Principal's Message

Last week I received a lovely email from the teacher of another school. She was wanting to thank Mr Budden for his assistance with softball, and also to congratulate our children for the way they played - not so much their skill (although they did play well) but their attitude and manner. They encouraged each other during the game and thanked the opposition at the end. This is what we teach our children to do, and they make us proud. Well done to the softball teams, and thank you Mr Budden. Unfortunately in this day and age people in general are quick to criticize, but slow to complement, so it is nice when someone takes the time to do so.

Tomorrow is our P&C AGM from 9.00am. I encourage any parents who are interested in learning more about the school to come along. As well as the AGM I will be showing parents a short PowerPoint about the "tell it from me" survey. The note about this was mistakenly sent home to all children. In fact the survey is just for years 4-6. Parents only need to return the note if their child is in years 4-6 and the parent DOES NOT want the child to do the survey. The survey is totally anonymous and will ask the children how they feel about school and aspects of their learning. We will use the data to inform us in what we do to improve the school. Later in the year there will be teacher and parent surveys too. If you have any questions about the survey, please ask.

Recording children at work, and children making movies

With the use of more technology, we have the ability to work in different ways. Children are no longer just presenting their projects on pieces of cardboard. The way children work in classrooms today is changing, and we would like to be able to share this with parents, especially if you are a parent who cannot come up to school due to work commitments. We can use technology to do this. I will be sending home a permission note this week asking parents permission to film and publish your children at work in school. If we have your permission, this will enable us to record the children and put selected videos on our website so that parents can see what happens at school. The children are making movies too, presenting their information - we would like to share these with you. At the end of the year, with your permission, we could send home a recording of the children at work. If you have questions or concerns, please let me know. Any children for whom we do not have permission will not be represented in anything that we publish, but they will not miss out on classwork.

I read an article over the weekend about the power of reading literature. Studies have shown that people who read fiction appear to be better able to understand other people, empathize with them and view the world from their perspective. You can read the full article in TIME - http://ti.me/1lyYPT5

This year we are challenging the children to read more - this has more impact than just making them better readers. Parents can find out more about good books for their children by attending a session with Mrs Sell and a visiting speaker next Monday afternoon in the library from 2.00pm.

Enjoy a good book with your children this week,
Anthea Donaldson

Class Awards

KA       Ceren       KB       Abdel
KD       Hetvi       KN       Alina
KR       Taha        KS       Zainab
1F       Baris       1H       Amba
1L       Moksh       1M       Brendan
1N       Tirth       2A       Taiba
2F       Hamza       2G       Rishtya
2L       Aya         2/3J     Mozamel, Ameina
3B       Mohammad, Jazlynn 3H       Laura, Sodya
3/4S     Eylaf, Liam  4A       Ahlaam, Hamza
4H       Abdulmalik, Noble 5C       Mani
5M       Brock, Tara  5/6R     Tolga, Hah Min
6M       Luisa, Kawsar 6S       Jack, Nella
K-2G     Mustafa      1-3G     Edric, Rudy
3-5H     Tammy, Choong

P & C News

Tomorrow, Tuesday 10th March is the P & C AGM. If you would like or are interested in becoming a member of the P & C please come and join. For more information on P & C and what we do search P & C Federation and the website will explain how everything works.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the Hall tomorrow morning.

Library News

Cant' wait. Next week we will be having a guest speaker - Paul McDonald from Beecroft Children's Bookshop. Just for the parents to be held at 2pm in the Library. Don't miss it!

Last day for bookclub is March 10.
Mrs Sell
Class News

Year 1 and Year 2

Tomorrow Year 2 is going on the first excursion for the year. We can't wait to get to the museum and see amazing skeletons and fossils! Year 2 students only need to bring a small bag with their fruit break, recess and lunch and wear their full school uniform (including their hat). All Year 2 students need to be at school before 8:55am. Year 1’s excursion is next Tuesday (week 8).

Have a great week!
Miss Langhans

Year 3

We can’t believe how quick this term is flying by! There are only four action packed weeks left of term 1!

Students should all have headphones and a USB at school. These items were listed on the equipment list at the end of last year. It is extremely important that each student has their USB to save written documents created on their XO’s and on other computers and laptops. Students will be asked to use their headphones for various programs such as Reading Eggspress, Mathletics and other applications. If your child has lost or misplaced their USB and headphones from last year please replace them ASAP. Please see your child’s classroom teacher if you have any questions.

We hope you all have a wonderful week 7!
Mrs Heifetz

Year 6

Thank you to the parents who attended our ‘High School Information Evening.’ A reminder to parents that those forms MUST be returned by MARCH 20th. If you have any questions regarding the forms please don’t hesitate to ask any of the year 6 teachers.

The High School Selective Test date is Thursday March 12th and parents should have received notification of the venue and time. Parents must make their own travel arrangements to the venue for this examination. Good luck!

We are encouraging our Year 6 students to enter the ‘What Matters?’ writing competition. This is a writing competition that gives Year 5 - 12 students in NSW and the ACT a chance to say what matters to them in society today. The students are asked to write a 400-600 word opinion piece on what matters to them and why. Entries must be typed on A4 paper. There is strictly one entry per student. All entries must be accompanied by a signed entry form, which Miss McSpadden will be handing out. We will be guiding our students through their written work before it is handed in. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation.

How many books has your child read now? Please ask them? We are proud to see our reader’s challenging themselves in order to increase their reading stamina.

Mrs Rhodes

Kindergarten

WOW it is now Week 7 and our kindergarten students are continuing to progress and settle in well. We have had numerous request from parents regarding being a parent helper in the classroom. We value parent involvement and as such each Kindergarten classroom teacher has sent home a note for the times we would like parent helpers in our classroom. Please see your child’s classroom teacher and let them know the times you are available.

Also, from time to time parents do forget to pack their child's recess/lunch. If you do forget that is fine, but please do not bring your child's lunch to them in the playground. Bring the lunch to the office and our office ladies will call the classroom teacher to let them know that your child's lunch can be collected from there. We thank you for your co-operation.

Sports News

Congratulations to those swimmers who proudly and responsibly represented PWPS at the zone swimming carnival. Thank you to Mrs Marks, Mr Ta and parents for supporting these students in their efforts.

Well done to our K-2 teachers and students who managed to participate in a fun session of sport on Tuesday while our school photos took up Gym and Sporting times and facilities. Congratulations on your flexibility! Thank you to those K-2 parents who are able to help out during Gym time. 3-6 students are enjoying a pre-sport warm up of Zumba with Mrs George and her keen team of demonstrators. The weather was outstanding and all students built on their team and game skills as they rotated to another team sport led by class teachers.

Don’t forget to wear your sport clothes, sport shoes and hat every Friday. Still seeing a number of students without hats, this is dangerous for their health, safety and fitness.

3-6 cross country training is in full swing during the week. Class teachers are taking students to the field for fitness and endurance training. Don’t forget students can support this training by walking to and from school, and by going to the park after school or on weekends.

Congratulations again to our PSSA teachers and teams on their exemplary behaviour, team spirit and competitive participation in T-Ball, Softball and Cricket.

Z

Last week, 6 students from PWPS represented our school at the carnival. They had a fabulous time and nearly all our students beat their PB times in all events. Thank you to those parents who were there to cheer the team on. Our team is growing.
Today we would like to share with you another colourful science experiment that we carried out in our Science Club. Red cabbage is very healthy and delicious in a salad, but did you know that it can also be used as a cheap ingredient for another exciting science experiment?

In this amazing colour-changing activity we investigated how the colour of the red cabbage juice changed when various household solutions were added. For this, we had to have the red cabbage chopped and boiled. This way we had the purple juice ready to use and test.

Next, we poured the red cabbage juice into a number of containers (at home you can simply use a jar or any clear container) and added a different household product into each jar, such as vinegar, lemon juice, orange juice, baking soda, dishwashing liquid, water, washing detergent (OMO), Windex (a cleaning product) and coffee. Then we observed how the cabbage juice colour changed from purple to red, pink, green or blue depending on what household product was added.

Here is the range of colours from our red cabbage experiment. Maybe you can try carrying out your own colour changing experiment at home. Which solutions around your house can make the cabbage juice change color?

Managing Children’s Behaviour

This seminar is for parents who have their children in their care and explores how parents can build better relationships with their children and encourage positive behaviour. The focus is on effective discipline strategies while maintaining a strong relationship with your child/children and looking after yourself as a parent.

DATES: Monday 23rd March 2015
TIME: 6 to 9pm
LOCATION: Blacktown Family Relationship Centre Level 2, 125 Main Street, Blacktown
COST: $20 per person

To make a booking, or for more information about any of our courses or seminars, please contact by phone on: 9806 3299

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School

OPEN DAY Tuesday 17th March 2015

Year 6 students entering Year 7, 2016 & Year 5 students (Year 7, 2017)
Student Morning session 9.15am - 1.00pm
Evening session
5.00pm - 7.00pm - School tour and open house.
7.00pm - 8.00pm - Formal presentation in the hall.

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School has a long tradition as a centre of excellence in the Creative and Performing Arts. An exciting opportunity is available for talented students to audition for placement in our outstanding CAPA programs.

Auditions will be held for Dance, Drama, Music, and Visual Arts on Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th & Friday 20th March 2015. The cost of auditions is $50.00.