Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

**SCIENCE FUN DAY = LOTS OF FUN & LEARNING**

Today the staff and students took a break from the usual classroom activities, to explore the concepts of flight as part of our Science Fun Day. The day kicked off with a wonderful presentation by Dr Ken Silbern (Head Teacher Science at Casula High School) and three student representatives from Casula High School, who shared there experiences of the NASA space camp. Our visitors shared some amazing stories regarding their experiences, and some of our students got to ask them some questions at the end of the session. Dr Silbern also launched a paper rocket on stage – which blasted through a cardboard box! (As I write this newsletter, the classes are also building their own paper rocket, which will be launched later this afternoon.)

It was great to see the staff and students get into the festivities of the day, with some wonderful costumes being worn. Thank you to the staff who organised today’s activities, and also to the parents at home who assisted the students with their costumes. I’m sure today will be one that students will remember for many years to come!

**SCIENCE PROGRAM WITH CASULA HIGH SCHOOL**

Throughout this term, a number of our Year 5 students have been travelling to Casula High School every Wednesday, to participate in an extension Science Program. Yesterday, I had the privilege of walking with them and watching the program in action. The students observed and participated in variety of experiments, and developed a greater understanding of the scientific process. It is great that we are able to offer this program to our students, and we certainly are fortunate to have such a wonderful relationship with Casula High School.

**DENTAL CLINIC – BEEN AND GONE!**

On Monday afternoon we said farewell to the mobile dental clinic as it headed off to its next destination. The clinic was here for a week, during that time the clinicians had provided dental services to 262 of our students. Whist a lot of the students simply received a check up, a large proportion of the students also received additional dental work that ranged from cleaning through to fillings, and in some cases extractions. It was great to provide this additional service for the students in our school I hope that it is something that we can continue to provide in the years to come.

Mark Greentree - Principal
Kindergarten 2015
We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2015.
Children who turn 5 by the 31st July 2015 are eligible to enroll for Kindergarten 2015.
Enrolment forms can be collected from the administration office.
The Kindergarten/Preschool Transition Program will be commencing on Monday 13th October and the Orientation Day will be on Wednesday 5th November 2014.
Further information will be sent home at a later date.

Father’s Day Stall
The P&C will be holding a Father’s Day stall on Thursday 4th September. Students will be given the opportunity to purchase a gift from the stall during the day. Gifts will range in price from $2 - $10. Students who may miss out on this day will be able to purchase on the Friday.

Stage 1 George’s River Excursion
Friday 12th September – Week 9
Students need to be at school by 8.30am. Please return your signed permission note and money to the office by Wednesday 27th August (Week 7).

Stewart House
Stewart House clothing bags have been distributed to students today.
Clothing donations need to be returned to the office by Wednesday 17th September 2014.

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
All payments should have been finalised.
Students have been given a “What to Bring” note, a Medical Information note and an Itinerary for the two days.
It is important that all students return their medical notes ASAP to ensure that support can be made available if required.

Prestons Hornets Cricket Club
Prestons Hornets Cricket Club are looking for boys and girls (all ages) to play cricket this season, starting in September. For further information please contact Dave on 0401 654 207

Toddler Story Time
Any parents and carers who are interested should bring their toddler along to the school library at 2:20pm on Tuesday afternoons. Throughout the afternoon they will be involved in reading, drama and art activities. Parents and carers must attend with, assist and be responsible for their toddler at all times.

Zone Athletics Carnival
On Tuesday the Zone Athletics Carnival was held. After an extremely early start and a stop off at another school we finally got on our way to Campbelltown Sports Stadium. As we approached Campbelltown, the sky opened up and released a huge amount of water.
As the track was an all-purpose track the track events still ran with the field events set to be run next Thursday September 4th at Ash Road if weather permits.
Congratulations to Liana who smashed the 800m race beating 2nd place by a massive 8 seconds and also qualifying for the 100m and 200m final. Congratulations to Kodi and Vineet who also won their heats and qualified for the 100m finals.
A huge thank you to all of the students who attended raced in the rain without complaint and to the parents for all of their encouraging support.
Classroom Chat with ..... 

2V 

Technology
We have been enjoying our weekly visits to the newly refurbished computer lab. Students have discussed the importance of being appropriate users of the internet and have learnt how to access their personal pages on the DEC website. In future visits we will learn about emails. Students will discuss when and why we use emails and learn how to send and receive them.

Science
In our ‘Schoolyard Safari’ unit we will continue to observe the features and behaviour of small animals. It has given us a glimpse in the diversity of animal life. Exploring small animals is helping us understand how their adaptations help them survive in their habitats. Through investigations, we learn how animals move, feed and protect themselves.

HSIE
Our ‘Need For Shelter’ unit provides opportunities for students to explore the need of people and other living things for shelter, and how built and natural environments can provide this. The unit focuses on the students’ local area and safety needs in familiar environments.

Footstep Dance!
Due to Footsteps, 2V have overcome Mondayitis! Each week, we look forward to working up a sweat while learning a new dance routine. The Footsteps dance program has been funded by the school and all students have benefited from participation. Students are encouraged to build their confidence while learning and performing simple dance sequences. Each routine promotes basic movement skills that explore rhythmical patterns, locomotor and non-locomotor movements, repetition and co-ordination.

4S
We love being busy and working hard and that’s what we have been doing all term. This term we have been involved in many events that have improved and showcased our knowledge, skills and talent. We were all involved in the NRL training program where we all enthusiastically participated in activities and as a reward for assisting the University of Wollongong with their program not only did we gain a lot of insight about the game, we also gained a free football each!

This term Indiana and Guven took part in the Prestons Public School Stage 2 Spelling Bee Finals. We have also all had a tremendous amount of fun dancing our feet off during the Footsteps Dance Program that our school has funded for all the students. We had a magical time performing our magic show during the stage 2 and 3 assembly and are looking forward to performing our play Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs for stage 2, as part of our Drama unit. This along with all our other class work has made sure there is never a dull moment in 4S.
The Great Mini Fete

The Great Mini Fete is coming to Prestons Public School again this year on Thursday 11 September.

There will be great stalls including fairy floss, popcorn, ice cream and many fun games for you to play. Start saving your money now so that you can enjoy the day even more!

Remember to start bringing in your White Elephant Stall items (toys, books and other items around your house that you might not use anymore) or wrapped lollies for the prizes on the day.

Parent English Classes

If you would like to develop your conversational English skills then our parent English classes are for you!

Week 8 · Wednesday 3rd September
9am-10:30am

Topic – Ipads
Come along and get creative with an Ipad

Beginning in Week 5 this term, we began trialling some Parent English Classes. The purpose of these classes is to assist parents to develop their English skills so that they can confidently communicate in everyday situations such as at school, home or the shopping centre.

Class content will be developed based on the needs and interests of parents attending.

Weekly classes will be run by Mrs Naicker and Mrs Claydon on a Wednesday morning, 9am-10:30am.