

Parramatta West A NSW Public School

The West Weekly



Issue 50 - Term 2 - Week 3

8th May 2017

Principal's Message

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come up to school for our open classrooms last week! As I walked around the classes watching parents and children talking about learning I was excited! This is what our learning partnership with you is all about. If parents can understand what the children are doing at school, and the children can explain to parents what they are learning, then the learning will improve. I hope that the children who took home the list of questions to their parents had a similar conversation at home. Please respond to the photos on Facebook if you found this helpful and if you would like to do it again!

Mother's Day

THANK YOU to the P and C who ran another highly successful stall again this year. The children do love to go shopping! I hope that all mums have a wonderful day next Sunday, and maybe that children realize just what a big job motherhood is - 365 days a year! We will be having our annual Make Mum's Day activity at school on JUNE 5th - so put that day in your diaries, and if you are a working mum, ask for some time off work now so that you can attend!

NAPLAN

Yes, it is that time of year again when some parents and children worry about the NAPLAN Tests. Of course everyone wants the children to do as well as they can, but please remember that these tests do not measure everything, they are not an indicator of success in life or of parenting skill! Our children are all different, they have different skills and abilities and what we want for all of them is that they learn what they need to successfully participate in society and do things that contribute to their own lives and those around them. NAPLAN tests sat when they are in years 3 and 5 will ultimately have very little impact on any of this! So, the way parents can help them through this week is to not stress them. Encourage them to be calm and do their best. Do not promise them rewards or punishments. Ensure they have a good sleep and a good breakfast. Send them to school on time with the equipment they need - a couple of sharp pencils and an eraser and a smile on their faces!

Smoking

This is just a reminder that smoking is banned in all public schools. Parents who wish to smoke while waiting for their children in the afternoon must leave the school grounds. Thank you.

Year 4 Hang Outs

These are coming up next week on Thursday and Friday. We have had lots of replies already, which is fabulous. If you have yet to return your note, please do so this week. We have invited every child in year

4, and would love them all to attend. It will be a fun afternoon. If parents are unavailable, the children can bring another significant adult instead - grandparent, aunt, uncle, guardian, carer.

Talking sticks

Have you tried your Family Circle homework yet? How did it go? If you have, please send back the "we did it" reply slip to go in the lucky draw. You have until NEXT MONDAY to return the slips. There will be another home work activity sent home later this term, but you might decide to have regular family circle talks with your children's talking sticks - that is up to you.

We are also attaching another parenting tip from Uplifting Australia to this note.

Enjoy the week,

Anthea Donaldson

Principal

Class Awards

	2N Yana, Jordan
KAB Mustafa	2P Manikka, Kumail
KC Michelle	2/3H Enrique
KH Harish	3K Edwin
KK Mishka	3P Aanya
KN Leo	3S Whitney
KS Mansirat	4H Hasan
KT Jaiden	4J Fazal
1F Samara, Parmvir	4S Izel
1H Mahnoor, Arya	4/5M Mohamed
1J Jannat, Eshanika	5A Shiv
1K Fadel	5D Srihaa
1M Saanvi	6H Siena
1S Luka	6J Abhinavi
2B Nishtha	6R Bahaa
2G Tahlai	MCS Edric
2L Tirth, Abhijitha	

Stage News

Kindergarten

Thank you to all the parents that attended our open classrooms last week. It was so wonderful to hear the conversations about learning that you were having with your children. I know that they were all very excited to share what they have been doing at school with you.

Have you had your Family Circle using the talking stick your child brought home yet? If so make sure you return the "we did it" reply slip to go in the lucky draw. You have until 15th May to bring it back to school.

Last week we sent home notes about our excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park. Please return your permission notes and money to school as soon as possible. It is going to be a wonderful day out for our students, seeing all the Australian animals that they have been learning about this term.

We are noticing that many students are coming to school dressed in layers (especially when it is cool in the morning). However, it does still get quite warm during the day so please make sure that students are wearing things that they can take off easily if they get hot.

Notice to KAB parents: *Although our sport day has changed to **Wednesday**, students still go to library on **Thursday**. Please make sure students are bring their library book and bag on this day*

Have a wonderful week.

Mrs Armour

Year 1

What a fabulous way to start Term 2 with our Open Classrooms. It was so wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and carers sharing their classrooms and the things they have been learning.

Maths focus for this week:

- * Representing numbers on a ten frame
- * Understanding parts of ten
- * Using numbers made with 10 and ones

Topic Talks:

Topic talks will start again this week. This week's topic is 'My Goals'. Explain how you achieved your goal that you set for yourself in Term 1 and what goals would you like to set for Term 2 or what your next steps are to achieve the goal.

History Survey:

Students will be bringing home technology surveys at some point in the next few weeks. This is for them to conduct their history lesson on 'Technology in the Past'. It would be great if we could have, parents, grandparents or even great grandparents filling these out so we can discuss our findings. Try to have these returned within the week so the following lesson can be conducted.

Family Circle:

All students in Year 1 took home their talking sticks after some practise using them in class. We hope that you give your family circles a go and return your slip to your child's teacher.

Coming up...

This week the Mother's Day Raffle will be drawn on Friday. Make sure to pick up a ticket! Next week, we will be taking part in Pyjama Day so start thinking about getting those PJ's ready.

Year 1 would like to wish a Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful mums!

Miss McSpadden

Year 2

Students, parents and teachers are still talking about last week's open classrooms! I know that many students loved being able to show their work and talk about their learning with their parents. If you were not able to make it, we encourage you to discuss the questions at home with your child.

Has your family held their first 'Family Circle?' This is a great school wide initiative that we hope benefits as many families as possible. The students worked very hard on their 'Talking Sticks' and are keen to try them out with you at home. Don't forget to return your "we did it" slips so your child can go into the draw to win a prize.

We will be continuing to have our rotating "Class of the week" posts on Facebook. Please be mindful that there are 5 year 2 classes to get through. Teachers will post a collection of photos taken over the term, during their week. Any learning links posted by a teacher are for all classes, as we follow a similar class program.

This week's Learning focus

- **English**

Word family

Suffix

-ack

-ful

Eg. back, sack, tack, track

Eg. forgetful, beautiful, colourful

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).

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- Goal Setting

What do you want to achieve this term? Are there any skills you would like to build upon? Is there something new you would like to try? Tell the class about it this week!

Other

Creative and performing arts (CAPA): Visual arts

Science: Push and pull

PDHPE: Fitness, fundamental movement skills and Friendly Schools Plus program

- **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

Thank you to all of our parents and family members who came and visited our classrooms last week! It was fantastic to have you up and discussing your child's learning with them. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did! There are some great photos up on our Facebook pages, which capture the great afternoon.

Students have taken home their talking sticks for 'Family Circle' Homework. We hope that this time is beneficial to your family and encourage you to return the slip when your family has completed the homework.

Year 3 - NAPLAN

Year 3 students will be sitting their NAPLAN assessments this week. Remember that this is a small snapshot in a whole year of learning! We do not want your children or you to be stressed about these tests!

The assessments are as follows:

- Tuesday – Language Conventions & Writing
- Wednesday – Reading
- Thursday - Numeracy

Please help your child be ready for NAPLAN by getting them to school on time, making sure they get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast. Students need to make sure they have 2 sharp pencils, an eraser and a pencil sharpener.

Year 4 - Opportunity Class Applications for Year 5 in 2018

Some students have returned their note, indicating that they are wanting to apply for an Opportunity Class in 2018. Applications close this Friday 12th May. Please remember that you need to return the paper slip to us at school and apply online, via the following link: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>

Year 4 Hangouts

Year 4 Hangouts will run next Thursday and Friday afternoons. Thank you to everyone who has sent back their RSVP so far. We are looking forward to some great sessions! It is not too late if you are interested in attending with your child, please send the form back to school this week.

Speeches

Year 3 and 4 are both preparing their speeches as part of their homework task. This involves research about a significant Australian event. Students will be presenting these to their class next week. We look forward to hearing them!

Happy Mothers' Day to all of our Year 3 and 4 mothers! I hope that you enjoy the weekend with your children, celebrating you! Make sure you enter the Mother's Day Raffle run by our P&C and put Monday June 5th in your diary for our annual 'Make Mum's Day' celebration! Have a wonderful week everyone!

Miss Stuart

Year 5 and Year 6

A big thank you to all the parents who came to the open classrooms last week. It was really nice to see parents asking their children about their learning. It was also fun to see those students, whose parents couldn't make it, ask each other learning questions too! A fun afternoon for all!

The teachers have noticed that some students are arriving very early to school (even as early as 7:30). There is no teacher supervision before 8:30. You may need to consider before school care if they need to come so early.

Year 5

Best of luck to our Year five students sitting the NAPLAN tests this week. Please remember not to stress about these exams. Get a good night sleep and try not to get too worried about them. The teachers all know you will try your best. The NAPLAN tests also means that there is no scripture this week and the bell times will change slightly.

Year 6

The year six students are starting a new topic of decimals this week. They will begin by looking at decimal patterns. You should receive the tests from our last topic of 'order and operations' to look over and discuss with your child.

Enjoy the week

Miss Richards

Library News

Bookclub is due to me by Tuesday 9th of May. Please use the Order form with the catalogue

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 5: Connect privileges with responsibilities.

Why is this good for your child? If they learn the relationship between give and take your child will begin to understand that to get a result they want, they need to put in effort.

Try this > Make an agreement upfront and link it to a privilege. Make sure you follow through.

Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to enjoy autumn produce.

In-season fruit and veg not only taste great, they're much cheaper than at other times of the year.



Plus there are plenty of ways to turn excess autumn produce into easy family-friendly meals and lunch box snacks.

Apple (red delicious, Granny Smith): apple porridge; apple crumble.

Banana: banana bread; banana and oats smoothie.

Mushroom: ginger, mushroom and fish stir-fry; chicken and mushroom sausage rolls; beef and mushroom meatloaf.

Pumpkin: pumpkin, spinach and cheese cannelloni; spicy pumpkin soup.

Zucchini: zucchini quiche with rice crust; zucchini and corn fritters.

Go to eatittobeatit.com.au for the recipes.

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.



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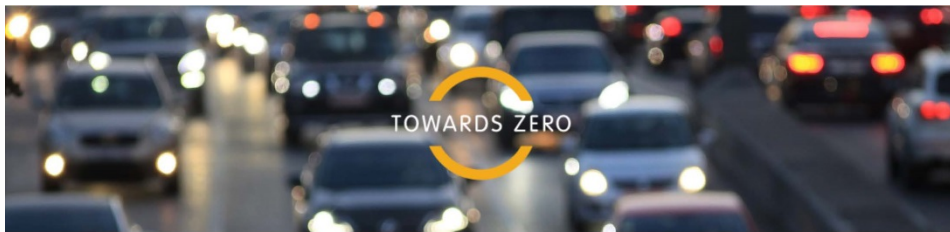
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Road Safety Plan 2021 Stakeholder and Community Engagement Program

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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