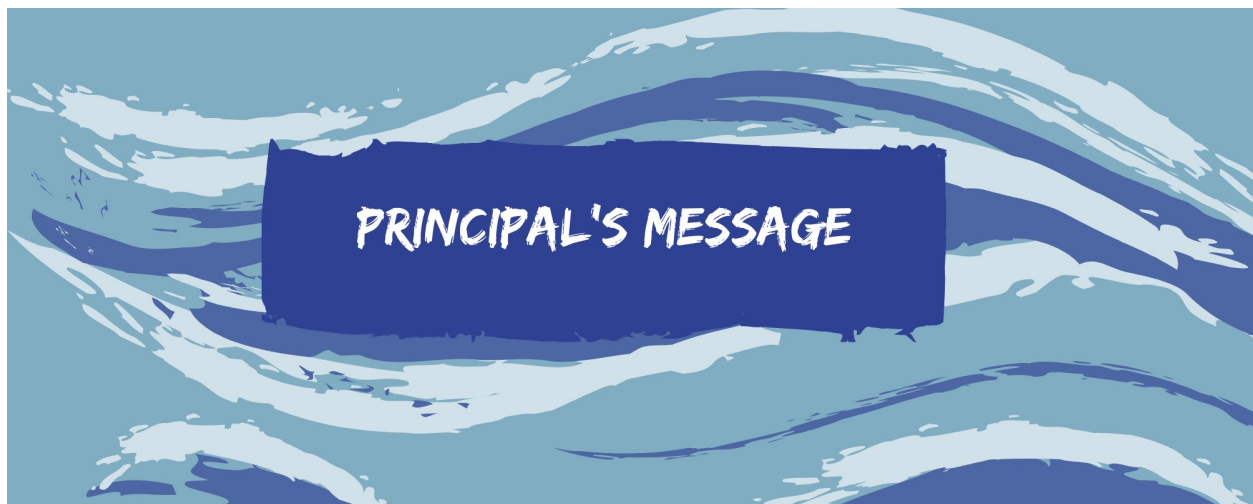




Tuesday 11th August, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,



WELCOME TO WEEK 4 OF TERM 3

Thank you for your understanding with our slightly delayed newsletter this week. This was due to a technical issue.

Wow, this term seems to be flying by! I cannot believe that next week we will already be at the half way point of term 3. For the first time in our school's history, we were not able to invite our parents and the

wider community into our school to celebrate with us, our combined achievements during Education Week. However, we were able to celebrate and acknowledge remotely, throughout the week, with an online presence. If you missed it, be sure to check out the Facebook groups to see Parramatta West PS Learning Together.

Our new school buildings continue to progress at a rapid pace with the second level concrete floors having been poured. You can now see the structural steel being erected. The area where this steel is currently being installed will form some of our new classrooms on both the upper and lower levels.



We have also recently upgraded all the upstairs railings on our existing buildings and have now been able to add outdoor seating to the extended balcony areas, further enhancing the recent upgrades to the Practical Activity Areas in both A and C blocks.



ENROLMENTS 2020 - 2021

We are excited to announce that will be rolling out the new Department of Education Online Enrolment System as of today, 11 August 2020.

The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for our parents to submit an enrolment application online and at the time that best suits you. The application can be accessed on all browsers and mobile devices including iOS and Android.

The online application process is currently restricted to:

- Enrolments into **local** schools only
- Children who are Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or permanent residents
- Children who live in NSW.

We offer our support and encourage you to complete your application to enrol online. If, however, you do not feel comfortable completing an application online, a paper copy will be available for collection from the front office or can be downloaded from the Department's [going to a public school site](#). Further information about online enrolment can be found on the Department's website [here](#)

Local students who turn **5 by 31 July 2021** are invited to enrol for Kindergarten next year. If you have a sibling or know a neighbour or friend who is in the Parramatta West Public School catchment area (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/going-to-a-public-school/finding-a-public-school/using-the-school-finder>), please ask them to enrol as we are currently planning our Kindergarten orientation visits. Please note the Department of Education has made changes to the Parramatta West Public School catchment area from 2020.

We encourage parents who have children turning 5 by May, June and July next year to have a talk with your local childcare or preschool regarding whether your child is ready for school next year, or make an appointment to talk to one of our deputy principals.

For more information regarding school readiness visit.....

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/is-my-child-ready-to-start-school>.

Families may have heard about a new Department of Education (DoE) Enrolment policy specifically about 'out of area' applications. Each school will have an enrolment cap and will require new enrolments to present with a 100 point proof of residence address check. Non-local applications may apply to the school based on the selection criteria and a committee will determine if a position can be offered.

More information regarding 'out of area' applications can be sought from our office. Please contact Sharon Ayoub for advice.

COLDS AND ILLNESS - SHOULD MY CHILD ATTEND SCHOOL?

In the midst of winter, we naturally have many cold and flu 'bugs'. Although regular attendance at school is important, it is also essential that children are fit and well when at school. This is particularly important in the current climate of COVID.

Children who are unwell should be kept at home, until the symptoms have cleared.

We often have reports of students diagnosed with various strands of influenza. Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. Exposure to influenza at school can cause illness for large numbers of students and teachers – so we ask parents to help by ensuring their children remain at home if they are unwell.

If your child has been vomiting or had diarrhoea, the best advice is to keep them home until 24 hours after these symptoms have stopped.

If your child is sick with COVID symptoms and they are being tested, please notify the school immediately and let us know when and where the testing is or has happened. Students will need to remain at home

until they have been cleared. If your child has had direct contact with someone who has returned a positive COVID result, you will need to follow the direct advice of NSW Health.

CASUAL TEACHERS

We are lucky to have many substitute teachers that take classes when teachers are completing professional development, on special leave or are unwell. Currently, like all work places, teachers need to take time off with minor cold/flu symptoms. This has placed a strain on our pool of available casual teachers. When a teacher is absent for several days, we prefer to place the same substitute teacher on the class. Unfortunately, due to casual availability, we have not always been able to manage this. We thank you for your understanding.



HOME LEARNING PROGRAM (HOMEWORK)

We are excited to officially begin our new Home Learning Program this week. Our new structure prioritises reading, vocabulary development and numeracy skills whilst incrementally building the use of online platforms across the grades. The new template is similar to the plans used during remote learning and will be available on Monday mornings for parents to view on the closed Facebook platforms. We hope that this provides insight into the week ahead and assists parents to support or facilitate the home learning.

Every student has received a new scrapbook for their weekly program and spelling templates. Each family will also receive a small resource pack that contains a set of school playing cards and dice. These resources will support the numeracy games within the Home Learning Program. Home Learning Programs will be due back at school each Friday. We look forward to students and parents engaging with this new homework format in line with Education Week's 2020 theme - *Learning Together*.



HOME LEARNING PROGRAM (HOMEWORK)

The Home Learning Program (Homework) begins this week.
Parents can access the weekly program via Facebook on
Monday mornings.



All students in Year 1 -6 have received a new scrapbook for their home learning. A resource pack will also come home for every family to assist with the numeracy/maths games.

PARRAMATTA WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

LITERACY/NUMERACY CHECK IN ASSESSMENTS

Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in a new reading and numeracy check-in assessment in Term 3, 2020.

The Check-in assessment is a NSW Department of Education online reading and numeracy assessment available to support schools to assess and monitor Year 3 and Year 5 student learning following the period of learning from home.

The Check-in assessments can supplement existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

- The assessment will be scheduled for our Year 5 students from 17 August to 4 September 2020.
- The assessment will be scheduled for our Year 3 students from 21 September to 23 October 2020

Students with disability may receive the same level of support during the assessment that they would normally receive in the classroom.

Students will be asked to bring headphones or earbuds that plug into a computer to enable them to hear audio during the assessment. Earbuds used for mobile phones or other portable devices may be suitable for use during the assessment.

What's coming up this week for kids...



LIBRARY NEWS

Wow! The Book Fair was a great success. Thank you to everyone who has supported the school by purchasing something from the fair. The commission goes towards purchasing more books for the school library.

Book club has been ordered and should arrive some time this week.

It is great to see so many children reading. Let's keep this up!

PWPS COMMUNITY NEWS

Learn Music on Keyboard at School Term 3 Enrolment

*Great songs! Musical activities!
Cool music knowledge!*



- Convenient at-school venue
- Small group, 30 min weekly lesson
- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially
- Fun introduction to music



**To enrol: www.learnmusicatschool.com.au
(02) 9411 3122**

VIP Music acknowledges awareness & compliance with the health advice
regarding COVID-19.

Nutrition Snippet

KIDS AND CALCIUM.



Calcium is important for growing healthy bones and teeth.

Our calcium-rich custard pudding makes a delicious lunch box treat, snack or dessert.

healthylunchbox.com.au



Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box