Principal's Message
This will be the last newsletter for 2015. Thank you all for another fabulous year at Parramatta West. Our children have achieved great things this year - I am proud of them all, and proud also of the wonderful team of teachers who devote so much of their time, energy and expertise to your children. I will be presenting my annual report on the year at presentation day next week (a shortened version at the K-2 assembly), and will also post it on our website afterwards for you to read later.

Dates to remember:
Monday December 7th - student reports sent home today.
Tuesday December 8th - Last P & C meeting for 2015
Year 6 Farewell
Thursday December 10th - Drama Night - 6.00pm
Featuring The Rainbow Fish by the K-2 Drama group and Aladdin by the 3-6 Drama group. Tickets are only a gold coin donation. The canteen will be open prior to the performance. There will be no photography during the performance, but parents may order photos on the night. Order forms available on the night and the cost will be $1.00 each.
Friday December 11th - Sports Presentation Day for 3-6 students
Monday December 14th - Presentation Day K-2 @ 9.30am, 3-6 @ 11.30am
(NB, 2/3 J and 1-4G are at 11.30)
Tuesday December 15th - Party Day
Wednesday December 16th - Talent Quest and last day of school for 2015. Year 6 passing out parade at 2.45pm
January 28th 2016 - first day of school for years 1-6.
February 2nd 2016 - first full day of school for Kindergarten - best start testing takes place prior, at advised days and times.

P and C
I would like to thank all the members of the P&C this year for the fabulous job they have done. The uniform shop is doing well and I am sure that parents appreciate the ease of being able to purchase uniforms at school at a reasonable price. We will have a small celebration on Tuesday to mark the end of the year.

Giving Tree
Every year at Parramatta West we collect goods to donate to families who are not as well off as we are. We place a Christmas tree in our foyer under which we invite children to place goods. These can be foodstuffs, maybe some special treat foods as well as basics, or small gifts. Please do not wrap things, as they need to be identified in order to give them to appropriate families. All donations must be new and foods not out of use by date. Thank you.

Extended holidays
Parents taking children on extended holidays are encouraged to do so during school holidays rather than taking them out of school. Children missing school has a very great impact on their learning. Yes, tickets are cheaper out of school holiday times, but your children only have one chance to be in school learning, and taking time out can severely limit this. Please return your children to school on time at the start of 2016. If, however, you are going to be late back, make sure that you have told us so that we can hold a class place for your child. If you have moved and are now out of area, and then you do not return at the start of 2016, your children will lose their places - we are very full!

Just because the library is closed for stock take, and the home readers are being sorted, doesn't mean that you shouldn't still be reading every day with your children - or encouraging them to read. Please use the Merrylands or Parramatta libraries, consider books as presents, swap and share books with friends... Reading provides the foundation for all learning - don't let your children fall backwards over the holidays.

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Excellent academic and support programs

Have a wonderful holiday everyone. To those who are moving away from Parramatta West, either to High School or to other areas, we wish you all the very best, and hope that your time at PWPS has been a happy and fruitful one. I hope that you take with you many friendships and happy memories - and some skills to see you through the next stage of your learning. To those who are returning in 2016, I look forward to seeing you again for the next exciting steps.

Anthea Donaldson
Principal

Stage News

Kindergarten

What a wonderful year we have had in Kindergarten, it is almost hard to believe how much the students have matured and learnt this year! To celebrate the fantastic year, we are having an end of year celebration on Tuesday the 15th of December starting at 11:30am in the school hall. You would have received a note last week with the details, please ensure that you return the note (even if you can not make it) so that we will have enough food for all students and parents. We would love to have as many parents help us celebrate our year!

All the teachers would like to thank you for a wonderful first year of learning with your children!

Have a happy and safe holidays!

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Wow! We've nearly made it to the end of 2015! All the teachers are so proud of their students and how far they have come academically and the way they've matured over the year.

To celebrate their achievements we will be having our Party Day next Tuesday 15th December. In classes, teachers are assisting students with their organisation for the day. Each class will be having a Party Day Picnic in small groups. Each student will be asked to bring certain items for their picnic which has been negotiated within each group. Remember, if your child is bringing food, it is only necessary to bring enough for their small group (up to 5 students max). Students are allowed to wear party clothes (with appropriate footwear and bring a hat).

Thank you to all the teachers who supported our Swim School students over the past fortnight. I know that I’ve heard great feedback about the skills the students developed over their lessons.

Thank you for a wonderful year!
Miss Langhans

Year 3

It is hard to believe that the year is coming to a close! It has been another fantastic year of learning at Parramatta West and you should all be very proud of your child's achievements this year - we definitely are! Today your child will bring home their report. Please take the time to read the report and celebrate your child’s learning with them. Remember to look at both the achievement and the effort rating.

We will be celebrating learning and the end of year with lots of exciting events.
On Wednesday, Year 3 will have a special Hip Hop dance workshop to finish off their dance unit for this term. Ask them to show you their new moves!
On Monday and Thursday we will be treated to performances by the drama groups. Good luck to all of our Year 3 performers in Aladdin, we can't wait to see you on stage on Thursday!
Sports Presentation Day will be held this Friday and Presentation Day is to be held next Monday. Letters have been sent home to those parents of children who are receiving awards.

Party Day will be held next Tuesday. Please see the note that has been sent home today and help your child to be organised for their group's picnic. Students have organised themselves into groups and will be bringing something to share with their friends.

I hope to see many of you at the Presentation Days held over the next week. Thank you for supporting your children in their learning this year. Have a safe, happy and relaxing holiday.

Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

As this is the final newsletter of 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the students, teachers and parents on another fine year. There has been a lot of hard work and many of us have been challenged to become better learners throughout the year. Well done and I'm sure the wonderful learning will continue in 2016.

Reports are going home this week. If you would like to discuss your child's report please make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

We have a huge week of assemblies and performances. The presentation day is next Monday and the sports presentation is on Friday. There are also a number of rehearsals taking place throughout the week. Please ensure your child has everything they need, this may be costumes, musical instruments or making sure your child is wearing full school uniform. We would really like to see as many parents and family members as possible at these events to celebrate a wonderful year. Don't forget that all home reading and library books need to be returned as soon as possible for the annual stock take.

Enjoy the week and have a wonderful Christmas break,
Mr Clark
**Year 6**

School reports will go home today for all students. We hope the reports give you an insight into what your child is excelling at in school and how each student can improve and strengthen their learning. We are very proud of the achievements of the students this year, they have accomplished a great deal and should be very proud of their learning successes.

This Tuesday is the Year 6 Farewell. It is going to be a very special evening where we formally farewell the students.

**Arrival Time:** 6.20pm  
**Start Time:** 6.30pm  
**Parent Arrival Time:** 8.30pm

Please be reminded that students can leave school early on Tuesday from 12.30pm onwards but must be signed out by a parent or have written permission to leave with another parent. The students are not allowed to walk home from school before 2.55pm. We are looking forward to an enjoyable evening.

Invitations for the PWPS Presentation Day went home last week. We hope you come along and congratulate this year's award winners on Monday 14th December at 11.30am in the school hall.

This week the students will bring home a note regarding ‘Party Day’ which is scheduled for Tuesday 15th December. Every student is asked to bring along some food to contribute towards his or her group picnic. We hope it will be an enjoyable day.

The Year 6 students will receive their graduation bears/balls this week to have signed by their friends and teachers.

The Year 6 ‘Walkout’ will take place after the Talent Quest on Wednesday 16th December. All students in Kindergarten to Year 5 will form a tunnel for the year 6 students to walk under. It is going to be a very special moment. Parents are welcome to come along and join us. The walkout will begin from 2.30pm.

This will be the final newsletter for the year. On behalf of the year 6 teachers I would like to wish all the students and their families a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We wish our year 6 students the very best in high school and know they will transition successfully into this next phase of their lives. We thank them for their dedication and commitment to learning and are extremely proud of their achievements this year. We will miss them very much!

Mrs Rhodes

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**Library News**

Please make sure you return ALL books - overdue books not returned or paid for are still under the children's name next year so they will not be able to borrow. Please sort overdues this year not next.

We will be borrowing from the second week next year so have your library bags ready.

Bookclub has come and in there will be NO more loop orders. This is because they cannot be sent before the end of term - so no more orders. Thanks.

Thank you to those people who do order from Bookclub as the school does make a small commission (in books) and your orders have helped us get more books for the school!

Mrs Sell

**Sport News**

GO TEAM PARRAMATTA WEST!! Congratulations to coaches and teams last Friday for their wins at PSSA. They were a bright eyed, nervous and hopeful bunch who left the school for their competition grounds. A cheer of ‘good luck’ from assembly and a final squeal from year 4 as our teams marched by the field sent them on their way. Each team put in a great effort and we had a win in T-ball, softball and cricket.

Friday saw the end of two weeks of swim school. Congratulations to all swimmers on their good manners and their determination to improve their skills. Each day I could see new skills being tried and old skills being perfected. The swimming coaches at Merrylands pool also send their thanks for your effort to improve and your lovely manners. Certificates to explain skills and achievements will go home sometime this week, after Miss Stuart and Miss Hearn have sorted them.

Our year of sports will conclude this week on Friday December 11th at 9:05 in the school hall. The Parramatta West Public School Sports Presentation assembly will acknowledge student dedication, improvements and personal bests.

A big thank you goes to coaches, teachers and event organisers for providing students with an exciting sports calendar of events throughout the year.

Congratulations to all students who worked towards personal bests, had fun, learnt a new sport and played with a thoughtful level of sportsmanship. Don't forget to practice your fundamental skills over the holidays by going outside to play, going to the park to hone those bigger skills and going to the pool to revise those swimming skills. PSSA team try outs for summer sport teams will happen early term one (like week 2/3) next year so give it a go!