Term 1 – Week 2

February 3, 2014

Don’t forget to pack your ‘Crunch & Sip’ every day!
Winning classes will be published in the next newsletter.

School Captains
Jobie
Edward

Vice Captains
Amaya
Ryan

Term 1 Week 2
February

Term 1 Week 3
February

P & C Meetings – 18 February
AGM – 25 February

Monday 3rd
Staff Professional Learning 3:10pm

Tuesday 4th
Lunch Orders Today

Wednesday 5th
PBL Assembly – 11:10

Thursday 6th
Playgroup, 9:30-11:30am
Lunch Orders Today

Friday 7th
School Sport
9:30am – Zone Representative Trials at Merrylands Oval
PNPS Opera House Band Excursion

Monday 10th
Staff Professional Learning – 3:10pm

Tuesday 11th
Lunch Orders Today

Thursday 13th
Playgroup, 9:30-11:30am
K-6 Assembly 12:00
Lunch Orders Today
2:30pm – Parent Information Session
Welcome to new parents. Come along and find out all about our award system, Positive Behaviour for Learning program and the School Discipline Policy.

Friday 14th
School Sport
3:00pm – Band Session

2014 Staff
Principal
Mrs Kathryn Methven
Assistant Principals
Mrs Kym Murdoch
Miss Kate Young
Mr Ian Wheatley (rel)
School Administrative Manager
Ms Debbie Jones
School Administrative Officer
Miss Vui Nguyen
General Assistant
Mr Mark Ohrnyowsky
Learning Support Officers
Mrs Pallavi Mehta
Mrs Stacey Kerr
Mrs Kerry Barton
Cleaners
Mr Raj
Mr Prapa
Library
Mrs Chris Wilson
ESL
Mrs Rosemary Pizzuti
Ms Lee Roser
LaST
Mrs Carole Eltakchi
Reading Recovery
Ms Lee Roser
RFF
Miss Amy Dodd
Farsi
Mrs Shahla Malek
School Counsellor
To be advised

Class Teachers
KB
Mrs Booth
K
To be advised
Miss Pye
1/KP
Ms Kym Aspin (M,T,W,F)
1 AL
Miss Rebecca Long (Th)
2/1HS
Mrs Hollier-Smith
2/1L
Mrs Yashmin Lance
2/1M
Mrs Kym Murdoch (AP)
4/3L
Mr Greg Lesson
4/3B
Miss Caz Pritchard
4/3Y
Miss Kate Young (AP)
5L
Mr Andrew Lees
5P
Mrs Caroline Postlethwaite
6W
Mr Ian Wheatley (AP) rel
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It has been a brilliant start to Term 1 with increasing enrolments allowing us to form 13 classes. I welcome our 50 Kindergarten students who have made a wonderful start to their schooling journey. I congratulate all students in Years 1-6 who have commenced 2014 with a positive attitude, looking splendid in their correct school uniform. I look forward to a productive year of teaching and learning where we can all work together to ensure our students achieve their personal best. Whilst routines are being established in class and prior to formal homework being implemented, please encourage your children to read each night, reading helps children in all areas of their learning and it is the key to lifelong learning. Talk with your child. It is through hearing family members talk and responding to that talk, that young children begin to enhance their language skills. Access the following DEC website that will provide you with a wealth of information to assist your child with their learning.

http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home

Our sporting and creative and performing arts programs for 2014 aim to engage our students in a range of motivating experiences. Participation in the AFL ball skills program this term will provide our students with an excellent opportunity to develop fundamental sporting skills. This year we have decided to join with Parramatta East PS once again and allow our primary students who are capable of swimming 50 metres, the opportunity to participate. I encourage you to check the website for all notes and information as this is updated regularly by Ms Jones.

Staff News

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Lees who will be teaching Year 5 this year. Parents of 5L will have an opportunity to meet Mr Lees at the ‘Meet The Teacher’ session on Monday, 17 February. We also have two new cleaners, Mr Raj Kumar and Mr Prapa Tarruchlum.

Parent Information - Timetable Changes

This term we are trialling a new timetable at our school. There has been a slight change to the recess and lunch times. In a school day, mandatory school breaks are 75 minutes in total. The regular breaks are a 15 minute recess break and a 60 minute lunch break. Research suggests that student learning is optimum when lessons are explicit, engaging and about 45 minutes in duration with regular short breaks. Our playground data informed us that there were more accidents in the second half of lunch and an increase in behaviour notifications during this time. One hour is a long time for students to play and they can become tired and hot, taking a long time to settle for the afternoon session. We have developed a model that we believe will minimise disruptions to learning and improve student outcomes. The students still have a lunch break and plenty of opportunities to engage in social and sporting activities. Library, play leaders, cricket, ball games and soccer will continue as per last year. We have simply shortened the lunch break by 30 minutes and added two 15 minute mini breaks. During break 1 and break 2, the students have time to go to the bathroom, have a drink and perhaps a brief play or chat with their friends. They do not require extra food but some children are snacking on their fruit and vegetables during these breaks. Please note the students will continue to have lunch eating time in their classrooms as they did previously. There will be ample time allocated for eating. We look forward to analysing this new data in a few weeks to see if there is an improvement. This is only a trial at this stage. We are fortunate to have such dedicated and motivated teachers who truly embrace 21st century learning.

Meet The Teacher Evening

‘Meet the Teacher’ Night will be held on Monday, February 17. Meet the Teacher Night is a great opportunity to meet with your child’s classroom teacher and find out about specific information relevant to their class. Please note, that the opportunity to have an individual interview with your child’s teacher will be later in the term.

Please meet in the hall at 5:15pm where you will have the opportunity to be introduced to our staff members. This will be followed by a classroom visit to meet your child’s class teacher. There will be two sessions in each classroom, to enable parents to visit more than one class. They will be held at 5:30pm and repeated at 6:00pm, finishing at 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing all parents at these important information-sharing sessions. Teachers will be available to supervise all age students attending PNPS while you attend the meetings with your child’s class teacher.

Information Session For New Parents

We invite all new parents to our school to attend this informative session conducted by Miss Young and Mrs Postlethwaite. Please join us in the hall on Thursday, 13th February at 2:30pm. At this session the School Discipline Policy will be discussed. This includes an explanation of our Positive Behaviour for Learning program. Teachers will explain how the Merit Award system works and how your child can attain certificates and awards. There will be time to ask question about any aspect of school life at PNPS. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday. Afternoon Tea will be served.

Mrs Kathryn Methven
Principal

Please drive and park carefully around our school as they are your precious children and our wonderful students.
Email Distribution of Newsletter

You have the option of having our school newsletter emailed to you instead of having a hard copy handed to your child. You can nominate as many email addresses as you like.

Please send an email to the following address

pnpsnewsletter@gmail.com

and list these details:

- Write your family name
- Write your student/s name/s and class/es
- List any email addresses you wish to include for newsletter distribution: work, home etc.

If you have any questions please see Miss Young.

P & C Meetings

P & C Information Meeting – 18/2/14
Tuesday, February 18, 9:15am – School Staffroom

Annual General Meeting – 25/2/14
Tuesday, February 25, 9:15am – School Staffroom

Please note that the 25th February is the Annual General Meeting and the Executive Committee will be elected to run the P & C for 2014.

The 2013 P & C had a successful year raising considerable funds to benefit our children.

We invite you to join us on Tuesday, 25th February, as this will be an excellent opportunity to see how you can become involved in your child’s education. Morning Tea will be served.

Selda Ozdemir
P & C President

Payments at School

All payments for excursions need to be given to your child’s classroom teacher as they are recorded in the class folder. The correct money and permission note should be sent to school in a sealed envelope. These will be collected from students during morning class time. Please do not hand payments to teachers.

Havilah Family Daycare

A new daycare centre has opened at 2 Bellevue St, North Parramatta offering care for children aged between six weeks and five years. Please phone 0403 711 975 or 8626 79733 or email havilahfamilydaycare@gmail.com for more information.

Student Safety – Vehicles on School Grounds

Parents are asked not to drive onto school grounds at any time during the day.

This applies to dropping off your child in the morning and picking up in the afternoon.

The safety of all our students is the responsibility of the whole school community.

Farsi News

دیدجید یتحصل سال ییارا امد و خوش سلام با
شود شورا دیدی سال طول در که مهمن تکنه چند کلاس و اروند وون مشت از مدیره ساعد شروع هد مدیر و کلاس انیپا با تیم نه ساخت خود فرزندان وودیم انطور اسیست ظهیر بعداز دییردار موقع به آورده مدیره به موقع به را. کندی داشته که همواره درو انیپونی است واجبات از کلاسه با دیدار یازین ای پرکش گونه هر صورت در اینه گرفته نمی مرسه مدیره دفتر. یارا خواهد کمک شما به نخما امکان.

Absence from School

If your child has been absent from school due to sickness etc, please write a note to your child’s class teacher stating the date and reason for the absence. It is a Department requirement that all absences from school are explained.

We have a few students who are allergic to nuts and one student who is highly allergic, which could be life threatening. Please Do Not put Peanut Butter or Nutella on your child’s sandwiches or send nuts to school.

School Bags

A good quality school bag is an important piece of equipment for all students. We now have generous, durable backpacks in our school colours that have numerous compartments ready to hold all essential items and delicious lunches! Our school backpacks that will endure many years of travel to and from school, are available at the school office for $30. A fabulous investment!