



Para Meadows School Newsletter

Week 3

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4/5/15

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a wet and wild start to term 2. We are all still here but a little damp around the edges. The grounds unfortunately are still very wet and we have had combinations of inside or restricted play on the cement pad. Thank you for your understanding if your child comes home a little messy from the area around the cement pad.

School Photos

Unfortunately the photos were postponed until **Wednesday 13th of May**, as we thought there may be many students unable to make it to school. The photographer also did not want to take photos in the poor lighting conditions.

Finding My Voice in the Community

Heather Loosemore and Lisa Anderson have been working extensively with speech therapists Kiara Massi and Lydia Elliott to assist all of the students in the school to develop an effective and sustainable communication system.

Question And Answer Session 30.04.15

Thank you to all the parents that attended our first communication forum, it was very well attended with 17 parents coming to listen to the speech therapists and find out new strategies to support their child's communication in the school and community.

Proloquo2Go Sessions

We wish to offer training and sharing sessions around Proloquo2Go in week 8 term 2, this is an assembly week. We have enclosed a note for parents to provide feedback on times and days that suit.

We will attempt to accommodate as best we can, and will provide further training sessions throughout term 3 and 4.

TELSTRA

Earlier this year Alan Moore submitted a grant with TELSTRA to implement eye gaze technology as an alternate communication system for several students in the school. I was informed last week that our grant for \$10000 has been approved and we will be in a working partnership with TELSTRA over the next

few months to access the eye gaze technology.
Thanks Alan for your efforts!

STRIPEY SOCKS TO SHOW SUPPORT

Cri Du Chat Syndrome is a relatively rare genetic condition with an estimated incidence of 1 in 37,000 to 1 in 50,000 births. More common in girls than boys. The most distinctive characteristic is the unique high-pitched, monotone, cat-like cry. "cri du chat" is French for "cat's cry".

To increase awareness of this syndrome we encourage students to wear stripey socks on Friday. The more stripes and brighter the better.

Illawarra Credit Union

Bob Kotic Senior Executive of the Illawarra Credit Union presented the School Captain

Lachlan
Manners with a cheque for \$1000 which will be utilised to provide Mathematics resources for every classroom.



The funds were raised by the staff of the Illawarra Credit Union. It is wonderful to be supported by the business community of Wollongong.

Best regards, Gill Hendry

P&C News

MOTHER'S DAY STALL
Thursday 7th of May

Next Meeting: AGM
Wed 13th May, at 9:30am.

All Welcome!



EASTER

Rev Fr Branko Bosancic presented Lachlan and Shirley with easter eggs and cakes for the school on behalf of the Serbian Orthodox Church & St John the Baptist Parish and Church Community.

Students from St Marys School Tutor group who raise funds throughout the year, also presented the students with easter eggs.

Thank you sincerely to both groups!



MOTHER'S DAY

At last weeks assembly, Mrs McCarthy came to visit and encouraged the students to be caring and helpful towards their parents. Looking at the photos she needs a lot of help to get through her day!



Happy Mothers Day to all!



Easter Hat Parade

On Monday 30th of March the Primary students held an Easter Hat Parade. There were lots of smiles and much confidence as the students strutted their stuff for an appreciative audience.



Madeline, Jayden, Yunah; Madison, Luke, Amelia, Willow and Darcy



CAREERS CORNER

Thanks to the Year 11 and 12 parents for attending the CP and/or Ade Tours last week. I hope you were able to get information necessary to start thinking about your options for your child when he/she leaves school. If you have any queries or need more information on the service providers, please contact Merryl or myself at school. Parents of Yr 12 students have been notified of their ADHC assessment interview with Merryl during May. **Please jot down notes to bring to the interview or email them to Merryl beforehand if you want her to go through them before the interview.** This is an important meeting, so **please come to the interview armed with your information as per the information flyer** sent home with your child.

This week, the WOW programme commences (weather permitting). Unfortunately, the RSPCA is not able to accommodate us so all the **selected students will be going to Greenhouse Park on Tuesdays.** Students are to come to school in appropriate work clothes for gardening *ie. closed shoes, hat, long sleeves, and long pants.* They will be transported in the school bus (10am-12.30).

Three of our senior students will be commencing work experience on Fridays. We hope they enjoy the opportunity and manage to put their work skills to good use in the work environment.

DISCO AND BULLI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



On **Wednesday 27 May**, we will be holding a disco during school. Funds raised will go towards the Year 12 formal. We are very fortunate to have **13 senior Bulli High School students run the Disco.** They will be organising the music, posters, tickets, serving lunch and displaying dance moves on the floor. **Please look out for the flyer which will be sent home in due course which will also have the lunch and ticket order attached.** The Bulli High students are visiting Para Meadows every Wednesday for terms 2 and 3 where they will join classes across the school. Looking at their activities planned, our students will be having lots of fun.

Regards, Debra Koppel

Attention Canteen volunteers:

If you are unable to attend your day please phone Tracy on 0438273836

CANTEEN ROSTER



| | |
|---------------|---|
| Tue 05 May | Wendy & Michaela |
| CLOSED | |
| Thu 07 May | Amanda & Dara |
| Fri 08 May | Jo & Lisa |
| Mon 11 May | Sharon O'Brien & Leyna Perry |
| Tue 12 May | Donna |
| CLOSED | |
| Thu 14 May | Paula & John |
| Fri 15 May | Tracy & Jo |
| Mon 18 May | Suzi |
| Tue 19 May | Angela & Gail |

Para Meadows Ex-Students Group

Anyone interested in joining the group in 2015 please contact Genevieve on **0417651862** or email: genovevecertificate@yahoo.com.au

You will be most welcome to come along and join in the fun with lots of social activities!

Open to all school leavers and adults with a disability.

Held at Para Meadows school hall from 7pm-9pm every fortnight on a Wednesday night, \$3 to attend.

There are drinks and chips to purchase and we also serve a light supper.

Dates for 2015:

13th & 27th May; 10th & 24th June; 8th & 22Jul;
5th & 19th Aug; 2nd, 16th & 30th Sep; 14th & 28th Oct; 11th & 25th Nov; 9th Dec Xmas Party.