MISSION STATEMENT

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

CONTACT US

Principal
Mrs Leanne Breaden
77-85 Currajong Street
PARKES NSW 2870
Ph: 6862 1702; 6862 1867
Fax: 6862 5047
Email: parkes-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.parkes-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

P&C ASSOCIATION

President
Denis Howard: 0457 033 024
Secretary
Keri MacGregor: 6863 1155
Treasurer
Vivienne King: 6863 5168

SCHOOL COUNCIL

President
David Bicket: 6862 3608

Congratulations to
Genevieve Bland!
Runner up in the Stage 2
Action Club
Public Speaking Competition!

Genevieve’s topic was ‘If I was an animal I’d be a giraffe’. Genevieve was awarded a trophy and also $50.00 for the school library.

Congratulations also to Libby Hoyle who participated in the Stage 3 competition. Libby spoke on the topic, ‘Refugees’. The adjudicators praised her performance and one stated Libby’s speech was so powerful he nearly changed his view on the subject.

The calibre of all the speakers who entered the competition was excellent! Great job, girls!

STATE LIBRARY VISIT

Last Wednesday the Years 3 to 6 children were treated to an excellent presentation of early Australian history by educators from the NSW State Library. Some students were chosen by the presenters to participate in role plays. Ashton Bennie made a great Captain Cook dressed in his full regalia!

The educators praised the students’ engagement and behaviour and remarked on the great teachers and impressive culture of the school.

We should all feel very proud, parents included!

NAPLAN ASSESSMENTS began today. If your children wear glasses please ensure they have them at school.

- Language and Writing Tuesday, 12 May
- Reading Wednesday, 13 May
- Numeracy Thursday, 14 May

If children are absent for one or more of the tests they can catch them up during the week but not after Friday, 15 May.

P&C MEETING - next Monday, 18 May at 7.30pm in the staff room.

AECG MEETINGS - Wednesday, 20 May. Please note change of date from Thursday. The meetings will be held at Middleton Public School - Juniors at 9.30am and Seniors at 10.30am.

INFORMATION EVENING

Our Information Evening will be held on Wednesday, 20 May at 7.00pm in the assembly hall. Supper will be provided. Please inform your friends and neighbours of this event if they do not yet have a child at school.
OUR PROGRAMS
Crunch and Sip
All of our classes participate in fruito each morning. Children are asked to bring fruit along each day and they eat it during class time. Lessons do not stop whilst the children are eating. This program aims to teach children the importance of healthy eating and drinking. The students are encouraged to drink water throughout the day. We ask children to drink water rather than any other liquid whilst at school.

Kindergarten 2016
We are now processing enrolments for Kindergarten 2016. If you have a child for Kindergarten next year please request an enrolment form from the office and return to school as soon as possible. It would be great to have an idea of sibling numbers before the information session on Wednesday, 20 May to help us determine how many places are left for new families.

Applications for opportunity class placement in Year 5, 2016
Applications close this Friday, 15 May.

School Photos
School photos were sent home with students last week. If you have not received your order please contact the photographer: Cliff Dykes Photography on 6342 3070 or 0428 635 217.

Prefect, School Band and AECG photos are available for purchase from the office at $20.00 each.

Choir News
Mrs Leonard will meet choir members at the primary gate on Wednesday at 1.00pm.

The choir has been asked to perform at the Parkes Public School Information Evening on Wednesday, 20 May at 7.00pm. A note will be sent home this week. Please return to school by Friday, 15 May.

Northparkes Mines Open Day
Don't forget to visit our school display at the Northparkes Mines Open Day at Northparkes Oval this Saturday, 16 May.

There will be activities for the children and market stalls. Entry is free!

Northparkes Rotary Fun Run
A number of our students and staff will be participating in the Fun Run this Sunday, 17 May. Our staff will be assisting by handing out drinks to the runners.

Australian Olympic athlete, Youcef Abdi, will be coming to Parkes to assist with the fun run. Youcef will be holding a clinic on Saturday, 16 May at Northparkes Oval (near the discus and shot put area) during the Northparkes Mines Open Day.

If you would like more information about the clinic or the fun run go to the Parkes Fun Run website.

Kid's Ark East Timor
Money is collected Mondays. This week we collected $10.00.

LIFE EDUCATION VAN VISIT
The Life Education van will be visiting Parkes Public School from Monday, 18 May until Thursday, 27 May.

Notes were sent home last week together with the timetable for when classes attend.

The $5.00 payment per student is now due and can be sent to class teachers or to the school office.
Congratulations to all our students who participated in the cross country carnival last Friday. We have some very fit and athletic children!

We have had a lot of sporting commitments of late and more to come! Reports from all games regarding the conduct and sportsmanship of our students have been very positive. As I always say, it is great to win but it is the attitude and sportsmanship in which we play that is most important. Sporting activities are great for the students but it is very difficult for parents to manage at times. Parents, we are very grateful for the support you give your children and our school in getting the children to all the training sessions and games.

It was a privilege to attend the Action Club Public Speaking competition last Thursday evening. What incredibly talented students have been raised across all the schools in Parkes. The maturity and poise of the speakers was outstanding. The variety of content in the speeches was amazing! It was far from a dull evening!!

As you would all be aware, the NAPLAN assessments are this week. I am including an article from Michael Grose about how to help your children undertake the assessments.

The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN assessments as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

You’ve probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed in the media about NAPLAN.

As a parent it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It’s better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring. It’s also worth remembering that many children don’t stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about.

Whether your child stresses or takes them in his stride here are some tips to help prepare for the NAPLAN tests:

1. Take your cues from your child: If your child doesn’t worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn’t exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2. Focus on doing their best and trying hard: Choose your words carefully when you speak with your kids. As with all their learning activities place your focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on kids should be to try hard rather than to do well.

3. Listen to any concerns they have: If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a ‘get over it’ response. “Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them.” Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognising how kids feel.

4. Give them some relaxation ideas: Anxious or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

5. Help them retain their perspective: One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask what’s the worst thing that could happen? Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will still rise tomorrow, regardless of how well they do. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practise.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it’s going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.

Have a wonderful week, everyone!

Mrs Breaden
CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who gained a:

**White Merit Certificate**
- Faith Clarke 2E
- Brody Clarke 6B
- Leela Elliott 5L
- Lisa McCreddie 4/5D
- Kane Nutley 3/4S
- Zoe Anderson 3/4S

The children who received the literacy awards and capes at the Infants Assembly were:
- Year 1: Nate Harrison
- Year 2: Alicia Cullen

CONGRATULATIONS to the following infants students who have been awarded a mufti day:
- Hannah McIntyre
- Shaurya Patel
- Gracie-Mae Cummings
- Shae-Lee Lord
- Zoe Manks

- Sophie Tanks
- Tiah Watson
- Lucas Edwards
- Liam Ross

- Mitchell Wirth
- Angelique Bland
- Zac Nash

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**Value of the Week**

**Justice**

**What is Justice?**
Practising justice is being fair in everything you do. It is seeing with your own eyes and not judging something or someone by what other people tell you. Being just is standing up for your rights and the rights of other people. It is taking responsibility if you make a mistake and making amends. Justice means that every person’s rights are protected.

**Why Practise Justice?**
Without justice, people get away with hurting or taking advantage of others, and keep on doing it. Without justice, the world can be a cruel and dangerous place. People are judged by their gender, race or religion. When justice is practised everyone has a fair chance to be seen for who they are. If someone is accused of something, they get a chance to tell their side. With justice, everyone gets a fair share.

**How do you Practise Justice?**
If someone is hurting you, it is just, to stop them. It is never just for strong people to hurt weaker people. If you hurt someone else, fix the problem by making amends. Investigate the truth for yourself instead of listening to others. Instead of prejudging, see people as individuals. Don’t accept it when someone acts like a bully, cheats or lies. Being a champion for justice takes courage. Sometimes when you stand for justice you stand alone.
**Student of the Week**

Name: Joseph Seymour  
Age: 11  
Class: 6B  
Teacher: Mrs Buchanan  
**Favourite activities:** Playing with my friends, maths, spelling, computers, art and drama.  

**Teacher comments:** Joseph is a very keen student, one who participates in, and enjoys a variety of school activities. He listens very carefully and always strives to achieve. Joseph takes pride in his bookwork and consistently produces quality work.

**What career interests you?** When I grow up I want to be a pilot so I can visit all the different countries.

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**Kindergarten Dads Day**

**Kindergarten Dads Day - Monday, 18 May**

Kindergarten Students have made coloured invitations to invite their dads or other significant men in their lives, to a special ‘Dads Day’ to be held next Monday, 18 May at 11.30am until 1.15pm. A sausage sizzle will be supplied. The children will do special activities with their ‘dad’.

We held our first ‘Dads Day’ last year and it was a tremendous success. Over ninety-five per cent of students had a significant male attend and participate in activities with them. It was a most memorable occasion for the students and the men. It is very important that children see men as role models in the school environment.

We would love every child to have a ‘dad’ at school next Monday!

This day is supported by CentaCare.

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Wednesday, 13 May ................. NAPLAN - Reading  
Thursday, 14 May .................... NAPLAN - Numeracy  
Monday, 18 May ................. Kindergarten ‘Dads’ Day  
                  Rugby Gala Day  
                  P&C Meeting at 7.30pm  
Monday, 18-Thurs, 27 May ...... Life Education Van Visit  
Tuesday, 19 May ................. ICAS Computer Competition  
Wednesday, 20 May ................. AECG Meetings  
                  Information Evening at 7.00pm  
Friday, 22 May ................. Walk to School Day  
                  Lachlan Cross Country  
Tuesday, 26 May ................. CWA Public Speaking  
Friday, 29 May ................. Athletics Carnival  
Wednesday, 3 June ................. ICAS Science Competition

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**DON’T FORGET**

**ICAS Competitions**  
Closing date changed now Thursday, 14 May

**P&C Meeting**  
Monday, 18 May at 7.30pm

**AECG Meetings**  
Wednesday, 20 May at Middleton Public School

**Information Evening**  
Wednesday, 20 May at 7.00pm in the school hall. Supper provided.
NSW Schools’ Netball Cup
On Wednesday, 6 May, the Parkes Public Girls’ Netball Team participated in the Schools’ Netball Cup that was held in Parkes. The girls played five games throughout the day and displayed great sportsmanship and improved skills. The first game was against the Dubbo Prophets and the girls were triumphant 5-3. Next, up came Holy Family. The girls were quite nervous, with some of them having recently played this team. The girls surprised themselves and put up a great fight, with the final score being 8-6, Holy Family’s way. After one loss, the girls held their heads high and then went on to win their next two games against St Lawrence’s (6-1) and Forbes 1 (15-7).

After game four, the team was thrilled to hear they were one of three teams who were tied on equal first place. The girls put 100% effort into their last game against Forbes 2, coming out the winners. After waiting nervously, everyone was excited to hear that after the point scores had been tallied, Parkes Public came out runners up for the day. What a huge achievement girls! They have now progressed onto the regional phase of the NSW Schools’ Cup, which is to be held on Tuesday, 28 July (Term 3, Week 3) in Orange.

A huge thank you goes to Sue Riley and Tanya MacGregor, who helped warm the girls up and coached them throughout the day. Thank you to Cate Douglas who took some wonderful shots of the day. Other thanks go to our umpire, Kaity McDonald and all of the other parents who helped set up and supported the girls.

For now, the team will break from training until told otherwise.

Well done, Parkes Public!!

Miss Bowkett

State Tennis
From Monday, 27 till Thursday, 30 April I was away in Sydney as a member of the Western Region team at the State Tennis Tournament. On the first day we played two teams and they were the two toughest teams in our pool. Unfortunately we lost both. On the second day we played three more matches and we played much better. I won two of my singles matches and we almost won one of our doubles 4-6. On the third day we played one more team and played really well, but unfortunately lost. On the last day we were supposed to play for 12th or 13th position, but as it was raining all play was called off. Overall it was a great experience and a fun time.

Holly McColl

PSSA Girls’ Hockey
On Friday, 8 May, the Parkes Public Girls’ Hockey Team played against Mulyan Public School. Despite having ran the cross country earlier in the day, the girls were full of energy and raring to go.

The girls held their positions well, passed the ball around to each other and made some brilliant tackles. At the end of the day the Parkes Public girls came away with a 4-0 win!

The team on the day was: Jazlyn Greenwood, Caitlin Herft, Meg Turner, Maely MacGregor, Lucy Turner, Holly McColl, Katie Dunford, Jordan Moody, Chloe Drabsch, Abbey Kennedy, Molly Kennedy, Makeely VanDyk and Gracie Jones.

The next game will be against either Bathurst Small Schools or Oberon. Further details will be provided as soon as they become available.

Well done, girls!

Mrs Deland

Congratulations to Ryan Dunford, Joseph Tanswell and Austin MacGregor who have gained selection in the Western Hockey Team!
PSSA Boys’ Football

On Tuesday, 5 May the Parkes Public School Boys’ Football Team played their first game against Parkes East.

The first half saw our boys working very hard to keep the ball in their half. Zayne Ehsman kept the pressure on their goalie. Jack Pinkstone, Ryan Dunford, Kaid Lydford, Joseph Tanswell and Hunter Hawke were continually attacking and their passing skills were impressive. Will Tanks kept the pressure on No 7 on the Parkes East team. Mitchell Cox, Jake and Thomas Barnes were strong backs and saved quite a few balls from going Parkes East way. Goalie Wilson Duffy worked hard to stop Parkes East from scoring goals. Dylan Jeffrey took most of our corners with a very strong kick in spite having an injured ankle. Brody Clarke and Koby Wirth were very swift intercepting balls and taking them to the other end of the field. By half time the score was 1-0 our way.

Second half saw a lift in the spirit of Parkes East when their principal arrived. Our boys had to work harder. Thomas saved a goal by kicking the ball out only to have Parkes East come back and score their first goal. A second goal followed despite our boys’ efforts.

Parkes East defeated Parkes Public 2-1.

Unfortunately we are no longer in the PSSA competition but wish all other teams participating the best.

Parkes Public School Boys’ Football Team are to be congratulated on their commitment to training, their sportsmanship, excellent manners and game play.

Thank you to: Mr Jason Mitchell in the selection process and Mr Jason and Ms Karyn Duffy for coaching our team.

A special thank you to all the parents, families and caregivers who supported the boys by taking the boys to training, providing transport and encouraging our boys to do their personal best and to work as a team.

Mrs Narelle Ward (team manager)

PSSA Girls’ Football

On Tuesday 5, May Parkes Public School Girls Football Team played in the first round of the PSSA competition against Forbes Public School.

The team consisted of Gracie Jones, Holly McColl, Katie Dunford, Alison Reeves, Sharna Ross, Elizabeth MacGregor, Isabelle Smith, Nikita Wood, Hannah Martyn, Courtney Sinclair, Jessica Tassell, Makeely VanDyk, Chloe Drabsch and Macey Gibson.

The girls had a fantastic game, showed great team spirit and represented our school with pride. We were fortunate enough to win 3-2.

The girls will now play in round two in the upcoming weeks.

Training will be on Wednesday from 4.30-6.00pm.

Allison Watson

2015 Parkes Public School PSSA Girls’ Football Team

2015 Parkes Public School PSSA Boys’ Football Team
2015 AUSTRALASIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS

These competitions are for students in Years 3-6.
The closing date for entry in these competitions is Thursday, 14 May. Please note Change of closing date.
The competitions will be held on the following dates:
♦ Writing - Tuesday, 16 June
♦ Spelling - Wednesday, 17 June

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**WRITING COMPETITION**

I give permission for my child/ren:
___________________________ Class ______
___________________________ Class ______
___________________________ Class ______

Class ______ to participate in the 2015 Australasian Schools Writing Competition.

Please find enclosed $11.00 entry fee for each child.

Parent/carer _______________________
Date    _______________________

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**SPELLING COMPETITION**

I give permission for my child/ren:
___________________________ Class ______
___________________________ Class ______
___________________________ Class ______

Class ______ to participate in the 2015 Australasian Schools Spelling Competition.

Please find enclosed $17.00 entry fee for each child.

Parent/carer _______________________
Date    _______________________

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Community Noticeboard

**Little Athletics Parkes Coaching Clinic**

♦ Middle Distance/Cross Country with Olympian Youcef Abdi
♦ Throws: shot put and discus with Level 4 coach Ernie Shackleton

**Date:** Saturday, 16 May
**Where:** Northparkes Oval
**Time:** Junior Clinic 3.00pm-3.45pm (U8-U11)
          Senior Clinic 3.45pm-5.00pm (U12-U17)
**Cost:** $20.00 ($10.00 if you are running in Parkes Rotary Fun Run)

This clinic is open to anyone to come and try.

School children are encouraged to register! Register online at lansw.com.au

For further information phone 9633 4511, 1800 451 295 or email: admin@lansw.com.au

**Parkes Community Information Session - Date Correction**

The Parkes Information Session will be held:
Wednesday, 20 May from 6.00-7.30pm at the Parkes Library, Coventry Room.