Principal's Message

It is very close to the end of the year, so we are getting busy at school. This week we have some special celebrations.

Diwali

I hope that everyone in our community who has been celebrating Diwali in their homes and community has had a special time. This year for the first time we will be celebrating at school as well, this will happen tomorrow. Thank you to the parents and students who have made this happen. We will all have more knowledge about this special time of year for the Hindus in our community. Parents of children performing have been invited to attend.

Thank you to: Ms. Mandeep Bhatti, Ms Jigna Joshi, Mr Amrish Joshi, Ms. Parul Jethwa, Ms. Archana, Ms. Anuradha Singh & Ms Hetal and students Riya and Nega for their organization and leadership.

Our school playgroup will be celebrating Diwali on Wednesday.

Christmas Pageant

On Wednesday we will be celebrating Christmas with our annual Pageant. All the children are invited - we will see how well we fit into the hall! Unfortunately we cannot fit parents into the hall as well for this, but our scripture teachers will be attending.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea

We have so many parent helpers at Parramatta West, and we look forward to seeing as many of them as possible on Wednesday morning from 11.00am in the staff room. Our teachers know how to put on a good morning tea, so please come and help us out once more by eating it! We really do appreciate your assistance, as do the children who benefit from your time.

School Leaders elections

On Thursday this week the children will be electing our student leaders for 2016. 19 children from Year 5 have put themselves forward, firstly in a written application, then an interview process, to reach the point of giving a speech for students in years 2-6 to vote on. They will be wearing a badge this week to indicate who they are. The results of the election will be announced at the 3-6 presentation day assembly. There will be many other leadership opportunities for students next year.

Swim School

This starts next week. Children need to come to school with their swimmers under their school uniform. They need to bring their underwear, a towel, some thongs or sandals and a plastic bag to put their wet things in after swimming. If they want to bring swimming goggles or a swim hat, they may. Please label EVERYTHING! They will do their changing at school. If you are not sure what to do or bring, please ask someone this week.

Tell Them From Me Survey results

Thank you to the parents who completed the survey earlier this term. The results have been made available to us now, and it is most pleasing to see that, compared with parents across the state, our community is above average in all aspects. There is always room for improvement, and we will analyse the results carefully and use them to make decisions about what we do next year, but it is a positive start. There will be a fuller report on all the surveys - teachers, parents and students, in the school annual report that will be published next year.

Home Readers

Thank you so much to the parents who support this important program. This week will be the last for this year to give the parents time to sort out the room and prepare for 2016. Let’s see if we can get all the children borrowing every day!

Uniform Shop

I would like to give a BIG thank you the parents who have helped with the uniform shop this year. Last week uniforms were selling fast at the Kindergarten orientation. Parents who need uniforms are advised to get in early so we can make sure that there is enough stock. The shop will also be open all day on January 27th, which is the day that teachers return next year. Students in years 1-6 return on January 28th.

Have a good week,
Anthea Donaldson
Principal
Class News

Kindergarten

This week’s topic talk is about family heritage. We love learning about the different countries, languages spoken and food eaten from countries around the world. Please help your child be prepared for their news day.

This Friday is KB’s turn to run the assembly and to perform a song they have been practising. Mrs Batac would love as many KB parents as possible to watch their class performance. The assembly starts at 11:15 on Friday in the school hall.

As Mrs Armour gets closer to her due date, she has decided to finish up at the end of Week 9 (Friday the 4th December). She will try her best to make it back for Presentation Day. Mrs Hudson, who has been working with Kindergarten students this term, will be looking after KA for Week 10 and 11. We wish Mrs Armour all the best for the last few weeks at school and the upcoming birth of her second child.

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Swim school starts next week. All students attending Swim School must wear their swimming costumes under their uniform when they come to school. Students must have EVERYTHING labelled. Information regarding where students will be getting ready will come this week. If you are not sure what your child needs for swimming, please ask your teacher.

If you are going on holidays before the end of the year and are not returning when school begins in 2016, please make sure you let the office know.

Have you bought your tickets yet for the K-2 and 3-6 drama performances? We can’t wait to see our students performing on the stage!

Even though we are nearing the end of the year, learning doesn’t stop at PWPS!

Have a fantastic week!

Miss Langhans

Year 3

What a busy week this will be! There are lots of exciting events coming up so make sure you are organised!

Tomorrow we will be celebrating Diwali at school with a special assembly in the morning. We are looking forward to learning about this important celebration for our Hindu students.

Another celebration on our calendars is Christmas which is coming up as the year draws to a close. On Wednesday morning we will be holding our annual Christmas pageant. This is an assembly for all students and a way to thank our Scripture teachers who volunteer their time throughout the year to teach us about our different faiths. After this I hope to see our fabulous parent helpers at the Parent Helpers Morning Tea at 11am. Thank you for all that you do to support our school.

Swim School starts next week! Make sure that you are starting to get your swimming bag ready and have finalised your payments with the Office.

Have a spectacular week and I hope to see many of you at the Parent Helpers Morning Tea.

Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

School Leaders Elections

This Thursday the candidates for the 2016 School Leadership position will present a short speech to teachers and students from Years 2 to 6. Students and teachers will then vote for the 2016 Leadership positions. The School Captains and Leaders will be announced at presentation day.

In the lead up to the leadership ballot, candidates will be wearing badges and visiting classrooms, so that the students will have a better understanding of who they are voting for.

Finally applications for the 2017 Selective High School close today.

Have a great week,
Mr Clarke

Year 6

Congratulations to all students in Year 6 for running a very successful Mini Fete last week. All students planned and organised their stalls with professionalism. Thank you to all of our Year 6 parents for supporting the kids.

Further information with regards to the Year 6 Farewell will come home this week. This will include an information note about the evening and a permission note to attend the rehearsal during the day. The cost of the bus for the rehearsal is $5.00 per student.

All items for Operation Christmas Child are due next week.

During Week 8 and 9 of this term, students in Year 6 will participate in a transition program at school in preparation for high school. Students will be grouped for some classes, change classrooms throughout the day and select electives over a two-week period.

This week we celebrate Diwali Festival at school. A special mention to Riya and Nega who have demonstrated outstanding leadership when organising and planning this event.

Mrs Rhodes
Class Awards

KA  William    KB  Marwa
KD  Ceylin     KN  Aura
KR  Dhruv      KS  Isabel
1F  Ojas       1H  Tawsul
1L  Doris      1M  Maseeha
1N  Amelia     2A  Maya
2F  Priyam     2G  Jackson
2L  Didar      K-2G  Saran

Library News

Bookclub will be due on Tuesday 24th November. Please be prompt because late orders will not be back before the end of term.

If you would like your bookclub order to be kept from your child, please write a note to me and leave your mobile number and I will call you to collect the order instead of giving it to your child.

We will not be borrowing this week as this is the last week of library for the year. So could you please return all books to the library as soon as possible.

To keep up the reading over the holidays why not join the local library.

Operation Christmas Child.

The SRC are running a program called Operation Christmas Child. Thank you for those who have already made donations to this cause!

Your children may have come home asking for a donation from one of the areas:

- Something to love (teddy, doll, car)
- Something to wear (t-shirt, socks, hat)
- Something to play with (ball)
- Something for school (pencils, pencil case, ruler)
- Something for personal hygiene (soap, comb, tooth brush)
- Something special (bag, sun glasses, torch)

Please remember that these product need to be unused due to customs restrictions. Donations need to be received by the 25th November, so that they can be shipped.

Thank you for your continued support.

Home Readers

The Home Reading Program has finished for this year.

All Home reader books need to be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you to all the parents who help by changing the books each day for the children. Without you, the children would miss out on this valuable reading program.

Carols by Candlelight in front of Old Government House

Saturday 12 December 2015

Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm Gates open 6.00pm

Start the festive season with a night of carols played by Parramatta City Brass Band. Enjoy performance from Model Farms High School and a visit from Santa Claus.

Entry is via a gold coin and all funds raised go to support Old Government House and Experiment Farm Cottage (two of our most precious heritage properties)

There will be a sausage sizzle, ice creams, candles, drinks for sale.

Please bring rugs or low chairs for seating at the front of Old Government House.