MISSION STATEMENT

Parkes Public School strives for excellence in the education of responsible and respectful students in a safe learning community.

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P&C ASSOCIATION

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Treasurer
Vivienne King: 6863 5168

SCHOOL COUNCIL

President
David Bicket: 6862 3608

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Smith who were married last Saturday!

We were shocked and saddened last week on the untimely passing of Mrs Di Ehsman. Mrs Ehsman had been a school learning support officer at Parkes Public School for over 15 years. Prior to that time she volunteered in our support unit. For the past two years Mrs Ehsman has worked in Kindergarten with Mrs Elliott. She had supported right across the school and taught dance and social skills groups. Mrs Ehsman was an extremely nurturing and selfless school learning support officer and she often went the extra mile. Mrs Ehsman loved the students and they in turn loved and respected her. We offer our condolences to the Ehsman family at this very sad time. Di’s passing is a huge loss but we were fortunate to have known her as part of our staff.

GRANDPARENTS DAY TOMORROW

Grandparents are invited to visit class rooms between 12.30 and 1.15pm and then to have lunch in the playground with their grandchildren. Grandparents are invited to attend the infants assembly on Wednesday from 2.00 to 3.00pm.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Next Monday and Tuesday Stage 2 and 3 students will be attending workshops presented by the Commonwealth Banks’ Start Smart program. The presentation is about making savvy spending choices and aims to broaden students understanding of factors that influence their spending. They will participate in a comparative shopping exercise. These sessions are free of charge. Our students have attended in previous years and teacher feedback has been extremely positive.

PERFORMING ARTS SHOW AND TELL CONCERT

In week 6, on Wednesday, 11 November at 6.45pm we will be holding a concert in the school hall, to showcase the performing arts activities that our students have been undertaking this year.

There will be class items, dance groups, drum beat, school band, recorder group and choir. Our debaters and public speakers will also be sharing their skills. Costumes will be needed for some students however they will be very minimalistic. Entry will be a gold coin donation, with money raised going toward our performing arts program.

TELL THEM FROM ME SURVEYS

The closing date for completing these surveys is this Friday, 23 October. Thank you to those who have already completed the survey. We would really appreciate everyone’s opinions as this helps us to evaluate and improve our school.

P&C MEETING

Due to unforeseen circumstances, last night’s P&C meeting was cancelled. Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday, 16 November commencing at 6.30pm.
Debating News
Good luck to the debating team who will be debating in the regional semi final this Thursday. They will be debating against Millthorpe Public School. We are debating the affirmative - 'That ads for unhealthy foods and drinks should be banned.'

Sport News

PSSA Boys’ Cricket
On Tuesday, 13 October the Parkes Public Boys’ Cricket Team travelled to Dubbo to take part in their semi-final match against Dubbo Public School. Parkes Public bowled first which saw Hunter Hawke, Ryan Dunford and Austin MacGregor all claim wickets. At the end of the 25 overs Dubbo Public had scored 110 runs.

With a tough task at hand, Parkes Public went out to bat with Zayne Ehsman scoring 26, Wilson Duffy, 14 and handy contribution from Joseph Tanswell who scored 8. The boys sadly weren’t able to chase down a strong total from Dubbo Public and they lost by 18 runs. The boys showed outstanding team work and sportsmanship on the day and should be congratulated for their efforts all year.

A special mention must go to Jai Thompson and Liam Moody who were our 13th and 14th men. These two boys weren’t able to play every game, however, they turned up to all training sessions and games to support their team.

The boys would like to say a big thank you to Clinton Hawke and Blake Smith for coaching them throughout the year. They have learnt a great deal of knowledge and skills from the two coaches and appreciate them giving their time each week and for taking time off work to attend games. The boys would also like to thank Phil Dunford for attending training sessions to help out as well. Thank you to all the boys’ parents and carers for taking them to training each week and for taking time out of their busy schedules to support the team at their games.

Miss Heraghty would like to congratulate the boys on their growth, development and the sportsmanship they showed throughout the year. It was an absolute pleasure to be a part of a great team and to see them go so far in the competition. Well done, boys!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 21 October</td>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 24 October</td>
<td>Landcare Garden Working Bee - 7.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 10 November</td>
<td>Community Reading Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11 November</td>
<td>Performing Arts Concert</td>
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<td>Monday, 16 November</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting at 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 18 November</td>
<td>Helpers’ Morning Tea</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 2 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Orientation Day at Parkes High</td>
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<td>Thursday, 3 December</td>
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<td>Monday, 7 December</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly - Farewell to Year 6</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 8 December</td>
<td>K-2 Presentation Assemblies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 10 December</td>
<td>Presentation Night - 7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 14 December</td>
<td>Class Parties</td>
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DON’T FORGET

Grandparents Day
Tomorrow, Wednesday, 21 October
Closes tomorrow, Wednesday, 21 October

Book Club - Issue 7

Landcare Garden Working Bee
Saturday, 24 October
Please bring gloves and a shovel.
My congratulations to the boys cricket team who have played so well this year and were narrowly beaten. A very young team with much talent, it will be interesting to watch these boys in the next few years. My thanks to Ms Heraghty for her organisation of the team and to Mr Hawke and Blake Smith for your coaching expertise.

Not only have our students suffered the loss of a much loved staff member but a number of our families have also lost close family members in recent times. I am including part of an article from Michael Grose, parenting insights, named Help Your Kids Cope When someone Close To Them Dies.

When somebody close dies it can be difficult to help your kids cope with their grief, especially as you struggle to work through your own. What kids understand about death depends on how old they are, what they have experienced in their life, and also their personality type.

In all cases though, death must be explained in a child’s terms, and you must be honest with them and encourage them to ask questions, even though you may not have all the answers.

The following practical tips and ideas will help you to help your child cope when somebody close to them dies:

- When discussing the death with your children, it is important you let them know you are there for them and that there is no right or wrong way to feel. You should also explain that everybody deals with death in their own way.
- Any spiritual beliefs you have around death can be shared at this point. This can provide some comfort to the child.
- Until they are around five or six years old, a child views the world quite differently to you. So when explaining that somebody has died, you could simply say that the loved one’s heart stopped working and the doctor wasn’t able to fix it, or something like that to help them understand what has happened.
- It is difficult for children to understand that all people will eventually die and never come back, so be patient with them if they continue to ask when they are going to see them next, or when they are coming back.
- Kids are very curious creatures and may want to know where the loved one is now. If they have been buried, your answer may simply be “At the cemetery”, and of course if your spiritual beliefs include the existence of heaven or something similar, then you could tell them that they are now in heaven.
- As your kids get older and in particular into their teens, they begin to gain a full understanding of what death means, so you can talk to them quite differently – more at your level – about the death.

If you are worried about letting your kids witness your own grief, don’t be. Allowing them to see your pain allows them to see that crying is a natural reaction to losing someone close. It will also make them feel more comfortable in sharing how they feel.

While children will not show their grief in the same way as an adult, they will grieve in their own way. A teen may not be comfortable confiding in you, but will be able to talk through their grief with a friend, but whatever their reaction you should not take it personally.

It is important at this point to watch for any signs that your child is not coping with the loss. Any significant behavioral changes such as anger, being withdrawn, being extremely anxious or even a dramatic reduction in their grades at school should be taken seriously, and you should therefore seek professional help.

Grieving the loss of a loved one is a gradual process, and it is important you remain patient with your child as they learn to deal with losing someone they love. By offering them support and encouragement, they will be able to cope in their own way.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our K-2 sports day last Friday. I missed being there but I have heard it was a very successful and fun day.

I will be in Sydney all this week for the state Principals conference. There will be an assistant principal off class each day managing the school.

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Mrs Breaden
Student Achievement

CONGRATULATIONS to the following infants students who have been awarded a mufti day:

Chloe Chandler  
Isobel Chamberlain
Lucy Hall  
Angus Johns  
Addison Lewer  
Flynn Thompson

K-2 LITERACY AWARDS

The children who received the literacy awards and capes at the Infants Assembly were:

Kindergarten  
Nash Moore  
Shae-Lee Lord
Year 1  
Anna Cronin  
Tandric McGahey
Year 2  
Jordan Reeves  
Hayley Quarterly

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who gained a White Merit Certificate:

Bowe Kirwan 3N  
Kasey Ehsman 1/2A  
Annabelle Barnes 2M  
Lucy Hall 2M

Student of the Week

Name: William Jacobs  
Age: 12  
Class: Pioneer  
Teacher: Mrs Ward  
Favourite activities: Drawing, art and craft and watching movies with my family.

Teacher comments: William works very hard to do his personal best in all class tasks. He has a great sense of humour. He is the ‘peace keeper’ amongst his peers and is well-respected. William is very proud to be a prefect and is a strong role model.

What career interests you? Computer gamer or an architect.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

DETERMINATION

Determination is focusing your energy and efforts on a task and then sticking with it until it is finished. Determination is using your will power to do something when it isn't easy. You are determined to meet your goals. Even when it is really hard, or you are being tested, you still keep going.

Without determination, things don't get done. People give up easily and don't ask for help when they need it. With determination, even the hardest task becomes a challenge we are willing to accept. We do things that matter in the world. With determination, we can make our dreams come true.

Affirmation

I am determined. I set goals and keep going until I achieve them. I get things done. I stay on purpose.