Principal’s message

I hope that parents are enjoying the conversations at home about our book character parade on Thursday. I encourage you to use this opportunity to talk about books, characters and reading. Please do not go to any great expense to obtain costumes, we encourage children to be creative - there are no prizes, just fun!

This week we have many of our children going to Merrylands library. Book week is a good time for you to go as a family, and if you are not a member, then we encourage you to join up. The library is full of wonderful books, so get your children there and borrow some!

In the words of author and cartoonist Chris Riddell, "It's not a book, it's a doorway." If you are thinking about your children's future, how about this statistic: Reading books is the only out-of-school activity for 16-year-olds demonstrably linked to securing managerial or professional jobs. (Mori, University of Oxford, 2011) Developing a love of reading in primary school will set your child up for success - and it starts with YOU!

Congratulations to our budding scientists who have been having fun during lunch times and who went on an excursion to learn more. This Saturday some of them will be competing in the paper plane challenge at Sydney university. Thank you to Ms Knedl for her training of them, and the parents who will be taking them along. I am sure that the day will be lots of fun, regardless of the results. Developing children's curiosity about the world and how it works is what science is all about. While all children learn science in class, teachers at Parramatta West regularly look for opportunities to provide children who have particular interests with additional experiences.

Kindergarten 2016

We had a great roll up of parents to the information night last Wednesday when our current Kindergarten teachers stayed back to introduce our newest families to the wonder of school. Our transition program starts this week on Friday when Kindergarten 2016 children are invited, with their parents, to spend time in the classroom and get a taste of "Big School". This program will continue on Fridays this term and next term. We look forward to getting to know our newest recruits.

Canteen News

Have you tried out our new canteen yet? It is open every day serving lots of good food.

This week is Manoosh week (Oregano Pizza) served with salad and lemon $4.00.

Originating from Lebanon, Syria, Israel and Palestine.

P & C News

Our hard working Parents and Citizens team of parents is looking for additional support for a variety of things that they do at school. A note has been sent out, please respond if you have a bit of time to spare - you will make new friends, your children will appreciate you being involved, and so will we!

Looking forward to seeing many of you on Thursday morning at the book parade - of course you are welcome to come along and watch!

Anthea Donaldson
Principal

Class Awards

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Kindergarten

The Kindergarten teachers would like to give all the parents and carers who brought in cakes and slices a HUGE THANK YOU! It was lovely to see how many people provided something for our cake stall. The Year 6 students are very appreciative of the $430 that we raised. So Thank you again!

As Mrs Donaldson already mentioned this Thursday is a chance to dress up as our favourite book characters. You could ask your children about some of the book characters we have been reading in class. This term we have been doing an author study of Julia Donaldson. Some of her best known characters are The Gruffalo, Superworm and Tabby McTat. We can't wait to see what the children will be wearing!

This Friday KA will be hosting the assembly again and this time presenting a small item. Mrs Armour is excited to share this with any parents or carers who can make it on Friday. The assembly starts at 11:15 in the school hall.

Miss Richards

Year 1 and Year 2

Has your child decided on what to wear for the Book Parade on Thursday? We are looking forward to a great day with lots of well thought costumes.

Year 1 and Year 2 news this week is "Predicting the rest of our lives", so that should be very interesting.

Year 3

Over the next few weeks there are many exciting events happening for our Year 3 students.

Congratulations to those students who have represented Parramatta West at the Zone Athletics last Thursday and today. You should all be very proud of your achievements!

This week is Book Week! Tomorrow Year 3 will attend the free excursion to Merrylands Library. Make sure that you have returned your permission slip. Students will need to remember to bring their hat, recess and lunch. The Book Week celebrations continue on Thursday when we will have our Book Parade at school. We can't wait to see what book characters will turn up for school!

Last week your child would have also brought home a note about our excursion to the Sydney Observatory and the Powerhouse Museum in Week 10. Please make sure you return your permission slip and have made payments towards the Enrichment Program which covers the cost of the excursion and bus travel.

Have an amazing week and make sure you have lots of conversations about books!

Miss Stuart

Year 4 and Year 5

A quick reminder that the book parade will be held this Thursday morning, children have an opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend the carnival.

Year 3 and Year 4 will be visiting the Merrylands Library tomorrow weather permitting. They will need to wear school uniform and wear comfortable shoes for the walk.

Enjoy the week,
Mr Clarke

Year 6

This week is all about celebrating books and reading. All the students need to be dressed as their favourite book character this Thursday.

This Wednesday we will be walking down to Merrylands Library to look at this year's shortlisted books. Please ensure your child has returned their permission note and has their lunch with them. We will be having lunch at the park on the way back from the library. Please do not order your child's lunch on this day.

To celebrate the students who have reached their 40 book reading challenge students will be invited to meet with Mrs Donaldson to talk about their journey and what they have learnt along the way. We already have one group of students ready to celebrate and another group who are almost there. This is so impressive! We need our students to be lifelong readers!

A number of Year 6 students will be competing in 'The Young Scientist Paper Planes Challenge' this coming Saturday at Sydney University. We wish them all the best and can't wait to hear the results. Thanks to Mrs Knedl for organising this exciting challenge for our students.

Our students completed the MCS survey this week during class time. Thank you for allowing your child to take part.

Mrs Rhodes

Hotdog Day

Hot Dog day is on Thursday. Pre orders need to be returned by 9am tomorrow 25th August.
Sports News

Last week saw everyone K-6 enjoying the good weather and a great work out at Sport, fitness and Gymnastics. We had some wins, draws and loses at PSSA with our students trying their best and showing great team spirit. Keep up the great work and don't forget training.

School sport saw everyone out practising fundamental skills of jumping, running, leaping, dodging, catching, throwing, striking or kicking; followed by a game where the skills were put to use in Newcombe, Netball, T-ball, Oztag, soft-crosse, ball games and speed minton.

In Gymnastics last week we had our final lesson before our skills are tested this week. Students will be assessed on Balance, Spring and Landing and Rotation where they will be expected to perform the ‘pencil, motorbike, straddle, tuck, rainbow, star, 180, 360’ and other skills taught during our 6 weeks of skill development. Students will also be expected to use their knowledge of these skills to develop their own routines to showcase.

Don't forget 'FRUIT and VEG' month starts today where we ask you to expand your healthy diet of fruits and vegetables and try something new and be conscious of the vital role these foods play in the growth, development and health of your child and the whole family.

Zone Athletics

Congratulations to our Zone Field athletes. We had some great results with Chance and Shayan winning their shot put, Abi coming second in the junior long jump and Nella and Joshua coming third in shot put.

Good luck to our Zone Track athletes today at Sydney Olympic Park.

Mr Budden

A Recount of the Science Club Excursion by Seeyar 2/3J

Hi my name is Seeyar. I am excited to tell you about what I did on our recent Science Club Excursion to the Australian Museum. We went with Mrs Knedli and Mrs Batac. I saw dinosaur bones. They were huge! They were also very cool. We saw bugs. They were disgusting! We saw horse bones and some human skeletons. When we got to the final part, we learnt about dichroic light. We were able to weave our own dichroic light reflecting bracelets. We were shown all about the Pacific Islands and their culture. Then we played the drums. It was so fun. The drums were wooden and very old. Finally we went back to the school. Wally drove us there and took us back to school. It took about 45 minutes. I learnt so much about science.

Library News

• Due to Bookclub being late the last day for bookclub orders will be Friday 28th August.

• No Parent Meeting on 31st August. Next meeting is on 7th September, we will be looking at Poetry books and how much fun they can be. Join us all parents in Year 2 and Year 3 on Monday afternoon at 2.15pm.

• Please make sure your child uses a library bag - we have a number of books returned wet from leaking drink bottles.

Mrs Sell