

Newsletter

Opportunities for all in a caring environment.



Find us at: Brabyn Street Parramatta NSW 2150

Issue 3

4th March, 2009

2009 at PEPS

Dear Parents,

Last week our school captains, prefects and I attended the National Young Leader's Conference at the Entertainment Centre. Seven thousand students attended this day.

The aim of the conference was to challenge students to reach their own personal goals as well as motivating them to achieve the goals of those they are leading. It aimed to have a positive impact in the lives of student leaders so they in turn will be more able to make a positive impact in the lives of their fellow students and the whole school community.

Six inspirational speakers from the sporting, media, TV and writing industries spoke to the students about leadership. Each speaker was very interesting and enlightening.

The captains and prefects wrote a summary of the conference. This is attached to the newsletter.

I have been very impressed with our school leaders. They hold a number of responsibility areas around the school. They all do their jobs in a mature and sensible manner.

Captains- Dania and James

Prefects- Vidhi, Dillon, Emily and Joshua

They have excellent ideas as leaders, such as writing articles in the future newsletter. This is an excellent initiative and we look forward to reading their articles.

Chess Club

Chess Club will commence again on Friday week at lunchtime in the library. Students from Years 1 to 6 (for Term 1) can come along and learn to play chess in school competitions.

Ms La Faber will be coordinating the chess club this year.

Student Allergies

We have a few students at the school who have allergies to a variety of foods - most notably peanuts, shellfish and egg.

It is appreciated if you do not send your child with nut based products for recess and lunch.

For students who have allergies, eating or even touching these foods can have serious consequences. For this reason, students must not share food - even if the intention is to be kind.

Kindergarten talk

There will be a Kindergarten talk next Monday evening at 6.00pm in the Library. All Kindergarten parents are very welcome to come along and hear information about Kindergarten.

Special thanks

1. Mr & Mrs Sakalaki for kindly framing at no cost to PEPS the beautiful NRL jersey. This was auctioned off at last year's Presentation Night.
2. To the many parents who donated their time to work on the Red day in Week 4- Rizwana Badar, Lynette Gore, Vicki Rhodes Elene Marathocobitis and May (Jack 3/4L). It was a great success! Thank you.
3. Mrs Anner for attending in-services to learn the music for our recorder ensemble at the Opera House this year.
4. To Ms Murray, Mr Bohannon and Mrs Astill for helping at the District Swimming Carnival yesterday.

Buddies

Year 6 students have worked closely with Kindergarten this year in a "Buddies Program". The program has been a great success. Year 6 students have assisted Kindergarten in the classroom and playground in many different ways. This has helped make the transition to school a very smooth one for our Kindergarten students. It has also developed the leadership skills of our Year 6 students.

60th Birthday Celebrations

PEPS will be celebrating 60 years this year. We have decided to celebrate it by looking at PEPS over the last 60 years and how it has developed and changed. PEPS birthday celebrations will be held during Education Week in Term 2, Tuesday, 26th May, 2009 from 10.30 am.

If you have memorabilia in regards to the history of the school or if you attended PEPS or know someone who did, can you please contact me at school.

Special thanks to Mrs Bardwell and staff for coordinating this special event.

Term 2 dates

Please note that at the beginning of term 2, students return to school on Wednesday April 29th. Note that Monday April 27th is not a public holiday, but is the final day of the school holidays. Staff will return for a School Development Day on Tuesday, and students return on Wednesday, 29th April.

Harmony Day

On Saturday, March 21 it is National Harmony Day. This year Harmony Day has a new logo and the theme is "Everyone Belongs"

At PEPS, we are celebrating Harmony on Thursday, March 19. All students are encouraged to wear something comfortable that is ORANGE on that day, e.g. an orange cap or hat, an orange bandana, an orange T-shirt, orange shorts, orange socks, etc.

Harmony Day provides young Australians with the opportunity to think about the different cultures, languages and lifestyles that make up our community. The official Harmony Day colour is ORANGE.

T shirts can be purchased from the school. A note will soon go out concerning the costs of these shirts.

We applied for a Multi-Cultural Grant last year for inter-school visits between Warrimoo School and PEPS. We were successful. The first visit will be on Harmony Day.

Fifty students from Warrimoo School will visit our school and celebrate Harmony Day with us. They will also buddy up with 3M and 3/4L on this day and do special activities with them. 3M and 3/4L will visit Warrimoo School later in the year.

Please don't hesitate to come and see me if you would like to become involved in any way.

A Mackenzie (ESL Teacher)



Canteen is open again!! WHAT GREAT NEWS!!

Our school canteen will be open again this year. A huge thank you to Erica Geddes for offering to be the manager of the canteen. We really appreciate it very much.

Erica will be opening the canteen on Mondays and Fridays, commencing on the 13th March.

If you would like to help in the canteen please contact the school office. All help will be greatly appreciated.

General School Contributions

A letter explaining the costs relating to your child's/children's education was sent out with the last newsletter.

Special thanks to the parents who have paid their fees already and to the parents who have donated extra money to the school. Much appreciated.

As explained in the letter, the teachers do not use any set text books at PEPS. Instead they use a variety of resources to prepare lessons for their classes.

This puts greater demand on photocopy costs which are a huge expense to the school. The school also provides all of the students' exercise books, maths and reading resources, stationery, art and craft supplies.

Some schools charge parents compulsory fees for this. We do not at PEPS. Instead, we ask for general school contributions to cover these costs (\$45 single child, \$55 for a family).

It would be greatly appreciated if parents could contribute this amount to assist the school to purchase resources for every student. Parents are able to pay any of the above fees in instalments if this is easier. They can make an extra contribution too if they wish to.

Voluntary Contributions Update

Contributed to this
year's project -

\$ 3,156.00

Clean Up Australia day

Last Friday the school participated in Clean Up Australia Day by cleaning up the school grounds at PEPS. We appreciated the students' efforts. The school grounds were immaculate after their great efforts. Thank you to all the staff and students. Special thanks to Mrs Malik for coordinating the activity.

Linda Webb (Principal)

Congratulations to all the students listed for achieving their awards.

Caught You Being Good

Tereina 4/5B	Yanni 2S
Connor 5V	Karina 5V
Thomas 2S	William 1C
Jope 2S	Kavya 2S
Andreyra 4/5B	Wesley 3V
Ayanda 2S	Emily 2S
Sophie 1R	Bilal 1R
Zahra 3M	Sam 5V
Sophie 4/5B	William 1R
Joey 1/2M	

P&C news

Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on March 16th @ 7.30 pm. (AGM followed by regular meeting)

At this meeting people give reports for the last year. Then all the executive positions (President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary) are declared vacant, nominations are taken, and people are voted in to fill these positions for the following year. A normal meeting then follows. Baby-sitting is provided. It's a great opportunity to find out what is happening in the school

Entertainment book

You will be receiving an order form for the fabulous Entertainment Book. These books are incredible value. You can make huge savings on a wide range of entertainment venues such as restaurants, cafes, movies, theatres, the Zoo, the Aquarium, ice-skating, and accommodation. If you are unfamiliar with the Entertainment book there will be a sample copy at the Office for you to see. They only cost \$55, and the school gets \$11. The order form and money need to be in by Monday 30th March. The books will be at the school by 7th April and you can use them straight away, just in time for the school holidays! There will even be a few bonus vouchers because the orders are being organised so early in the year.

Easter eggs

Instead of having an Easter Raffle, this year we will be having an Easter Egg drive. The eggs will be going home on the 18th March with the next newsletter, and money will be due back on Friday 3rd April. People who sell eggs will be given a ticket (or tickets, depending on how many eggs they sell) for a raffle with terrific prizes. We will be needing a few helpers to sort the chocolates, so if you have any time available on Monday 16th, Tues 17th or Wed 18th March please let us know by putting your contact details in the P&C box in the Office foyer. (No, we are not expecting it to take 3 days! We just need to know when people are available to help so that it can be organised)

Stuck on you

It's a really good idea to label all your child's possessions, and last week you would have received an order form for Stuck On You labels. When you order with them, the school receives a percentage. Just make sure that you include the school's name on the order form.

Do you have any spare pots for plants or seedlings? Mothers Day is slowly approaching. If anyone has small to medium size seedling or plant pots they no longer want, could they donate them to the school? We like to have plants available for both Mothers and Fathers day stalls as the children love to buy them.

Canteen News

The P&C is happy to announce that the **CANTEEN WILL RE-OPEN** on FRI 13th March.

This is very exciting for both students and the school as we the parents can raise more money through selling food to the children. This money is carefully guarded and presented to the school for important needs; educational programs, computers, etc

Erica Geddes, (mother of Bianca KA) will be the new **CANTEEN MANAGER**.

We thank her for applying for the volunteer position and offer her all our support.

If you would like to help in the canteen as well, please leave your details at the front office. Canteen work is rewarding and allows you to form friendships.

Our school menu always follows the School Canteen Healthy Eating Strategy of food classification into RED, AMBER and GREEN; Red being the least healthy and Green being the healthiest category.

For the rest of TERM 1, the canteen will be offering a **SPECIAL CHOICE MEAL DEAL**. The first lunch order will be available for FRI 13th.March. All students will receive the Term 1 choices of lunch orders **in the next few days. PLEASE REMEMBER TO LOOK IN YOUR CHILD'S BAG FOR A MESSAGE**

Many thanks to Erica and to Ian Bruggerman for all the work they have done in helping to get the Canteen ready. Thanks also to the following people for working on the last Red Food Day stall: Rizwana Badar, Lynette Gore Vicki Rhodes Elene Marathocabitis, and May. Your help is very much appreciated.

Merit Award Recipients

Merit award

Leo 3/4L
 Tajmida 3/4L
 Alicia 1/2M
 Aavesh 6D
 Rosie 1C
 Zohhal 4/5B
 Neilob 6D
 Collin 3/4L
 Alexander 4/5B
 Vidhi 6D
 Tahsin 1R
 Thomas 1R
 Divya 1/2M
 Rupesh 4/5B
 Baris 6D
 Flavia 1R
 Dillon 6D
 Dania 6D
 Levana 3M

Banner

Dalia 6D

Principal Award

Kirsten 1/2M
 Jarrod 1/2M
 Coskun 3/4L
 Parisa 4/5B
 Al-Aabid 4/5B
 Anagha 1/2M

Honour Award

Zyntaurus 5R
 Samin 6D
 Ella 4/5B
 Coskun 3/4L
 Parisa 4/5B
 Anagha 1/2M
 Levana 3M
 Roya 4/5B

Pennant

Angela 5V
 Wesley 4/5B
 Uzma 6D
 Zyntaurus 5R
 Tereina 4/5B
 Zohhal 4/5B

UNIFORM SHOP - ORDERS FOR JACKETS 2009

*The Uniform Shop will be selling optional **waterproof flying jackets** by pre-paid order. These items are not kept in stock, but we have some size samples for trying on.*

They are royal blue, nylon lined with polar fleece, zip front, two external pockets, one internal pocket, concealed hood. No school emblem. Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16. \$28 each.

Order due dates:

Wednesday 18 March (Term 1, week 8)

Wednesday 29 April (Term 2, week 1)

Wednesday 10 June (Term 2, week 7)

Please visit the shop to place your order, or complete the order form below and send to the Office (if ordering by this method, please send in your order before the due date). Orders should arrive within a week of these dates, and will be sent home with your child.

JACKET ORDER FORM

Child's Name:

Class:

Phone:

Size	Quantity	\$ Each	\$ Total
\$ Total:			

Prefects' Page

The 2009 National Young Leader's Day

Dania - Captain
Vidhi -Prefect
Emily -Prefect

James –Captain
Dillon -Prefect
Joshua -Prefect



Mrs Webb and the prefects visited the Sydney Entertainment Centre with 7000 other prefects and leaders from all around Sydney on Monday 23rd of February. We went there to listen to lectures from important leaders.

We arrived at school by 7:30am and because the bus was late, we left around 8:15am. The bus was a private mini bus. It took a while for us to arrive at the Entertainment Centre. When we arrived there were children from many schools arriving. The people who came were: James Roy, an author who writes children's books, Bridie Carter who is an actress on McLeod's Daughters, Natalie Cook who plays volleyball and has won many medals in the Olympics and Mark Beretta who is a sports reporter on Sunrise. All of the people who came talked about themselves being a leader.

After every speaker a movie clip was shown about how to be a better leader.

On the way back we had a smaller community bus that was supported by Parramatta Leagues Club. While we were coming back to school we were talking about other things we could do to help the school as prefects.

In the Entertainment Centre (7000 children)



We all had a FUNtastic day. Thank You for taking us for taking us Mrs Webb. We really appreciated it. This has made us realise what we can do to make the school a better place than it already is.



Natalie Cook



Bridie Carter



James Roy



Mark Beretta