



On The Grapevine

A quality education in a caring, innovative environment

October 2013 (Issue 1)

NAPLAN

Year 3 and 5 student reports for NAPLAN were sent home this week.

Overall, Year 3 performance was outstanding, with the school average well above the state average in Grammar and Punctuation (468.4 school compared with 437.0 for state), Reading (school 436.7 compared with state 424.8), and Numeracy (406.9 school compared with 404.6) Spelling results were pleasing in that the school performance exceeded NSW DEC average.

Year 5 showed excellent performance especially in spelling and numeracy. As spelling and reading are our literacy focus this year it was particularly pleasing that the school growth for spelling, reading, writing and numeracy were above state growth.

The spelling growth for year 5 students was ranked third highest in the school education group.

Mrs Brown and Mrs Hungerford are available to discuss any aspects of individual performance with parents. I will be discussing NAPLAN results in more detail at the next P&C meeting on Monday 4 November at 6.30pm in the library.

Promoting a healthy lifestyle

Mrs Brown and Mrs Hungerford were successful in gaining a \$2000 grant from the Live Life Well @ School Program which is a joint initiative between the DEC and the Ministry of Health. They were also successful in obtaining a \$500 grant to support our Crunch & Sip Program. This money will be used to expand the vegetable garden and to purchase classroom cooking equipment and sports gear.



Students in 4/5B promoting an active lifestyle

Bennelong Cup Table Tennis Competition.

Our school is sending 3 teams to participate in this event on Friday 25 October. Best wishes to Olivia and Maeve, Jon and Joel and Emilio and Will.

Selective high school for Year 7 in 2015

Instructions on how to apply online are available at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. Parents of Year 5 students have also received intention to apply forms. For those without internet access, application forms will be sent home. Applications close 18 November 2013.

Parent Drop in Service

Just a reminder that the **drop in parent service** begins next **Monday from 2.15 -3:15pm**. Sharlene Pasqual, Family and Community Worker for Parramatta Mission- Women and Children's Services is providing this weekly drop in service at school which will be located in B block classroom closest to the breezeway (room next to 3 / 4H).

The aim of the service is to help support parents by providing assistance through information, support and education.

There will be one on one advice available for parents that may include referrals for any specific needs including doctors, psychologist, parent support groups, playgroups and much more.

I encourage all parents to take advantage of this excellent, free service conveniently available at school.

In the classroom

I enjoyed a visit from Year 5 students Lucas E and Elias with some of their exemplary work. Lucas had used pictures and short meaningful messages to depict *A healthy lifestyle and its science* title page.

Elias used pictures and labels on his poster to encourage people to engage in outdoor activities and visit Western Sydney Parklands.

Both students used very effective ways to convey and promote the healthy lifestyle message.

Student Wellbeing

Principal's Bronze Awards:

Level 3: *Brendan, Shania*

Level 2: *Danielle,*

Level 1: *Kevin, Gigi, Freeman*

Keryn Hinchcliffe

Principal

18 October 2013

Dates For Your Diary

21 October	Academically Gifted class celebration
21 October	Drop in parent service 2.15-3.15pm
23 October	Eco Summit, Newington
25 October	Kindy Playsession for pre-schoolers 1.55pm
25 October	Bennelong Cup Table Tennis Competition
28 October	Drop in parent service 2.15-3.15pm
29 October	Kindergarten orientation day 9.15am
30 October	Smart shopping presentation K-2
1 November	Kindy Playsession for pre-schoolers 1.55pm
4 November	Maths and Science expo, Parramatta- years 5 and 6

4 November	Drop in parent service 2.15-3.15pm
6 November	K-2 excursion to Casula Powerhouse
8 November	Kindy Playsession for pre-schoolers 1.55pm



Congratulations to Our Ozzie Mozzie Award Winners:



Chloe W

Ben B

Hatch 'n' Grow Program

The Pre-Schoolers have enjoyed participating in a duck hatching program that offers hands on learning. It explores the lifecycle of a duck and the pre-schoolers were enthralled to see nine ducklings hatch. The pre-schoolers have been involved in cleaning, feeding and nurturing the ducklings over the last two weeks.

Tracey Arbolino



Premier's Spelling Bee app

The app is free at Samsung Apps and features two categories for junior and senior primary school aged children, with a number of levels that increase in difficulty. Most adults would find the high levels in the senior category a challenge!

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/premier-spelling-bee>

Getting organised

Mid-way into the month, you may be in need of a planner; or if you're super-organised why not download October's?

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner>

Kids' holiday camps

Do your kids have technology overload? Challenging adventurous activities - like rock climbing, kayaking and archery - help children and teenagers develop independence, self-esteem and social skills. Watch the video for inspiration.

Find out more: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=615882415134701>

P&C

Urgent- Your canteen needs your assistance

Helpers needed particularly for Fridays. Canteen may need to reduce opening days to 2 per week. Please call Carol 0406 730995.

Term 4 2013

T	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/ SUN
4						
W k 1	7 October Labor Day PUBLIC HOLIDAY	8 October	9 October	10 October	11 October	12 13 Oct
2	14 October	15 October	16 October <i>School photos</i>	17 October <i>School photos</i>	18 October	19 20 Oct
3	21 October <i>AG class celebration 11.30-1pm</i>	22 October	23 October <i>Eco Summit 4/5B</i>	24 October	25 October <i>Kindy playsession 1.55-2.55pm Bennelong Cup Table Tennis</i>	26 27 Oct
4	28 October	29 October <i>Kindy Orientation day 9.15am</i>	30 October <i>Smart shopping presentation K-2</i>	31 October	1 November <i>Kindy playsession 1.55-2.55pm</i>	2 3 Nov
5	4 November <i>Maths & Science expo, Parramatta- yrs 5 and 6</i> <i>P&C meeting</i>	5 November	6 November <i>K-2 + ASD excursion Casula Powerhouse</i>	7 November	8 November <i>Kindy playsession 1.55-2.55pm</i>	9 10 Nov
6	11 November <i>Remembrance Day</i>	12 November	13 November <i>Preschool orientation 9.30-11</i>	14 November <i>Preschool orientation 9.30-11</i>	15 November	16 17 Nov
7	18 November	19 November	20 November	21 November <i>Variety club Christmas party K/2L and 2/6R</i>	22 November	23 24 Nov
8	25 November	26 November <i>Prefect speeches 2-3pm</i>	27 November	28 November	29 November	30 Nov 1 Dec
9	2 December <i>P&C meeting</i>	3 December <i>Parent thank you M/T</i>	4 December <i>Orientation day Yr6 to 7</i>	5 December	6 December	7 8 Dec
1 0	9 December	10 December <i>Presentation Day</i>	11 December	12 December <i>Year 6 farewell</i>	13 December <i>Reports home</i>	14 15 Dec
1 1	16 December	17 December <i>Fun Day</i>	18 December	19 December SDD	20 December SDD	21 22 Dec
H o l i s	23 December	24 December	25 December Christmas Day	26 December Boxing Day	27 December	28 29 Dec