Principal’s Report

We are already half way into Term 1 with many exciting events and great learning happening. I am so pleased to see our students sharing their work with me. I have seen amazing sound work from Kindergarten and pages of writing from our senior students. I am pleased to see smiles and hear laughter in our playground and see our school represented so proudly in our school uniforms...yes more are on the way!

Meet The Teacher Afternoon
We would like to invite you to attend a meeting with your child’s teacher.

The Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 18th March, 2015. You will be able to make a time to meet between 2pm and 5pm. The meetings will be in the classroom. If this time is not suitable please let your child’s teacher know and another time may be arranged or a phone interview can be organised.

Notes will be sent home next week to book a time.

Update of Information
With this newsletter you will find a copy of your child’s enrolment information. The Department of Education and Communities requires the school to keep accurate records.

Please complete the forms and correct any of the information and return to the school office by Monday 9th March.

When the forms are returned to the school your child will receive a raffle ticket to win a FREE ITEM OF SCHOOL CLOTHING, when it arrives.
#NRLWellbeing

The Parramatta Eels visited us on Monday 23rd February as part of the NRL Community Carnival with a focus on nutrition, healthy eating, mental health and the importance of regular exercise. The students and players enjoyed the visit and thank you especially to Tim Mannah, Junior Paulo and Manu Ma’u for coming and spending time with our students. Pictures and video of the day can be viewed on the Parramatta Eels web site.


Reward Day
Our students have been working hard to be in correct school uniform and bring a school hat to wear every day. Each class have earned points and bonus points for wearing their school hat on “Secret Hat Day”. To celebrate their efforts the children enjoyed some dancing and an ice-block afterwards. Thanks Mrs McKnight for sharing your groovy moves with us!

Cricket Clinic
On Tuesday 3rd March, each class spent an hour with Cricket Coaches. They enjoyed games and learning about the skills required to play the game of cricket. I was so proud to see the respectful way that our students listened and participated. Thank you Mrs Giorelando for organising the event.

Cricket Program
Congratulations to students selected to be part of the In2Cricket Program. If selected, your child will have received a note to invite them to participate in the weekly sessions for the rest of the term. The selected students were chosen because of their skills and also because of their respectful and responsible attitudes.

Computer Access
Installation of our wireless and cabling will begin next week in all learning areas. Students in all classes will have a classroom with computers and iPads ready to support their class learning.

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<th>Our PBL School Values</th>
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<td>Be Safe</td>
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<td>Be Respectful</td>
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<td>Be A Learner</td>
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Signage

Around our school, work has continued to ensure the safety of our students. The speed signs have been repainted; the street signs and flashing lights are all working now to inform drivers that they are entering a school zone. Council has also agreed to install a footpath down Harris Rd (outside our school) so that students can walk into the school gates without negotiating the current trip hazards. I am working with council to establish safe drop off and pick up zones.

Please do not drop off or collect your child from the staff car park as this is dangerous. The car park is also a driveway for the child care centre and several other staff from offices that work within our school.

Assembly

We are still working through the organisation of our assemblies. As part of the assembly, we are required to sing our school song. The original was unable to be located, however Mrs Oughton did discover the lyrics. Mrs Giorelando developed a more relevant version and collaborated with the senior students and the P&C. The students will learn the new school song ready for our assemblies.

I have attached the entire song so that families may read through the lyrics to help our students learn the words. Once we are confident that the assembly is finalised, we will invite our families to join us and a special invitation will be sent home if your child will be receiving an award.

School Resources

I am pleased to share with you just some of the resources that the children have access to when learning. The teachers have been working hard to organise and order equipment and resources to support class programs within the classroom and out in the playground.

Air conditioning and blinds

We have noticed that the classrooms are becoming increasingly hotter. I am also concerned by the heat in our sick bay room for children that are not well and attempting to rest. I consider a pleasant learning environment to be a necessity for our students. Therefore, funds have been allocated to air condition ALL learning areas for our students and the administration block. Work will begin on installing the air-conditioning units this term.
New blinds will also be installed in certain areas and the senior classroom to assist in blocking out heat and creating a pleasant learning environment.

School App
Thank you to the families that have downloaded the school app. We are receiving your notes about your child’s absences – thank you!

If you go to the iTunes store you will find our school app. It is free to download and will suit any smartphone. You may use the app to read newsletters, notes, tell us if you change your contact details or when your child is away – no paper, no problem!

We have many more exciting events planned for our school in the coming weeks. Please keep checking our school app for any notes and updates.

Ms Colleen Potter
Principal

PARENT TIPS AND INFORMATION

Good number sense
Maths is a numbers game but for some students - and parents - the figures don't add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.

Reading with your child at home
When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.