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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Congratulations to Elizabeth Hoyle on selection to the Western Region Premiers’ Challenge Debating Team!!

For the first time in the history of Parkes Public School, a student from our school has been selected in the Western Region Premiers’ Debating Challenge team to participate in the NSW State Finals. To make Libby’s selection even more wonderful is the fact that she did not nominate for selection, the judges approached her to join the team. Unfortunately Libby has had to decline the experience but what a great accomplishment! We are very proud of you, Libby!

Amazing Infants Garden!!
Many thanks to the volunteers from 27 families who attended the working bee last Saturday! Please see the full article and photographs on page 6 of the newsletter.

Grandparents’ Day
Thank you to the grandparents who attended our Grandparents Day last Wednesday! The children loved having you visit!

At the Infants assembly we acknowledged three of our grandparents who regularly assist with school activities, Mrs Lorraine Chambers, Mr Ron Murray and Mrs Bev Thompson. Thank you all for your dedication to our students!

2016 Kindergarten Information Session
An information session for parents will be held in the Assembly Hall this Thursday, 29 October 9.30-11.00am. Children are to be dropped off at the classroom.

At the information session, parents will be given a starter pack and the necessary information which will ensure a smooth beginning to Kindergarten for your child in 2016. The school uniform will be on display and for sale at this session.

Boomerang Re-enactment March
This Saturday, 31 October the Boomerang March will be travelling from Parkes to Forbes. This is part of the re-enactment of the original recruitment in the 1916 march.

Parkes Public School students have been invited to have breakfast in Cooke Park at 8.00am on Saturday morning. Following breakfast our students have been requested to participate in a march following the ANZAC route.

Children are asked to meet Mrs Breaden at the corner of Short and Caledonia Streets at 9.00am dressed in summer uniform. We would appreciate as many children as possible representing our school at the march.
For Your Information

Board of Studies Resources for Parents
Guides for parents are now available from the Board of Studies. There are four guide books:
* Helping your child learn about grammar
* Helping your child learn to write
* Helping your child learn to read
* Helping your child learn to do Mathematics

Each book is $16.20 but the four can be purchased in a package deal for $52.
Orders can be made online from shop.bos.nsw.edu.au or by phoning 02 8855 5295

Learning Difficulties Parent Helpline
A helpline has been set up by the Learning Difficulties Coalition. It is supported by the DET and is open during school hours. The helpline offers information about assessments, resources, websites, booklists, facts sheets and more. The telephone helpline number is 02 9806 9960. The helpline can also be contacted on www.ldc.org.au and info@ldc.org.au

Entry into the Aurora College – Virtual Selective High School
The Aurora College Virtual Selective High School provides rural and regional students with access to an academically challenging curriculum in English, Mathematics and Science in the junior years, and other subjects in years 11 and 12.

Students in Aurora College attend their local high school but study Maths, English and Science subjects through virtual connection with their Aurora teachers, and attend a residential school twice per year. The students attend normal lessons with their peers for their other subjects.

Entry to Aurora in year 7, 2017, is through the Selective High School examination. This examination is in March 2016, but application to sit the test has to be made now (applications close 16 November). Go to the link http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php to fill in the online application form.

Further information about Aurora College can be obtained by visiting the website http://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/ or by contacting Mrs Helen Vere at Parkes High School on 6862 1844.

Kid’s Ark East Timor
Money is collected Mondays. This week we collected $16.75.

School Shades Sunglasses
It is not too late to order sunglasses for your children. Samples of sizes are at the office. We would like to put an order in by the end of this week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Tuesday, 10 November ……...Community Reading Day
Wednesday, 11 November ……...Performing Arts Concert at 6.45pm
Monday, 16 November ………..P&C Meeting at 6.30pm
Wednesday, 18 November ……….Helpers’ Morning Tea
Thursday, 19 November ………..K-2 Social
Wednesday, 2 December ……….Year 6 Orientation Day at Parkes High
Thursday, 3 December ………..Primary Socials
Monday, 7 December ………….Whole School Assembly - Farewell to Year 6
Tuesday, 8 December …………..K-2 Presentation Assemblies
Wednesday, 9 December ……….Anticipated date for student reports to go home
Thursday, 10 December ………..Presentation Night at 7.00pm
Monday, 14 December …………..Class Parties

DON’T FORGET
2016 Kindergarten Information Session
Thursday, 29 October at 9.30am

School Shades Sunglasses
Orders close end of this week
Friday, 30 October

P&C Meeting
Monday, 16 November at 6.30pm

Year 6 Orientation Day at Parkes High School
Wednesday, 2 December
Last week I was in Sydney attending a meeting and the state Primary Principals’ Association conference. This year I have been relieving on the Disabilities Reference group as the Western Region Principals’ representative. This has been an excellent opportunity to learn about new reforms impacting on students with disabilities and to review and revise policies which impact on children with disabilities, their families and the schools they attend.

The conference was based around the skills needed to lead schools in a rapidly and constantly changing global world to best prepare students for their future.

This week I am including some thoughts from Michael Grose about how to develop independence in children.

It’s been well documented in recent years that children/young people are dependent on adults for longer. In Australia one in four 18-30 year olds still live at home and those numbers are on the increase. There are many reasons for this including lack of housing, affordability, working and partnering later, and simple convenience.

There are a number of reasons for the current high level of dependency parenting including family shrinkage (parents are able to do a great deal for kids in small families), older parents (often over-concerned), busyness of life (it’s easier to do than delegate) and a heightened fear that the world is a dangerous place for children and young people.

Adults are the gatekeepers for children’s independence. And of course, independence takes many guises including:

1. **Self-help skills**

   The starting point for independence building is giving kids the skills, know-how and confidence to look after their own wellbeing and welfare. This is shown in the many everyday situations where parents model, teach and provide opportunities for children to look after themselves, including toddlers undressing themselves, primary aged children preparing their own snacks, and teenagers organising their own transport to school and after school activities. Kids develop real confidence from being able to look after themselves and others.

2. **Autonomy to make choices and mistakes**

   Without realising it, as parents we frequently make choices on our children’s behalf. We choose the food they eat; the games they play; their leisure activities and often the clothes they wear. When families are large (four or more children) parents usually give their children more space to make their own decisions as well as opportunities to learn from their poor choices. This may mean that children choose healthy interests and pursuits that parents are unfamiliar with, or even swim against the tide of their parents’ wishes. In small families parents often know so much about minutiae of children’s lives that inevitably we tend to impose greater well-intentioned control over children’s decisions.

I was so excited and amazed to come back from Sydney to find a new garden in the playground and what a fabulous garden!! My thanks to Jane Howard who organised and coordinated the whole project! What a difference it has made to our playground!

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge and thank our school community for the support shown to the staff and students in regard to the passing of Mrs Ehsman. It has been greatly appreciated. I would also like to acknowledge the assistance of staff from Parkes High school who supervised our students last Monday to enable our staff to attend Mrs Ehsman’s funeral. How wonderful it is to live in such a supportive community.

Have a happy week everyone!

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

**White Merit Certificate**

- Bodhi Ashcroft 1H
- Liliani Latu 1H
- Thomas Fredericks 3N
- Aidan Lynch 4R
- Jorja Rusten 4R
- Holly McColl 6B

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

- Gracie-Mae Cummings
- Shae-Lee Lord
- Sophie Tanks
- Nash Moore
- Liam Ross
- Olivia McMaugh
- Alana Murray
- Lucas Edwards
- Finlay Quince
- Nate Harrison
- Sam Westcott
- Ryan Whitney
- Rebekah Smiroldo
- Kylan Cottier
- Kaleb Amor
- Emma Ferris
- Nina Richardson-Bartley
- Annabelle Barnes

**K-2 LITERACY AWARDS**

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

- Year 1: Jett Johnstone, Linc James
- Year 2: Josie Lynch, Archer White-Crawford

**Student of the Week**

**Name:** Tarrin Cronin  
**Age:** 12  
**Class:** Pioneer  
**Teacher:** Mrs Ward  
**Favourite activities:** Playing games, watching cartoons and YouTube videos, drawing and kicking a football.

**Teacher comments:** Tarran strives to do his personal best within the classroom. He enjoys reading a variety of different types of novels.

**What would you like to be when you grow up:** I would like to be an artist or a YouTuber.
Last Friday saw a beautiful sunny day for our annual Infants Sports Day. The kids came to school super excited and ready to participate in the day. We began the day with the year level running races and even fit in a parent/student race and a teacher race. All the students ran their hardest and with smiles on their faces. After the running races we participated in some tabloid activities including: the parachute, tennis, basketball, relays and skipping. All staff and students had a very enjoyable day and there were lots of tired little students in the classrooms after lunch. A special thank you to all the staff for your help on the day and to the children for their participation and enjoyment throughout all the activities.
New Garden Working Bee

A fantastic working bee was held last Saturday morning and the school now has a beautiful new garden.

After parent Jason Kennedy prepared the garden bed area prior to the working bee, a good turnout of parent volunteers worked very hard to complete the garden in a short time. It was a lovely atmosphere as children and parents worked together to form the garden. Mrs Breaden came in on her return from Sydney and was amazed at how much was done in such a short time.

The native Australian garden will be a great spot for the students to take shade and beautifies the area on the infant’s side near the cricket nets.

Parkes Public school would like to acknowledge and thank Dirt Dr’s, Parkes Shire Council, Bunnings and Greenparkes Nursery for their generous donations.

Their donations along with the help of the following families have given the school a beautiful new landscape: Kennedy, Bland, Woodlands, King, Neems, Phillips, Noakes, Hando, Chambers-Lewis, Parkin, Fredericks, Riley, Howard, Gould, Martin, Venaglia, Thomas, Henry, Chamberlain, Ball, MacRae, Cummings, both Hall families, Mrs Leonard, Mrs Wright, Ms Barry, Miss Chambers and Miss Heraghty. Thanks also goes to Mr Britt who helped prepare the area last week.

Many thanks for your hard work and enthusiasm during the working bee!

Special thanks to Jane Howard and Michael Chambers, Parkes Shire Council’s Environmental Sustainability Officer, who were instrumental in acquiring a grant and planning the garden.

Make sure you take time to come and visit the garden. It has seating, mosaics and lovely plants.
Grandparents Week
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

RIVER ARTS FESTIVAL 2015

THURSDAY 29 & FRIDAY 30 OCT
SER FRANCIS FORBES DINNER
Forbes Golf Club
17 Forbes Rd
THURSDAY 29th, 7pm (tickets $50)
Including:
Guest speaker Rob Willis
Barbara Byrne
Luke & Erica Byrne
Forbes Dancers
Last Call

REGIONAL ARTS SYMPOSIUM
Jemalong Educational Centre
Church St
FRIDAY 30th, 9am - 1pm (morning tea inc.)
Including:
Guest speaker Elizabeth Rogers (CEO, Regional Arts NSW)
Presentations and panel discussions
Resource sharing to assist with cultural events and festivals

SATURDAY 31 OCT

ARTS ALLEY
Outside Forbes Oval
Lachlan St, 10am - 5pm
Including:
House of Tribes
Krystle’s Dance Studio
Johnno Cash Sing-a-Long
The Man From Snowy River
Nettie Cuddy
Great Art and Craft for sale

Zen Zone
Head over the bridge to the chillout space
Lachlan St, 10am - 5pm
Including:
A Wellness Tree
Alternative Therapies demos and chats
Great food and stalls
Lantern Decorating

ROBBE JOHNSTON & JIM CLARKE EXHIBITION
Forbes Town Hall
Cnr Harold and Court St, 10am-5pm

HATFELD EXHIBITION
McFetters Motor Museum Gallery
Cnr Oxford St & Newell Hwy
THURSDAY 30th, 5pm Opening
(free entry Sat 10 - 4pm)

WELCOME TO COUNTRY
Bucks Dreaming Centre
Across the walk bridge, end of Cross St
FRIDAY 30th, 5.30pm - 10pm
Including:
Warm-up Chair - Forbes North Primary School
RBCS Aboriginal Dancers
Forbes Senior High School Students
Forbes Learning Ladder
Forbes Public School
St Laurences Primary School
The Do-Riders & Unique Illusia
Food & drinks available

SPARKS KIDS CLUB

Register: www.hockeynsw.com.au
by COB Monday, 26 October
For more information contact Kate on:
0447 186 494 or email kate.p@hockeynsw.com.au