Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Week 5 has been extremely busy at Prestons. We have really tested everyone's stamina. Students and teachers have all been involved in some very enlightening learning experiences. The Kurrajong Learning Community has hosted a range of teacher learning sessions at our local schools, many of our teachers have been involved in these sessions. Students have stretched themselves to the limit with Multicultural Speech Finals for Stages 2 and 3. Some Stage 3 students have been involved in the Drama Play Day. An international soccer match was attended by 36 students and 5 teachers, all tired but happy. We have also had dance auditions for the annual LAAFF Festival. Our Prestons PS debating team has learned a lot from their debating workshop, and the High School Transition program continues with Year 6 students visiting Lurnea HS.

Of course throughout all of this everyone manages to maintain our high standard of classroom learning – a sign of contented students and teachers. I’d like to extend a huge thank you to parents who help their children sustain a balanced and inspiring school life by supporting both regular and extra learning.

On a safety note: In school zones the speed limit is 40km/h. I would like to remind all parents, relatives and friends who may drive on the roads around schools that the 40km/h speed limit is to provide a safe environment for our families.

The NSW Ministry of Health wishes to increase awareness of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000, reminding us all that smoking has been banned in a range of public outdoor places. This includes public transport stops and stations, within 10 metres of children’s play equipment, spectator areas of sports grounds, within 4 metres of a pedestrian entrance or exit point of a public building and open areas of public swimming pool complexes. Thank you for respecting the fact that our school is a public building and has children’s play areas.

Lynne Leverett – Relieving Principal
National Reconciliation Week

27th May – 3rd June

These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision. The week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.

May 27 marks the anniversary of Australia’s most successful referendum and a defining event in our nation’s history. The 1967 referendum saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and recognise them in the national census.

On 3 June, 1992, the High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision which legally recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a special relationship to the land—that existed prior to colonisation and still exists today. This recognition paved the way for land rights called Native Title.

The theme for this year is “Let’s Walk the Talk”, focusing on turning past conversations into actions.

National Reconciliation Week is the perfect opportunity to recognise all Australians, and the unique place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within this country.

School Visitors

There are times when parents need to visit the school to drop lunch, messages etc to their children. It is requested that even on these short visits that all parents inform the office that they are on site. Many of these messages or items can be left at the office and passed onto students during the breaks. This helps with class learning time not being interrupted.

All parent helpers assisting in classrooms must sign on in the visitor’s book located in the office.

Lost Property

With the cooler weather upon us the amount of lost property is growing. Parents are reminded to make sure their children’s school jumpers, jackets and hats have their names clearly marked on them. Clothing that is clearly labelled will help in the return of these items to their owners.

Bookclub

Issue 4 brochures have been distributed to students. Orders for this issue are due back by Friday 13th June.

Kinder to Year 2

To assist in the event of toileting accidents it would be appreciated if parents could keep a change of clothing, including socks and underwear, in your child’s bag. This will help to ensure your child is changed quickly as changes of clothing are not always available from the office.

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

If you would like for your child to attend the Canberra overnight excursion in Term 3 please return the expression of interest form and your Non-refundable deposit of $50 to the office as soon as possible. Once attendance numbers are finalised, parents will be notified of the balance that is payable.
Classroom Chat with ..... 

KS 

Term 2 is a very busy term for KS. The students have started homework this term and they also have home readers to take home.

KS and other Kindergarten classes have been practicing for the athletics carnival which will be held later this term. They are doing relays, other races and games.

KS students are busy doing assessments as Semester 1 reports are due.

In writing this term, students are learning how to write recounts. Miss Kinnavong has been helping us and she also does reading groups with us.

In Mathematics, KS students are working hard in TEN groups with help from Miss Ross. The students enjoy working with Miss Ross.

In Science, KS students are learning about the five senses. They have been exploring the sense of listening by using musical instruments.

4/5J 

This Term has already been a busy one and it’s only week 5!!

Year 4 students enjoyed their fantastic excursion to Fairfield City Museum and Year 5 have booked their spots on the bus for their Canberra excursion in Term 4.

Next week 4/5J is hosting their only assembly for this year. We have been working hard on our item and would love to see parents there.

The Athletics Carnival is fast approaching in Week 8. I encourage all students in 4/5J to get in and have a go at all the activities. You never know what you can achieve if you don’t try.

This term in 4/5J we are trying to increase our love for reading. We are doing this through silent, guided and shared reading activities. We are building a reading tree in our class to watch our love of reading bloom.
36 Year 5 and Year 6 students from Prestons Public School were fortunate enough to watch the Socceroos vs South Africa match on Monday 26 May 2014. The game was the last friendly appearance leading up to the FIFA World Cup in Brazil.

The children all excitedly chattered on the bus on the way to ANZ stadium. Once we arrived we had the opportunity to march past the field prior to the match. We were then ushered to our seats and we were fortunate enough to watch Samantha Jade perform live prior to the game. Prestons then cheered on the Socceroos as they ran onto the field.

Tim Cahill scored Australia’s only goal, just a minute after Ayanda Patosi scored South Africa’s opener early in the first half. The game resulted in a 1 - 1 draw. It was an exciting game to watch and for many of the students this was their first time watching a live international soccer match.

Thank you to Mr Meoni, Mrs Naicker, Miss Jordan and Miss Schroeder for giving up their own time to take the children to the game. We all enjoyed the game and are looking forward to supporting the Socceroos during the FIFA World Cup in Brazil. Aussie, Aussie, Aussie. OI, OI, OI!!!

Mrs S. Claydon