Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

WELCOME BACK!!

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful break and are feeling well rested as this term is not only going to be short (9 weeks) but also extremely busy! With excursions, school photos, NAPLAN and Active After School Sport kicking off in just the first few weeks – you can see what I mean!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

There are a number of school improvements occurring around the school this term. During the school holidays the boys toilets received a long overdue upgrade – something which I’m sure the boys will be most impressed with! The computer lab is currently being painted and refurbished with the project expected to be completed by week 6. The school grounds (particularly the gardens) have been getting a great ‘make over’ thanks to the hard work of Mr Woods (our new General Assistant) and I’m sure that everyone will agree how much better the school is looking as a result. The school will also be getting a new electronic sign over the coming weeks – so stay tuned!

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2014

School photo day will be on Monday 12th May (Week 3). Pre-payment envelopes were sent home on Tuesday with students. Student package prices start from $32. Family photos will also be available for students enrolled at Prestons PS with costs starting from $15. Family envelopes can be collected from the office.

Student envelopes must have correct money enclosed. Envelopes can be handed in at the office prior to the date, though all students must have their envelopes on the day of the photos. Please Note – No change will be available from the office.

CONGRATULATIONS

A huge congratulations and best wishes to Mr and Mrs Beavis, who welcomed their son into the world on Monday 29th April. Baby Beavis was born at 12:26am. Both mother and baby are doing well.

Mark Greentree - Principal
School Information

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

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Host Class</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th May</td>
<td>KL</td>
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<td>14th May</td>
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<td>21st May</td>
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3-6 – Every 2nd Thursday - Even Weeks commencing at 2.15pm

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>8th May</td>
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<td>22nd May</td>
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Application for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2015
Parents seeking opportunity class placement (OC) for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an application by 16th May 2014. Students who are currently in Year 4, are eligible to apply for Year 5 entry in 2015.

Parents seeking opportunity class placement for students in 2015 are able to apply online from Monday 28th April 2014 by going to this internet website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement.

Printed application packages will be available in our school. Any enquiries regarding opportunity class placement should be directed to Mrs Storkey.

P&C Used Uniform Shop
The used uniform shop will be open

Fridays from 8.30am

The shop is located behind the hall and will be open on these days for approximately 1 hour.

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.

Active After School
Active After School will commence next week for Term 2, 2014.
K-2 Tuesdays 3.15pm – 4.15pm
3-6 Thursday 3.15pm - 4.15pm.
Please ensure prompt pick up.
Students who have been selected for these programs have been notified with a note that was sent home advising of selection.

Book Club
Book club brochures have been distributed to students. If your child would like to order from this issue please complete the order forms, ensuring that your child’s name & class are provided and return the order form & your payment to the office. Orders for this issue close Monday 12th May 2014.

Mother’s Day Stall
Prestons Public School P&C will be holding a Mothers Day stall on Thursday 8th May. Various gifts will be available from between $2 and $10.

P&C News
On behalf of the P&C, I would like to welcome everyone back and hope that you all had a safe and enjoyable Easter break. With your assistance we made $979 for the school from the Easter Raffle. We congratulate all the winners and hope that you didn’t eat your prize all in one day. As we had a number of donations arrive after the draw had taken place, we decided to donate these items (and the late arrival Christmas Raffle items) to the Salvation Army as suggested by a parent.

We would love to see you at our next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday May 20th at 6pm in the Staff Room, everyone is welcome.

-Raymond (PPS P&C President)
National Young Leaders Day

Our Captains and Vice Captains participated in the National Young Leaders Day on Monday 31st March. Our students joined thousands of others from schools across NSW for an inspiring program of keynote speakers including Ita Buttrose, the Hon. Bob Carr, Coen Ashton and Andy Griffiths.

They represented our school very well, demonstrating outstanding behaviour. It was a most enjoyable day. **Mrs Raiti**

**Thoughts from our captains..........................**

I was honoured to go to the QANTAS Credit Union Arena for the National young Leaders Day. The Halogen Foundation did a very good job running the whole day. We started off by creating a human graph and every single person (about 6 000) got involved in it! Then we had a break and got into the speeches. The speakers in order were; Mike Martin (head of Halogen), The Hon Bob Carr (former NSW Premier), Andy Griffiths (author), Coen Ashton (an inspirational young person) and Ita Buttrose (2013 Australian of the Year). Each speaker had an inspiring and meaningful story about their journey as a leader. We can all achieve!  **Ella**

We learnt about leadership and how each of the speakers struggled at times to become the best they could be in their different roles. We learnt that everyone has a part to play in life and that it is important to feel empathy to try and understand what others are experiencing. Mike Martin (head of Halogen), told us that we have to keep trying to succeed because nothing that is great, cool or long lasting ever started out that way!  **Vineet**

I was honoured and glad when I got picked to go along to the National Young Leaders Day. I had an awesome time and I hope I can go again in the future. While the speakers were talking, I listened carefully to their advice and it has inspired me to become a better leader. The slogan for the day was ‘I am somebody’ and it is true we can all make a difference.  **Charlotte**

We learnt about leadership roles and how leaders become good leaders. Bob Carr told us that life is a learning experience and that we should never give up. Coen Ashton was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis (CF) at 3 weeks of age. He was sick for almost his entire childhood. He spoke to us about his amazing fight to survive and even though he has been really sick he has achieved so much.  **Kaylob**
Peer Support was SO much Fun!

Our Peer Support program débuted this year with our Year 6 students kicking off the leadership program with a bang! It was a huge success and our Prestons students loved the opportunity to meet as a team and interact with other students in their group from K-6.

Thank you for organising all the fun and entertaining activities and games we have completed in peer support, we all enjoyed them very much. Each week we looked forward to having peer support on Friday.

We know organising all the groups and activities is hard work and would have taken a very long time but we really appreciate it as we had an amazing time each week.

We would like love to do this again next term however we know year 5 and 6 are very busy, so we might not get the time to do it again. However we would really love it if you could organise this again for next year.

Thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to be leaders, make new friends and have loads of FUN!

From all the peer support leaders and students in Miss Siddons class.