Principal's Message

This week brings us to the end of term 2 for 2014. How time flies! The children are taking home their half-yearly reports today. Please take the time to read them and discuss them with your child. If there is anything that you don't understand, then please do ask your child's teacher. The most important things to look for are effort and progress, followed by thinking about what your child needs to do to take the next step in learning, and how you can help them.

Instrumental Festival

Tomorrow our recorder ensemble and, for the first time, two of our violinists, will be attending the instrumental festival at The Opera House. It is very early this year, and when I saw the music I was worried that they would not be ready - they have proved me wrong. I have been SO impressed by their dedication and hard work and I am looking forward to celebrating with them tomorrow.

Multicultural Public Speaking Competition

Congratulations Paridhi - winner of the stage 3 competition. Paridhi will now go on to the regional competition in August. She is an impressive speaker who is making her school and her family very proud. We will be putting transcripts of the children’s speeches on the website - I encourage you to read them as they are wonderful!

Term 3

Next term starts on Tuesday July 15th for the children. We will be starting our gymastics lessons for all students, and the Life Education Van will be arriving at school. This means that we require parents to be up-to-date with the enrichment money payments. By the end of this term you should have paid half the money - $65. Then you need to keep paying the installments throughout the term. Thank you to those who have paid in full already - this does make it easier. We do not want any children to miss out. If you are having difficulty in making payments, please come and discuss this with me.

Chinese Cultural School

As there was only 3 people interested in the Chinese Cultural School at this stage it will not be going ahead.

Responsible, Safe, Respectful

These are our school expectations. We spend time at school discussing what they look like in different circumstances. What does it mean to be safe in the playground? What does respectful look like when you come to the office? What are you responsible for? I encourage parents to use the same language with children over the holidays. If all children grow up being responsible, safe and respectful we will have a very positive community.

Holiday Ideas

Children and teachers look forward to holidays (although many teachers actually come to school during the holidays and do quite a lot of work at home and at school!) - but unfortunately many parents don't. I encourage you to do things with your children and give yourself time to have some fun together. Play some games - active ones in the park or good “old fashioned” board games - turn off the electronics for a while. Read some good books together, go to the library, have a picnic in Parramatta Park, walk along the river, explore. Fun doesn't have to be expensive.

I look forward to seeing you all next term.
Anthea Donaldson
Principal

P & C News

BBQ on this Thursday. Notes went home today. Please return notes no later than Wednesday. No orders will be taken on Thursday morning. If anyone would like to help out please come to the top playground at 12pm to start.

Petition note went home today. If you already signed one please disregard that and sign the new one. We didn’t have enough signatures. We need more if you want something done about the intersection etc. Thank you.

Home Reading Morning tea on Wednesday 9am in staffroom.
Excellent academic and support programs

Today reports will be coming home. Teachers have spent many hours volunteering their time to come along with us. We look forward to a great time at the Art Gallery. Thank you to the parents who have already paid and all the teachers for their fabulous efforts on the day. We had a fantastic organisation of our first excursion for the year and it has been a fabulous term full of learning. We can't believe how quickly this term has flown by and that holidays are almost upon us! It has been a pleasure to watch our Kindergarten students grow this term, learn new skills and make exciting discoveries, particularly through our farm unit.

We look forward to another term of learning after the holidays. Have a great week and an even better holiday!

Next term we have many things happening from our Enrichment Program. We start our new gymnastics program, each class will have a Life Education session and Stage 1 have their next excursion. This means that most of the enrichment money needs to have been paid for your child to participate in these activities as we do not want any student missing out.

Stage Three (Year 5 and Year 6)

What an action packed term it has been!! We can't believe that we are half-way through the year already! Time definitely flies when you're having fun!!

Today your child would have taken home their Semester 1 Report. As I stated last week in the Newsletter, it is very important that you spend time reading over it with your child. The grades are only a small part of the report and if your child gets a 'C' that means that they are working at their grade level (either Year 5 or Year 6). Please remember that since the introduction of the new English Syllabus, students will only receive one overall grade for English, which covers reading, writing and speaking and listening. So this is an average of all of their grades. Please take the time to read the comments carefully as this will clearly state what your child has accomplished in English, mathematics and other key learning areas and what they need to do to improve. All students in Stage 3 should be proud of their reports this Semester and the progress they have made. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to see me or your child’s classroom teacher.

A few quick reminders:

* Banksia Concert – this Tuesday 24th of June;
* PULSE choir rehearsal – Wednesday 25th June;
* NAIDOC celebrations at Westmead Children’s Hospital – Wednesday 25th June; and
* Enrichment money should be up to date by the end of this term. At least $65 should have been received before Friday (as this is half of the enrichment money).

Please encourage your child to go to the local library and borrow some books to read over the holidays. Every student in Years 5...
Excellent academic and support programs

& 6 should be reading uninterrupted for at least twenty minutes each day. We hope you all have a safe and relaxing holiday and we are looking forward to catching up with you all after the holidays. Don’t forget students should return to school on Tuesday the 15th of July.

Mrs Heifetz

Library News

Please return all books at home so the library can be ready for the holidays.

Don’t forget orldbook online can be accessed in the holidays.

ID - Parrawest    Password - student

When schools begins next term we will be borrowing from day 1 onwards so you will need a bag to be able to borrow - I have no plastic bags so you need to bring your own.

Thank you for the completed rug and I have enough squares for another rug. So keep knitting and crocheting so we can make more rugs for Wrap with Love. Squares are 25cm x 25cm 8ply on 4mm needles.

Bookfair is coming 28th July - 1st August 2014. Start saving your pocket money. Great buys for everyone and all sales help us buy resources for the school.

Public Speaking

Last week our Multicultural Perspective Public Speaking contestants – Paridhi 5/6B, Rashmikha 5/6N, Robert 4A and Aarya 4A – competed in the local finals at Westmead Public School. They all did a fantastic job delivering their fascinating speeches and showcased their skills during the impromptu section. Paridhi will be representing our school in the regional finals which will be held in August. Congratulations to all the speakers for a job well done! We are all extremely proud of you.

Miss Papworth

PWPS Environment

Aaron & Nicholas are both student leaders in charge of looking after PWPS Enviorment. The two have been enthusiastically working on plans for all children to learn about the environment. They have worked together with Wally our General Assistant and myself to get the the garden beds ready for planting. They have also initiated a whole school composting program. The boys should be congratulated for their work. They have donated 26 buckets and designed a poster that teaches their peers what is required for compost. All students will have the opportunity to tend to the vegetable garden and learn about where healthy food comes from. The boys are also looking for donations of herbs, seeds or seedlings to add to the garden. If you have any of these available please bring to the office and we will happily receive them.

Mr Ta

Sports News

Some good results last Friday for PSSA -

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<th>Score 2</th>
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</table>

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Miss Papworth