



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe we are at the start of Week 4 already! The students have certainly settled well into their 2020 classes and it has been a very productive start to the school year. In my role as Principal, I continue to be impressed by the calibre of the staff here at Parramatta West PS. I am constantly delighted to hear our staff speak so passionately about their job as teachers. When I have conversations with Parramatta West staff it is abundantly clear that they have a real commitment to their students and this is reflected in the many wonderful opportunities provided to the students of our school from Kindergarten through to Year 6. Attached to this week's newsletter you will find a copy of the 2020 staff list for your reference.

At Parramatta West Public School we believe:

- Students are at the centre of all decisions
- Learning goes beyond the classroom
- Relationships are central

We value:

- Lifelong learning
- A collaborative, respectful and supportive environment
- A positive approach

How will my child learn at Parramatta West Public School?

At Parramatta West Public School (PWPS) we believe that your child's learning is the responsibility of the student, parent and teacher. We activate your child's mind to regulate their learning. To do this our students set themselves goals. Teachers communicate the learning intention for every lesson. Students are shown success criteria at various levels to show them the goal they are trying to achieve. Students are given many opportunities to discuss and share their understanding of the learning and show their learning through purposefully designed activities. The teacher and peers provide feedback to students to help them move their learning forward. Teachers gather data from students minute by minute every day and plan their lessons according to this.

How will we get to know your child as a learner?

At PWPS our teachers take the time to get to know your child. The first few weeks of school are spent building the relationship between the children and between the teacher. All lessons are curriculum based and designed by the teachers from the data they have gathered about your child. Each teacher inherits data about their students from the previous teacher and time is made for teachers to share information about the students they know. As teachers begin to teach their lessons they are constantly looking for evidence of learning. Evidence to indicate where the students are at, based on the learning intention. This informs the next lesson plan.

How will we make learning relevant for your child?

Every class has a mix of ability groups within them. Whilst the key learning of each lesson is the same for all learners in the class, teachers differentiate the learning for groups of students. They differentiate the content by determining where on the learning trajectory the learner is in this area. They differentiate the process for each group by the supports they offer e.g. concrete material, scaffolds, learning partner, and finally they differentiate the product. That is how the student is expected to show or represent their learning.

What does the learning environment look like?

At PWPS we believe that relationships are key. Our teachers try to build an environment of trust in their classrooms, where students feel comfortable to take a risk and are not afraid of failure. Our students are immersed in their learning. Exemplars of learning give students a clear aim for what they are trying to achieve.

How do we measure success in learning?

The curriculum outcomes describe what learning should look like. On a day to day basis, teachers are looking for evidence of learning in every lesson. This is evident by what students say and what they do, how they action the feedback they have received, the questions they ask and the skills they have applied. This evidence is called formative assessment. This accumulates and builds a picture about your child. Summative assessment occurs at the end of a series of lessons or at the end of a unit of learning. Teachers across a grade meet every five weeks to compare student data to ensure consistency and plan for further learning.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - REMINDER

As previously indicated through the last newsletter, Meet the Teacher evening will be hosted this Wednesday evening. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out about their plans for the class in 2020. Teachers will also provide you with important information about class routines and activities planned for your child's class / grade during the year.

Wednesday 19 February

- **Kindergarten:** 5.00pm - 5.45pm
- **Stage 2:** 5.45pm - 6.30pm
- **Stage 1:** 6.30pm - 7.15pm
- **Stage 3:** 7.15pm- 8.00pm - (Year 6 in the library)

Later this term you will also be provided with information regarding 'Parent Teacher Check Ins,' scheduled for the end of the term.

ANAPHYLAXIS

Also known as severe food allergies. Anaphylaxis and food allergies are prevalent at Parramatta West Public School and as such we regularly remind parents of this issue. When you are thinking about what to pack for morning tea and lunch we would like to remind you to please not send any nuts or nut products to school. Whilst nuts are only one of the food items some students at Parramatta West are allergic to they are the most likely to end up in lunch boxes. Parramatta West is a 'nut aware' school with all staff trained in the use of EpiPens for the treatment of severe allergic reactions. Please assist us in ensuring a safe environment for all students and staff by being mindful of the items you pack for your child's morning tea and lunch. Please take the time to remind your child/ren not to share food or accept food from others.

DRIVING AROUND THE SCHOOL

As you would all be aware the streets around the school at both pick up and drop off times are extremely busy. To ensure the safety of all, it is imperative that everyone is patient and courteous and most importantly follows the road rules. Schools zones carry significantly higher penalties for infringements than at other times.

To assist with the movement around the school council has created two 'Kiss and Ride' zones. **Kiss and Ride / No Parking Zones need cooperation to ensure the safety of all children. Please drive carefully around school zones.**

The **NO PARKING** Zones in in both Railway Street and Auburn Street are for your convenience and for your child's safety. Designed for quick entry and exit, it minimises congestion and risk when used properly by all parents. If you have arranged to collect your child at one of these two zones and they are not there when you arrive, please circle all the way around the block to collect them. Remember doing U-Turns in school zones is against the law.

'NO PARKING' TRAFFIC RULES

- Stopping for more than 2 minutes is not allowed in a No Parking area. Therefore, these zones cannot be used for parking between 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4pm on school days.
- You are obliged to remain in, or within 3 metres of, your vehicle.
- Penalties for not complying with No Parking Zone requirements are enforced by Parramatta Council and RMS Rangers as well as Police, all of whom are active in the area.
- **For the Safety of Children in the No Parking Zone - Points to Remember**

1. Drivers Do Not Leave your Vehicle

To assist with traffic flow in the Kiss and Ride Zone, drivers are encouraged to remain in the car while the children get in and out. To facilitate this, children should travel with bags in the car and not in the boot. If a driver must get out, they **MUST NOT** move more than 3 metres from their vehicle.

2. Be Timely

If your child does not enter or exit the vehicle within 2 minutes you are required to travel around the block and re-enter the zone at the end of the queue.

3. Kerb Side Entry / Exit

Ensure your child enters / exits the vehicle on the kerb side. Ensure your child has their restraint securely fastened before moving off from the Zone.

4. Stay in Sequence

Please queue in an orderly manner. Drop/pick-up your child as close as you can to the top of the, allowing vehicles following you to enter the designated area.

5. No U Turns

U turns in this busy school zone is dangerous and puts children at risk. Drive around the block to exit the area.

PARRAMATTA WEST PS WELLBEING MATRIX

The Wellbeing Matrix is our school wide program promoting a positive and encouraging learning environment where students know what is expected of them, are taught required skills and see the natural benefits in behaving responsibly and respectfully. The philosophy aims to improve outcomes for all students by creating sustainable school-wide, classroom and individual systems of support that acknowledge the link between positive behaviour and enhanced learning environments. Our aim is to provide students and staff at Parramatta West with a positive and proactive system for defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviours.

Three core behavioural expectations are taught to all students through formal and informal social skills instruction. These expectations are applied across all areas of the school. They are; **SAFE, RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE** learners. In understanding what these expectations are, how they apply to all areas of the school, and the clear consequences of not following these 'expectations', students gradually learn to regulate their own behaviours. In order to reinforce positive behaviours, students are rewarded regularly and acknowledged through the school merit systems and assemblies.

Our Welfare Matrix is designed to increase student engagement and learning by increasing 'on-task' behaviours and decreasing distractions in the learning environment. The result at Parramatta West Public School, which already has a positive school environment, is the improvement in student academics through increased teaching time and consistent expectations of behaviour.

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The Wellbeing Matrix at Parramatta West will assist our staff in the delivery of the highest quality learning programs and improving academic and behavioural learning outcomes for all students.

Teunis Ploeg

Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT PWPS

Students at Parramatta West PS have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extra curricular activities during their time at school. There are a wide range of benefits that come from involvement in these programs.

1. They provide a productive break from study
2. They can help your child build their skills outside of the classroom
3. They can open your child's minds to new interests
4. They provide social opportunities.
5. Participation builds school spirit

This week, students at Parramatta West will hear about the range of extra curricular opportunities on offer this year and how to be involved. Parents will also be provided with information via our Facebook pages.

SCHOOL LEADER'S INVESTITURE ASSEMBLY

The school leader's Investiture Assembly will take place on Monday 24 February at 2pm under the COLA. During this assembly we recognise our school leaders for 2020. Leaders will receive their badges and say their pledge in commitment to their new role.

Parents of the following school leaders will receive an invitation this week.

- School captains and leaders
- House captains
- SRC Representatives
- Library Monitors
- Play Leaders
- School Ambassadors
- School Service helpers

We look forward to working with our responsible and dedicated school leaders.

A. Langhans and K Rhodes

Deputy Principals

LIBRARY REPORT - MRS SELL

Our Book Fair will be on Tuesday morning at 8.30am to 8.55am, Wednesday morning at 8.30am to 8.55am and then Wednesday evening for Meet the Teacher sessions.

Please come along and have a look at the books. Each book sold goes to buy more books for the library. Each book read, adds to your 40 book challenge. We would love to see you.

Book club has been ordered and should be in this week sometime.

Borrowing is in full swing please remember those library bags.



CALENDAR

Parramatta West Public School - Term 1 2020 						
Term One	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT SUN
	27	28	29	30	21	1/2
1	AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	Students Return			
2	3 Kindergarten 2020 Start	4	5	6	7	8/9
3	10	11 Safer Internet Day House Captain Voting P & C Meeting 2pm	12	13	14	15/16
4			19 MEET THE TEACHER Evening 5-8pm BOOK FAIR 8:30-8:55am & 4:30-7:30pm	20	21 PSSA Trials	22/23
5	24 Investiture Assembly	25	26	27	28	29/1
6	2 K-2 Assembly Starts	3 Zone Swimming GRIP Leadership Conference	4 High School Information Night 3-6 Assembly Starts	5 Stage 3 Author Visit	6	7/8
7	9	10	11 Start Smart Sessions ES1/S1	12 Start Smart Sessions S1	13 Start Smart Sessions S2	14/15
8	16	17 Buddy Session	18	19	20 National Day of Action Against Bullying Harmony Day	21/22
9	23	24 Buddy Session	25 Maths Olympiad #1	26 SCHOOL PHOTOS	27	28/29
10	30	31 Buddy Session	1 April Parent Check In	2 Parent Check In	3	4/5
11	6 School Photo Portrait Catch Up	7 Hat Parade	8	9 ANZAC Service	10 GOOD FRIDAY	11/12

School Holidays: Friday 10 April to Monday 27 April
Students return TUESDAY 28 APRIL

PWPS COMMUNITY NEWS

DISCLAIMER

We sincerely thank our advertisers for their support of our school. While Parramatta West Public School is selective in the advertisements it runs, parents are advised to use their own discretion in supporting these services.

 **Cancer Council**
Healthy Lunch Box

Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

... to make healthy drinks interesting.

Plain tap water is the best drink choice. It's cheap and quenches your thirst. However, if you're looking for something different here are some good options:

- Plain milk
- Sparkling water
- Milk blended with fruit of your choice for a delicious filling smoothie
- Water flavoured with slices of lemon, strawberries or mint



Try to avoid sugar sweetened drinks such as soft drinks, iced tea, flavoured water and fruit dink as they do not contain any nutrients our bodies need but add a lot of kilojoules which can lead to weight gain. If having juice, have only a small serve and consider diluting with water or ice.

healthylunchbox.com.au

Learn Music on Keyboard at School

Enrolment for Term 1

Great songs! Musical activities!
Cool music knowledge!



- Convenient at-school venue
- Small group, 45 min weekly lesson
- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially

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Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School

2021 CAPA AUDITIONS
 APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR CAPA AUDITIONS FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO BE A PART OF OUR 2021 CAPA PROGRAM IN DANCE, DRAMA, VISUAL ARTS AND MUSIC.
 Auditions 16th –20th March 2020

HAST
 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE HIGHER ABILITY SELECTION TEST (HAST)
 FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO BE A PART OF OUR Year 7 ACADEMIC GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM for 2021

OPEN DAY/ EVENING
 TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2020

Please visit <https://northmead-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/> for more information and to register your interest in the CAPA Auditions and the Higher Ability Selection Test (HAST). Open Day/Evening Information will be updated on our website once details have been finalised.



Northmead

Creative and Performing Arts High School

Audition Information for Parents and Students

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School.

CAPA Auditions – Monday 16th March - Friday 20th March 2020

AUDITIONS FOR YEARS 7 to 11, 2021

Talented students in Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music are encouraged to apply for positions in the 2021 specialised pathways in either Dance, Drama, Music or Visual arts.

Local (In Area) students wanting to be part of our selective Creative and Performing Arts program **MUST** also audition.

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School has a long tradition as a centre of excellence in the Creative and Performing Arts. An exciting opportunity is available for talented students to audition for placement in our outstanding CAPA programs.

Students in the specialised streams are afforded a wide range of opportunities to excel in their chosen field with extensive co-curricular programs and a whole school approach to fostering our gifted students' talents.

Auditions will be held for Dance, Drama, Music, and Visual Arts on Monday 16th March to Friday 20th March 2020. The cost of auditions is \$50.00.

Applications close and forms need to be submitted to NCAPAHS by Monday 9th March 2020.

Please register your interest via our school website or contact Mrs Stepic: on 9630 4116
 Email june.stepic@det.nsw.edu.au

Audition Application Forms can also be downloaded from our school website.

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Ph: 9630 4116 www.northmead-h.schools.nsw.edu.au email: northmead-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
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