Dear Parents,

2015 NAPLAN RESULTS
The results of the 2015 NAPLAN program were released to schools last Monday and, once again, our Year 3 and Year 5 students have achieved excellent results. Many students are demonstrating proficiency in all areas of NAPLAN. However, the most impressive data was the student growth information, which shows over 86% of students making expected growth from Year 3 to Year 5 in almost every aspect of NAPLAN. This is a very pleasing result. The NAPLAN Parent Reports will be sent home by this coming Friday. Please take some time to read through the report with your child as this feedback may assist your child in focussing their learning goals for the remainder of 2015. If you would like to discuss the NAPLAN report with your child’s class teacher, please feel free to contact the school for an appointment.

AN UPDATE ON L3 – LITERACY, LANGUAGE, LEARNING
Since the commencement of the school year and as a major component of the school plan, Parramatta East has been working hard on the implementation of our L3, (Literacy, Language, Learning) program across Kindergarten, Year 1 and 1/2M. The teachers within these classes have experienced a significant level of training, professional reading, peer observations and reporting to tutors as they continue towards accreditation as L3 Qualified teachers and the results of this hard-work and commitment are already filtering through to student achievement levels. The most recent L3 data indicates 72% of Year 1 students and 100% of Year 2 students from 1/2M are already achieving reading levels which we were expecting for the end of the year. A brilliant result!

ENTERING AND EXITING THROUGH THE SCHOOL GATES
Parramatta East is a school which maintains student safety as its highest priority and as a result we have introduced a system of locking our school gates each school day from 9:30am until 3:00pm. Access to the school is still available through the front gate on Albert St East. This gate will be closed, but not locked. If parents are entering or leaving the school during these hours, may I ask that all visitors enter the front office before approaching any other parts of the school. Your understanding and assistance with these procedures is greatly appreciated.

BIKE SAFETY AT PARRAMATTA EAST
Remaining with the issue of student safety, I would like to remind students and parents that riding bikes within the school boundary falls outside our school rules and is an unsafe practice, especially before and after school. Riders are required to dismount their bike at the school gates and walk them into school. They may then hop on and ride away once they exit the school grounds. Following these procedures should ensure accidents and issues between riders and pedestrians are minimised.

CELEBRATING THE ARTS – RIVERSIDE THEATRE
The Celebrating the Arts Concert will be held Parramatta Riverside Theatre on the evening of Tuesday 1st September. This year, we will present and increased repertoire of performers showcasing the Recorder Ensemble, the PEPS Dance Group, School Band and our primary choir will perform as part of the Schools Combined Choir. I would like to thank the students and teachers, Mrs Handley, Miss Allan, Miss Mourad, Miss Woodward, Mrs Anner and Mr Wilson for their outstanding work preparing the children and hope lots of PEPS families will be at the concert to enjoy a wonderful show.

INTERRELATE PROGRAM ‘Moving Into Teen Years’ – YEAR 6
Our four week ‘Moving Into Teen Years’ Interrelate program for Year 6 commenced today. Interrelate is similar to Life Education, only it covers learning issues around sex education, puberty and life as a teenager. This program is being delivered by trained specialists and is highly recommended for all Year 6 students.
BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS – BOOKS LIGHT UP OUR WORLD
Each year Parramatta East Public School celebrates the love of reading throughout Book Week. This year, Book Week will be celebrated from Monday 24th August. Our annual Book Fair will operate in the Library and our Book Parade will be held on Tuesday 25th August. This year’s theme for Book Week is ‘Books Light Up Our World’.

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE finishes this Friday at 12 midnight. Enter your data now!

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2016
With Term 3 moving forward very quickly, I would like to remind parents that enrolments for Kindergarten 2016 are now due to be returned to school. If you live in our school catchment area and have a child who will be starting Kindergarten next year, please visit the front office for an enrolment form. This will ensure the school can maintain places for all our in-area students. I would like to thank those families that have already visited the school and completed their enrolment details.

Mr Robert Ieroianni
Principal

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**P.E.P.S APP - SKOOLBAG**

Skoolbag have made some changes to our app which parents may find useful.

**eForms** – This icon on the bottom menu allows parents to quickly send absence notifications or changed contact details to the school. Just open the form you need, complete the details, sign and click submit. This will then be emailed to the school and updated in our records.

**Archive Alert Entries** – you will have noticed that beside your list of alerts there is an icon of a bin. Once you have read an alert and no longer need it simply click on the bin icon for the alert to be removed from your list.

The Skoolbag app is available for iPhones, iPads, Android and Windows 8 devices like the surface tablet. If you have any issues with the app you can contact Skoolbag directly on 1300 661 031 or support@skoolbag.com.au

**WRITER’S CORNER:**

**My Poem for Peace by Jackie Wu 4/5M**

Peace means no war,  
And means our hearts won’t be broken,  
    My wish is for peace,  
For freedom and harmony,  
To all those who are innocent.

    May peace rule the world,  
And let guns turn to dust,  
    Let peace absorb us,  
Destroy tyranny we must.

    Peace will give us power,  
The power to destroy our past terrors,  
    Let war come to justice,  
And let peace have no error.

    This is my wish,  
A wish for peace,  
    A sign for no war.  
Guns and soldiers,  
Today is not your day,  
We will wish for peace.

**MINTON GOES HOME**

It was almost time for Turtle and I to take off. As Hector blew his scorching, firey, volcano breath into the balloon, I could already see Turtle shivering with fear.

It took me a very long time to convince Turtle to get into the basket. Finally, Turtle lumbered into the basket. It already looked as if he was sick. Then when we were ready, Hector let go of the balloon, and we started to lift off the ground. As we got higher and higher we could see Hector’s head smaller and smaller, until it looked like the top of a matchstick.

Soon we were towering on top of the trees. I felt as if I was the king of everything under me! I felt the soft breeze press against my face. As night fell, I stayed awake and tried to touch the stars.

Soon I could see my little island. So with the help of my friend the seagull, Turtle and I got to land safely.

**By Ulrich Seteone Tenner – Class 1/2M**
Clay Creatures

In this 5 week afterschool program, children will have fun while learning the more technical side of hand building with clay. Techniques will include slab building, coiling, joining, and surface treatment using slips, glazes and design elements. From this they will build and take home an array of colourful creatures and projects that will become your handmade ceramic keepsakes.

Ages: 6 to 11 years
Days: 26th August 2, 9, 16 & 23rd September
Time: 4.30pm to 6 pm
Cost: $100 (sibling discount of $5 off for each child enrolled)

Jemma Roberts: experienced creative arts tutor.
Please complete the attached enrolment form. Your child’s place will be reserved once payment is received. If the class fills (limit of 10) we may possibly program another class on an alternative day. Your place is confirmed once payment via PayPal or online direct deposit is received. Unfortunately we cannot process cash payments.

Shop 5 / 10-14 Hunter Street, Parramatta 2150
Call: 0420 276 891 Email: jroberts.parraclay@gmail.com
Life Education

**Kinder - Harold's Surprise**: Harold and the class are invited to Possum's party in the park. The class helps Harold to pack healthy picnic food and along the way we encounter various situations relating to:

- seeking help from trusted adults
- benefits of physical activity
- body knowledge and self-assertion skills

**Stage 1**

**Harold’s Heroes**: Harold invites the class to join him and his Super-Hero Team. The team’s job is to make our environment a healthier and safer place for everyone. Class members become Super-Heroes by interacting with the A-V and suggesting solutions to the problems. The Super-Heroes fly to the rescue and facilitate the exploration of:

- local environmental and health issues including pollution/passive smoking
- issues around individual need for medicines and their safe use and storage
- emergency (drug) procedures
- safe and unsafe behaviours and environments

**Year 3**

**All Systems Go**: Inside a futuristic machine ‘The Venture’, the Captain and his crew take the class on a tour of the human body. Travelling through the blood we explore the functions of various body parts and how magnificent the human body really is. The students discuss issues and engage in activities centred on:

- Peer Pressure
- Second hand smoking
- Safety with medicines
- Factors that influence the function of body systems

**Year 4 & the 4/5 Cyberwise**:

Explores cybersafety through animation, vox pops of children, relevant scenarios, discussion and problem solving. An interactive, student centred session on:

- Building positive relationships with online and offline friends
- Safe and respectful behaviour online
- Responsible behaviours with ICT
- Strategies for keeping information private online
- Strategies to deal with face to face and cyber bullying
- Exploring the role of bystanders

**Year 5 & 6**

**It’s your call** - It’s Your Call utilises a range of trigger videos, quizzes and problem solving models to cover content such as:

- short term and long term consequences of a range of legal drugs
- factors that influence health and behaviour e.g. friends, media, family, digital communications
- laws relating to the sale, advertising and use of a variety of legal drugs
- skills and strategies to deal with unsafe situations and social dilemmas
- safe and appropriate use of communication technology
**P&C News**

**Mufti-Day**
The P&C will be holding a Mufti-Day on Thursday 27th August. Students can come to school in casual clothing. We ask that you bring in a gold coin donation to assist with the purchase of items for our Father’s Day stall.

**Father’s Day Stall Volunteers**
Our annual Father’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday 3rd September. We would love the help of Volunteers to assist with the selling of gifts. If you have any spare time from 9:00am on the 3rd September, please call or message Anh on 0401334454.

**School Banking Competition**
Don’t forget that School Banking is holding a competition in Term 3. You simply need to make 3 deposits this term and you will be automatically put into the draw to win some cool prizes! To increase your chance of winning, you can also visit www.commbank.com.au/prizeportal and follow the prompts to the entry page. Note: School Banking day is Wednesday. To participate, you will need a Youthsaver account from the Commonwealth Bank. Simply visit your nearest branch with photo ID and your child’s birth certificate or passport.

**P&C General Meeting**
Thank you to all the parents that attended the P&C meeting last Monday night. A special thank you to Mrs Gardner and Mrs Sparks for delivering an informative presentation on the Reading and Recovery Program. Our next P&C Meeting will be held on Monday 19th October at 7:00pm in the School Library.

**Commonwealth Bank School Banking Update – Please Read**
Concerns have been raised regarding the ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ reward item due to the inclusion of four button batteries that can be accessed by unscrewing the back of the torch. Whilst this reward has been independently tested and deemed to meet relevant product standards the Commonwealth Bank have made the decision to proactively withdraw this item from the School Banking Rewards Program. Parents/Guardians are requested to dispose of any ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torches’ their child may have already received as part of the Rewards Program. Students who have previously received a ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ are welcome to redeem an alternative reward item. Please submit your request on a note with your next School Banking deposit.

Linda Dunwoodie
P&C Secretary
A Night With the Stars – Thursday 5th November 2015

A Night With the Stars is our school’s annual music and performing arts showcase. Both choirs, all recorder students, both bands and the dance group will be performing in the concert! We will also be having individual items, so please set the date aside and plan to be there for an entertaining evening.

All instrumental, singing, dance, drama and speech students are encouraged to audition for this event, from Kindy to Year 6. Now is the time to start planning and preparing your audition so you are ready on the day.

Dates:
Week 1 - Friday 9th October - Audition forms (below) MUST be returned to the office by this date. Instrumentalists and Singers who need an accompaniment must include their backing music (CD or piano score) with their audition application. Due to the tight time-frame, late entries will not be considered.

Week 2 – Thursday 15th October – Auditions will be held and permission notes handed to successful students. Week 3 – All permission notes completed and returned. Week 4 or 5? - Rehearsal

Week 5 - Thursday 5th November – The Night With the Stars Concert! Students arrive 6:00pm. Concert - starts 6:30pm and finishes approx. 8:30pm.

Singers – Please choose songs that have lyrics that are appropriate for primary school. Please submit a copy of the lyrics with your audition application. If you are using a CD to sing with, please make sure it is a backing track without lead vocals on it, and supply a copy of this with your application.

Piano accompaniment can be provided by Mrs Handley, if you supply a copy of the piano music with this note.

If you wish to be considered for an individual item or items in A Night with the Stars, please return the form below by Friday 9th October in week 1 next term, and make sure your item is well rehearsed for the audition in week 2.

It will be an exciting night for all!

Mrs Anner and Mrs Spiteri

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A Night With the Stars Audition - Individual Item

Please return this form by Friday 9th October.

Include any accompanying music – CD or Piano score if required. Singers, please submit a copy of the lyrics with this form.

Student Name/s: ____________________________________________ Class: __________________________

Type of item: Instrument / Dance / Singing / Act etc: ________________________________________________

Title and Composer:
______________________________________________________________________________________________

Approximate Length: ________________________________________________________________

Do you need a CD or piano accompaniment? Yes / No
If Yes, please provide piano music or CD backing for the auditions with this form.

Signed: _______________________________________________ (Parent/Caregiver) Date: ________________