

Parramatta West A NSW Public School

The West Weekly



Issue 51 - Term 2 - Week 4

15th May 2017

Principal's Message

I hope that all mothers and grandmothers had a lovely day yesterday. Motherhood is an amazing journey, but it is also one that goes by far quicker than we ever imagine it will. There are times as parents that we wonder how we are going to get through the day, or a night. Children are demanding, and if you have more than one, coping when they all want and need your attention at the same time can be difficult. Sometimes we think things like, "it will get easier when they grow up a bit..." In some ways it does, however they will always be your children, and they will always need your support. I also encourage you not to wish this time when they are young away too quickly - because it goes quickly enough. Take time to enjoy it. Last week my eldest child turned 40 - I find it hard to believe how fast those years flew by. I also spent Saturday night baby sitting my daughters three children - the eldest being 4. The baby, 4 months old, found it difficult to go to sleep again after the older two woke him up.... it took me back 40 years. I now watch my daughter struggling with working for herself and managing home and children. She is exhausted, but she is repaid in love and is an outstanding mother. Enjoy your children, enjoy being a mother - every day.

Make Mum's Day will celebrate motherhood at Parramatta West on June 5th. Please put this date in your calendar and get the day off work. Find a baby sitter for younger children if you can. Your children look forward to having you join us at school for the morning.

Thank you to the P and C for once again organising a fabulous Mother's Day stall. Have you joined the P and C Facebook page? They are asking people to comment on a proposed new sports shirt that can be supplied quicker than the current one - which is made in overseas. You can find the link to the page through the year based closed groups. If you are not on one of them, join up. You will find lots of good information there too.

Year 4 Hang Outs

These are on this Thursday and Friday at school. We have over 60 parents and their children signed up to attend. I am sure that you will have a wonderful time. Next term we will run a similar event for year 6 (17 and 18 August) and for year 2 in term 4 (26 and 27 October). We will post pictures on our Facebook pages, so look out for them!

Conversations with children after a day at school

We have been encouraging parents to talk to their children about learning, as well as other things. We had the open classrooms where we gave you questions to discuss. 367 parents attended this afternoon which was fabulous. We would like you to tell us if you want us to have another day like this - see our facebook page. Then we have had our "family connect" talking circle activity, which I know many of you have enjoyed. I am going to start giving you some questions to try out with your children, or they could be part of a family circle discussion if you want to do them with your family. I'll put some suggestions in each week, I hope you enjoy them and find them useful. The questions may just have a simple answer, or they may lead to a longer conversation, up to you.

What made you smile today?

Did you do something in class that you didn't understand?

40 Book Challenge

How many books has your child read? Are you having difficulty finding books? If you need help, Mrs Sell is available. Our library is one of the best and has a fabulous selection - there is something to interest every child.

Have a great week,

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

KAB Troy

KC Ameya

KH Yusuf

KK Mihir

KN Thomas

KS Sanskar

KT Midha

1F Lya

1H Ahmed

1J Srinish

1K Zeinab

1M Tej

1S Eric

2B Montadhar

2G Aashman

2L Sereen

2N Rachel

2P Fiona

2/3H Enrique

3K Edwin

3P Aanya

3S Whitney

4H Hasan

4J Fazal

4S Izel

4/5M Mohamed

5A Shiv

5D Srihaa

6H Siena

6J Abhinavi

6R Bahaa

MCS Edric

MCT Mustafa

Stage News

Kindergarten

Week 4 already! This term is just flying by. We hope that all mum's had a lovely Mother's Day yesterday and had a chance to relax and enjoy time with their families.

Featherdale Excursion

Please make sure you return your child's notes and money to the office as soon as possible. It is going to be a wonderful excursion for our students. Please note that we are unable to have parent helpers come with us on the excursion due to the number of seats available on the bus.

Pyjama Day

This Wednesday is Pyjama Day! It is a fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell at the end of the year. We are asking students to wear their pyjamas to school and bring along a gold coin donation. Please make sure that your children are still wearing appropriate footwear for a day at school. It is always a fun day and a great way to support our year 6 students.

Crunch and Sip (Fruit Break)

Please remember that during Crunch and Sip break, students are only allowed to eat fresh fruit or vegetables and drink water. Fruit juice or prepackaged fruits are usually very high in sugar and are not to be eaten during this particular break as we are trying to create healthy eating habits for students.

Jumpers/Hats/Jackets

Please make sure that you have written your child's name and class on everything. If it fades or washes off please make sure you write it on again. We have so many jumpers and jackets (some practically brand new) that we cannot return because they have no names on them. Please also write your child's full name. We have several students in Kindergarten with the same first name and the same initial for their surname.

Topic talks

This week is our final week of mystery bag; please make sure your child is prepared with an object to speak about. Make sure they can describe its size, shape, colour and what it is used for. Next week students will need to bring in a photo of themselves as babies and speak about where they were born and what they were like then. If you do not have one printed out for your child to bring in but have one saved digitally, you can email it to your child's teacher for them to display on the interactive whiteboard.

KS Sport days – Term 2

This term KS will be having sport on **Monday** and **Tuesday**.

Have a wonderful week

Mrs Armour

Year 1

Last week Year 1 was so lucky to have some wonderful visitors to answer their questions about the past, for our

history unit. Mrs Cotter, Mr Roux and Mrs Harris showed us some artefacts and told us some tales of school life for them. It was great to have some of our questions answered even if it seemed shocking to have no phones to play on!

Over the next three weeks, Year 1 will visit the Healthy Harold van to supplement the PDHPE curriculum. They will be learning about the benefits of being healthy and active.

This week's maths focus is:

- Using numbers with tens and ones
- Counting with tens and ones

Topic talks are about someone special. Explain how you would show your feelings and the things you would do to make someone special to you feel important. Choose a family member to speak about.

Don't forget about Pyjama Day on Wednesday. Students are to bring a gold coin donation along.

Have a great week!

Miss McSpadden

Year 2

The Year 2 teachers hope that everyone had a lovely Mother's Day yesterday. We hope that you were spoilt and were able to spend time with your beautiful children.

Over the next few weeks, teachers will be writing semester 1 reports. We are looking at what your child is able to do, what they need to continue working on and what the next step should be in their learning. It is important that all children are at school every day, on time and ready to learn. If your child is away due to illness, injury or for some other reason, please send a note stating the date/s they were away and a reason for the absence. You can also notify your child's teacher via the school app or email. This is a legal requirement.

All classes will be visiting the Life Education Bus this term. We can't wait to meet 'Healthy Harold' and learn all about keeping healthy, safe and making good friends.

A reminder that the Eye Care Program will begin this week. Student's that have returned their note and had permission given, will have their eyes tested by an Optometrist at the school. This is a valuable and free program. Please see the front office if you are new to the school or did not receive a note.

Finally, remember to send your child to school in their pyjamas this Wednesday, along with a gold coin donation. All money raised will go towards the Year 6 farewell. Keep in mind that pyjamas must have some sort of sleeves, be appropriate to wear to school and that students must wear their school shoes/sneakers.

This week's Learning focus

- **English**

Word family

Suffix

-ake

mis-

Eg. bake, cake, make, fake

Eg. mistake, misfortune, misspell, misread

Spelling- this term we will be focusing on word families (single sounds put together make a new sound) and affixes (the beginning or end part added to a word).

Grammar- Direct and indirect speech. Check out the learning links on Facebook.

Writing: This term we are continuing to write informative texts. We will also be learning about fairy tales, narratives and poetry.

Reading: comprehension. Ask your child to tell you about the book they are reading.

Topic talks- Cultural Poem

As we begin to explore our poetry unit, we would like to hear a poem from your own culture. You can present an English translation or recite it in your home language then tell us what it was about in English.

Other

Creative and performing arts (CAPA): Visual arts

Science: Push and pull

PDHPE: Fitness, fundamental movement skills and Friendly Schools Plus program. Year 2 Sport is held on Wednesdays.

History: The past in the present- Technology

- **Maths**

Subtraction concepts and strategies

- To be able to write and solve subtraction number sentences
- To be able to solve problems by writing subtraction number sentences

Enjoy your week everyone!

Mrs Batac

Year 3 and Year 4

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Stage 2 mothers and carers! We hope you had a wonderful weekend and were surprised with a few homemade cards and gifts students were working hard on at school last week! We will be holding our annual 'Make Mum's Day' in a few weeks time – put June 5th in your diary! We hope you can make it for another great day celebrating our families and bringing them together. It is great to hear from the families who have used their talking sticks for 'Family Circle' Homework. We hope that this time is beneficial to your family and I encourage you to return the slip to school.

Wednesday is Pyjama Day! This is a fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell and gift to the school. Students are

asked to bring a gold coin donation, and in turn can wear their pyjamas to school for the day! Please make sure that your child is warm enough and that they appropriate shoes on!

Our Year 3 students sat their NAPLAN assessments last week. It was a long week of tests but the students tried their best and the Year 3 teachers are all very proud of their efforts! We do not receive the NAPLAN results until much later in the year, so please do not worry about it! You will receive your child's NAPLAN report later in the year.

You may have noticed a visitor has arrived in our playground – Happy Healthy Harold! Life Education will once again be hosting lessons for our students in their van over the next few weeks. This program is part of your child's Enrichment Program. Please make sure you are continuing to make payments toward this. Payments can be made online or in the Office.

Year 4 Hangouts

Year 4 Hangouts are on this Thursday and Friday afternoon! They have been very popular and it is fantastic that over half of the grade will be attending! It is sure to be a fantastic afternoon. I look forward to seeing you there!

Speeches

Year 3 and 4 have been preparing their speeches as part of their homework tasks. Students will begin to present their speeches to their class this week. We look forward to hearing them!

Maths focus areas:

Check out our Facebook pages for learning links!

- **Year 3** – identifying the missing part and solving subtraction word problems
- **Year 4** – using arrays to solve multiplication problems

Have a fantastic week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 5 and Year 6

Congratulations to all the Year 5 students for completing the NAPLAN tests last week. All the teachers are very proud of your effort no matter what the results. It is important that we remember that they are only a 'snapshot' of students learning at that period of time.

Literacy

This term the students are studying work by the Australian author Glenda Millard. We are looking at her different style and the themes within her books. Ask your child what they are enjoying so far. Please remember to promote our 40 book reading challenge with your child. Sustained reading is a great way to improve comprehension, vocabulary and enjoyment of literacy. Ask your child how many books they have read so far this year.

Mathematics

Year 5: Have begun to look at the concept of elapsed time

Year 6: multiplying and dividing decimals

Science

This term students are exploring the concept of matter. This includes examining the different states of matter – gas, liquid and solids.

Lately I have noticed a lot of students not wearing their correct school uniform. Please ensure that students are wearing school jackets/jumpers and sports uniforms on sports days.

Miss Richards

Library News

Bookclub has been ordered and should be in sometime this week.

Our reading trolley is looking a little bare if you have books you are no longer reading and would like to donate them to the trolley for someone else to read they would be gratefully accepted. Thankyou.

From our Wicked Reads we have 3 recommendations:

1. Tiny Timmy Series by Tim Cahill recommended by Mozamel
2. Timmy Failure Series by Stevan Pastis recommended by Derek and Jerrell
3. Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

All great reads thanks for the recommendations we look forward to seeing more.

Please remember any damaged books need to be returned and I will repair them. Please do not try to repair library books at home.

Library bags are also important. All children should be constantly reading.

Mrs Sell

Volunteers needed!!

Each morning we need parents to come along and change the home readers for all the children. Can you help? Please come along to the uniforms shop at 9am if you are able to assist. The more helpers we get, the quicker we will be finished.

SRC News

Envelopes went home last week for the Stewart House raffle. Stewart House provides a safe haven for children in need. If you would like another entry to the raffle please ask at the office. Entries to be returned by Friday 19th May.

Lift Off - Friendly Parenting Tip

Tip 6: Acknowledge and encourage your children's qualities.

Why is this good for your child? Knowing what their qualities are will help your child build confidence and feel good about who they are.

Try this > Remind your children of their great qualities when life is challenging for them.

Stewart House Clothing Bags

If you have any clean unwanted clothes they can be donated to Stewart House. Clothing should be taken to your child's classroom. The last day for dropping off clothes is Wednesday 24th May. Thank you.

Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to join Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.

Host a morning tea to help Cancer Council fund vital cancer research, prevention programs, advocacy and support services for those affected by cancer.

The official date for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea is May 25, but you can host a tea any time in May or June.

Hold it at school or home.

Every dollar makes a difference to funding Cancer Council's vital research, prevention and support service programs.

For information, registration and recipes go to:
biggestmorningtea.com.au.

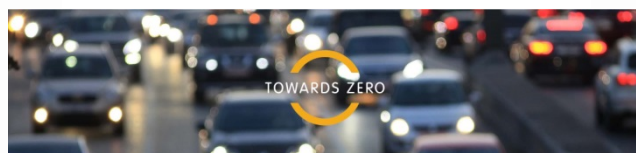
For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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

**Health**
Western Sydney
Local Health District







Road Safety Plan 2021 Stakeholder and Community Engagement Program

An opportunity for school principals and their communities

About the Road Safety Plan 2021

Transport for NSW, in partnership with key delivery partners, stakeholders and the broader community, is developing a plan to map out priority actions to meet the Road Safety Strategy 2012-2021 targets for reducing road trauma.

The Road Safety Plan 2021 will detail initiatives for the next four years to meet 30 per cent reductions in deaths and serious injuries. It will also position NSW to achieve the longer term target of a zero road toll to support the Future Transport strategy which is being developed this year to establish a 40-year vision for transport in NSW to meet the long-term needs of transport customers.

Development of the Road Safety Plan 2021 will draw on:

- An examination of crash information to understand the factors involved in the crashes in NSW
- Evidence from Australia and worldwide about what has been proven to be effective in saving lives and reducing serious injuries
- Feedback from stakeholders and the broader NSW community.

Opportunities to have your say

Safety is a shared responsibility and so input from communities and stakeholders across NSW, including your school and community, is critical for developing effective measures to reduce road trauma.

Two-hour forums for stakeholders and community members will be held in Wagga Wagga (10 May), Dubbo (15 May), Wollongong (17 May), Parramatta (18 May), Sydney CBD (23 May), Newcastle (24 May), Scone (29 May), and Coffs Harbour (31 May).

For details and to register to attend, visit www.transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafetyplan2021.

An online survey and discussion forum will also be accessible via the website in May.

I strongly encourage you to participate in our engagement program during May and would appreciate if you could also promote these opportunities within your school community.

Bernard Carlon
Executive Director, Centres for Road Safety and Maritime Safety
Transport for NSW

May 2017

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