Dear Parents,

**NEW LANDSCAPED WALKWAY**
Finally and with great excitement, we were able to open our new landscaped walkway on Monday. Our builders, Urban Landscape Projects, have constructed a wonderful, active space leading from the asphalt to the back grass and the students are enjoying the fun of climbing boulders, walking the balance beams and sitting on the timber decks. The walkway is a wonderful addition to our school and we look forward to lots of use from this new space.

**SCHOOL EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK – PARENT SURVEY**
It is once again the time of year when we are seeking community feedback about the education services we supply and the organisation of our school systems. In 2015, we are asking questions linked to the new School Excellence Framework, a model of excellence developed by the Department of Education in 2014 to support schools aspiring to excel at all levels. There are 28 questions within the survey and the more responses we receive, the more relevant the feedback will be. The URL below will link you to the survey, or if it is more convenient, simply scan the QR code below to access the survey. I thank the community in anticipation of your participation in this important initiative.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LLQSCWR

**WESTPAC – P&C SUPPORT PROGRAM**
Parramatta East Public School is pleased to advise the school community that the P&C have accepted an invitation to be the first school in Western Sydney invited to be part of the Westpac Bank Home Loan Referral Program. Essentially, the program is a community reward initiative whereby Westpac will pay a commission to the PEPS P&C Association whenever a person mentions our school when signing up for a new Westpac home loan. It's that simple! Westpac have also kindly agreed to sponsor our P&C BBQ on presentation night and will be giving away some great prizes including a $200 gift voucher. We look forward to the benefits of this program flowing through to the students throughout next year and thank Mrs Florence Yuen from Westpac for establishing this relationship with the school’s P&C Association.
2015 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE NIGHT
The 2015 Performance Night will be held on Thursday 3rd December, commencing at 6:30pm. The class performances will be held outside under the large C.O.L.A. At this event, classes will be performing the dances they have been learning through the Footsteps Dance program. A P&C sausage sizzle will be available for families to purchase a beef or halal chicken roll and a drink. Students will be required at school at 6:00pm so that they can get ready for their performances. It should be a great night, and everyone is welcome.

P&C - THANK YOU
The final P&C Meeting for 2015 was held on Monday 16th November. Throughout 2015, the P&C Association has made an outstanding contribution to school with considerable fund-raising and community support. The efforts of the P&C have resulted in additional iPad technology for classrooms, a commitment to construct new covered walkways to the demountable classrooms and various contributions to school resources and the Footsteps Dance program.

I would like to thank the 2015 P&C committee for their time, effort and support;
P&C President, Mrs Estella Machado, Vice President & Fund–Raising Co-ordinator, Mrs Anh Danh, Treasurer, Mr Vishal Agarwal and secretary, Mrs Linda Dunwoodie.
The school is very grateful for the fabulous support of our P&C and we look forward to working closely with you again in 2016.

SCHOOL LEADERS – 2016 SCHOOL PREFECTS
Our recent school leader election has resulted in six students from Year 5 being elected to become our prefects for 2016. These children were chosen from a pool of excellent candidates. Two will be announced as captains at the Presentation Assembly on Tuesday 8th December. The 2016 Student Leaders are; Tijana, Mila, Lana, Wesley, Kai Nan and Mohammad. Congratulations to all these students!

I have been very impressed with the captains and prefects this year and would like to thank them for the outstanding manner in which they always conduct themselves. Special thanks to our 2015 Captains Paris and Trenza and prefects Shayma, Lillian, Enrique and Sinan. I continue to find these young leaders invaluable in the assistance and support around the school. On the many occasions they have represented the school it has been done with respect, pride and a strong sense of responsibility. The role these students play in our school community is very important, and often quite demanding of their time.

END OF YEAR – SCHOOL PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY
The 2015 School Presentation Assembly will be held on Tuesday 8th December at 9:45am. Once again this year, the awards will be presented at a formal assembly in the school hall. Parents of those children receiving awards will be invited to attend the assembly with invitations to be sent home this week.

END OF YEAR SCHOOL DISCO
The 2015 Christmas School Disco will be held on Wednesday 9th December. There will be two stages to the disco with Kindergarten to Year 3 commencing at 5:00 and ending at 6:00 and Years 4 – 6 from 6:15 to 7:30pm. The disco is free and all PEPS students are encouraged to attend. If your child is enrolled in after-school care, please make arrangements with the coordinators to ensure your child is permitted to attend the disco.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION
The 2015 Year 6 Graduation will be held on Monday 14th December. The graduation will be held in the school hall with dinner commencing at 6:00pm followed by fun activities organised by the Year 6 teachers. The formalities of the evening will include a presentation of the Year 6 graduation packages and all parents of our Year 6 students are welcome to attend at 7:45pm. We would love to see you there.

PARENT HELPERS MORNING TEA
As a way of saying thank you to the parents who have worked around the school in so many different capacities, I would like to invite our parent helpers to a Thank You Morning Tea on Thursday 10th December. The morning tea will be held in the PA room, commencing at 11:15am. This invitation is extended to members of the P&C, uniform shop, classroom volunteers, library and sport volunteers, scripture teachers and anyone else who has been actively working within the school during the year. We hope you can all join us for this special event.
RUBY – PSSA CRICKET REPRESENTATION
Recently one of our students, Ruby, was off representing the Sydney West Region as a member of the PSSA Girls Cricket team at the State Championships which were held in Dubbo this year. The Sydney West team was placed 5th overall and was the second top performing public school team in the State. Ruby bowled and batted particularly well and made a wonderful contribution to her team’s success. She now proudly wears the NSW ‘baggy blue’ and we wish her ongoing success with her cricket. Well done Ruby!

RETURNING TO SCHOOL 2016 - Important information
*If you are going on a holiday overseas and will not be returning to PEPS until after the start of the new school year, can you please let us know in writing via email or a letter?* We will then reserve a place for your child next year. Final numbers for total enrolments are critical as they directly affect classroom formation, staffing and building allocations. If you have moved or you are moving and your child will be attending a different school next year, please inform the office of this as soon as possible: email - parramatte-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

END OF YEAR – SCHOOL PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY
The 2015 School Presentation Assembly will be held on Tuesday 8th December at 9:45am. Once again, the presentation of awards will take place at a formal K-6 assembly. Parents of those children receiving awards will be invited to attend the assembly with invitations to be sent home once award recipients are finalised.

Mr Robert Ieroianni
Principal

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WEEK 8 - THE PRINCIPAL’S PROBLEM:

Junker is an old car. Racer is a sporty, new car. One day, the two cars began to move down the road together. Junker crawled along, but Racer sped ahead. In the time it took Junker to travel 2 kilometres Racer travelled 5 kilometres. The two cars kept travelling that way. Junker travel 12 kilometres and stopped. How far did Racer travel in the same time?

ANSWER: __________________________________________

NAME: ________________________________________

CLASS: ______________

WORKING OUT: (optional)

Please return your answer to the Principal’s Problem box in the front office.

Performance Night

It’s that time again when you are invited to join us for a fun filled night of talent and entertainment. P&C will be running a BBQ, at which the Christmas hampers will be drawn. For those of you who have been a part of this tradition year after year you would appreciate our request to show our students how much you value the efforts that they have made to put this night on for you.
In the past we have had a lot of problems with noise both during performances and announcements being made. We take pride in teaching our students that a good audience is one that is quiet and respectful of all performers and the host. We ask that you also join us in teaching good audience etiquette and be quiet during all performances and announcements.

We would also like to remind you that all children are your responsibility, so we hope you will encourage respectful behaviour from them at all times. In order for these community events to continue we need to show how much we enjoy them by respecting the efforts that everyone goes to make them happen.

Performance Night is on Thursday 3rd December 2015. The evening will start at 6.30pm and conclude at around 8pm. All gates will be closed at 8.30pm so please be mindful of the time so you don't end up spending the night at school.

We look forward to seeing you at this very special event, supporting not just your children but everyone at our school.

Thank you
Mrs Curtis

The Quest Competition Recount

On the 16th and 17th of November, three students accompanied by a teacher went to a competition called ‘The Quest’ at Abottsleigh School for Girls. Their names were Alex, Wilson, Jonah and the teacher was Mrs Chandler.

On the 16th of November we arrived at school at 7:45am and took about one hour to get to Abottsleigh. The school was very crowded with people from other schools which made us nervous. The first day was actually just a preparation day for the real event. The preparation included studying for Science, Mathematics and English. When we came back to Parramatta at 4:00pm, we were tired but determined to win the competition.

Then on the 17th of November we followed the same procedure where we arrived at 7:45am, taking about one hour to get there. When we started, everyone rushed to their designated classrooms to be ready. Our first test was Science where we had to reflect a light ray with only a few objects. Our team had good ideas but lacked in teamwork, which at the end made us lose some important points. We had a break then hastily moved off to the English classroom. We had to read an allegory, which is a story with a meaning, and answer questions. Then we had to create our own allegory using a storyboard. The Mathematics worksheet was about the topic of vectors and we had to finish a six page booklet. We finished on time and our group thought we did well.

Later it was time for the presentation. We had to wait in their school hall for the teachers to come up and announce the winners. After fifteen minutes of suspense, we were told that everyone did a good job and announced the top three teams. Unfortunately we didn’t win but came 5th overall. Everyone in the Parramatta East team tried their best and that’s all that matters.

By Jonah 4/5M
Calling for volunteers – we need your help!

Our students really enjoy participating in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program and to keep this program running we need your help. In 2016, the program requires parent volunteer School Banking Coordinator’s to help facilitate the banking and distribution of School Banking rewards. You will be required Wednesday mornings from 9:30am to 11:30am on a fortnightly basis. Full training and support will be provided. Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they develop vital saving skills and also help our school with fundraising.

Please indicate your interest in volunteering for this great program by filling in the tear off section below and returning it to the front office.

Yes, I would like to help with School Banking!
Name: __________________________________________
Phone/Email: _____________________________________

P&C News

Christmas Raffle Tickets
THANK YOU to everyone that has donated items towards our Christmas Raffle!! Don’t forget to hand in your raffle ticket stubs with money by Thursday 3rd December when we will be drawing the Christmas Raffle at the Performance Evening. You can check out our large hamper prize at the office and incentive prizes will be given to the families that sell the most tickets. These include a Tablet, Digital Photo Frame and Movie Tickets!

Performance Evening Sausage Sizzle
The P&C will be holding a sausage sizzle during Performance Evening on Thursday 3rd December. There is a Halal option available. Sausage sizzles will be $3 each and drinks $2 each. Please bring your money on the night so you don’t miss out!

School Banking
Please note that the last day of school banking for 2015 will be on Wednesday 9th December. If you are eligible to order a reward item and would like it before the school holidays, please make sure that you put your order in by this date. Students that are eligible to order will find a white rewards order slip in their deposit book. Please complete and return by the 9th December School Banking day.

General Meeting
Thank you to all that attended our last P&C meeting of the year. Special thanks to Mrs Curtis for the PBL Program presentation and Florence from Westpac Bank. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday 16th February 2016.

Linda Dunwoodie
P&C Secretary