Excellent Opportunities For Our Students

Ms Martin took the student leadership team to the GRIP Leadership Conference at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush where they participated in various workshops and learned about leadership. They had the opportunity to collaborate with students from other schools. They learned that leadership is not about privileges and giving instructions to others but more about being proactive and generous every day, standing up for others, for what is right, for self and serve at every opportunity. Our students came away with many ideas and I for one am looking forward to seeing their ideas come to life.

Eastlakes PS was represented at the Zone Swimming Carnival at Botany Aquatic Centre on March 3 by our swimming stars – Emilio, Pablo, Jonathon, Angelina and Christian. All students had a great swim and achieved personal success in their races. Thank you to Mr Pizanias and Mrs Taylor who accompanied the students.

Harmony Day Happiness

I hope that you are all thinking about the delicious food you will bring to share with our whole school community at our Harmony Day celebrations on Wednesday 25th March. It is a day we celebrate our diversity, belonging, culture, acceptance, respect and inclusiveness. Everyone is encouraged to wear orange to help us celebrate. There will be dancing, singing, drumming and eating! We look forward to seeing you all there. A note will be sent home next week with details of the day’s events.

Schools Clean Up Day

Well done to all EPS students who put in a great effort to clean up our school. A clean environment is a healthy environment! Thank you to Mr Pizanias for organizing the event.

Best Start Kindergarten

Our kindergarten students completed best start assessments during their first week at school. Teachers will be providing parents with feedback about their child’s assessment together with strategies and tips of how to help at home in literacy and numeracy.

Free Vision screening for Kindergarten

The Statewide Eyesight preschooler screening (StEPS) program is an initiative of the NSW Ministry of Health and offers a catch up screening for Kindergarten children who may have missed out at preschool or not had a vision assessment prior to starting school. Our kindergarten students will have their screening done on Monday 16th March. Please return the signed forms to your child’s teacher.

Attendance – Extended Leave Travel

You will be aware from previous newsletters and the media that there are changes to the DEC School Attendance Policy and Procedures. If you are considering travel with your child during school time and not during vacation periods it is important that you make an appointment to meet with me to discuss your plans. Parents will be issued with an Application for Extended Leave – Travel for completion. Parents will be informed if the application is accepted, provided with a Certificate of Extended Leave - Travel and the absences will be recorded as Leave.

Under the new procedures I can accept a reason for travel during the school term if it is in the best interests of the student. Educational, social and participation reasons should be specified on the application. Travel documentation, such as travel itinerary or e-ticket, is to be provided and attached to the application.

We encourage all our families considering holidays with their child to travel during the school vacation period. Please note: applications for Extended Leave - Travel are not to be made on the Skoolbag App, these will not be accepted and parents will be contacted by the school. The absentee forms on the Skoolbag App are for daily absences only.

Anthia Tsantoulis – Principal
5/4R NEWS

In 5/4R this term we have been enjoying lots of learning through English, Visual Literacy, Maths, Personal Development and Art activities.

This is what some of the students think about the work they have been completing in class.

I enjoyed making the funny food people using cut out pictures from magazines. First you needed to draw your body on paper, next you had to cut out and glue healthy food from the magazines. We made our funny food people so we could learn about eating healthy food and to make our room look beautiful. Hussien

The classroom is filled with drawings and lots of creative work like our Sydney Cove drawings and our Sydney Harbour Collage. We also have lanterns for Chinese New Year, and work about the book “My Place” and “A is for Australia”. There is also a reflection wall where you can write what you have learnt. My favourite part was painting Sydney Cove because we got to draw, paint and be creative.

Christian

I enjoyed the activity about the big tree from “My Place” because it was fun and we got to know more about the characters in “My Place”. We drew the big tree then we chose some of the characters from the decades represented in the story to place on the tree. The big tree is over 200 years old and every character in “My Place” has a special memory of the tree. The tree is in every decade of the book. Kiana

Bullying. No Way! The fifth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence will be held on Friday, 20 March 2015. Eastlakes Public School is proud to take a stand against bullying and violence and show our support.

This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying. No Way! and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. Listen calmly to get the full story.
2. Reassure your child that they are not to blame.
3. Ask your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
5. Contact the school.
6. Check in regularly with your child.
Many Eastlakes students have started reading books for this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. All students who have returned their permission notes have been given a green reading log.

It’s not too late to start! Any students who would like to participate in the Challenge need to see our Librarian, Ms Eaton for a permission note.

Remember that the Reading Challenge should be an enjoyable reading experience. Parents of Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students can read the stories to their child. Children in Years 3-6 should read books that they have chosen independently.

The Challenge needs to be completed by the middle of August. The number of books is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Premiers reading Challenge books</th>
<th>Free choice books (any books may be read here)</th>
<th>Total number of books</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Premier’s Reading Challenge books in our school library have special stickers to make them easy to find.

This year families will be supported in entering their child’s reading log online. This is a relative simple task. More information will be given in coming newsletters. For now it will be sufficient to write the title and author of each book onto the green reading log.

**Happy reading!**

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### Congratulations to all our K-6 Students of Week 6 & 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KM Hugo</th>
<th>KM Syamil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/KCW Shelly</td>
<td>1/KCW Safwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S Nazifa</td>
<td>1S Priyanto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/1V Tevita</td>
<td>2/1V Halapua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2SH Angelo</td>
<td>2SH Kimora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/3S Chloe A</td>
<td>4/3S Kaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/4R Kiana</td>
<td>5/4R Olyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/5M Andy</td>
<td>6/5M Aaron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### P&C News

**Ice-blocks on Fridays**

Ice-blocks have started again – The new Year 6 students are doing a great job selling them on Fridays. Ice-blocks are $1 so don’t forget to pack a coin on Fridays. We will have a break over the colder months and be back in Term 4.

### Fundraising Events for Term 2

- **Mothers’ Day Stall** – Wed 6th May (Week 3)
- **Eastlakes Multicultural Fair** – Saturday 13th June (Week 8)

### Get Involved!

We need parents to help with all our events, and are always looking for new ideas.

**Our next meeting is Wednesday 18th March, 6pm in the Staff Room. All welcome!**
Let the music free your body the ultimate dance-fitness party will groove you into shape.

For class details
Contact your licensed Zumba Instructor:
Melissa Sarantos
www.facebook.com/2steps2go
0413908660
Every Wednesday Night from 7pm- 8pm
© Eastlakes Public School
$11 Casual Class or 10 Class Pass $90
All levels of fitness welcomed !!
See you on the dance floor