Dear Parents/Caregivers,

TERM 1 – WHAT A TERM!!

Well – here we are again, near the end of Term one with only one day left before a well deserved break! Things have been so busy this term, that the time has literally raced by. For those people keeping score at home, here is a list of some of the projects and achievements that we have completed/made at Prestons PS this term:

* Best Start Assessments for Kindergarten
* Meet the Teacher BBQ
* Swimming Carnival
* Peer Support Training and Program
* High School Visits
* Cops and Kids League Event
* Active After School Program
* Cross Country Carnival
* Parents Maths Workshop

After such a busy term, I’m sure that we will ALL enjoy the well deserved break!

EASTER HAT PARADE AND END OF TERM

Tomorrow we will be having our Annual Easter Hat Parade. Details for the parade can be found on the following page. We would love to see all our parents and community members here to celebrate this annual event. On behalf of all the staff at Prestons PS, I would like to wish you all a fantastic Easter break, and I look forward to seeing you all refreshed, relaxed and ready to go next term!

School resumes for students on Tuesday 29th April.

FAREWELL MRS BEAVIS

Tomorrow is Mrs Beavis’ last day before she leaves us to go on Maternity leave. Although we will all miss her here at PPS, I’m sure that you will all join with me in wishing her all the very best and we look forward to hearing the news when baby arrives!

Mark Greentree - Principal
**School Information**

**Assembly Information**
K-2 – Every Wednesday commencing at 2.15pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Host Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 - 30th April</td>
<td>Captains</td>
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3-6 – Every 2nd Thursday- Even Weeks commencing at 2.15pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Host Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2- 8th May</td>
<td>5/6H</td>
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**Anzac Day Ceremony**
On Wednesday 30th April we will be holding an ANZAC day ceremony at 10.50am for approximately 10 minutes. Parents and friends are welcome to attend. Children are asked to bring flowers for the ceremony.

**School Holiday Kids and Family Camps**
It’s not too late to book your child into a NSW Sport and Rec holiday camp. There are also family camps available year-round, for an active, family-friendly (and pocket-friendly) getaway. Find out more: [http://bit.ly/1hWxTra](http://bit.ly/1hWxTra)

**Kik, Vine, Instagram – are they safe?**
It’s no contest – kids discover and understand new social media long before we adults do. If your child is thinking about creating a new social media account – or complains that “everyone else is doing it”, you can get the facts a glance from School A to Z’s technology glossary. You’ll also find information about age restrictions and things to watch out for: [http://bit.ly/188OerY](http://bit.ly/188OerY)

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS 2014**
**What Is A Voluntary School Contribution?**
This is a voluntary payment from parents that is requested each year by schools to supplement existing funding. Our school relies on these contributions to provide additional resources to ensure our students have the best possible learning opportunities and learning environment.

**How Much?**
The voluntary contribution for 2014 is: $30 per family.

Please note that this equates to only 75 cents per FAMILY per school week, and it is the cheapest contribution amount of ANY school in this local area!

**What Will The Money Be Used For?**
All money raised from these contributions will go directly towards the purchase of school resources and related technology, to enhance the teaching and learning across our schools.

**It’s Academic**
Last year students from Prestons PS represented our school on the television show “Its Academic”. Join in with the excitement cheer on our students and test your knowledge by watching channel 7TWO at 7.30am on:-

- Monday 28th April
- Tuesday 29th April
- Wednesday 30th April
- Thursday 1st May
- Friday 2nd May

**Easter Hat Parade**

**Friday 11th April at 12:00pm**
Come and celebrate with us by watching the students show off the wonderful hats they have created in class or at home. Students may go home after the parade but parents are reminded to sign out their child with the classroom teacher before leaving.

**P&C Raffle Easter Raffle**
Lots of great Easter egg baskets to be won
- Tickets 50c each or
- One book for $2.00

Please return your tickets and money to the office prior to the Easter hat parade.

**Books to boost brains**
Literacy skills often progress suddenly in leaps and bounds. The secret is to keep kids of all ages reading over the weekend and school holidays. Even 20 minutes a night can make a huge difference to their reading, comprehension and general knowledge. It’s also a great way to settle their minds down before sleep (for adults too!). If your child hasn’t found a book that grabs their imagination, why not try them on a series book from the Premier’s Reading Challenge list? Here are top suggestions for all ages, including young adult: [http://bit.ly/1dLSGC0](http://bit.ly/1dLSGC0)
**Classroom Chat with .....**

**1M**

1M have had a great time learning in term 1!

In class, 1M have been using adjectives, nouns and verbs to write descriptions. We wrote fantastic sentences describing the Gruffalo and created these wanted posters.

![Wanted posters](image)

During maths, we have been collecting data on our class and using tally marks to show our information. Here is a graph we created about the favourite ice cream flavours in 1M.

![Ice cream graph](image)

1M have been talking about our families and ourselves during HSIE and Personal Development. Here are some of the self-portraits and family pictures we have created.

![Self-portraits](image)

**5/6T**

So far, 5/6T have had an amazing start to the year. As a class, we are developing a strong rapport with each other and have begun to establish friendly and supportive relationships. If we can accomplish a bond this tight after only a term together, I can’t wait for term 4.

Earlier in the term, I had the fine pleasure of escorting our year 6 students as they visited Lurnea High School. Here, students got their first look at life at high school and I must say I was really impressed with the way they handled themselves. Their first role as seniors representing Prestons was a huge success!!

This was also a valuable time for our year 5 students as they used this time to prepare for NAPLAN.

Stage 3 ability based Mathematics groups have commenced. These groups were extremely beneficial and worthwhile last year, so we have carried them on. In future, any and all mathematics homework will be set and collected by your child’s group teacher.

Last Monday, we had an extremely fun filled session with Joffa (a professional cartoonist). The children engaged in some exciting drawing activities, which centred around building their self-esteem and tolerance towards others. Some lucky children even got an autograph!

Parents, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate in contacting me. We can talk over the phone or arrange for an interview before or after school.

Finally, I’d like to thank the parents who responded to my request for tissues, soap and paper towels. We are set for this semester. Thank you!

Have a safe holiday and a very happy Easter!

*Miss Tan*

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1M wishes everyone at Prestons PS a safe and happy holiday!
FREE & fun program for fitter, healthier, happier kids!

Know if your child is over a healthy weight?

Go to www.go4fun.com.au or call 1800 780 900 to see if your child could do Go4Fun.

DENTAL CARE FOR CHILDREN

All children under 18 years of age are eligible for FREE DENTAL CARE at NSW Public Oral Health Clinics

NSW Health recommends that all children have a dental check-up

Toothache can cause children to miss school. Pain can stop children playing, eating and sleeping.

To make an appointment, contact:

- Your family dentist, or
- The Public Dental Service

PUBLIC DENTAL ACCESS CENTRE TELEPHONE

(02)9293 3333 / 1300 559 393

CASULA HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

This week at Casula High:

- The Department of Education and Communities has invited our students to take part in the National History Challenge where selected students will be invited to visit Gallipoli for the Centenary Commemoration Ceremony.
- Our Creative Arts Performance Group is busy practising and preparing for our upcoming Term 3 Showcase.
- Another of our Indigenous students has been successful in being accepted into the TAFE “Hands on Program” for Beauty Therapy.
- The NSW Department of Trade and Investment has given our school a Quake Catcher for use in our Science programs.
- Year 12 students have successfully completed their Half Yearly Exams and are in the process of completing their assessments required for the HSC.
- The “Buddy Program” for our Special Education students has been implemented and is expanding at a rapid rate.

If you have any queries please contact the school on 9602-4270.
Emily Signorini, Transition Co-ordinator