WHAT A WEEK

We had some enjoyable variations to our class programs this week. Our Water Safety day went very well thanks to Mrs. Erwin’s organization and the support of all the teachers and aides.

Many stage 2 and 3 children had the opportunity to participate in Oz tag or football (Rod Wishart/Paul McGregor shield) and had a great time. Thank you to Mr. Goward who was prepared to train and supervise these events. Our children displayed good sportsmanship and were well behaved at this event.

The children not attending the sporting events had the opportunity to attend a special Anzac Presentation which gave them some insight into what it would have been like to be part of that historical battle.

Thank you to Kemblawarra P.S. for organizing this event including the funding and inviting us to participate. The bus driver was particularly impressed with the behavior and good manners of our children.

We also had a great day on Friday discussing the importance of respecting people no matter what their background is and discussing the importance of harmony between everyone.

Thank you to the parents/carers who sent in a food item to share. We really enjoyed the experience. We were able to have this important event because Mrs. Connell and her committee of students were prepared to organize it with the support of the rest of the staff.

We need to also thank Mrs. Erwin for volunteering to train as a swimming instructor. This will mean that we will be able to continue to have swimming lessons later in the year.

Coming up soon is our special Easter celebration to which parents, carers, grandparents and other family members are invited.
We have quite a few families that share custody of their children and I’m sure you will ensure that the day is a positive, enjoyable occasions for the children.

We do expect parents to put their differences aside for the sake of their children. (See banning people from the school info opposite)

Dorothy Cass

UPCOMING EVENTS

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NOTES SENT HOME

- Getting to and from school safely –OVERDUE

Can People Be Banned From The School Premises?

YES – Under the Inclosed Land Act

The Department does not expect its staff, students and other visitors to departmental premises to accept the following behaviours.

- Physical assault or threats of assault
- Inappropriate behavior
- Threats of physical violence using the phone, text messages, websites or other social media, emails etc.
- Behaving in a way that causes alarm
- Using offensive language
- Persistently interrupting the learning environment by entering classrooms or staff room without permission.

Parents need to understand that entry onto the school site is a privilege not a right and the principal has the authority to control access and prohibit entry.

Anyone that breaches the ban can be arrested and charged by the police.
CONGRATULATIONS

Bianca put in a great effort in her tennis competition but unfortunately lost the final round!

Well done!

WHITE RIBBON COMMITTEE

Congratulations to the following students who were voted onto this very important committee by the school staff and students of Stage 3.

- Connor
- Joe
- Sariah
- Jordan
- Levi
- Tai
- Caleb
- Khody
- Kayla
- Layla

They have the crucial job of helping all school members to work towards having respectful relationships at every level.

They have nominated themselves for this position on the understanding that they will not be given chances if their own behavior does not live up to the expected standard.

These children will need to set an example of respect for others if they are to maintain their membership of this group.

Their role will also include organizing activities to promote the White Ribbon foundation program of stopping violence against women.

Parent encouragement and support will be invaluable for these committee members

STAGE 3 PARENT MEETING

Mrs. Connell will be having her parent meeting on Tuesday March 24 from 3p.m.

A note has gone home to explain the focus of this meeting to which all parents are invited. It is really important that parents attend to help us to make some very important decisions concerning stage 3.

Camp and fundraising are part of the agenda.

ANTI-BULLYING APP

Information about this app is available in this newsletter

X COUNTRY

This event will be held on March 26, from 9-11.

This is an annual event held at the school and involving all children as part of our fitness program.

K-2 children are included and have a shorter course. Only children aged 8 and older can participate at the District Event depending on their performance at school level.

Children are expected to wear a t-shirt in their house colour for this event.

Kindergarten and new children will know their house and its colour after house meetings next Tuesday!

Parents and family members are welcome to come and watch but please bring your own chair or blanket.

Sandwiches, cakes and drinks will be available for purchase during the event.

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS

Unfortunately some of our Kindergarten children are asking other children in their class to buy something from the canteen for them.

We have explained to children that they are not to do this.

Parents give their children money to buy a treat and parents who don't, have a very good reason for this.

It is also particularly important that children do not get food to which they may have an allergy.

It would help us if all parents could explain this again to their children. We do want to encourage children to share and be generous but there is also a safety issue to consider.

Thanks!
**HARMONY DAY/WHITE RIBBON DAY**

The message of Harmony Day is **“EVERYONE BELONGS”**!

It’s about celebrating Australia’s cultural diversity through inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

Today is Harmony Day. We learnt to be kind to everyone and not to bully. We had fun in our groups. – By Kinder

**ATTENDANCE**

PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGULAR ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ON EVERY DAY THAT THE SCHOOL IS OPEN.

If your child is absent from school parents and carers are required to:

- Provide an explanation within 7 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DAY OF ANY ABSENCE. (a phone call, written note, text message or email is acceptable)
- Let the school know if there is any issue which will impact on their child’s attendance at school.

When do parents need a doctor’s certificate?

- Where frequent absences are explained as being due to illness
- When the principal has concerns with the explanation provided
- Where there is a history of poor attendance

What is unsatisfactory attendance?

- Regular absence without explanation
- Regular absences and explanations that are not acceptable to the principal

Acceptable reasons for absences are:

- Too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness
- Has to attend a serious or urgent family situation
- Has to attend a special religious ceremony

Leave for holidays in term time MUST be applied for in writing and approved by the principal.

All these policies and procedures are mandatory in all government schools to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

If parents are contacted about any attendance concerns it is because we want to help you to ensure that your child attends school regularly.

LATENESS AND LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY REQUIRES THE SAME LEVEL OF EXPLANATION AND SHOULD BE FOR THE ABOVE REASONS ONLY.

**YOUNG LEADERS DAY**

Please make sure that your child is at the right place at the right time for this event on MONDAY.

It is a great experience!

Thank you Mrs. Connell for taking our children to this event.

**EASTER**

The next mufti Day is

- **March 27** – chocolate eggs, biscuits etc. **NOT EASTER BUNS** (they will be stale by Easter)

Our Easter Hat Parade is on April 2 starting about 11a.m. Details will go home week 9 but don’t forget to bring your grandparents too.

There will be food available for morning tea and lunch as well as the hat parade. The raffle draw will be after lunch.
Tickets have been sent out so please sell as many as you can to family and friends. More books of tickets are available from outside the office.

**DOMINOES**

If you shop at Woolworths and are asked if you would like the dominoes that are offered please say yes!

If you cannot use them at home we can use them for maths games at school.

We will be sending home the instructions for some games that you could play at home with your children to improve their number skills.

But we could also use them at school as well!

Thank you!

**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**

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, March 24 at 5:45 p.m.

We will be having a brief look at the new school plan at this meeting and parents will have an opportunity to provide feedback about our strategic directions.

We will also be discussing our upcoming fundraising events.

Dates for your diary:
- Cross Country Food stall – Thursday 26 March
- Election Day BBQ - Saturday 28 March

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!

We will need lots of support to make this happen.

**UNIFORMS**

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

<table>
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<th>Primbee PS Uniforms</th>
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<td>Account -10396940</td>
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**Great Week!**

**Water Safety Day**

We went to water safety day to see how good of a swimmer we were and also to have fun. Everybody had a great time on the beach and travelling on the bus. We got to Port Kembla pools at 8.45am, left at 12.50pm and came back to school before lunch. We all had a great day. – by James

On water safety day we had a test. Yellow meant that you were a poor swimmer and blue meant that you were a strong swimmer. Thank you Mr G and Mrs Erwin for taking us. We enjoyed it a lot. – by Michael

On Monday, we went to the water safety day. The day was great fun in the water and on the beach. We played water games like Marco Polo and races on the beach. We had footy games and races. – by Jordan G

**Anzac Presentation**

Thanks to Kemblawarra Public School for organising for Primbee to go and watch. The performance was awesome, the best ever. Just watching it we could tell it was a hard time for the people in the war and their relatives. – by Athena

On Wednesday, some of us went to the football and the rest of us went to the Anzac Performance. We went on the bus and we crawled in a tunnel. Mrs Connell went to go in and it was loud. – by Aalayah

**Rod Wishart/Paul McGregor Shield**

At football, we played 3 games each against really tough teams and some people got hurt, but everyone like it and Mrs Gibbs went crazy when Primbee scored a try.
March 20, 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

In conjunction with the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence we are launching a new app designed to stop and report bullies on mobile phones.

**BullyBackOff** is a password protected mobile phone app with built in settings to block and report messages classed as threatening. It sends out a strong message that the threatening behaviour will not be tolerated.

Local IT specialist and child safety advocate, Kerry Hurst, designed the new app says it will notify parents/guardians when bullying could be occurring. It will also notify the person suspected of bullying that they have been reported.

Latest research shows that cyber bullying is escalating at an alarming rate, but much can be done to stop it before it results in tragedy. When it comes to child safety, the potential of technology is huge and so far we are only scratching the surface.

“When **BullyBackOff** is installed on a phone, its settings will detect a text message suspected of excessive language. The message sender and the message receiver are notified by text that the message has been blocked, reported and saved for future reference.”

“A nominated third party, such as a parent, guardian, school authority, school counsellor or law enforcement officer, will be notified of the suspected threat.”

**BullyBackOff** also blocks outgoing excessive and threatening language.

The app, which is currently available on Android, can also be used by adults to detect threats in domestic violence situations.

A live demonstration of **BullyBackOff** is available at 151 Hamilton Rd, Wavell Heights, Brisbane.

YouTube videos about the app are available:  
BullyBackOff for Kids [on YouTube](#)  
BullyBackOff for Adults [on YouTube](#)  
The app is available on Google Play. [BBO for Adults](#) [BBO for Kids](#)  

For more information about **BullyBackOff** or how to protect yourself online, please contact  
Kerry Hurst 07 3256 6377. @BullyBackOff

Facebook: facebook.com/kcc151

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**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

Berkeley club can still take more players in the following age groups: players turning 6yr, 7yr, 8yr, 9yr, 10yr, 11 yr and 12yr this year.

New players must have proof of birthday.

Training is on Tuesdays at 4.15pm, at Berkeley Netball courts

For more information phone 42712041 or email club at geraldineevry@outlook.com

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**Parent Line NSW**

Free professional help for Parents and Carers  
1300 1300 52

9am – 9pm Monday –Friday  
4pm – 9pm Saturday-Sunday

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**NSW Family Energy Rebate**  
2014-2015

$150 TOWARDS ENERGY BILLS  
Apply online now!  
*eligibility criteria apply

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Parent Line NSW  
Free professional help for Parents and Carers  
1300 1300 52  
9am – 9pm Monday –Friday  
4pm – 9pm Saturday-Sunday
Book Club

LOOP is the new scholastic book clubs Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, our new platform makes it easy. It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Long in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the iPhone/iPad app from the App store.

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time.
- Select school and your child’s class
- Add your child’s first name and last initial
- Enter the item number for the brochure
- Books will be delivered to the school if you order by the closing date.
- There is no need to return the paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school.