Principal's Message

How much do your children enjoy books? How much do you enjoy reading to them? Do you have favourites that you go back to - especially with the younger readers? Do you have family favourites that everyone can recite? Do you have favourite characters in books? Well, if you haven't, now is the time to find some!

On August 27th we will be having a book character parade at school. We are encouraging all the children and teachers to dress up as a character from a book as a celebration of the stories we love and book week. Of course parents are welcome to watch our parade, so set the date and start thinking.

Tell Them From Me Surveys

Earlier this year we invited children from years 3-6 to take part in an online survey about their learning and the school. We will be doing this again soon, but this time we are also able to invite parents and teachers to do a survey. All responses will be anonymous. The results will be reported in our annual school report, and will give us valuable information on things that we need to do as a school. The children will be bringing home notes today. Parents only need to return the note if they DO NOT want their child to take part in the survey. These notes need to be returned by next Friday. Children will then do the survey the following week. Parents will be given a link to do the survey online. If you do not have Internet capacity at home, we will provide details of when you can come to school to do it here.

P&C Meeting

Thank you to the P&C for running the canteen and sausage sizzle at the 3-6 athletics carnival last week - I know the teachers appreciated the tea and coffee too! Our next meeting is TOMORROW - I encourage you to come along, 9.00am in the staffroom.

Diwali

Did you know that we have some fabulous parents who are training groups of children to perform at our school Diwali celebrations? This will be in Term 4. Thank you to parents and the children who will be performing.

Kindergarten 2016

Next week we have our information evening - Wednesday 19th from 6.00pm. Please invite any friends or neighbours who have young children to enrol to do so as soon as possible and come along on that evening. We will have childcare available, but we do need numbers for this. The following Friday - August 28th - our Transition mornings will start. These are especially valuable for children who are not attending preschool, but anyone is welcome. They are also valuable for parents who can get an idea about what the expectations are for school. Again, numbers will help with our organization.

Please check your children's jumpers and hats for names - they do fade over time. As the days warm up a bit the children take them off - and leave them all over the school! Lunch boxes and drink bottles also need names please.

Have a good week,
Anthea Donaldson
Principal

Class Awards

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Excellent academic and support programs
Class News

Kindergarten

Please make sure that your child is appropriately dressed for this unpredictable weather. Recently we have had some very cold days and some students have been under dressed in only shorts and t-shirts. We do not want any students to get sick from the cold windy weather. Please make sure they have labelled jackets and jumpers.

Next week the Kindergarten stage will be hosting a cake stall to raise money for the Year 6 graduation. So start thinking of what you could bake or cook to help us. A note will be coming home this week with more information.

This Friday KR will again be hosting the assembly. They will be presenting a small item that they have been practising. Parents are welcome to attend, the assembly starts at 11:15 on Friday.

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Year 2 students are very excited about our excursion tomorrow to Centennial Parklands. The bus is leaving school at 8am SHARP so please be organised! A small backpack or carry bag with fruit break, recess, lunch water bottle and their school hat is required.

Year 1 excursion is on 18th August.

The children are enjoying the Gymnastic program each week. Please ensure you are continuing to make regular payments to the Enrichment program so your child doesn’t miss out.

Year 3

What an amazing Athletics Carnival last week! Congratulations to all of our winners and to all students who participated with great enthusiasm.

Book Week is coming up in Week 7. During this week we will be attending celebrations at Merrylands Library and we will also be holding a 'Book Character Parade' at school on Thursday 27th August. Start thinking now of what book character you could come dressed as! A note will be sent home shortly about our visit to Merrylands Library.

Thank you to those families who have made payments towards the Enrichment Program. Please continue to make payments towards this. Aside from our weekly Gymnastics lessons, we have another excursion coming up soon - details to come!

Have a wonderful week!
Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

Congratulations to all the children who participated in last week’s athletics carnival. The behaviour of all the students and the effort in performing to their best was fantastic to see. I would also like to thank Mr Budden and Miss McSpadden for organising the carnival, students who have qualified for the zone carnival will be notified this week.

A reminder that the Science Club excursion is this Wednesday, students who have been invited need to have returned their permission notes and paid by tomorrow morning.

Finally I would like to congratulate all the students who have read a book and posted a comment on the reading blog. Last week we had 15 new posts, let’s try and have even more posts next week.

Enjoy the week,
Mr Clarke

Year 6

Congratulations to the students for their wonderful participation at the athletics carnival. The students were well behaved and showed excellent sportsmanship. Congratulations to students who will be moving on to the zone level.

Students in Year 6 will be completing the Middle Childhood Survey within the next 2 weeks. It is an online anonymous survey that takes about 30 minutes. This survey is a component of the NSW Childhood Development Survey. The aim of the MCS is to measure the mental health of all NSW children at a critical stage of development, in order to better understand the needs of all children in this age-group, and how programs and policies for young children might be improved to meet these needs and promote healthy development into adulthood. Information for parents will come home this week. If you wish for your child to NOT participate, please return the ‘Opt Out’ form.

To celebrate Book Week we are having a book parade. The students in Year 6 have been reading a great deal this year and we look forward to celebrating this love of books by dressing up as a favourite book character. Parents are invited to come along and watch on the 27th August. We will also be visiting Merrylands library in Book Week as a part of the celebrations.

This term Year 6 students have started learning a number of exciting dances for two important reasons. The first reason is that we have entered the Sydney DanceSport Championships along with 29 other schools. We will be teaching the dances to the students and selecting 12 students to compete in the competition in October. We are also able to select approximately 20 students to come along and support our students. The second reason is that the students will perform these dances at their Year 6 Farewell at the end of the year. We have been posting videos of the steps on Edmodo so the students can practice at home. It is very exciting!
Year 6 cont ....

Are you keeping up with your child's reading progress? It is now the second half of the year and out students should be approaching 30 novels. A few students have already passed 40 novels! This is very impressive!

Mrs Rhodes

Library News

Please remember that an overdue book means you can’t borrow so make sure you return your books.

Every child needs a bag so make sure your child has one.

Next Monday in our Parent Workshop we will be discussing the reluctant reader, 2.15pm in the Library. We would love so see you there.

NAIDOC Day

Well done everyone! We raised $395.15. This money will be given to Fred Hollows Foundation and Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation.

University Competitions Update

Today we held the last of the University Competitions, Mathematics. It was held a day early (with permission from the relevant authorities) due to our busy life here at PWPS, as it clashed with other activities. Congratulations to all those students who competed in the various competitions and tried their best. Results for the Science competition have gone home and all other results will be sent out as soon as they arrive.

Sports News

What a fabulous 3-6 Athletics Carnival we had last Thursday! Mr Budden and Miss McSpaden organised a great day (even the weather was great). Teachers and students made sure the events ran smoothly. Congratulations boys and girls on your efforts and all the fun we had. Thank you to the lovely family and friends who came to watch and cheer us on. A big thank you goes to our wonderful parent group who once again provided tasty burgers and a canteen of treats. Well done to the House Captains for leading the chants, encouraging their team of students and organising their relay teams. Now we look forward to the final event - high jump - and the placing of the top athletes. Those top athletes who have qualifying times or measurements will then begin training for the next level (Zone).

Congratulations to all our K-2 students who put on a great display of athletics for their parents and friends in Education week. A big thank you to Miss Montoya, Mrs Knedl and their team of K-2 teachers, for organising a great day.

Last Friday delivered wonderful weather for the next round of PSSA and our teams challenged the opposition well and all had fun.

Watch this space for information about Vege month which is coming up. Think about what vegies you can serve to your child in their lunch box for crunch and sip instead of fruit. Carrot sticks are a good beginning as well as sugar snap peas, celery, green beans, cauliflower, broccoli, capsicum.