However, there are not always the same expectations for girls in continuing their education, or in their access to certain jobs. There are still in the minds of many people "boy jobs" and "girl jobs". In assembly today I showed the children the following video. The message is simple, if a girl has a dream job, she should be able to follow it. We need to expose our girls to strong female role models and allow them to dream their own dreams and lead the lives that they want. I encourage you to view the video yourself and discuss it with your children - both with your sons and your daughters.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10154077899565723&id=60562220722

Lost property

On a far more mundane level, we have too much lost property, and I really don't know what to do about it. It is costing you parents money! We remind children to put things in their bags, we ask parents and children to label things, we give the children containers to put their lunch boxes and drink bottles in.... but still we end up with mountains of un-named jumpers and hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles scattered across the school. We need a solution - please help us work one out! If you have an idea, we want to hear it.

Community Action Team

This group of parents and teachers met up last week to start planning for the year. Some things we started last year, and some new ideas.

Coffee mornings - we need a name for this - ParraChatter morning?

Every Monday from 9 am we will have a spot where parents can get together and talk, have a coffee or tea, get to know people, ask questions... and there will be a topic for discussion too. We welcome you to come along. We will try the stage area of the hall and see how that works.

Park Catch ups

Last year we encouraged parents to get together with their children at Holroyd park. The idea is for the children to get together over the weekend, and for the parents to meet the parents of their children's friends. We have set dates for the rest of this term. The time is 2pm on Sundays.

Yesterday was Kindergarten's turn, although the rain may have put people off. Next Sunday it is Year 1's turn. I encourage parents to go along and introduce yourselves to someone new. There will be a banner showing where people are gathering.

Multicultural event

We are planning BIG this year. Following the success of last year, we would like to run a week of activities this year in term 4, which will culminate in a celebration at which we would like as many different cultural performances as possible to perform. We hope to set up a stage area at the field, have foods from around the world available, and groups of children performing. We need your help! Are you able to teach a group of children a cultural dance or musical performance? Please let us know if you can. Maybe you could, with help - let us know and we can connect people to work together. We have plenty of time, but we don't want to leave it to the last minute. If you have other ideas for activities during the week, please let us know. The purpose is to educate our community and celebrate our cultural diversity.

The next meeting of the community Action Team is on Monday April 3rd from 3pm.

Bilingual Books

Do you read in another language? Have you discovered our bilingual book library. Every Tuesday afternoon you can borrow books to read your children in your home language. It roams the playground from 2.30pm.

Reading Challenge

How are you going? Are you reading too? You can be a role model for your children. Please encourage them to read daily, and talk to them about their reading.

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KAB Seenan

KC Rudra

KH Nevaeh

KK Samata

KN Shreeyasi

KS Ethan

KT Aarav

1F Khadijah

2L Fynn

2N Saraj

2/3H Tawsul

3K Yazad

3P Asma

3S Amoura

4H Jacob

4J Rishtya

4S Aysha

4/5M Tamim

1H Afnan

5A Lujain

1J Ishaan

5D Rebecca

1K Rylan

6H Reza

1M Hayun

6J William

1S Xavier

6R Jessica

2B Alisha

MCT Mustafa

2G Morteza

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

We hope you all had a great weekend (even if it was a bit wet) and are ready for another busy week in Kindergarten!

Well done to all the students who are reading and returning their home reader each day. This is an important thing for all students to do as it helps to support the reading skills and strategies that they are learning at school, as well as developing a love of reading. While we are on the topic of reading, as part of the 2017 school Reading Challenge each Kindergarten class has a goal of reading 140 books during the year! Very exciting!

In mathematics this week we are learning about positional language (inside, outside, on, under) and we are continuing to work on number. At home, give your children as many opportunities as you can to practise their counting and writing and recognising numbers. All students have also been provided with a login to Manga High that they can use at home to help develop their numeracy skills further. Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions about Manga High.

Focus sight words for this week are:

KAB – in, the, you, go, went

KC – and, it, boy, girl

KH – then, went, like, with

KK – like, my, with, on

KN – this, is, my girl, boy

KS – went, to, look, at

KT – on, it, a , see

We are finding that the lower playground is becoming very crowded of a morning, especially when the bell has rung and students and teachers are trying to get to class. We ask that once the bell has rung and your child is lined up, that parents begin to move away from the class lines and begin to exit the school so that we have clear walkways for the students to get to their classrooms. Also, this time of the morning is very difficult for teachers to talk. If you need to discuss something that is not urgent, please wait until the afternoon to speak to your child's teacher, send them an email or make an appointment to see them. You can also leave messages at the office to pass on to your child's teacher.

If you haven't already, make sure you join or PWPS Kindergarten group to stay up to date with what is happening. Here is the link to follow <https://www.facebook.com/groups/302427203452344/>

Could parents also remember to inform your child's teacher if someone different is picking up your child/ren. Teacher's are legally responsible for making sure your children are safe and can not allow them to leave with anyone else, unless they have been informed of your permission to do so. Please inform your child's teacher or contact the office if there are any such changes.

Have a great week,

Mrs Armour

Year 1

Year 1 has had a great week of learning! You may start seeing some maths assessments sent home this week or early next week, which you might like to discuss with your child.

Maths Focus for this week:

- Addition stories
- Using the plus sign

We have also been busily investigating dinosaurs. A note went home for an upcoming excursion to the Australian Museum in week 10. Please start sending these notes back, or contact your child's teacher if you require another.

This week's topic talks are on "Something Special". Students might like to bring this item in to show their classmates.

This Sunday, Year 1 will have their first meet up at Holroyd Gardens at 2pm. Come along and meet up with some of the other parents from our year group and let your children enjoy a play with their friends.

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 below if you would like to join.

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

Please continue to return the Permission to Publish notes, so we are aware of who can be published on our pages.

Miss McSpadden

Year 2

Despite the rainy weather, Year 2 has managed to stay dry for the most part, as they continued to engage in valuable learning experiences. It is great to see so many students always trying their best and not giving up when things get a little bit hard. This is an important skill we are trying to foster in our students. Mistakes are an important part of the learning process and should be used as an opportunity to improve. Talk with them about how they can get better at what they are learning and doing.

I encourage all parents to say hi to their child's teacher and introduce themselves, if they haven't already done so. We want to work with you to support your child's learning. Positive connections between home and school are an important part of your child's success at school, so please drop by and check in with your child's teacher if you would like to discuss something, ask a question or just to simply see how they are going. In addition, take a look at our closed Year 2 Facebook group for learning links, photos and other school information.

By now you should have received a permission note for our 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 know I am excited about seeing the dinosaur exhibits on display.

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- plurals (more than one) e.g. cat = singular cats = plural

Spelling- "sl" words e.g. slip, slop, slap, slow

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

Reading: comprehension

Topic talks- Map of Your Local Area: Draw a map of your local area. Include details such as your house, the surrounding streets, parks, shops, swimming pools and libraries. Please label parts of your map so it can be understood clearly.

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

Have a great week everyone,

Mrs Batac

Year 3 and Year 4

Congratulations to Amelia, Ajila, Liam, Rishi, Daanish and Punyaput who represented PWPS at the Zone Swimming Carnival last week. We are very proud of your efforts and achievements! You may have already seen their photo on our Facebook page.

We are learning about plants and their life cycles in science this term. Have you seen what's growing in 4J? Check out the photos of their plant life on our Facebook page!

Reading Target update:

It's great to see our students getting excited about reading! Please make sure your child is organised for their library day each week, with a bag to borrow with. We will keep you posted with our progress towards our reading target in the coming weeks.

Some ways you can help your child with their reading at home:

- Talk to them about what they are reading.
- Discuss the characters in their books with them.
- If they are reading a non-fiction book, ask them to tell you some facts which they have learnt.

Maths focus areas for this week:

Go to our Facebook pages for learning links!

- **Year 3** – Using place value to identify numbers; add and subtract; ordering and comparing numbers; rounding numbers
- **Year 4** – rounding whole numbers; using mental maths for addition
- **Year 4** will be coming to the end of their first maths topic this week. An assessment task will be coming home at the end of the week. Take time to look at this assessment with your child - discuss their strengths and areas where they still need to improve. Ask them to teach you something that they have learnt about place value!

Have a wonderful week everyone! Let's hope we see some sunshine!

Miss Stuart

Year 5 and Year 6

Reading

Our students have been working hard to learn many new things in different learning areas. This term the Stage 3 students have been doing an author study on Anthony Browne. He is an author who uses visual imagery to tell interesting stories. Ask your child about what books they have been studying from Anthony Browne's collection. Students have also been examining different themed novels. They have been developing their ideas on diversity, journey or humour.

History

Students are studying colonial Australia in the 1800s. They have been looking at the founding of British colonies but also looking at it from an Aboriginal perspective. They are looking at significant events, people and settlement patterns.

Maths

Year 5: The students are continuing to look at place value. This week they are looking at how to place decimals and fractions on the number line.

Year 6: The students are beginning a new topic called "Operations: Order and Properties" where they will be looking at the properties of addition and multiplication.

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

Thank you to all the year 6 parents who came along to the high school application information night last week. Those applications are due back to PWPS by the 17th March at the latest. If you did not attend the information night, you will be receiving your child's application form this week to complete it. I will be posting any high school information sessions on the Facebook year 6 closed group.

I wish our school leaders a wonderful learning opportunity at their GRIP leadership conference this Wednesday.

Have a good week!

Miss Richards

Library News

Bookclub is due back to me by Tuesday the 21st of March. Please use the order form attached to the catalogue.

Kindergarten parents Bookclub can be ordered from school using the catalogue order form sending cash or you can order online using the loop ordering system (your books will arrive with the school order).

Bookclub books are quality affordable books and I am happy to answer any questions or queries you may have. Don't hesitate to come and see me.

Don't forget we have a subscription to Worldbookonline an online encyclopedia for all Parramatta West students to use. Just give it a go!

www.worldbookonline.com

Username: parrawest

Password: student

Some students are bringing a plastic bag for a library bag please bring a fabric bag. some children are still not borrowing now with the 40 book challenge ALL children should be borrowing.

Mrs Sell



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to make packing lunches easy.

School is back in session after an extended holiday and packing lunches is again on the household to-do list.

Make the task easy with *Eat It To Beat It's* inspiration and ideas for healthy lunch boxes.

Why not try this combination:

- *Lebanese bread with beef kofta and tabbouleh;
- *Tzatziki;
- *Cheese sticks;
- *Chopped watermelon and blueberries;
- *Water.



For more ideas and recipes check out the eatittobeatit.com.au "for parents" 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



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 (Pembury OOSH 6.00am - 9.00am)
- After School Care from 3.00pm - 6.00pm
- School Holiday Program 7.00am - 6.00pm (Pembury 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
Pembury 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
Widemere 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.



CUSTOMER INFORMATION

**Service Disruption on Tuesday 7 March 2017 between
7:00am – 9:00am and 2:00pm – 4:00pm**

Transit NSW wishes to advise that as a result of Industrial Action there will be disruptions to school services on Tuesday 7 March 2017. This disruption will affect both the morning and afternoon services.

Every effort will be made to minimise the impact of these disruptions and we will endeavour to operate services where we can. We suggest wherever possible, alternative travel arrangements are made.

Information on disrupted services can be obtained by contacting Transit Systems on 8778 5830 or alternately Transport for NSW on 131 500.

We apologise for any inconvenience which may be caused during these service disruptions.

PARRAMATTA WEST IS GETTING READY TO LIFT OFF!

Calling all parents.

We want you to join us in lifting the wellbeing of your children so they can be the happiest, most balanced and capable people they can be.

While we are passionate about teaching your children to read and write, we also recognise the importance of developing their relationship, emotional and life skills. We know that by doing this, we will improve their learning, social and mental health outcomes.

However, we can't do this alone.

So we are inviting you to join us in the Lift Off! program this year by participating in fun, engaging, and inspiring activities that nurture your children and strengthen your family.

Last year you may have participated in HangOut with Kids. This year we are continuing to offer parent - child activities with Uplifting Australia's newly adapted Lift Off! program

The activities will include:

☐ **Lift Off! READY > STEADY > GO**
a 4 hour after school hang out program for a child and a parent

> **READY** ~ for Year 2 ~ focuses on relationship skills ~ Oct 26 + 27
> **STEADY** ~ for Year 4 ~ focuses on emotional skills ~ May 18 + 19
> **GO** ~ for Year 6 ~ focuses on life skills ~ Aug 17 + 18

☐ **Lift Off! FAMILY CONNECT**
Over the year we will be sending home 4 different family talking circle activities to complete as *family homework*. Because we believe that "families who talk and listen together are stronger families"
More information to come in term 2.

☐ **Lift Off! PARENTING TIPS**
Every term we will include 4 friendly parenting tips in the school newsletter.
We encourage you to take the time to read them and try them out.
You may find them useful in supporting your child.

For more information about Lift Off! speak to Mrs Donaldson or Miss Richards



Friendly Parenting Tips

Tip # 1

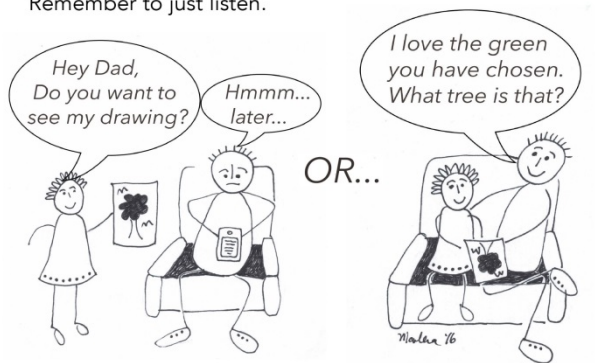
Spend regular one-on-one time with your child/ren, preferably with your mobile phone off.

Why is this good for your child?

It is a great way to increase your connection and make them feel an important part of the family. Children love to feel special.

Try this...

When you're in the car, turn off the radio and talk or sing a song. Start by sharing a story from your day, then ask them to share a story from their day. Remember to just listen.





Arthur Phillip High School **the new high rise high school**



INFORMATION EVENING **Monday, 13 March 2017** **6pm** **School library**

Year 5 and 6 Parents are invited to come and hear about:

- Our future focused, state of the art new school
- Our dynamic, innovative curriculum
- Our personalised focus on student wellbeing

www.aphs.nsw.edu.au tel. 9635 8638

[@arthurphilhs](https://twitter.com/arthurphilhs)

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