

# Our School Newsletter

## Greenwich Public School

Partnership and Opportunity  
Excellence and Success

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Issue 41 Term 4 Week 11

16 December 2015

## Principal's Message

### Megan Lockery

#### Thank You

Today I write my last Principal's Message for the Greenwich newsletter. It is with much pride that I sign off as Greenwich PS principal. My years at GPS have been very happy and productive and I have enjoyed working closely with the parent community, staff and students to make our school a truly great place for our students. The introduction of wireless technology, PBEL, electronic reports and improved NAPLAN results have all been team efforts and we have reaped the benefit of a community focussed on quality education. GPS is well-placed to continue to meet the challenges of the public education reforms. In 2016, we introduce the new History and Geography curricula and move into the second year of our School Plan.

Next year, Ms Anna Parrella will be the relieving principal until a new principal is appointed.

Thank you for your kind wishes and support – I have been overwhelmed by the emails, cards, conversations, phone calls and gifts. I will miss the friendship, collegiality and community atmosphere of Greenwich and will still read the newsletter to keep up with the news! I will miss the students and will be giving out lots of hugs today!

#### Road Safety Poster Competition Awards

Congratulations to the following five students who were winners in the Lane Cove Council Road Safety Poster Competition:

Sophie H, Aysha S and Lena A, Holly S and Aaliyah S

The girls were given a framed copy of their poster and a gift voucher. Mrs Val Stamper, Road Safety Officer from Lane Cove Council, presented the awards.



#### GOLD Awards

Many of our students have been successful in earning their GOLD award in our PBEL program. Years 2-6 students were presented with these awards at a special assembly on Friday and Kindy and Year 1 received their awards today at the Christmas Concert.



**‘A Present for the Baby’**

This morning our cute K/1 students entertained us with the story of ‘A Present for the Baby’. The SRC narrated the story and the students sang and performed the actions to explain that the best present for the baby was a kiss! Congratulations to the SRC, the K/1 students and teachers and to Miss Smith (coordinator) for a fantastic concert.





**Mrs MacDonald's baby**

Congratulations to Mrs MacDonald on the birth of a baby girl, Ava. Best wishes to mother and daughter!

**Stage 3 Disco –'Disneyland'**

On Monday night, Years 5 and 6 danced the night away with our cool 'Bop Till You Drop' DJ Lauren. After a dinner of pizza and icecream, there was more dancing and bopping and grooving to the music. Mr Clark shared some moves from the 80's that were soon copied! Thanks to Ms Azzopardi and Ms Virgona for catering the event. The students are to be commended on their outstanding behaviour!



### Senior Girl Swimming Champion – Sofia N

Apologies to Sofia N who was omitted from the Presentation Day Assembly awards. She is joint senior girl swimming champion for 2015. Congratulations Sofia on your outstanding achievements in swimming!



### New Uniform from 2016

From the beginning of the new school year, students may no longer wear the old uniform – no more green winter tunics or coloured (red or yellow) sports shirts. Sports uniform consists of the new royal blue and gold polo, not the plain royal blue polo. The uniform shop can advise you of the uniform requirements if you are in doubt. This concludes the mandated three year transition period into a new uniform. This will be the finishing touch into a smart looking school uniform. The students look so good when they are all in their school uniform.

### Classes, Staffing and Buildings for 2016

As the end of the school year draws near, we are in full swing for planning for next year. Our numbers across the school are growing and we look like increasing to around 505 students. Currently we have 492 students. It looks like we will have 7 classes on the K/1 campus and 13 classes on the 2-6 campus. We have been given permission to keep KSM demountable on the K/1 campus for future growth. A new demountable will be placed next to 3OB classroom to cater for the increased numbers on the Kingslangley Rd site.

When students return next year, they will be placed in temporary or holding classes until we can ascertain our final numbers. Our numbers are changing daily! Once this is done, we can finalise the class structures and move into permanent classes. We expect this process to take only a few days. During this time, all children will be actively involved in lessons around road safety, friendships and anti-bullying as well as returning to the study of English, Maths, Science, PD/H/PE, Mandarin and Creative Arts. This year, teachers have commenced planning for class formation with plans for 20 classes across the school. Class structure is determined by the number of students in each grade and the staffing formula associated with this. We will have a range of composite classes and straight classes across the school. It may be that some grades will be entirely composite classes. Our teachers are well equipped to differentiate the curriculum to cater for these classes. At this stage, it is likely that we will have Kindergarten/Year 1 composite class.

Our staffing is still being finalised and next year we will see a range of staffing combinations as some teachers will be returning from Maternity Leave and some teachers will be taking leave. There will be some classes with job shares- meaning two teachers teaching the class for set days each week.

### First Day next year - 2016

Next year, students in Years 1-6 will commence school on Thursday 28 January. Year 1 should meet under the K/1 COLA when the bell goes. Students entering Year 2 should meet under the Kingslangley Rd COLA and from here they will be given a teacher and classroom to begin lessons. Students in Years 3-6 will meet in the school hall. Children should bring their school bags to their meeting place.

**Classes 2016**

Considerable consideration of every student's needs is taken into account whilst forming classes. All teachers, executive staff and specialist teachers consult and communicate to ensure every effort is made to achieve the best possible combination of teacher and learning cohorts. I appreciate the community's ongoing support in allowing my teachers to use their educational expertise and professional knowledge to best place your children into class groupings. Due to overall student numbers in certain grades, composite classes will again be formed in 2016. For many years we have created composite (aka multi-age classes) when numbers have dictated their establishment. In many ways though, every class can be considered a composite class. With large age ranges, varied ability levels in literacy and numeracy, gender balance, non-English speaking background students, learning difficulties, gifted students etc, our parallel class structures all still exhibit a distinctive composite mix. It is for these reasons that requests for non-composite classes can generally not be fulfilled. It is also possible that your child may be in a number of composite classes during their school years. The final appointment of individual teachers to specific grades and classes for 2016 will be finalised in the New Year.

**Farewell Mr Richmond**

This year marks the end of an era for Mr Richmond. The last day of Term 4 will sadly be the last time the school community has the quality teaching services and leadership skills of Mr Luke Richmond. His commitment to excellence, quality teaching and supporting his team of teachers has meant that our school has become a better place. Best wishes Mr Richmond in your new position as Deputy Principal at Manly Village PS.

**Thanks to our helpers**

Several members of our parent committees are leaving or have left their positions in 2015. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank them for their amazing efforts- Fiona Ell (Uniform Shop), Angela Pearson (GOOSH), Jacqui Cochrane (P&C Secretary), Cathy Beardow (P&C Treasurer and School Council member), Mardi Jarrett (Grounds), Julie McKibbin (Fundraising Treasurer), Anne-Marie Sirca (Playground coordinator) and Sally Wooding (School Council). I would also like to thank Miss Tracey Foster our band conductor and Miss Anita Crawford, our string ensemble conductor and wish them well as they take up new positions.

One special group of parents I would like to thank is the outgoing Year 6 parents – for many of them, this year draws to a close a long and happy relationship. Maryanne Hodson has been a longstanding library assistant and Pete Callaway leaves after fulfilling an important role as P&C President. Many other parents have assisted in fundraising events, classroom activities, excursions or have served on committees. Our heartfelt thanks go to you all for your contributions to Greenwich PS.

Thanks to all our continuing parents for your support – without it we couldn't achieve as much!

**Vote of Thanks to the Staff**

I would like to thank our teaching staff for another year of excellent student learning outcomes. They are attributable to the professionalism and quality of teaching practice that our students are the recipients of on a daily basis. The executive staff must be congratulated on a year of fine leadership as we commenced the first year of implementation of the School Plan. Our administrative staff provide a high level of support that underpins all that we achieve. Thanks to our office staff, grounds staff and student learning support officers for all your efforts this year.

## Teamwork

It is the teamwork of staff, parents and students at Greenwich that is the key to our success and results in the enviable reputation that we enjoy in our local community. T E A M stands for Together Everyone Achieves More. As Margaret Carty says, *'The nice thing about teamwork is that you always have others on your side.'*

## Happy holidays

May I wish you all a safe and enjoyable Merry Christmas and festive season and a happy 2016!

*Megan Lockery*

Principal

## Giving Tree

Thank you to all the people who generously donated to this year's Giving Tree.

The gifts are going to the Red Cross Migrant Centre in Sydney. We collected for a range of ages and the donations were very gratefully received. It is lovely to be able to make a difference at this time of the year.

2 – 6 Student Representative Council

## P&C NEWS

Thank you to everyone who has supported the P&C over the past year. We farewell a number of people who have worked tirelessly over the years and we thank them for their commitment, enthusiasm and importantly their sense of humour. A big thank you to Cathy, Mardi, Julie, Fiona, & Jacqui. We wish them all the best and for their children starting new schools.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

Adam and Dave

## MERIT AWARDS Week 11

Years 2/6



**Bronze Awards**



**Silver Awards**



**Premier's Reading Challenge**



**DIARY DATES**

**TERM 4**

**WEEK 11**

**Wednesday 16 December**

- K/1 Christmas Concert
- Years 2-6 Talent Quest
- 2pm Year 6 Graduation Assembly
- Last day of Term 4 for students

**TERM 1 2016**

**WEEK 1**

**Thursday 28 January**

- Years 1-6 Students return

**WEEK 2**

**Tuesday 2 February**

- Kindergarten commence school

**WEEK 3**

**Friday 12 February**

- Kindergarten Picnic afternoon

**WEEK 4**

**Wednesday 17 February**

- P&C Meeting 7.30pm

**WEEK 5**

**Monday 22 February**

- Class Photo Day

**Wednesday 24 February**

- School Swimming Carnival

**WEEK 6**

**Monday 29 February**

- Young Leadership Day

**WEEK 7**

**Thursday 10 March**

- Selective High School

**WEEK 8**

**Wednesday 16 March**

- Sydney North Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre

**WEEK 9**

**Friday 25 March**

- Good Friday

**WEEK 10****Monday 28 March**

- Easter Monday

**WEEK 11****Monday 4 April**

- State Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre

**Tuesday 5 April**

- State Swimming Carnival Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre

**Friday 8 April**

- Last day of Term 1

**HARDCOPY NOTES HOME THIS WEEK**

- Nil

**SURVEYS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

- Nil

**EMAIL ATTACHMENTS HOME THIS WEEK**

- Nil

*Greenwich Public School does not endorse or approve any particular product or service advertised in this newsletter.*

## Piano and Keyboard Lessons

I have a couple of vacancies next year for private lessons – beginners or further advanced pupils, working for Trinity London, AMEB exams or just learning for pleasure.

What an excellent Christmas present for an adult in your family who would like to play.

I am a qualified, experienced teacher, fully accredited with the NSW Music Teachers Association.

Bev De Luis

[bev.deluis@hotmail.com](mailto:bev.deluis@hotmail.com)

0401 501 178

9436 4920



# River Road Tennis & Golf Camps



For more information please call 9428 3336

OR VISIT [www.riverroadtenniscentre.com.au](http://www.riverroadtenniscentre.com.au)

**CAMP 1: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> — Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

**CAMP 2: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> —Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

**CAMP 3: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> —Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**CAMP 4: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> —Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

**CAMP 5: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> —Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January**



# Lane Cove TAEKWONDO

[www.lanecovetaekwondo.com.au](http://www.lanecovetaekwondo.com.au)



## Get Empowered! Free School Holiday Program

#4 x Free Introductory Sessions

#Learn Self Defence

#Get a workout

#Life Lessons on goal setting, discipline and healthy living!

SAFE, FRIENDLY AND  
FUN ENVIRONMENT.

CERTIFIED,  
QUALIFIED AND  
EXPERIENCED  
INSTRUCTORS.

PARENTS WELCOME  
TO WATCH OR DROP  
OFF.



Monday 11th January  
Tuesday 12th January  
Wednesday 13th January  
Thursday 14th January

4-6 year olds:  
12.30 - 1pm  
7 years and above:  
1.00 - 1.45pm

REGISTER VIA EMAIL [LANECOVETKD@HOTMAIL](mailto:LANECOVETKD@HOTMAIL)

"We have been blown away by the value-based training, support and positive nature of the instructors." - Franki (Parent)

**BOOK NOW!**

LANE COVE BOWLING CLUB  
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0406 493 462  
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