Excellent academic and support programs

Principal's Message

The children have all settled into their new classes very well and I hope that parents will be attending the parent / teacher information sessions this week to find out more about the class plans for the year. Having a close connection between home and school is vital to children's success. I recently read a newspaper article from 1959 in which the principal of Parramatta North PS was talking about the importance of parents being involved in school. He said, "teachers knew from experience that most progress was made by children whose parents were keenly interested in their progress at school." This is still true, but maybe the connection is even more important today as education is changing so rapidly as the world changes. We understand that many parents work, but you can still communicate with us, and we can find new ways to work together.

These are the classes and teachers for 2015

K A  PAMELA ARMOUR
K B  MICHELLE BATAC
K D  JESSICA DUSEVIC
K N  NATALIE NEWTON
K R  JACINTA RICHARDS
K S  SAMANTHA ARNOLD
K R  JACINTA RICHARDS
K S  SAMANTHA ARNOLD
K S  SAMANTHA ARNOLD
1 F  NICOLE FRANKLIN
1 H  RENEE HEARN
1 L  DIANA LIU
1 M  SILVIA MONTOYA
1 N  MADHVI NEGI
2 A  ALEXANDRA LANGHANS
2 F  HEATHER FRANK
2 G  CHARISSE GATT
2 L  LAUREN JENNENS
2 / 3 J  JENNIFER HEIFETZ
3 B  THOMAS BUDDEN
3 H  DEANNE HARRIS
3 / 4 S  MARGARET SECCULL
4 A  CHRISTINE ABRAHAM
4 D  NIRMAJEET DHILLON
5 C  HERBERT CLARKE
5 M  MARGARET MARKS
5 / 6 R  KIM RHODES
6 M  KIRSTEN McSPADDEN
6 S  RENEE STUART
K - 2 G  RAQUEL GRAMMAT
2 / 3 G  STEPHANIE GILES
3 - 5 H  BROOKE HUNT

Carol AOUN  ESL
Alison COTTER  ESL
Pia YALLOURIS  ESL
Angelina NGUYEN  ESL / Reading Recovery
Smita GEORGE  RFF / 5 / 6 R - Fri
Katherine DOBSON  RFF
Alicja KNEDL  RFF Library / K A - Fri
Maria HAWLEY  RFF
Adam HARRISON  RFF
Karen MAURICE  Learning & Support / Reading Recovery
Catherine ANDERSON  Learning & Support
Karen KENCH  Learning & Support

The parent teacher meetings are an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher. They are not a time for individual meetings about a child. If you need to discuss something specific, please make a separate appointment. Translators are available if needed.

Meetings are being held as follows:

Monday Feb 9th
Kindergarten - 5pm - hall
Year 3 - 5.45pm - library
Year 6 - 6.30pm - F Block

Wednesday Feb 11th
Year 1 and 2 - 5pm - Please see Class News for further details
Years 4 and 5 - 5.45pm - Year 4 in 4D & 4S rooms, Year 5 in 5C.

Parent Meeting

Our first parent meeting for the year will be on Tuesday February 17 from 9.00am in the hall. I encourage all parents to come along to meet people, find out what is happening, give us your ideas and learn about the parents and citizens group.

Road Safety

Many roads surround our school and many parents choose to drive their children to school. This means that children getting out of cars and children crossing roads are in potential danger unless parents are extra careful about their driving behaviour. PLEASE consider ALL CHILDREN when you are driving, parking, dropping children off or collecting children. Young children are not as aware as you are of the dangers, they can’t judge the speed of cars, and they are little and can’t always see around cars. They depend on you to guide them. So DON’T tell...
them to run across roads, DON’T ask them to get out of the car quickly in the middle of the road as you are double parked. Take a bit of extra time to find a safe, legal place to stop, ask children to get out of the car on the curb side, or park further away and walk them to school. Thank you.

School Enrichment Money

As in previous years, we are sending home a note with the whole school events, activities and resources that require parent contributions. Parents may send this money in all at once, or pay it off during the year. There are reduced rates for families, and support if you are in financial difficulty. This note is going home today, please return one per family to the school office as soon as possible.

Extra Curricular activities and sport teams

There are many of these starting up for the year, including some new ones. A science club for selected stage 3 students started up today; the 3-6 choir is already up and running - though more children are still welcome to join. Violins started up today - see the note from Mrs Vukovic. On Tuesday the recorder ensemble will be starting. On Thursday this week the stage 2 and 3 dance groups will be auditioning. Children are trying out for the PSSA teams. A complete list of all activities will soon be on our school website. We encourage children to get involved.

See the sports report for more details.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the parent meetings, Anthea Donaldson Principal

Class News

Year 1 and Year 2

Welcome to our first full week in our new Year 1 and 2 classes. Teachers and students are enjoying getting to know each other!

This Wednesday we will be having our ‘Meet the Teacher’ night at 5pm. We look forward to seeing you there! Teachers will be presenting in classrooms as listed below:

- 1F (Mrs Franklin) & 1L (Miss Liu) in 1F’s classroom
- 1S (Miss Montoya), 1H (Miss Hearn) & 1N (Mrs Negi) in 1H’s classroom
- 2G (Mrs Gatt) & 2L (Miss Jennens) in 2G’s classroom
- 2F (Mrs Frank) & 2A (Miss Langhans) in 2A’s classroom

Year 1 and 2 will be having stage sport on Tuesday each week. Students must wear their full sports uniform (including a school hat and water bottle). We will be having gym on Thursdays. Students do not need to wear a sports uniform for gym.

Homework starts this week and is due on Thursday. Please see your class teacher if you have any questions.

Have a wonderful week!
Miss Langhans

Year 3

Welcome back to all Year 3 students and parents! We hope you all had a lovely and relaxing break. Last week students were placed into their new classes for 2015. The Year 3 teachers are Mrs Harris, Mrs Seccull, Mr Budden and Mrs Heifetz.

Just a few quick reminders to start the year:

All Year 3 students should be in full school uniform and have a school hat. All items should be clearly labelled with their name and class. Please ensure your child has a water bottle, fruit break (small enough for them to eat in 5 minutes) and a healthy lunch packed each day.

Year 3 students received an equipment list last year and they will need these supplies as soon as possible. If you are unsure of anything on the list or have further questions please ask your child’s classroom teacher. There are spare equipment lists in the office. All homework will commence next week.

This Monday the 9th of February (TODAY) we will have a parent teacher information night where you will be able to meet your child’s teacher and we will give you important information and dates for the school year. Our meeting will be held in the Library at 5.45pm. We are looking forward to seeing you at this meeting.

Class homework will commence this week. Spelling and word meanings test will be held on Friday.

Friday is sports day for Stage 2 and 3. All students will need to be in full sports uniform.

We have many great and exciting things planned this year and we are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead?

Mrs Heifetz

Year 4 and Year 5

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all our returning families and the new families who have joined our school this year. We are looking forward to the ‘Meet the Teacher’ this Wednesday. We will be passing on all relevant information and sharing the blog we will be using this year.

Library began last week, please ensure library books are returned regularly and that your child has a library bag.

Congratulations to the students who have selected in the PSSA teams and those students who were selected as House Captains for 2015.

Finally, I would like to remind parents it’s important for every child to bring their hats and drink bottles to school, especially when the days are quite hot. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me at school.

Enjoy the week,
Mr Clarke
Class News cont.....

Year 6

Year 6 classes have now been formed for over a week consisting of 6M with Miss Mc'Spadden, 6S with Miss Stuart and 5/6R with Mrs Rhodes. We welcome our students into their final year of primary school and have planned a year of high expectations, great learning experiences and high school preparation.

You may want to ask your child the following questions.....

What is your reading target for this year?
Which reading genre have you chosen to read the most books?
What is Edmodo?

Reading will be a major focus throughout the year. We MUST build the reading stamina of our students and expose them to as many books as possible.

Your child may be telling you all about Edmodo. This is our educational online communication tool that year 6 will be using. They have all connected to their class group as well as the Year 6 group and Mrs Donaldson's group. It is solely used for educational purposes and we encourage kids to be online as much as possible. It will assist with organisation, building learning networks and building technology skills. We will show you more about it at the 'Meet The Teacher Night' on Monday 9th February at 6.30pm. We would like to see as many parents as possible. Strong links between the home and school enhances your child's learning.

Please don’t hesitate to come and talk to us about your child or the year ahead.

Mrs Rhodes
Year 6 Assistant Principal

Sports News

In week one, PWPS years 3-6 students had an opportunity to apply for House Captain positions of leadership. All students 3-6 met in house teams, listened to speeches from applicants and then a vote was taken.

House Captains for 2015 are:
Booroo - Aro 5/6R & Mikayla 6S
Guragai - Ayush 6S & Hassna 6M
Palona - Arvin 5/6R & Ebrar 6M
Warrimoo - Christian & Somaiae 6M

Last Friday morning years 3-6 commenced term 1 organised school sport. Many keen students tried out for PWPS summer PSSA representative teams in softball, T-ball and cricket. Mr Budden, Ms Hunt and Mr Clarke had a great time putting our keen sports men and women through their paces to select junior and senior teams. We had so many students trying out that some further trials will continue this week. The chosen teams will be posted on the sports noticeboard as soon as possible, and training will commence on Thursday afternoons from 3pm to 4pm on the school field (parents please be punctual to collect your child at 4pm). All students chosen to represent PWPS must attend training, be a safe, responsible, respectful student. All students must wear a PWPS hat as part of their uniform, if chosen to join a representative team, and must bring a water bottle to each game. Most games will be played at Jones Park, however an occasional game will be played away and students will need to pay a bus fare should this occur. Good luck teams and coaches.

While tryouts were underway, all other year 3-6 students enjoyed a tabloid of exciting sports, aimed at fundamental skill development, co-ordinated by Mrs Abraham, Mrs Harris and Mrs Heifetz. Sport is an important part of school activities and all students need to be prepared and have the right equipment. All students need to wear their sport uniform, sport shoes, a hat and bring their drink bottle. This Friday sport will involve fundamental skill development and team work in a game.

Kindergarten will have Gym on Tuesday and Fundamental skills on Thursday.

Years 1 and 2 will have Sport on Tuesday and Gym on Thursday.

Years 3 - 6 will have sport Friday morning during summer and participate in fitness and skill development at a select time during the week by their class teacher.

Mrs Seccull

P & C News

Welcome back fr 2015. Hope everyone had a great break. Here are some things to update:

UNIFORM SHOP - Monday and Tuesday - 8.30am - 9.30am (every 2nd Tuesday of the month closed for P & C Meeting)
Wednesday and Thursday 9am - 9.30am and Friday - closed.
If you have an enquiry please email us at pwps.parents@exemail.com.au

SCHOOL BANKING - Every Tuesday morning. If you want to start go to your local Commonwealth Bank and open a dollarmite account and send in your yellow/black wallet with the deposit details filled out on Tuesday. For every 10 deposit there is a reward.

AGM for P & C will be on the 17th February. If you would like to participate and get involved in the school environment please come.

Home Reading will be starting in the next few days. We need volunteers for each day to change the books for Kindy - Year 3. If there is no help your child misses out on the wonderful program. please come to the uniform / reading room to put your name down to help. It is only for 30 - 45 minutes each morning. Thank you

Renee Addoug
Library News

Bookclub is due on Tuesday 17th February. Please make sure you have the right money and use the order form provided.

Don't forget everyone needs a Library bag to borrow.

Thanks.
Mrs Sell

School Photos

School photos will be taken this year on 2nd and 3rd March.

Envelopes for ordering will be sent home once the school office has received them.

Dance Auditions

Stage 2 and 3 dance auditions will be held on Thursday 12th February from 3pm - 4pm.

Miss Stuart

Violin Ensemble

Rehearsals for the violin ensemble have begun for 2015. We are sending five young violinists to the Opera House concert this year, as well as teaching beginners and continuers. Rehearsals are free, in the school hall on Monday mornings from 7:45 to 8:30, but you must provide your own instrument. We can measure you to make sure you get the right size. Students who want to participate should see Mrs. Vukovic and Mrs. Wang right after rehearsal.

Tae Kwon Do

Classes conducted in our school Hall on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6pm.
Phone Michael 0409 928 534

Bus Passes

As of Thursday 12th February 2015 all students who are not in possession of a valid 2015 Free Travel Pass will be expected to pay the bus fare.

No interim letters will be accepted.