



# On The Grapevine

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

*April 2016 (Issue 2)*

## ***REPS Anzac Ceremony***



Staff and students commemorated Anzac Day on the last day of last term with support from parents serving in the ADF. Children laid wreaths at the base of the flagpoles. Flags were raised in front of parents and local community members. Thank you to Miss Morrison for organising the ceremony and to ADF parents for their input.

## ***Dawn Service at Parramatta RSL***

Riley G, Harvey K, Amber W and Bowie W also attended the Dawn Service at Parramatta on ANZAC Day. Our DSTA, Becky Blamires, liaised with Parramatta RSL so that the children could participate in the ceremony. The children rose early (some as early as 3am) that morning so that they could march towards the cenotaph with family members, veterans and other organisations. The children were given the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of our school. They then marched away and enjoyed a hearty breakfast at Parramatta RSL. One parent described the occasion as 'absolutely awesome'.

We are proud of you Harvey, Amber, Bowie and Riley!

## ***Attendance awards***

Congratulations to the 26 students who will receive perfect attendance certificates for Term 1 at our next assembly. Well done! Regular attendance at school is important.



## ***Term 2 Staff Development Day***

Teachers further developed skills in formative assessment. Useful techniques to find out what students are actually learning were explored. This includes ways to improve classroom questioning and discussion, and involve all students in lessons. Teachers also considered various levels of comprehension questions and how these can be applied in the classroom to further develop and enhance individual comprehension skills.

Office staff revised data ready for implementation of LMBR (the Department's new system for Office administration due to be rolled out in September) and our School Learning Support Officers attended a workshop on strategies for supporting students with special needs.

## ***REPS Cross Country***

Students from Preschool to Year 6 will be participating in our annual school cross country on Thursday 5 May. Parents are invited to come along and cheer on their children as they compete on a course within the school grounds. Students are encouraged to wear their sports uniform and their house colours.

**Mawson - blue  
Flynn - yellow  
Parkes - red  
Smith - green**

## ***Carparking***

A new stop and drop zone has been installed on the northern side of Marguerette St near our school and a 5 minute parking zone is on the southern side of Marguerette St. Please use these zones and keep our children safe.

Thank you to all our responsible parents who ensure our students' safety, by entering and leaving the school through the appropriate pedestrian gates. The car park gates are closed as a safety measure. Authorised vehicles may enter the school car park. These vehicles will be identified by a 2016 red permit.

Parents may apply for a temporary permit at the Administration Office as required.

## ***Native Bee Hive***

Our school has received a replacement native bee hive which is now positioned close to the vegetable garden. We hope this will be a healthy environment for our new pets. These native bees do not sting. They are quite small and look a little like very small flies. You will see them hovering close to the bee hive as they venture to and fro pollinating our flowers.



## ***Harvesting in our garden patch***

Late last term children were excited to pick a very healthy watermelon hiding in the citrus garden. This was cut up to share with children in K-2. Children were collecting green beans last term. When they returned this term, it was a lovely surprise to discover that those beans had continued to produce. Over one hundred beans were carefully picked and placed into the harvesting basket. Class 1B enjoyed eating some of them for Crunch and Sip!

Gardening Club students were also delighted to discover that the potatoes were growing under the soil. There was also plenty of parsley to pick and share.

All are welcome to join Gardening Group on Wednesday mornings with Margaret and Mrs Brown at 8:30am near the vegetable garden.



### ***Nude Food Day: Reminder for Term 2***

Nude Food Day will continue each Thursday this term. Children are encouraged to bring food to school which has no disposable packaging. Poppers, chip packets, muesli bar wrappers and food wrapped in gladwrap are examples of disposable packaging.

Children should bring their food in containers and use water bottles that can be taken home to reuse. Fruit and vegetable scraps are fine as they can be composted. If you do see the need to use wrapping please choose an environmentally friendly alternative such as grease proof paper or paper bags as they can also be composted.

Nude Food Day is an important and meaningful way to teach children about caring for their environment. It nurtures their desire to lead a more sustainable lifestyle in the future.

Some families already pack their children's lunches with minimal or no disposable packaging every day of the week.

Our long term aim is to have Nude Food Week for all students at school!

\*\*\*It is essential that all containers, lids and water bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Please use a permanent marker and re-label when the names begin to fade.

### ***2015 Annual School Report***

A copy of our 2015 Annual School report has been posted on our website under the *My School* tab. A hard copy is in the office foyer for your perusal.

### ***PSSA***

PSSA soccer starts on Friday 13 May. Most games will be played at George Kendall Reserve. Teams will walk to the venue.

Upside down Friday bell times will apply from that day.

### ***Applying for Opportunity Class (for Year 5 students in 2017)***

Last term students in Year 4 received a letter giving information about how to apply for entry into an opportunity class in 2017.

If you are a parent of a Year 4 child and intend to apply, please ensure that you have returned the completed slip: Intention to apply: Year 5 entry to an opportunity class

Please note that if you intend to apply you must submit an online application.

The application website opens on 26 April, 2016 and closes 13 May, 2016. Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available in a printed application information booklet and at

[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement)

No late applications will be accepted.

### ***Student Wellbeing***

Congratulations to the following student on achieving a Principal's Award:

Bronze Level 3: Adam C

### **Upside down Friday bell times Start on Friday 13 May**

Lunch begins	11:00am
Lunch ends	11:55am
Recess begins	1:40pm
Recess ends	2:00pm

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



Joshua R

Rabee

Cooper

*Lesley Coker & Angelique Brown*

Relieving Principals

29 April 2016

P&C Call for volunteers  
Bunnings Rydalmere BBQ  
This Sunday  
Phone René 0412 084 786

## Dates for your diary

3 May	Dentist visit - Preschool
5 May	Cross country
5 May	School assembly 1:55pm in the hall
9 May	P&C meeting 6:30pm Admin block
10-12 May	NAPLAN Years 3 and 5
10 May	Police visit - Preschool
13 May	Police visit - Preschool
13 May	PSSA soccer starts
13 May	Upside down Friday starts



*You're invited to Morning tea*

- every Tuesday
- 8:55 to 9:25am
- in the COLA near the canteen

*All parents and carers welcome*

Gloria has lots of pre loved jumpers for sale. Call into the uniform shop Monday and Friday mornings at 8:30am for a bargain.

## Helping Hands OOSH news



### Helping Hands Presents **FOOTBALL FRENZY!**



Over the 5 week program children will learn many new skills and techniques to help them play better football. Dribbling, passing, shooting and teamwork will be included. For an amazing fun filled football experience, this is a must!

#### **Football Frenzy 5 Week Program**

**Every Tuesday for 5 weeks from 24/5/2016 at 3.30pm – 4.30pm for Kindy to Yr6**

For more information or to book onto this exciting 5 week program please contact;

Rydalmere East Helping Hands on 0475 823 785 or email

[rydalmerceast@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au](mailto:rydalmerceast@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au)

Booking forms are also available from the school office and Helping Hands service.