



# *On The Grapevine*

## **A quality education in a caring, innovative environment**

*May 2013 (Issue 1)*

### ***Welcome back***

A warm welcome back to all our families. I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break. We return refreshed and ready for a busy Term 2. We welcome back Mrs Tracey Arbolino who will be teaching the Thursday /Friday preschool program.

### ***Gala Day***

Our interschool Gala day with Yates Ave PS (YAPS) and Ermington West PS (EWPS) was a wonderful success. T-Ball, basketball and newcombe ball teams from the schools played against each other. Ball skills activities, such as tunnel ball and captain ball were also included. The students had such fun and displayed outstanding sportsmanship. A special mention for our basketball team who won 11 – 6 against EWPS and 22 – 2 against YAPS. Also special mention for two outstanding players - Jon, the “scoring machine” and Emilio, the fastest player on the court.

We provided a delicious lunch for the visiting teachers which included a salad using harvested vegetables from our own vege patch.

### ***Open day for Kindy 2014***

Know anyone starting school next year? REPS open morning will be held on 28 May 9.30-10.30am, and includes a guided tour of the school and morning tea. Meet with the principal and the kindy teacher and have the opportunity to ask any questions about our wonderful school.

### ***Homework Lab is back!***

I am looking forward to running homework lab in the library every Wednesday morning from 8.15 - 8.50am, starting next week Wednesday 15 May. Students are encouraged to use this time to complete homework, read to me, ask questions and seek any help they may require.

### ***In the classrooms***

Congratulations to Juels and Elias for their outstanding art work. I will be framing and hanging student artwork in my office and admin building so will be selecting some interesting pieces from the students' work across all year groups.

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

Tom, Mia, Emma and Jennifer presented some outstanding arguments and certainly convinced me that this would be a worthwhile investment.

Emilio shared his writing on his passion for soccer. His love for the game was evident through his careful use of emotive language, describing the importance of playing the game with his heart and not just his feet!

### ***Textbooks and Paper Levy***

Thank you to those parents who have paid for their textbooks and paper levy. Your help in supporting your children's learning is greatly appreciated.

### ***School Contributions***

We endeavour to provide much more than a "basic education" at REPS and to achieve this high standard we require your financial support for library resources, general classroom supplies, sporting equipment, reading resources etc.

Thank you to the families who have contributed this year.

The suggested contribution is \$40 for one student and \$70 a family. Any amount will be gratefully accepted.

### ***Parenting course***

The '1-2-3 Magic' parenting course has been running for two weeks with the final session next Thursday 16 May. The positive feedback I have received to date indicates this was a most worthwhile project and offered some excellent parenting tips. A big thank you to Sharlene from Parramatta Mission for organising and presenting this course for our parents.

### ***NAPLAN***

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for students in Years 3 and 5 will be held next week from Tuesday 14 – Thursday 16 May.

### ***Cross country***

Our school cross country carnival was held on Tuesday 7 May. Thank you to Mrs Brown for organising the event and to the parents who came to cheer on the students.

Congratulations to the students who qualified to represent the school at the Zone Cross Country Carnival on Wednesday 22 May at Parramatta Park.



**On the website** –The Annual School Report has been posted in the *Our School* tab. Have a look at the gallery of photos for Easter Hat Parade and excursions to the airship and mangroves and the school cross country.



Primary students on their excursion to the Parramatta River mangroves.

### ***Student Wellbeing***

Congratulations to the following students receiving Principal's Awards.

#### **Principal's Awards**

*Lucas E* – Principal's Bronze award level 3

*Toby, Jon and Rita*– Principal's Bronze award level 2

*Chloe M* – Principal's Bronze award level 1

### ***School Assembly***

Our next assembly will be held on Thursday 23 May. Parents and friends are invited for a coffee and chat afterwards.

*I wish all our special mums a lovely day on Sunday – hope you are pampered!*

*Keryn Hinchcliffe*

Principal

10 May 2013

### ***Dates For Your Diary***

<b>14-16 May</b>	NAPLAN for Years 3 & 5
<b>15 May</b>	"CRAZY" hair day
<b>21 May</b>	ICAS Computer skills comp
<b>22 May</b>	Zone Cross country Parramatta Park
<b>23 May</b>	Assembly & afternoon tea
<b>24 May</b>	Walk Safely to School Day ( Colourful Odd Sock Day)
<b>28 May</b>	Open morning tea for Kindy 2014



**Congratulations to Our Ozzie Mozzie Award Winners:**



Jennifer	Elias	Logan	Antwione
Freeman	Gigi	Xavier	



### ***Premiers Reading Challenge***

I am hoping that many children are participating in the 2012/13 Premiers Reading Challenge. Children need to complete the challenge and enter their books on line by August 28. I need to validate your record once it is complete.

*Angelique Brown*

### ***"CRAZY" hair day***

Our SRC will be holding a "CRAZY" hair day on Wednesday 15 May as a fundraiser for Stewart House. Go wild with creative hair do's. Gold coin donation.

### ***Walk Safely to School Day***

On Friday 24 May, it is 'Walk Safely to School Day'. The aim is to encourage all parents, carers and teachers to promote and encourage safe and regular walking to all Australian children. The Pedestrian Council of Australia's objectives include:

- encourage parents and carers to walk to school with primary school age children and reinforce safe pedestrian behaviour.
- promote the health benefits of walking and help create regular walking habits at an early age.
- ensure that children up to 10 years old hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.
- help children develop the vital road-crossing skills they will need as they become mature pedestrians.
- reduce the car dependency habits that are being created at an early age and which will be difficult to change as children become adults.
- promote the use of Public Transport.
- reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles.
- reduce the level of traffic congestion.

To make participation on the day more fun children will be having a 'Colourful Odd Sock Day'.

If your child happens to be participating in PSSA soccer on that day, they will need to wear their usual soccer socks and shin pads for the game.

### ***P&C***

Orders are being taken for Entertainment books valid from June 2013 to June 2014. Order and pay online at [www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2148m89](http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2148m89). Books cost \$65 each. A copy is available in the front office for you to have a browse through.

### ***Woolies Earn and Learn***

Don't forget to collect your stickers at the checkout when you shop at Woolworths and put them in the box in our school office foyer. Last year we collected over 15,000 points, which provided some excellent resources for the classrooms.

### ***Fire station open day***

Kids could have their dreams come true and get to climb up on the big red truck. There will be activities, show bags and a chance for kids and their parents to meet their local firefighting heroes on your local station's open day.

Find out more: [www.fire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au)

### ***Get the maths on risk-taking***

Kids can't cram maths, especially concepts half understood; the foundations must first be in place. Listen to broadcaster and maths fan Adam Spencer on loving maths for our kids' sake and what to do when it's all too hard.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics/mathematics-tips/the-sum-of-us>

## Term 2 2013

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT SUN
W 1	29 April SDD	30 April SDD	1 May School resumes K-6	2 May Anzac service Preschool resumes	3 May	4 5 May
2	6 May Preschool resumes  P&C meeting 6.30pm school library	7 May School Cross country  Mothers' Day stall	8 May Debate Westmead PS	9 May Mothers' Day stall	10 May	11 12 May
3	13 May	14 May NAPLAN – Language Conventions; Writing	15 May NAPLAN - Reading  "CRAZY" hair day	16 May NAPLAN - Numeracy	17 May	18 19 May
4	20 May	21 May  ICAS Computer skills	22 May  Zone Cross Country	23 May	24 May  Walk to school safely  (Colourful odd sock day)	25 26 May
5	27 May  Sustainability Lesson P'matta Council	28 May Open morning for Kindy 2014 9.30-10.30 am	29 May	30 May	31 May	1 2 June
6	3 June  P&C meeting 6.30pm school Library	4 June	5 June  ICAS Science	6 June	7 June	8 9 June
7	10 June Queen's Birthday PUBLIC HOLIDAY	11 June	12 June	13 June	14 June	15 16 June
8	17 June	18 June  ICAS Writing ICAS Spelling	19 June	20 June	21 June	22 23 June
9	24 June  Reports home	25 June  Parent/ teacher interviews	26 June  Parent/ teacher interviews	27 June	28 June	29 30 June
H s	1 July	2 July	3 July	4 July	5 July	6 7 July
H s	8 July	9 July	10 July	11 July	12 July	13 14 July

School resumes Tuesday 16 July