

On The Grapevine

A quality education in a caring, innovative environment

April 2013 (Issue 1)

Easter Hat Parade, Grandparents' Day and Book Fair

This year our parade was held in the new COLA in the top playground. Our students showed off their craft skills by proudly parading their creative hats. Parents and grandparents then joined their children for some energetic dances including the 'Chicken Dance' and 'The Macarena'. The Book Fair was well patronised with students and parents buying some interesting books.



School contributions

Thank you to the parents who have contributed so far. We have receipted \$910. Your contributions are used to support school programs and purchase resources for our students.

Autism Awareness Week

Students and staff at REPs wore blue on Tuesday to show our awareness of children with autism. This day is particularly significant as we have 2 classes for children with autism.

Guide dog visit

We were delighted to have Salma and her guide dog, Clare, visit us last week. Salma described the impact that vision impairment had on her life and how her Golden Labrador helped her lead a relatively independent life. Students discussed appropriate behaviours when meeting someone with a cane or guide dog and then asked many questions about being blind and owning a guide dog.

Students were amazed that Clare could understand 2 languages and were interested to hear of people's reactions to the guide dog. The students asked some very thoughtful and interesting questions. They were particularly interested in the how her sight impairment affected her schooling.



Salma and her guide dog, Clare

School Assembly

Our first assembly for the Term 2 will be held on Thursday 9 May. Parents and friends are invited for a coffee and chat afterwards.

Start date for term 2

** Please note that K – 6 students resume school on Wednesday 1st May. This allows for 2 Staff Development Days to cope with the demands of implementing the new syllabus which incorporates the National Curriculum. This builds on previous professional development that our teachers have been attending with nearby schools in our Learning Alliance.

** Our 2 day pre-schoolers resume on Thursday 2 May

** Our 3 day pre-schoolers resume on Monday 6 May.

Parenting classes

Sharlene from Parramatta Mission will be running parenting classes at our school on 3 consecutive Thursdays starting on 2nd May. Please register for this course by contacting Sharlene Pasqual at Parramatta Mission on 0448 825 219. There are several flyers about this course posted around the school.

On the website –The Annual School Report has been posted in the *Our School* tab and have a look at the Easter Hat Parade gallery of photos.

In the classrooms

A wonderful story from Ben and Ethan in K/2 L created on the ipad about their adventures on the beach.

Dylan's narrative – an amazing, yet unfinished, story titled *Pirates yet to be...* I am looking forward to hearing the ending.

After our visit from Salma and her guide dog, Clare, Years 3, 4 and 5 have been writing convincing letters to the Australian Government to persuade them to provide funding to Guide Dogs Australia.

Student welfare

Principal's Awards

Georgia – Principal's Bronze award level 1

Amira – Principal's Bronze award level 1

Karina – Principal's Bronze award level 2

Jacob A – Principal's Bronze award level 2

Playground heroes: Kevin and Masson for *including all children in their lunchtime games.*

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Keryn Hinchcliffe

Principal

10 April 2013

Dates For Your Diary

11 April	Interschool Gala sports day at REPS
12 April	Last day for Term 1
1 May	Students resume school for Term 2
2 May	Anzac Day ceremony at 10.30am
2 May	2 day preschool resumes
6 May	3 day preschool resumes
6 May	Academically Gifted class starts
7 May	Mothers' Day stall
10 May	Mothers' Day stall
14-16 May	NAPLAN for Years 3 & 5



Congratulations to Our Ozzie Mozzie Award Winners:



Kevin	Nate	Luke C
Aaron C	Mauro	Mikayla

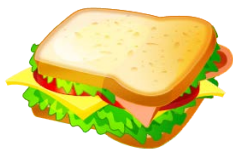
Years 1 & 2 excursion to the State Library of NSW

The State Library kindly invited our Years 1 & 2 students to attend some of their learning programs at their Macquarie Street library. The students were read "The Library Lion" and had the opportunity to explore the state library and the historic Mitchell Library, including some of the underground passageways and rooms. The students really enjoyed visiting the Shakespeare Room where they lay on the floor and looked up at the plaster carvings on the ceiling.

Excursion to see the Airship



To celebrate Bayer's 150th anniversary, an airship was recently launched from George Kendall Reserve. Our Infant's students participated in this community event and incorporated their experiences into literacy activities.



Please note the Canteen will not be open on the last day of term, Friday 12 April. It will be open on the first day of Term 2 which is Wednesday 1st May. The Canteen urgently needs parents to volunteer their time, especially on Fridays. If we don't get volunteers for term 2, the Canteen is likely to be closed every second Friday. To volunteer - contact Carol 0406 730995

Parents who use Aussie Farmers Direct can now link REPS to their account and our school will receive 2% of all sales made from accounts linked to us. Go to www.aussiefarmers.com.au/fundraising.

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Mothers' day stall
Tuesday 7 May & Thursday 9 May
Lots of lovely new goodies
50c to \$10

Volunteers are needed. If you can
spare an hour or so on either day,
please phone Katherine
0426 287204

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REPS P&C has a
Facebook page. Check it
out, like the page and
check on there for
regular updates, events
and handy information
on all things REPS.

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Flyers available from the front office

Parramatta City Council autumn activities guide
Bubble Dome holiday workshops
Kids Craft Club
Extend before & after school care
2012-2013 Entertainment book leaflet
Kicks after school Program
Marsden High School

Author **Lilian Wissink** will be at **Parramatta City Library,**
Thursday 18 April 1.00pm to talk about her book ***The Creative Seed***