WHAT A WEEK

What a lovely bunch of new kindies – hardly any tears and most of them were quite settled as they got used to school expectations.

The parents were very good too at the ‘tea and tissues’ meeting – we used hardly any tissues at all!

Our School swimming carnival went very well although it was pretty cold in the pool. Results are in this newsletter. Ribbons were handed out on Friday.

Congratulations to all the swimmers who participated in this event.

Thanks to the parents who came up to help us with some gardening on Thursday. It was very helpful and gives us a good start in getting our gardens back in shape.

Gym lessons started this week! This year we have a new provider but the children seemed to be having a great time!

Assembly next week is an important event where we provide children with the opportunity to practice a range of important skills.

We really appreciate parents with preschoolers making sure that they are well supervised at assembly.

This year our school has been selected to participate in the “Early Action for Success “program. This means that we have an Instructional Leader who will work with our teachers to improve student results in Literacy and Numeracy.

Our leader is Toula Kotamanidis and we are very happy to welcome her to our school for the next 2 years. The teachers are looking forward to working with her.

Scripture lessons start next week so please make sure that you have returned the note indicating your preference. If at any time parents would like to change their choice of scripture class please let us know in writing.

Coming up next week is our first charity event for the year. An information note has gone home and further details are in this newsletter.

If you can support this event it will be a way to develop kindness in everyone.

Dorothy Cass

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A HEALTHY LUNCH EACH DAY?

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Feb 12</td>
<td>Assembly 2.15pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Sweetheart Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>GYMSPORT</td>
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<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<th>Week 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Feb 18</td>
<td>Dragons Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Feb 19</td>
<td>Life Education</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Feb 20</td>
<td>GYMSPORT</td>
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<th>Week 5</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>Feb 23</td>
<td>Life Education</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>Assembly 2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>GYMSPORT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>Election BBQ and Cake stall</td>
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<th>Week 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>Gardening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>GYMSPORT</td>
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<th>Week 7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Assembly 2.15pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>GYMSPORT</td>
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<th>Week 8</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Water Safety Day 8.30am</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>Gardening</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>GYMSPORT</td>
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<td>Harmony Day/White Ribbon Day</td>
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<th>Week 9</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>Young Leaders Ex S3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Earth Hour, GYMSPORT</td>
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<th>Week 10</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>Last day of term</td>
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311owra Cres, Primbee. Ph: 4274 1974  Fax: 4276 2837  Email: primbee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  Website: www.primbee-p.school.nsw.edu.au
NOTES SENT HOME

- Gmysport – has started
- Volunteer Expression of Interest 2015
- Water Safety Day – due 2 March
- Getting to and from school safely – due Feb 12
- Change in Medical Details
- Scripture
- Life Ed – notes and money due Feb 18

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is essential if children are to achieve their full potential and increase their career and life options.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of Primary school they will have missed over a year of education.

Parents must ensure:

- Their children attend school every day that it is open
- They provide an explanation for absences within 7 days. The 7 day time frame is a legal requirement of the Education Act.

- Acceptable reasons for absences are:
  - Too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness
  - Is required to attend a serious or urgent family situation (e.g. funeral)
  - Has to go to a special religious ceremony

Our Home School Liaison officer analyses our attendance each term and sends the school a report.

The principal has to follow up any issues that arise as a result of this analysis. Parents are expected to support this process by helping us to improve children’s attendance or ensuring that all absences are explained and fit into the acceptable reasons category.

It is important that parents understand that the Department may take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school.

This may be a series of meetings or prosecution in the Local Court resulting in a fine of up to $11 000.

VOLUNTEERS

We have 10 parents who have responded to this request which is great.

I will start training sessions for those who need it soon and get back to you about what class and job we need.

Volunteer information forms are available outside the office throughout the year so that whenever you find that you are available to help us you can let us know.

We are fully aware that many parents are working or caring for younger children and not available to help at school but if you are prepared to support teachers at home with little jobs or do some cooking for the canteen or Green Meal Deal, just indicate that on one of the volunteer forms.

We also know that parents may not want to support the school in this way.

Thank you to the parents and carer’s who are able to and want to help this way.

FIRST ASSEMBLY FOR 2015

Our first assembly is Thursday February 12. This is held in the stage 3 classroom at 2:15 p.m.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Thank you to school staff and parent helpers for organizing and running this event!
P&C MEETING

Our first P&C meeting will be Tuesday February 17 at 5:45p.m. This will be the AGM. We would love to see a few more parents for your ideas and help!

PAYMENTS

Please pay the correct amount if at all possible as the office does not have change! Don’t forget the on-line payment option.

REMEMBER OF SCHOOL PROCEDURES

It is vital that parents follow our school procedures for the security of students and to enable school programs to be implemented efficiently.

Key issues are:

- School starts at 8:30a.m. There is no one to supervise children before that time. Even if teachers are on duty they are busy preparing for the day and are not rostered to supervise children until 8:30a.m. The office is officially open 8:30-3:15
- Parents must sign in children who arrive after 9:05 at the office.
- Preschool children MUST REMAIN WITH THEIR PARENTS AT ALL TIMES. The school only has a legal duty of care for enrolled students so parents need to supervise any preschoolers. Preschoolers are expected to be as quiet as possible and stay with parents during assemblies.
- Play equipment and the sandpit are out of bounds for all students before and after school. This does include preschool children and high school children.
- School finishes at 3:00p.m. so children must be picked up by 3:10p.m. please. Children who are not picked up by then must go to the office.
- Children can only go home with the person(s) listed on the “Getting to and from school safely sheet”.
- The school MUST BE NOTIFIED of any changes to transport home by 2:30p.m.
- Parents must not disturb teachers during the day.
- All communication must be done through the office i.e.
  - Messages
  - Late lunches
  - Items left at home e.g. jumpers
- Classrooms, corridors and verandahs are out of bounds to parents unless an appointment has been made with the class teacher via the office (booking forms are available outside the office)
- Parents are expected to leave the school grounds when the morning bell rings and to wait for children under the COLA or playground seating when school finishes.
- NO SMOKING, ALCOHOL OR DRUGS AT SCHOOL OR ANY SCHOOL EVENTS.
- NO DISRESPECTFUL OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE AT SCHOOL OR SCHOOL EVENTS.

A complete list is available in the school Information book.

VALUE FOCUS-POLICE TALKS

Coming up soon are police talks for stage 2 and 3 on the topic of Cyber safety.

We know that some of our students have engaged in comments online which have upset other children. We also know that inappropriate on line behavior can impact on their future.

These talks are free and an important part of the police liaison officers role.

We want to help our children to respect police and understand the important role that they have in keeping us safe.
WET WEATHER

This week we had our first taste of wet weather and I am sure there will be more so I just wanted to confirm the procedure!

Please make sure that your children have wet weather gear in their bag or are wearing it on the way to school if it is raining or rain is very likely.

If it is raining lightly children will:

- Put their bags quickly in the designated spot – Stage 1, 2 and 3 can put them on their hooks but must come straight back out to the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). Kindergarten put them on the dry part of the steps near their room
- Children stay under the COLA with the supervising teacher who will give permission to move to the other COLA or play on the concrete if the rain stops

If it is raining heavily:

- Bring your child to school a bit later if possible (about 8:50)
- Bring your child with their bag to the COLA and wait for instructions.
- The duty teacher will decide whether or not children need to go straight to their classroom to be supervised by their class teacher or wait for the rain to ease.

Please say goodbye to your child when they go to their class or when the bell rings, whichever happens first.

It is important on rainy day that we do not have parents in corridors or verandahs for workplace health and safety reasons.

CAPTAIN’S MESSAGE

Congratulations to the swimmers who are receiving their ribbons today and for doing their best.

Today was our first Gym-sport class for this year. I hope that everyone is enjoying it.

Remember that we are having Sweet Heart Day next Thursday. Please come dressed in blue and red clothes for a gold coin donation. Bring extra for the treat stall.

Another big thank you to all the parents who came and helped us with our school garden.

By Sariah and Levi

LIFE EDUCATION

This is a fantastic, interactive program which covers an important part of our Personal Development syllabus in a very engaging way!

It’s great value at $5 as it is subsidized by a range of sponsors.

Money and notes need to be in by Wednesday, 18th February.

DRAGONS VISIT - NRL

This is happening on Wednesday Feb 18.

The whole school will meet with the players for a talk and then stage 3 will participate in an activity.

This is part of our sport program and happens every year. There is no cost and no need for a permission note.

COMMUNITY GARDENING

Thanks for your help, we really appreciate it! Any time anyone feels the urge to do some gardening feel free to come up and see what needs doing!
GYMNASTICS

Parents who have given us verbal permission so that children can do week 1 and 2 of this activity still need to send in a signed permission note as soon as possible.

We cannot continue to phone for each event because our admin staff do not have the time and more importantly it is not really legal to do this.

Please support us with this so that we can run our programs efficiently. Ask your children if they have notes, read the newsletter (also available on-line), check their bags if younger and check the sign.

Children who do not pay may not complete the program.

Thank you to the majority of parents who have paid and returned note!

We really appreciate this!

Volunteers in the canteen will need to follow the food handling procedures to the letter as the canteen is inspected twice a year by the local council.

People who are volunteering for the first time at our school in any capacity will need to complete a short training session with the principal.

People who have already completed this session and worked at the school within the last 6 months do not need to do this again.

Once you have completed the volunteer training session and sent in the form you will be notified by the school of where you are needed.

Canteen volunteers will be decided by the P&C as they are responsible for the effective management of the canteen.

Volunteers will be placed where we know they will be most effective.

Thank you to Cheryl Turner who has offered to be our Green Meal Deal coordinator.

CANTENE

The canteen will be open Monday, Thursday and Friday as in previous years. The canteen menu will remain the same for Term 1.

However, after consultation with the children and once we see what support we may get for the canteen, new healthy options will be provided.

Vikki Bartlett will be the canteen coordinator but will need some support from volunteers.

Parents who would like to volunteer to help in the canteen will need to indicate this on the volunteer expression of interest sheet.

Final orders have now been taken for this term however, there are still plenty of polo shirts and hats available for purchase on Tuesday mornings between 8.30 and 9.00 via Angela in the office or by sending an order form.

We also have the following other stock available for purchase until sold out.

Fleece zip jackets in sizes 4, 6, 10 & 14 (we have ordered a few size 8, size 12 and 16 that will be available in around 2 weeks).

V neck jumpers are available in size 4 & 10.

Microfibre jackets (shower proof) are available in size 4, 6 12 & 14.

We also have unisex shorts in stock in sizes 6, 8, 10 & 14.

Skorts in sizes 6, 12 & 14.

Unisex pants in size 6, 8, 10 & 12

All items on back order will be issued within 2 weeks.

Once items in stock are sold out new orders will be taken in week 1 of term 2, or lay-bys can be placed at any time by
placing these in the box outside the office along with regular payments. Payments can also be made online direct to the uniform account.

Primbee PS Uniforms
BSB: 062636
Account: 10396940

**MEDICAL INFORMATION / CONTACT DETAILS**

Lots of notes are going home over the next few weeks as we need to have accurate information to support your children.

We MUST know if your child has any significant medical issues and particularly any allergies which may cause a severe reaction.

Children who suffer from asthma MUST have an updated asthma plan each year.

If there are any changes to your contact details or any custody arrangements or court orders the office needs a copy of the relevant information.

We MUST have 2 emergency contact details as we often cannot get onto parents if children are sick or hurt.

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**Berkeley Netball club**

Registration days Saturday 31st Jan - 10am - 2pm and Tuesday 3rd - 3.30 pm - 5pm

At the Val Curran Centre, Berkeley Netball courts, Hooka Creek Road, Berkeley.

First training day and any extra registrations start Tuesday 10th Feb.

12yr and under 4.15pm - 5.15 pm ; 13yr - 15yr - 5.30pm - 6.30pm and 17yr and over 6.30pm - 7.30pm

New players must bring proof of birthdate

For more information ph Gerry on 42712041 or email: geraldineevry@outlook.com