

Newsletter

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Find us at: Brabyn Street Parramatta NSW 2150



Issue 5

1st April, 2009

Dear Parents,

What a Success

Harmony Day

Harmony Day was held on Thursday, 19th March. It was a great success! Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 looked so colourful dressed in their orange T - Shirts as they participated in Harmony Day activities.

As a part of our Multicultural Grant, Years 3 and 4 from Warrimoo Public School visited our school and buddied up with 3/4L and 3M. They had an enjoyable time participating in so many exciting Harmony Day activities, such as henna hand painting, listening to bi-lingual stories, doing craft and sporting activities. They participated in eating orange food for Harmony Day at recess and an international feast at lunchtime. The Parramatta Sun took a photo of both schools for the paper. The photo has been printed in the Parramatta Sun. I have included the picture below.

Warrimoo School's Principal, staff and students were so positive about PEPS and very appreciative of the excellent day they had with us.

3/4L and 3M will be visiting Warrimoo School later in the year.

I would like to thank Mrs MacKenzie, Ms La Faber, Mr McShane, Miss Wilson, Mrs Bohannon, Mrs Osborne, Mrs Joannou, Mrs Geddes (the canteen manager), the many parents who helped on the day and the parents of 3/4L and 3M who supplied the delicious food for the international feast.

We have included a collage of photos taken on Harmony Day for you to keep. Thanks Miss Wilson for making the collage.



School Contributions

We have now received \$4842. Fantastic!! Thank you very much to everyone who has paid and/or made extra kind donations. We aim to raise \$10,000, so every dollar counts.

We would really appreciate receiving your school contributions if you have not paid. Every contribution counts and will be very much appreciated!

Easter Hat Parade

Everyone is invited to our Easter Hat Parade on the last day of the term, Thursday, 9th April from 1.45pm – 3.15pm. This will be a fun activity which the students will enjoy.

Students will make an Easter hat or poster at home and bring it to school from next Monday. Students can wear mufti. They do not need to bring a coin donation. We may even have a surprise visit from someone very special on the day. Please come along and join in this fun activity.

Everyone is very welcome!



60th Anniversary

This year the school is celebrating the 60th Anniversary of its establishment in 1949. We will be holding an Open Day on Tuesday 26th May to coincide with Education Week celebrations.

Some ideas to celebrate the event are:

1. A Birthday Celebrations theme to celebrate the past 60 years of education at PEPS.
2. A display of photos and memorabilia in the Library.
3. A time capsule to be 'sunk' containing an item or two from each class.
4. Ex-students/parents invited back to speak about the early days of PEPS.
5. A special assembly with a theme of PEPS journey of time from 1949 to present.
6. A Games Afternoon for the students K-6.

If you have any memorabilia to go into the display, can you please label it and send it to school this term or next. Some families will have old photos and other items which could go in the display. Would you please check at home.

You may also like to tell any ex-students of the plans. Can any ex-students or parents interested in speaking about the early days of the school, contact our office and leave their details.



HAPPY 60th BIRTHDAY PEPS!!!

Staff news

Mrs Russo will be on maternity leave from the beginning of next term. We wish her every happiness as she enjoys time at home with her new baby.

Mrs Belamy will be taking Mrs Russo's class until she returns. Mrs Belamy is a very experienced teacher and has been highly recommended to us by other schools.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thank you to all the parents who came along for parent /teacher interviews last Wednesday afternoon/night. We were very impressed with the large number of parents who attended.

We received very positive comments from both staff and parents in regards to the interviews. Many preferred holding the interviews earlier in the year compared to Term 3. Parents also appreciated the flexibility of the hours this year to accommodate working parents.

Special thanks to the staff who put in many hours preparing and then holding interviews last Wednesday. Much appreciated.

We are committed to providing open and continuous communication between school and home and the parent teacher interview is just one way for this to occur. We encourage parents to contact us at any time you have concerns or issues that you wish to discuss.

Congratulations 5V

Included in this newsletter are four examples of the excellent acrostic poems written by 5V students about Harmony Day. They have done a fantastic job. Well done 5V and Mrs Venetsanos.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be conducted for all students in Years 3 and 5 on 12th and 13th May. This is the second year of its implementation across Australia.

The assessments provide valuable information to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching programs and enables teachers to target areas for improvement. An information sheet for parents of students in Years 3 and 5 is included with this newsletter.

Special thanks

1. To the parents who helped last Friday with Red Day and have helped in the canteen. The Canteen and Red Day have been very successful.
I have received so many positive comments about the canteen. We still need more parents to help in the canteen. If you can spare an hour or two on a Monday or Friday, please let the office know or Erica Geddes (Canteen manager).
2. To Lynne James and Shirley Shao for helping in the library regularly and covering library books for the students to use.

Maintenance Work

1. The school has purchased a new air conditioner to replace a broken one in 1R.
2. The new office/kitchen area for the OOSH is nearly finished. Special thanks to the Department for paying for most of this. The mirrors in the hall have been removed for OH&S reasons. The Department kindly painted this wall for us.
3. The foyer is in the process of being painted by Gordan, our General Assistant. One wall will be used to display the many certificates and awards PEPS receives during the year. We are very proud of our excellent achievements.

Years 5 and 6 Camp

I visited the students at Camp Yarramundi. The students were having so much fun. Despite the rain they were thoroughly enjoying themselves. Their behaviour was excellent. Special thanks to Ms La Faber and Mr McShane for taking the students away. Many extra hours have been put in by both teachers at camp and we appreciate it very much. Thanks to Mrs Douglas too for the many hours she spent organising the camp.



How exciting!

Dean (3M) and Dillon (6D) are in the Granville Waratahs Soccer team. The boys recently met Harry Kewell and Bill Anderson. Harry is a key player for the Australian Soccer Team and Bill is a retired Australian Soccer player and Olympic Team player.

School holidays

The first day of the holidays will be Friday 10th April (Good Friday) and the last day of the holidays is Tuesday 28th April. School resumes for all students on Wednesday 29th April. Tuesday 28th April is a pupil-free Staff Development Day for all public schools.

I wish all families a very a very enjoyable and safe holiday.

Linda Webb

Principal

Coming Events

Thursday 9 th April	Easter Hat Parade
Thursday 9 th April	Mufti day
Friday 10 th April	Good Friday Public Holiday
Wed 29 th April	Term 2 begins for all students

Caught You Being Good

Emily 2S	Divya 1/2M	Emily 2S
Ella 4/5B	Natalie 1C	Rosie 1C
Kaliyah 2S	Faraz 3/4L	Justin 3M
Lara 5V	Matilda 1R	Fred 4/5B
Stefan KK	Juseio KG	Melissa 3/4L
	Lanya 2S	Jane 1/2M
	Khatera 3/4L	Petar KG
		Tukta 5V

Congratulations to all the students listed for achieving their awards.

Merit Award Recipients**Merit**

Nicholas 2S
Sophie 1R
Paris KG
Vikki 1C
Michael 1R
Leon 1C
Kristen 1/2M
Nathaniel 1/2M
Andreya 4/5B
Jarrod 1/2M
Anagha 1/2M
Alvin 6D
Stefania KG
Coen 4/5B
Amisha 1R
Shiven 1/2M
Flavia 1R
Darshini 5V
Iman 5V
Juseio KG

Mansha KG
Aavesh 6D
Dalia 6D
Deearna 1C
William 1C
Hiba 4/5B

Honour

Dillon 6D
Helen 4/5B
Henry 1/2M
Parisa 4/5B
Hiba 4/5B

Principal's Award

Angela 4/5B

Pennant

Helen 4/5B

Special**P&C news****Canteen**

The canteen will be open on Mondays and Fridays at lunchtime and recess. The canteen volunteers have worked very hard to get together the PEPS 2009 canteen menu. The menu was sent home with newsletters. If you haven't received a menu please contact the front office for a copy. Please make sure that all orders are placed by 9.30am for same day orders. The menu will also be on the website shortly, in the "Notes" section.

Volunteers needed

A canteen is such a tremendous asset to the school when it works well, but in order for it to do so, it needs helpers! **If you can help in the Canteen, either on Red**

Food days, or on any Monday or Friday, please let us know! Leave your contact details at the Office or in the P&C box in the Office foyer. (Unfortunately, younger children are not permitted in the Canteen for safety reasons.)

**Easter Eggs Money due back Friday 3rd April**

The Easter Egg drive has proven to be very successful and a great fundraiser for the school. Just a reminder that each bag sells for \$3.

If all the boxes are sold, the school will receive \$2400! also a fabulous hamper from Cadbury's worth over \$100 which will go to the family who sells the most eggs.

On receipt of the Easter Egg money, the children will receive bunny ears. The numbers of bunny ears are limited, to save disappointment please return your money before April 3rd to the front office.

Mothers Day mufti - Friday 1st May (First Friday of Term 2)

Every year the P&C runs a Mother's Day stall. We hold a mufti day (which means that the children wear casual clothes rather than school uniform) and the children are "fined" a donation towards the Mother's Day stall.

Suggestions of donations which are suitable include soaps, perfumes and other "pamper" products; stationery; kitchen and gardening items; plants and jewellery. These are only suggestions; it is really up to you. A gold coin donation is also suitable. (It may seem strange to be mentioning this now, but we like to give parents lots of notice, especially when the mufti day is so early in the next term.)

Mothers Day wrapping morning 1st May (First Friday of Term 2)

We will need at least 10 people to assist in wrapping for the Mothers Day stall. It is an enjoyable way of meeting other parents and a great way of spending the morning. Morning tea will be provided on the day. Even if you can only spend an hour please pop in. Younger children are welcome to come. We look forward to seeing you there!

Spring Carnival – School Fete

This year we will be holding our school fete on Sunday 27th September. It is the first fete the school has held in a very long time. It will be a massive day with rides, food stalls, white elephant stalls, face painting, jumping castles and other entertainment throughout the day. To make it the successful day that we are aiming for, lots and lots of volunteers will be needed for this day, but before then we will need to form a Spring Carnival Committee. Please come and join us when we meet on Tuesday 7th April at 10.30am.

Entertainment Booklets

Entertainment books can still be purchased for anyone who wants one, however, the bonus vouchers will no longer be available. The book itself is full of great savings. The booklet costs \$55.00 and \$11.00 is given

back to the school. Time is running out with these so be quick!

Juleigh Luxford
P&C President

Canteen News

The Canteen is now running efficiently and successfully. A huge thank you to ALL parents who helped on Red Day.

I would also like to thank our 2 new Monday Volunteers – Mohood Huesin & Suzanne.

We now require Volunteers to come forward for Fridays...

As from next term the last Friday of every month the Canteen will have a "SPECIALS DAY" these specials will be advised closer to the dates.

The Canteen will also continually have specials that we will advertise as they happen.

EASTER HAT PARADE

An Easter Hat Parade will be held on Thursday, 9th April, 2009. It will commence at 1.45 pm.

All students K-6 are asked to make an Easter hat or poster at home and bring it in next week. Students can wear mufti on the day.

Everyone is very welcome-parents, guardians, grandparents, preschoolers, neighbours!!



It should be a lot of fun!!

Have a happy Harmony Day
Always play with friends
Respect each other
Make a swan or crane
Of course others belong
Never forget
You're always special

Dance and play
Always respect each other
You + me = us
By Karina Fitzpatrick 5V

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Many thanks are extended to everyone who helped make Harmony Day 2009 such a great success!

Firstly, the Parramatta Sun came and took a photo of a huge "H" for "Harmony" created by the students.

3M, 3/4L and Warrimoo Public School Year 3 & 4 students were treated to a complimentary morning tea of orange cordial, orange jelly, cake and orange quarters. The oranges were donated by Michael, at Oatlands Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, who supports us every year. Thank you to Mrs Geddes who worked very hard to provide Recess for 110 children.

The girls in 3M, 3/4L, 4/5B & 6D were very lucky to have Henna patterns painted on their hands. We are very grateful to Mrs Birudavolu, Mrs Badar, Mrs Patel, Mrs Sambath and Mrs Sirguroh. These mothers also helped us with serving lunch to the hungry students in the Hall. Mrs Bohannon kindly helped with both Recess and lunch preparation and distribution.

The students were excited when the following parents came to read bilingual stories:

Mrs Chopra read a Hindi story to KG.

Mrs Gao & Mrs Jing read a Chinese story to 3M, 3/4L and Warrimoo students in the Hall.

Mrs Liu read a Chinese story to 1C & KK.

Mr Kim read a Korean story to 1/2M.

Lastly, a special thank you to Mrs Webb who toured the school grounds, Mrs La Faber who made orange Harmony Day message chatter boxes and Mr McShane who organised games to play.

We look forward to Harmony Day again next year.

A. MacKenzie
(ESL Teacher)

Please enjoy a selection of Acrostic poems written by students in Year 5 as part of their class recognition of Harmony Day.

Happy Harmony Day

All are welcome because we are multicultural

Respect everyone

Most of us can help others

Other people need more help than you

None of us deserves to be treated badly

You can help change the world

Delete all the bad things you wanted to do

A day that you will remember

You are like everybody else

By Owen Martin 5V