

On The Grapevine

A quality education in a caring, innovative environment

December 2015 (Issue 1)

Welcoming ADF families

Becky Blamires our Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA) has worked with the P&C on a Welcome to Ermington booklet for incoming families to assist with locating local services when moving into the area. Becky has also organised for students to write letters to families travelling from overseas and interstate to join us next year.

These delightful letters include information about the school and themselves and explain to them that there are friends waiting for them when arrive at REPS.

Thank you Becky for helping make these new families transition a little less stressful.

Congratulations to our award winners who received recognition for their efforts at Presentation Day this week. I look forward to working with our student leaders for 2016.

Parent Online Payment (POP)

Paying for excursions and school contributions has been made easier.

Our school has goes live tomorrow with the POP service.

Simply log onto the REPS website, and click on the *Make a Payment* tab. Mandatory fields are marked with an asterisk. Payments can be made using Visa or Mastercard credit or debit cards. Please contact the school office if you are experiencing problems with POP.

Spelling Bee champs from K-2

Congratulations Olivia (3rd), Senudi(2nd) and Meranai (1st)

Great school spirit

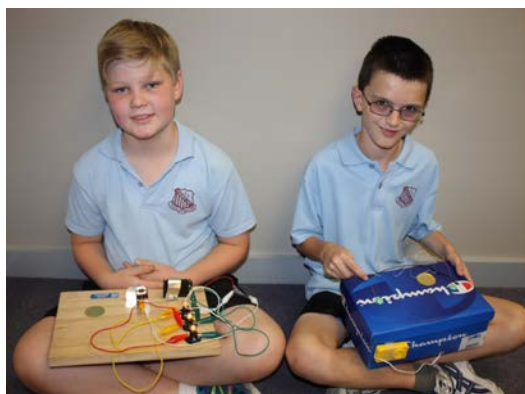
Clare and Saane in Year 4 held a bake sale to raise funds for the Year 6 farewell. They advertised to nearby neighbours and sold cakes and chocolate milk one afternoon after school. They donated \$21.60 to the Year 6 farewell. These girls took the initiative in organising everything from the cooking and milk to pricing and selling. They sold out pretty quickly and enjoyed counting the money earned. Both girls were proud to have made a contribution to their school. Thank you, for your school spirit Clare and Saane.

In the classroom ...

Jack and Brendan from year 5 with their science projects where they researched and made electrical circuits.

Skoolbag app

Our school has an app to enable more effective communication with our community. Instructions on how to install the app are posted near the double doors of the hall and have been emailed. There is no cost for our parents. It has facilities for submitting absence notes on-line and receiving newsletters, notifications and alerts.



In 2016 our newsletter will be sent electronically, available from our website, on Skoolbag app or by email. Hard copies of on the Grapevine will be available from the office.

Exemption from school

Thinking of travelling / holidaying next year? New strict Department of Education guidelines for exempting students for travel reasons have been implemented. Please be advised that you may apply for exemptions but may not be approved.

Fun Day

Our *Fun Day* end of year celebration is on Tuesday 15 December. Thanks to Ms Carol Piper for organising the jumping castles for the day. Please return the permission slip sent home this week by the due date.

Reward Day

Congratulations to those students who met the REPS school expectations during term 4. They were rewarded with a water play activities and a movie.

Students wearing Christmas mufti raised over \$215 for a children's charity.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday. I look forward to another great year for learning in 2016.

Keryn Hinchcliffe

Principal

10 December 2015

P&C news

Thank you to all the parents & families who have been involved in the P&C activities this year. Your support is very much appreciated and we look forward to another great year in 2016.

14 Dec	REPS Factor
14 Dec	Reports sent home
15 Dec	Fun Day
16 Dec	Last day Term 4 for students
17-18 Dec	Staff Development Day
28 Jan	Years 1 to 6 Students return
28 Jan to 2 Feb	Kindy Best Start assessments
3 Feb	Kindergarten students start

Playground update – works commence in January 2016 to transform the playground area between the sandpit, across the flagpoles and down to the hall. This section will be fenced off during the project to ensure the safety of students and workers. The project should be completed by week 3 of Term 1. The upgrade is funded through a P&C contribution of \$9500 and a State Govt 'Community Building Partnership' grant of \$48,108.

P&C Activities – Funds raised by the P&C directly benefit the students at REPS. In 2015 the monies have gone to the Buddy Bench, Teacher/Classroom contribution, playground design & redevelopment, donation for Year 6 farewell, subsidised the gymnastics and garden resources and equipment.

Next Fundraiser - Bunnings BBQ Saturday 27 February. Helpers needed.

Grant funding – we have submitted applications for more grant funding.

Stage 2 Playground update \$35k (State Govt, CBP)

Playground stencils, \$10k (Federal Govt) to match the spending

\$4000 Sports equipment (Parramatta Council) for table tennis tables and equipment

It's a very slow process with notifications due between January & June 2016. If you hear of any other grant opportunities coming available please notify the P&C.

Canteen – sadly the canteen will remain closed in Term 1 2016. We are keen to provide a tuck shop at the school however we can't operate it without volunteers to work and/or form a management committee. Please contact Suzanne if you are interested or have any queries.

Uniform Shop – Thank you again to Gloria Kells for her continuing dedication to running the uniform shop. It is open before school on Monday and Friday mornings 8:30 to 9am.

P&C is not just about fundraising for the school – 'community building' is also a focus. We would appreciate feedback / suggestions from the school community for activities or projects in 2016.eg working bees, trivia or bingo function, project ideas for funding support. Send suggestions to the P&C email REPSCommunity@gmail.com or mobile 0400 474797.

We wish all REPS families a happy Christmas and a safe summer holidays.

See you in 2016.

REPS P&C Executive

Stop press
We have just heard that we
have been successful with
this grant