WHAT A WEEK

Hard to believe but we are half way through term 1. Where did the time go!

Teachers have been involved in a great deal of individual assessment of all children in literacy and numeracy.

We are required to put assessment results on line using a secure Department site called PLAN. This will enable us to track student progress and share information with teachers in successive years.

This will ensure that we have an accurate starting point at the beginning of each year for each student.

This system generates a report when data is put into it which will be provided to parents. This information is also used to write the 2 school reports.

We have decided to send home our school report for all students at the end of term 1 so that parents can organise to have a consultation with the teacher about how their child can be supported at home.

It will be much more effective to provide information early enough in the year so that parents can provide the right sort of help as soon as possible.

Thanks very much to Cheryl Turner who organised and cooked and Tracey and Vicki who served our Green Meal Deal on Wednesday.

We were able to make $190.65 which means that we can pay for the buses for the Water Safety Day. Thanks for your support!

There is some information in this newsletter about our Easter hat Parade mainly for any new parents but also as a reminder to parent who have done it before.

It is really important that ALL parents are aware that this is not a competition and that children make their hats at school as a fun peer support activity.

This week we are focusing on Road Safety specifically bike safety so there is some information provided about that.

We have noticed quite a few children not wearing bike helmets and riding bikes that are not in safe working order. We certainly do not want our children to end up seriously hurt!

Dorothy Cass

UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 6

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Kindy eye screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>2G Parent meeting 8.45am</td>
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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>Gysmpor</td>
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Week 7

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Assembly 2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Gysmpor Easter Mufti-non perishable items</td>
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Week 8

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Water Safety Day 8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>Gardening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Gysmpor Harmony Day/White Ribbon Day</td>
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Week 9

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<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 Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Earth Hour, Gysmpor Election barbecue and stall</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>March 28</td>
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Week 10

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A HEALTHY LUNCH EACH DAY?

- NOTES SENT HOME
  - Steps eye screening note for Kindergarten parents due now
  - Water Safety Day – due 2 March
  - Getting to and from school safely –OVERDUE

PARENTS WHO ARE DROPPING OF LUNCH, NOTES ETC FOR THEIR CHILD MUST DO SO THROUGH THE OFFICE.

DO NOT GO DIRECTLY TO CLASSROOMS PLEASE

PICK UP CHILDREN FROM THE OFFICE IF LEAVING EARLY.
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Thank you so much to parents who support us with our school security measures.

Most schools now lock all gates once school has started and have only one entrance available throughout the day.

This is to ensure that no one is on the premises without a legitimate reason.

Parents standing outside classrooms are distracting to the students and we cannot monitor every corridor or toilet area all the time.

Therefore we really need parents to help us out by staying away from classrooms throughout the day.

To remind you we will be closing the front and top gate and asking parents to use the side gate off the lane.

If you need to come up please:

- Drop off late lunches, forgotten items for class, messages etc. AT THE OFFICE
- Pick up children who are sick or have to leave early AT THE OFFICE
- MAKE AN APPOINTMENT to talk to a teacher about your child’s progress or special needs by using the form available outside the office. This will enable the teacher to be prepared and give you a suitable length of time.
- Be aware that the teacher on playground duty has a duty of care to ensure that supervision of children is a priority.

Teachers do want to be friendly and available to you for a chat but we have had distressing incidents in the past that have left us very aware of the need to set boundaries for parents as well as children.

Your support is vital to the safety and wellbeing of staff and students.

Thank you for your support!

BADGES

Lilly B, Lucy, Tahleisha, Max, Caitlin

MERIT AWARDS

Lilly, Lucy, Tahleisha, Kahlil, Caitlin, Tia, Allyssa, Aqua, Katami, Wyatt, Olivia, Everley, Halen, Lilly G, Dale, Kaleb, Bianca, Josie

ATTENDANCE

Yesterday our Home School Liaison Officer visited our school to explain some of the changes to attendance procedure in the new policy.

I will be sending home some information over the next few weeks.

Please read it carefully as it is very important.

If your child is absent, late or picked up early for a reason that is not acceptable to the principal, then that absence will be considered unjustified.

Parents can be asked to prove that any medical appointments actually took place.

Holidays outside of school holidays MUST be applied for in writing so that the school can issue a certificate. Parents of children who are not at school during school terms can be questioned by police as to the reason and asked to produce this certificate.

This type of absence can no longer be considered an exemption but will be recorded as an absence.

More than 30 days a year absent will be investigated and if unexplained or unjustified, parents may face prosecution.

HEALTHY EATING

Thank you to the parents who have provided some amazing fruit and vegetable items for Crunch and Sip!

It is particularly great to see a reduction in packaging. Many children have their food in containers which they take home and re use.

It is also terrific to see that many children have an ice block to keep their food cool in this humid weather.

We are encouraging children to recycle as well so that we reduce the amount of rubbish that pollutes our community.

Parents are asked to purchase products which can go into our recycle bin if at all possible.

One safety issue is the use of ring pull tins. We had one cut finger this week and some staff members are concerned about opening these tins too.

Please put contents of tins into a plastic container to eliminate any risks of harm.

Please note that the canteen now sells pieces of fruit as well as fruit salad (excellent value)!
**TALKING TACTICS**

Notes went home last week with information about a parent session which is included in the program. Students will facilitate a parent and family evening about alcohol and other drug issues using interactive short plays and a range of other activities.

Stage 3 students, along with health professionals are taking part in the program and would value your participation.

“Talking Tactics Together Program” provides an opportunity for families to participate in a range of drug education activities.

The program also demonstrates and encourages the need for communication within families whilst having fun.

We would love it if lots of parents could come, even if your child is not in Stage 3 this year.

**TALKING TACTICS PARENT SESSION**

6p.m.-8p.m. Wednesday March 11

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**EASTER**

Coming up on March 13 is the first of our Mufti days for our Easter Raffle.

The raffle consists of several Easter hampers which are made up from the generous donations that are sent in on our mufti days.

There are 2 days when children can come to school out of uniform (in sun safe clothes and with fitness appropriate shoes), but are expected to bring something for the Easter hampers.

The dates are:

- March 13 – nonperishable items e.g. cards, wrapping paper, toys, bags, bottles of drink etc. **NOT CHOCOLATE**
- March 27 – chocolate eggs, biscuits etc. **NOT EASTER BUNS** (they will be stale by Easter)

Hampers will be made up using these items and raffled at the Easter Hat Parade on April 2.

Tickets will be available for sale Friday, March 13.

Our Easter Hat Parade is a really important day at Primbee P.S. because it is a fun family occasion as well as an opportunity to raise some much needed funds.

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Instead of having a separate event we take this opportunity to meet and celebrate our children’s grandparents. So please invite them to this event!

There will be a food available for purchase at recess and lunch provided by the P&C or you can bring up a family picnic.

More details as we get closer to the event.

**CAPTAINS’ REPORT**

On Sunday, the 1st of March we will be holding a BBQ at Bunnings Warrawong. We would like as many parents as possible to help out at the BBQ but if not it would be good if you could come down and buy a sausage.

In a couple of week s we have our Water Safety Day at Port Kembla Pool and beach. On the day we will be doing lots of fun activities.

Emmy & Levi

**BIKE SAFETY**

A handout containing important information about bike safety has been sent home with the newsletter.

It is really important that children understand the importance of keeping these rules.

I have noticed several children riding bikes unsafely on the footpath outside the school.

It is important that children learn to be considerate and respectful of others.

**PAYMENTS**

- Please pay the correct amount as the office does not have change!
- All payments must be put in an envelope with your child’s name and activity on the front. These are to be placed in the money box outside the office
- Please do not hand payments directly to the office counter.

**Don’t forget the on-line payment option which is easy to use. Pick up the instructions from outside the office**

**P & C REPORT**

If anyone can help with the Bunning’s Barbecue on Sunday can still do so by contacting Renee Stewart on 0403 199473.

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If you cannot help out perhaps you could come and have a sausage sandwich with you family and friends.

Coming up next is our Cross Country food stall and Election Day barbecue! If you can help at all we would really appreciate it as this money will go towards a special sport program in Term 3.

This sport program promises to be an amazing experience for our children!

**UNIFORMS**

Uniform shop open Tuesday mornings 8.30-9am Please see Angela in the office.

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

The Sydney swans will be hosting a free AFL clinic for all players under 18years of age.

The Port Kembla AFC will be hosting a free BBQ and offering $40 rego for anyone who signs up on the day.

When: Monday 23rd Feb  
Cost: FREE  
Where: Kully Bay, Northcliffe Dr Warrawong.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance

JASON KOPKE  
President, Port Kembla, Junior AFC

*Please try and support the Big Red Kidney Walk. Children under 12 are free with adult supervision. Go to: www.kidney.org.au*