Principal's Message

Parents may have heard in the news about the in-fighting that has been going on in the state body of the Parents and Citizens Association. This will be discussed at the next meeting of our P&C association, which will be after the long weekend. See the message below from the department of education.

Reforms to P&C Federation

The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure that will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations. Each school's P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation's Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation's Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department's website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php.

This is a busy week at school. Tomorrow we have the school zone cross country team competing against other schools, as well as our recorders and violinists attending a rehearsal for the instrumental festival, which is on at The Opera House next month. Today some of our senior students attended a writers' festival in Parramatta, and on Thursday we have a group of visitors from Thailand who will be meeting with some of our senior students. They are here learning about how our multicultural multi-faith community works so well.

On Wednesday I will be taking two students to present at the historical society schools' function. These students have put together a talk on our school. We will put this on our school website for you all to enjoy.

Also on Wednesday our Kindergarten students will be going on their first excursion - very exciting. They will be going to the farm. Parents can expect lots of talk and excitement afterwards. At the other end of the school, our senior choir will be attending their first rehearsal for the PULSE concert. These children will be singing at the Opera House next term.

Our students are busy and active learners, and I am proud of them all.

Mindsets

Last week I started you thinking about fixed and growth mindsets. Here is the next bit for you to think about. All this comes from Carol Dweck, who has researched this over many years, and has written several books. Google her and you will find out more.

"Believing that your qualities are carved in stone - the fixed mindset - creates an urgency to prove yourself over and over. If you only have a certain amount of intelligence, a certain personality, and a certain moral character - well, then you'd better prove that you have a healthy dose of them." Some people feel this all the time, they live with the fear "Will I succeed or fail? Will I look smart or dumb? Will I be accepted or rejected? Will I feel like a winner or a loser?"

Carol agrees that, although people may differ in their initial talents and aptitudes, interests or temperaments - everyone can change and grow through application and experience. People with a growth mindset believe that a person's true potential is unknown; that it is impossible to foresee what can be accomplished with years of passion, toil and training.

We want to develop in children a love for challenges, an expectation that work will be challenging and that they can learn from it, not come to school each day to prove that they are either good at work or find it always too hard.

Parents - do you believe that you, or your children, have a certain amount of intelligence that can't be changed? Do you believe that you, or your children, are a certain kind of person and that can't be changed? If you say yes to these questions, then you have a fixed mindset.

More next week. Anthea Donaldson Principal

Library News

Bookclub has been ordered and should arrive this week.

May is Family Reading Month - Are you reading EVERY day?

Don't forget to use worldbook online for your projects and information gathering. wwwworldbookonline

ID - parrawest Password - student

Mrs Sell
Class Awards

KA        Shloka                                      KB        Prisha
KJ        Muna                                       KN        Sione
KR        Asma                                       KS        Karen
F1        Sebastian                                 H1        Zeel
K1        Zain                                       N1        Millad
S1        Kayla                            2L        Elisha
2P        Sharmake

Stage News

Kindergarten

We are so excited about our farm excursion this Wednesday - only two more sleeps to go! The bus will be leaving at 9am so please make sure that you are on time. Remember to wear your full school uniform and hat. Children need to bring a packed recess, lunch and a water bottle in a throw-away plastic bag (no lunch orders). If you have not already brought back your permission slip please make sure that this is returned to your child's teacher tomorrow.

The students are bringing in some very interesting mystery bags and giving us lots of interesting clues to help us to guess what mysterious object is inside. Help your child to practise their news at home so that they can speak confidently in front of the class when presenting their topic talks.

Have a wonderful week. The Kindy kids are going to have a fantastic day at the farm on Wednesday - we can't wait!

Miss Stuart & Mrs Rhodes

Stage One (Year 1 and Year 2)

Another busy week in Stage 1 is coming up. This week’s topic talk is about your favourite story. Students can share a page of their favourite story and also draw a picture that can go into their ‘Me Box’. We’re also learning about different shelters this week as part of our COGs unit about families. We’re interested in finding out about where people live e.g. houses, apartments but also, what different shelters look like around the world.

Good luck to our Year 2 students that are competing in the Zone Cross Country tomorrow! Our first excursion is happening in week 8 this term. A permission note will be coming home soon.

Please make sure your enrichment payments are up to date to ensure your child can come. Please also remember that lunch orders need to be placed before school starts.
Welcome to Miss Montoya who will be teaching 1S until the end of the year.
Have a great week everyone!
Miss Langhans

Stage Two (Year 3 and Year 4)

Congratulations to all the students who completed the NAPLAN assessment last week. It was hard work, however all the children did their best in each of the assessments.

A reminder that applications for an Year 5 placement in an ‘Opportunity Class’ have closed and we cannot accept any applications.

Finally, good luck to all the students who are representing our school in various sporting and performing arts activities this week.

Enjoy the week,
Mr Clarke

Stage 3 (Year 5 and Year 6)

Year 5 students should be congratulated for their positive attitudes during NAPLAN. They all gave it 100% and should be proud of their efforts. Well done Year 5!

We have a busy week ahead with lots of extra curricula activities taking place. Below are some reminders for Stage Three students:

* Monday 19th May - Writers' Festival at the Riverside Theatre (selected Year 6 students).
* Tuesday 20th May - Zone Cross Country Carnival at Parramatta Park. Students need to return their permission notes and pay bus money to the office. Please ensure your child has plenty of water; fruit break; recess; lunch; something to sit on; and, something to do (cards, books, paper etc).
* Tuesday 20th May – Banksia Concert Rehearsals for recorders and strings ensembles.
* Wednesday 21st May – PULSE choir Rehearsal.
* Thursday 22nd May – Rugby League Knock Out Competition.

If your child is involved in any of these activities please ensure you have read permission notes carefully.

Stage 3 will be going on an excursion to Taronga Zoo on Tuesday the 3rd of June (Week 6). This links in with the science unit we were studying entitled ‘Desert Survivors’. The cost of this excursion is included in the Enrichment money program and a minimum payment of $50 needs to be paid to the office ASAP for your child to attend this exciting excursion. A permission note will go home this week, please sign and return this to your child’s classroom teacher.

"Make Mum’s Day” will be held on Thursday the 29th of May and will commence at 11.00am. There will be a workshop held for mothers in the Hall and Library, followed by various fun activities with your children and a BBQ. Invitations will be sent home shortly. We hope to see lots of you there!

Have a fantastic Week 4!

Mrs Heifetz
Sports News

Tomorrow we have 32 students attending the Zone Cross Country Carnival at Parramatta Park. We wish the students best of luck. We are sure they will proudly represent our school and we look forward to hearing your results. A very big thank you to Mrs Harris and Mrs Abraham who have had the big job of organising our school cross country carnival as well as managing our Zone team.

Last Friday the Parramatta West PSSA teams played Hilltop. Congratulations to the senior newcombe ball team for earning their first win of the season. The coaches all reported that there were plenty of encouraging signs from all teams and with so many new players everyone will greatly benefit from a few more training sessions.

Results were:

Jnr Newcombe 0 - 2 loss
Snr Newcombe 3 - 0 WIN
Jnr Netball 11 - 4 loss
Snr Netball 20 - 11 loss
Jnr Soccer 5 - 0 loss
Snr Soccer 5 - 1 loss
Jnr Mod League 24 - 4 loss
Snr Mod League 34 - 4 loss

This week the junior and senior mod league teams will attend the All Schools Knockout with Mr White at Rosford Street Reserve on Thursday. We wish both the teams best of luck representing our school at this annual event.

Our PSSA teams will be playing a number of other schools on Friday.

Netball will be playing against Ringrose at Ted Burge.
Junior Mod League will be playing Merrylands at Merrylands Oval.
Senior Mod League will be playing Greystanes at Merrylands Oval.
Soccer teams will be playing Widemere at Alpha Road.
Newcombe Ball teams will be playing Widemere at Widemere Public School.

Best wishes to all the teams.

Mr White.

FREE Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop

Date: Monday, 2nd June
Time: 9am 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 28/05/14 by:

Calling or visiting the school front office or register online at www.cancercouncil.org.au/eatittobeatit/register