Dear Parents/Care Givers,

If you haven’t had the opportunity to meet me over the last couple of weeks, my name is Ms Vicky Wallace and I will be the Relieving Principal at TEPS for the next 10 weeks whilst Mr Fraser is on Long Service Leave.

I have been local to the area for the last 8 years and have had previous leadership experience at Granville East Public School and also at a nearby school, Parramatta West Public School.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to getting to know you and working closely with the community, your children and the teachers over the next term.

It has been wonderful to meet so many parents and community members at the school and at the recent Harmony Day events organised by CHIMES Community Leadership Group.

TEPS is a school that students, staff and the community can be proud of with its beautiful playgrounds, welcoming country community feel and dedicated, hardworking teachers and students.

Please feel free to introduce yourself to me in the playground, come and have a chat or book an appointment to see me. I am more than happy to help in any way possible.

Ms Vicky Wallace
Relieving Principal

Uniform Reminder

As we are moving into the cooler months it is important that our children have the appropriate school uniform. Students are required to have a school jumper, school hat and black school shoes on each regular school day. All students will be requested to put non-school jumpers in their bag.
Managing screen-time

Helping kids find the right balance between activities, homework and screen time is a challenge that only gets harder as they grow older. Commonsense Media has lots of useful resources to help – from movie and game ratings to articles like this one on setting screen time limits that are realistic enough that your children will actually follow them. Read the article here: http://bit.ly/1pBIfmk

Books to boost brains

Literacy skills often progress suddenly in leaps and bounds. The secret is to keep kids of all ages reading over the weekends and school holidays. Even 20 minutes a night can make a huge difference to their reading, comprehension and general knowledge. It’s also a great way to settle their minds down before sleep (for adults too!). If your child hasn’t found a book that grabs their imagination, why not try them on a series book from the Premier’s Reading Challenge list? Here are top suggestions for all ages, including young adult http://bit.ly/1dLSGC0

Kik, Vine, Instagram – are they safe?

It’s no contest – kids discover and understand new social media long before we adults do. If your child is thinking about creating a new social media account – or complains that “everyone else is doing it”, you can get the facts a glance from School A to Z’s technology glossary. You’ll also find information about age restrictions and things to watch out for: http://bit.ly/188OerY

Book Packs

Thank you to the parents who have paid for their book packs. Our book packs make a great difference to the effectiveness of our teaching of your child. If you pay for the pack (which actually costs the school over $60) this term your child gets a pencil case and other materials free. Cost of the pack is $35 or $30 for each of your children after the first.

Update of Family Information

In order to have the most up-to-date information for your child we are in the process of sending home forms to update the information held on file. This week we sent home ‘Permission to Publish’ forms, can you please return this by next Monday 7th April.

Another area that we are required to update is the parental education and occupation information. This information determines our school’s funding loading for social-economic backgrounds and incomplete or incorrect information can impact our funding. These forms will be sent out to families next week with further information.

Holiday Activities

Looking for something fun to do with the kids over the school holidays.

Kids in the Park @ Sydney Olympic Park

Sydney’s largest school holiday program returns this summer, with over 50 fun-filled activities to keep your kids active, outdoors and entertained. A range of activities are free or under $20, making it affordable to discover Sydney’s most exciting playground this holidays! Full details at www.kidsinthepark.com.au.
Parramatta City Council
Parramatta City Council’s Holiday Activities will once again provide plenty of fun filled activities for children. Art and cultural activities are on offer, plus children can be enrolled into a selection of great sporting programs. The Council is also celebrating Girls in Sport with a range of special girls-only activities available. You can find the guide and registration information here: http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/play/whats_on/events_calendar/school_holidays

UWS Penrith Observatory
Kids Fun Days
Wednesday 16 April (10 am – 12 noon) - Rockets
Make and launch your own paper rockets and watch water rockets being launched
Wednesday 23 April (10 am – 12 noon) – Star Stuff
A short multimedia presentation followed by hands-on science activities

Kids Astronomy Nights
Saturday 19 April (7pm – 9 pm) – Mars Rovers
Come along and find out, why we are sending rovers to Mars
Saturday 26 April (7pm – 9pm) – The Lives of Stars
Where do stars come from and where do they go?
In addition to the multimedia presentation all programs will include a 3D astronomy movie and either safe viewing of the sun (day program) or viewing of the night sky through the University’s telescopes. Our programs run regardless of the weather.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.
Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email rmccourt@uws.edu.au