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

CONTACT US
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Mrs Leanne Breaden
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PARKES NSW 2870
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Email: parkes-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
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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 our 2015 Cross Country Champions!
Junior Girl: Meg Turner
Junior Boy: Hunter Hawke
Senior Girl: Jordan Moody
Senior Boy: Zayne Ehsman

VISIT BY GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA
Tomorrow, Wednesday, 27 May, our school captains, Libby and Zayne and Mrs Breaden will represent our school at the Parkes Shire Council's Civic Reception to mark the occasion of Sir Henry Parkes' 200th birthday.

His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AKMC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency Lady Lynne Cosgrove will be the distinguished guests of the Mayor and Parkes Shire.

The captains and Mrs Breaden will also attend the opening of the Moat Cottage at the Parkes Tourist Centre as well as the book launch of the Sir Henry Parkes book, ‘Welcome to Parkes’ by local authors Lex and June Weaver.

PIRATE DAY
On Friday, 12 June we will be holding a ‘Pirate Day’. The children are encouraged to wear a pirate outfit to school in exchange for a gold coin. All children will receive an eye patch to wear.

Money raised will go to The Kids Cancer Project.

This is our P&C approved charity for the term.
OUR PROGRAMS
Infants Lunchtime Social Skills
Every lunchtime a social skills group operates under the direction of two School Learning Support Officers. Infants children who need additional help learning how to play with others attend the group. They play games, cook, do craft activities and practise the skills of turn taking, losing gracefully at a game, initiating play and holding conversations.

Kindergarten 2016
We are beginning to organise pre-kindergarten interviews for the end of this term in readiness for our transition program, which will begin in Week 3, Term 3.

If you have not yet returned an enrolment form for your Kindergarten 2016 child, it would be appreciated if the enrolment form could be filled in and returned to school as soon as possible so we can allocate appointment times for the interviews.

Also, if you have friends or neighbours intending to enrol children for Kindergarten at Parkes Public School in 2016, who have not yet handed in a completed enrolment form, please encourage them to do so. Thank you.

Life Education Van
The Life Ed Van is currently visiting our school. All students attend regardless of whether they pay or not. However, if families do not pay our school is billed, leaving fewer resources for other things. If you have not yet paid, please do so as soon as possible.

K-2 Week 6 Infants Assembly
1H will be presenting an item at the infants assembly tomorrow, Wednesday, 27 May. Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Thank you, Miss Heraghty

Lolly Guessing Competition
Over the next few weeks Hannah Martyn, Chloe Drabsch, Jessica Tassell and Nikita Wood will be running a lolly guessing competition at school during recess and lunch in the playground.

One guess for 50c or three guesses for $1.00

The money raised will be donated to East Timor. Mrs Breaden will be able to donate the money raised when she goes over to East Timor later in the year to see how the schools are going since the last time she visited.

Hannah, Chloe, Jessica and Nikita

Kid’s Ark East Timor
Money is collected Mondays. This week we collected $15.00.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Thursday, 28 May ............... Cinderella Opera
Friday, 29 May ......................... Athletics Carnival
Tuesday, 2 June ...................... State Hockey Carnival Commences
Wednesday, 3 June ............... ICAS Science Competition
Wednesday, 10 June ............. Western Cross Country
Friday, 12 June ...................... Pirate Day
Monday, 15 June ..................... P&C Meeting at 7.30pm
Tuesday, 16 June ................... ICAS Spelling/Writing Competition
Friday, 26 June ...................... Last Day Term 2
Tuesday, 14 July ..................... Term 3 Begins for Students

DON’T FORGET
Kindergarten 2016
Please return completed enrolment forms in preparation for pre-kindergarten interviews.

Athletics Carnival
Friday, 29 May

Book Club Issue 4
Closes Wednesday, 3 June

Life Education Van
$5.00 due for all students
Last Monday Kindergarten children had a wonderful time with their dads or other special men in their lives, who visited for activities and lunch. CentaCare hosted and organised the event which was aimed to promote the importance of men being involved in their children’s education. The children delighted in reading to their dads and showing them their writing and other work. My thanks to all the men who attended. You made your child’s day!

This week I am including an article written by Michael Grose about the importance of ensuring a focus on the success and achievement of our children doesn’t come at the expense of children’s empathy and well-being.

*Be careful what you wish for as a parent!*

The focus on success and achievement doesn’t have to come at the expense of our children’s empathy and well-being.

*What would you wish for? A caring child or a successful child?*

*If pressed to choose, which would you prefer?*

In a fascinating Harvard study referred to in a recent Age article, 10,000 kids were asked whether achievement and success, rather than caring for others, were their parents’ main priorities. The kids overwhelmingly said their parents opted for success rather than caring.

*I suspect Australian kids would come up with a similar response if asked. In my work with parents and schools over nearly 40 years I’ve never seen the educational and parenting landscape so competitive as it is today. The standard belief of ‘Everyone can get ahead and be successful’ has been replaced by ‘my child needs to get ahead and be successful.’*

**We can have both!**

This is a controversial view based on the assumption that you can have either successful kids or caring kids. I believe you can have both. Parents and teachers can encourage kids to achieve, but also emphasise the importance of looking out for your mates, and taking care of others. Individual success doesn’t have to come at the expense of well-being and the success of others. It does mean that we need to put caring for others firmly on our parenting agendas.

**Here are three ways to do this:**

1. **Develop a language for caring**

   Parents invariably develop a deep language around the things they value. If caring is important then you need to develop language for caring (look after your brother; do the right thing; do unto others) just as you have probably developed a language around success (persist, work hard, do your best).

2. **Focus on co-operation rather than competition**

   It’s easy to develop competition between kids. As a parent all you need to do is praise one child and criticise another and you’ve established the conditions for competition. It’s far harder to develop cooperative behaviours, but it’s worth the effort. Encourage kids to help each other; ask them to do jobs in pairs so they learn to work together; and teach older children to give way to younger children rather than always have their own way. Caring kids learn that not everything goes their way and that they need to compromise and give way to others in the name of being social and getting on.

3. **Pay attention to children’s emotions**

   Now more than ever it’s important for parents to be attentive to children’s emotional lives, and also to develop an awareness of their own feelings and the feelings of others. Empathetic kids rarely use power and bullying to get their own way. Empathy always starts with an awareness of a child’s own emotional state.

   As parents we want our kids to grow up to be successful and achieve their full potential. It’s the default position for most parents. But that doesn’t have to come at the expense of caring for others. In these times of small families and a more competitive landscape parents need to work harder than ever to develop nurturance, caring and respect for others in kids.

   I would like to wish everyone a great day at the Athletics Carnival on Friday. Have fun, do your best but above all be good sports. I have heard an inspiring story about an incident that occurred at last week’s Lachlan Cross Country Carnival. A student running, ran past another child and noticed he was hurt. Rather than keep running, that student went back, called for help and tried to help the injured child. He missed out on finishing in a place but what he did was a far greater accomplishment; to help a fellow student in need. This certainly relates well to the above article!

   Unfortunately I will not be in attendance at the carnival as I will be in Sydney representing Western Principals at a Disabilities Reference Group meeting. I will be thinking of you all!

   Have a great week everyone!

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

Gracie-Mae Cummings
Shae-Lee Lord
Zoe Manks
Sophie Tanks
Tiah Watson
Lucas Edwards
Liam Ross
Ciaran Smiroldo

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have gone up a level on the PBL Commendation System:

Charlie Strickland
Zeke Harris
Selwyn Podetti
Dylan Wood
Sasha Reid
Kaitlyn Neems
Genevieve Bland
Samuel Davison-Henry
Maddison McCormick
Heidi Parkin
Samantha Riley
Jordan Moody
Isabelle Smith
Thomas Anderson
Jemima Hall
Holly MacGregor
Jake Barnes
William Longhurst
Jesse Swindle
William Gray
Hanna Jefferay
Hannah Martyn
Angel-Louisa Pearce
Jessica Tassell
Makeely VanDyk
Nikita Wood
Thomas Barnes
Cody Cantrell
Jarrad Fletcher
Connor Trueber
Joshua Quartly
Tamika Verstegen
Mitchell Cox
Niomi Harrison
Emily Helm
Kasey Macdonald
Zayne Ehsman
Tobey Thorne
Jack Whitaker
Lachlan Norris
Tarran Cronin

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who gained a:

White Merit Certificate

Cameron Dunn
Jade Smith
Jak Lovett
Wade Parker
Jacob MacRae

K-2 LITERACY AWARDS

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

Kindergarten
   Finlay Quince
   Alana Murray
   Matthew Fredericks
   Ellie Szczepanik

   Year 2
   Felicity Tait
   Tyson Lennox
   Clarinda
   Albert Dargan
   Shamus Podetti

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have gained a:

White Merit Certificate

Cameron Dunn 3W
Jade Smith 4/5D
Jak Lovett 1/2A
Wade Parker 2M
Jacob MacRae 2E

White Merit Certificate

Cameron Dunn 3W
Jade Smith 4/5D
Jak Lovett 1/2A
Wade Parker 2M
Jacob MacRae 2E
**Student of the Week**

Name: Declan Cornelissen  
Age: 11  
Class: 6B  
Teacher: Mrs Buchanan  
Favourite activities: My favourite activities are maths and art.

**Teacher comments:** Declan is a very keen student who always strives to achieve and to improve his skills. He listens very well and takes great pride in producing quality work. Declan is a very kind and thoughtful student.

**What career interests you?** I would like to be an architect because I love maths and designing things.

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**Debating News**

Congratulations Parkes Public School Debaters!

On Wednesday, 20 May 2015 the Parkes Public School Senior and Junior Debating teams travelled to Dubbo for a debate between our senior team and Orana Heights Public School. The topic was: ‘All children should have to play weekend sport.’ We were on the negative team. This meant we disagreed with the topic.

The opposition’s main arguments were:
- Children playing sport on weekends would lower obesity rates.
- Children would make more friends and build social skills.
- It would support the building of more professional athletes.

Parkes Public’s main arguments were:
- Children should be treated as individuals, not numbers to be counted in a system.
- The whole topic was a generalisation and generalisations as a rule cannot be applied to large groups of people successfully.
- This rule would be great for naturally athletic people, those who are not are made targets for bullying.
- Medical issues often make it impossible for some children to participate in sport.

The adjudicator said that Parkes Public School presented an excellent debate and that their rebuttals were explained in more detail, than the opposition. She stated that both teams did a great job, but due to Parkes Public’s excellent rebuttals, they were victorious on the day!

The adjudicator was very impressed with our personal presentation and uniforms and even took a photo to show other schools!

The Senior team consisted of:  
First speaker: Holly McColl  
Second speaker: Henry Johns  
Third speaker: Katie Dunford  
Fourth speaker: Gracie Jones  
MC/timekeeper: Libby Hoyle

Junior team: Holly MacGregor, Isabelle Smith, Jemima Hall, Genevieve Bland and Heidi Parkin.

Both teams would like to thank Mrs Jones and Mrs Dunford for travelling with us on the day and taking extra students with them to see the debate.

*by Genevieve Bland and Heidi Parkin*
Best wishes to Ryan Dunford, Joseph Tanswell and Austin MacGregor who will play in the Western Hockey Team at the State Carnival next week!

Congratulations to Henry Johns who has been selected in the Western Rugby team!!

PSSA Boys’ Hockey
Last Wednesday Parkes Public School Boys’ Hockey Team played Parkes East Public School in round two of the PSSA knockout. The boys worked well as a team and moved the ball well. They held their positions and played a much improved game.

The first half saw them dominate play. The boys worked well and were rewarded with a lovely goal from Joseph Tanswell after some good lead up work. The boys stayed on the attack and were rewarded with a second goal after a penalty corner by Joseph.

Second half saw goals scored from Kane Nutley (2) and a pass across the circle (which had Mr Tanswell say “that’s a premier league pass”) allowed Joseph to deflect the ball into the goal for his third of the match, giving us a 5-0 victory.

Goalie Mitchell Cox made a couple of brilliant saves to keep the opposition scoreless. Our backs Thomas Barnes and Austin MacGregor were able to chase down a number of run away attempts with some excellent defence.

Mr Tanswell was impressed with the boys’ attitude and effort stating “that he had rarely seen boys of this age play like this.”

The boys will now play Dubbo South in Dubbo on a date to be confirmed.

Training is on Monday at 5.00pm as usual.

PSSA Rugby League
Due to a clash with other PSSA representative sports when we were originally scheduled to play our PSSA Rugby League game against Forbes North and the inability to reschedule an alternative date due to the crowded PSSA sporting calendar, we have unfortunately had to forfeit from this competition.

The students will still have the chance to represent the school in Rugby League this year however, as they will be competing in the Russell Richardson Cup and the David Peachey Shield competitions in Orange on Thursday, 4 June. We will be sending two teams, one comprising of Years 3 and 4 students, the other, Years 5 and 6 students.

Relevant students will receive information relating to this gala day from Mr Roberts this week.

PSSA Girls’ Football
Yesterday, Monday, 25 May Parkes Public School Girls’ Football Team played their second game against a very committed and determined team, Parkes East Public School.

The girls all played well, showed great team spirit and represented our school with pride. We were fortunate enough to win 5-2.

Thank you to all of the parents who supported our team on the day. A big thank you to Mr Craig Dunn who volunteers his time to train the girls each week and to Mrs Karyn Duffy for organising the referee and linesmen for the home game.

We are waiting to hear where we will be playing the next round.

Training will still be on Wednesday afternoons from 4.30-5.30pm.

Mrs Watson
Athletics Carnival on Friday, 29 May

The one day Athletics Carnival will be held this Friday, 29 May. The carnival is for all Year 3-6 students and Year 2 students who are turning 8 this year.

Students will need to be dropped off at Northparkes Oval by 8.45am ready for a 9.00am carnival start. Bus students will be dropped at the oval by bus in the morning. On arrival, students will need to have their names marked off by their class teacher.

Students will go home from Northparkes Oval. Bus students will catch buses home from the Northparkes Oval. Year 2 students will walk back to school at 2.40pm.

A canteen is operating on the day, all students can pre-order lunch (see order forms at bottom of page). Students will need to bring recess and lunch, if not ordering from the canteen, wear their sport uniform, bring a hat and a water bottle.

Students have already nominated for track events, with options of 100m, 200m and 800m races. Year 2 students who are 8, or turning 8, this year have also nominated for track events.

The program for the day was handed out last week. Students who were successful in gaining a position in a field event have received a letter informing them of their event.

We are looking for parent helpers who can assist with time keeping. Please return the following slip to Tracey Newbigging if you will be available to assist on the day.

Tracey Newbigging

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
I, _________________________________ am available to assist with time keeping between 9.00am and 3.00pm for the Athletics Carnival on Friday, 29 May.

Student’s Name:____________________________________________ Class: ______________________

Signed:___________________________________________________ Phone: ______________________

Athletics Carnival Canteen Order

* Friday, 29 May *
(No late orders accepted - must be in by tomorrow, Wednesday, 27 May)

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- Sausage sandwich
  - Sauce - Tomato/BBQ/No sauce

- Drink
  - Quench

All for $4.00

Athletics Carnival Canteen Order

* Friday, 29 May *
(No late orders accepted - must be in by tomorrow, Wednesday, 27 May)

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<th>Name</th>
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- 2 Sausage sandwiches
  - Sauce - Tomato/BBQ/No sauce

- Drink
  - Quench

All for $5.00
GRIP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Last Friday, 20 prefects went to Dubbo to take part in a GRIP leadership conference. It was an enjoyable day. We learnt about the four ‘Stand Up’ keys. These are: stand up when there’s an opportunity; stand up for what’s right; stand up for others; and stand up for yourself. We also learnt a lot about how to be a generous leader, and got to make up our own leadership plan.

By the time I got home, I was tired, but I’d had a very worthwhile day. So enjoyable in fact, that it was worth having to get up at 6.00am to be there.

Libby Hoyle

The GRIP Leadership conference was an exciting experience. We had little booklets that they would lead in completing page by page. Then after the serious work the ‘Loud Noise Boys’ came and they lived up to their title. The day was great and I would do it again. The message I remember best is that good leaders don’t aim for rewards, but look for opportunities to stand up for others and to serve the school.

Jacob Berry

Myself and my fellow prefects and captains all went to Dubbo for the GRIP Leadership Conference. I had a great day as it was entertaining but also I learned many skills such as how to stand up for others and even how to stand up for myself. I got tips on how to become a better leader and I also got to meet some prefects and captains from other schools. I think that the GRIP Leadership Conference is a great idea and well worthwhile going. Thank you to all the parents and carers for taking their time to transport us to Dubbo.

Courtney Sinclair

Competitions

2015 AUSTRALASIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS

These competitions are for students in Years 3-6.
The closing date for entry in these competitions is Friday, 19 June.
The competitions will be held on the following dates:
♦ English - Tuesday, 28 July
♦ Maths - Tuesday, 11 August

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

to participate in the 2015 Australasian Schools English Competition.
Please find enclosed $8.00 entry fee for each child.
Parent/carer ____________________________
Date ________________________________

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

to participate in the 2015 Australasian Schools Maths Competition.
Please find enclosed $8.00 entry fee for each child.
Parent/carer ____________________________
Date ________________________________