PARKES PUBLIC SCHOOL PANTOMIME

PARKES HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING IS ON TONIGHT!!

Tonight there will be an Information Evening at Parkes High School from 6.00-6.30pm in the LP Johnston Hall. This evening is designed for interested families but attendance by parents of Years 5 and 6 students is very important. Parkes High School is an excellent secondary school and it is recommended you attend the evening to hear about the programs on offer to your children.

The information session will be followed by an open night at 6.30-8.00pm which will include tours of the high school. There will be a BBQ, coffee, cakes and biscuits and a plant sale.

AMBULANCE COVER SCHEME

If your child is injured or sick at school and an ambulance needs to be called, the cost is met by the DET. Parents will not be asked to pay.

HPLC MUSICAL

Auditions for ‘Young Hercules’ were held yesterday. A second afternoon of auditions for the musical will be held this Thursday afternoon. The musical is only for students in Stage 3 and up. The auditions will take place at Parkes High School assembly hall from 3.30pm.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

It is imperative that children attend school every day! So much of what is taught in our classrooms is verbal. For children who are absent that learning cannot be caught up. Some people are under the misconception that it is okay to miss days in the early years, particularly Kindergarten. This could not be further from the truth! A huge amount of learning takes place in Kindergarten, for example, new sounds are taught every day. One day missed puts children at a disadvantage.

Of course if children are sick they cannot attend school but this is the only reason why they shouldn't be at school.

We do encourage parents not to organise family holidays during term times.

STEWART HOUSE

This week two of our Year 6 students are attending Stewart House in Manly. Stewart House provides opportunities for country children to experience a holiday in the city and to develop relationships with children from other rural schools. Stewart House is supported by donations from families and staff across NSW.
OUR PROGRAMS
To ensure you are informed of the broad array of programs on offer for your children at our school, each week we are going to focus on one program.

Parkes Public School Learning and Support Team (LST)
Our school has a Learning Support Team which comprises Mrs Breaden, the Assistant Principals Mrs Pearsall, Mrs Elliott, Mrs Earsman, Mr Smith, Mrs Shore, Mrs Leonard, the Learning and Support Teachers Mrs Hawke and Mrs Barry and School Counsellor, Mrs McIntyre. The LST meets every Monday afternoon after school to discuss individual students and their needs and how to better assist them. Class teachers complete referrals for any children they have concerns about and additional provisions are discussed for the children at the meetings. Parents are always informed if their children are referred to the LST. Attendance patterns and behavioural issues are also discussed and acted upon at the meeting. Parents can have their children referred to the LST by contacting the class teachers or Mrs Breaden.

Clean up Australia Day
This Friday, interested students will be participating in a tidy up of the school grounds as part of ‘Clean up Australia Day Schools’. We are a registered school and the organisation has sent us a pack which includes gloves and rubbish bags. This is a great opportunity to teach students why it’s so important to always look out for rubbish and clean up after themselves. This year Clean up Australia Day is celebrating 25 years of Schools Clean Up. We are looking forward to being a part of this.

Calling all bottle caps/tops!
The Infants Social Skills Group are beginning to design a bottle top/cap artwork to be displayed somewhere in the school. We are asking for people to help by collecting their bottle tops and sending them into school for this project. Clean bottle tops of any size, colour and shape are required and would be greatly appreciated. We will be collecting for the rest of this term and will begin the artwork early Term 2.

Please send them into the office or to Mrs Howard’s classroom.

Thank you, Miss Chambers and Mrs Dillon

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Friday, 4 March .......................Clean up Australia Day Schools Western Swimming Carnival - Dubbo
Friday, 11 March .......................Just 4 Kids Charity Event
Tuesday, 15 March .......................School Photos
Wednesday, 16 March .......................School Photos
Thursday, 17 March .......................Lachlan Rugby League Trials
Friday, 18 March .......................Girls Western Hockey Trials
Monday, 21 March .......................P&C Meeting - 7.30pm
Wednesday, 23 March .......................Infants Hat Parade - 2.00pm
Wednesday, 6 April .......................State Swimming Carnival
Thursday, 7 April .......................State Swimming Carnival

DON’T FORGET
Clean up Australia Day Schools
Friday, 4 March

Just 4 Kids Breakfast
Friday, 11 March from 7.30-9.00am

School Photos
Tuesday, 15 March and Wednesday, 16 March

Book Club - Issue 2
Closes Thursday, 17 March
My best wishes to our students travelling to Dubbo on Friday for the Western Swimming Carnival.

I will be taking long Service Leave from next Tuesday, 8 March. I have two very important family functions to attend in the far north of the state and in Queensland. One of those functions is the wedding of my eldest daughter.

Our school subscribes to Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose. Michael is a well-respected educator and child psychologist. Parents can visit the website and download parenting articles and a magazine for free under our school’s subscription. The website can be found at www.parentingideas.com.au Our school username is parkesps and our password is 2870.

This week I am including an article by Michael Grose about persistence.

Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty.

“Persistence and patience have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.” John Quincy Adams

The ability to persist at a task and see it through to the end is one of the most important success attributes that you can develop in a child.

There are numerous times every day when children must persist rather than give in. A young child learning to tie shoelaces must persist. A primary aged student must show determination to finish tasks and a secondary student needs to work through difficulties, particularly those he doesn’t understand or complete right away.

They need to be able to persist when work gets hard or life gets tough. They need the ‘stickability’ to work through difficulties and hang in there when things don’t go their way.

Some children are more naturally predisposed to persist than others. They have a determined, even competitive streak in their temperament that doesn’t allow them to give in. These children and young people can drive themselves very hard to succeed.

The results of the Australian Temperament Project show that persistence is the one temperamental factor that can be improved over time. Parents and teachers can develop persistence in children and also impede its development by making life too easy for children so that they don’t have opportunities to persist or hang in there.

Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty.

Parents can be a sounding board for children’s gripes but they should show confidence in their ability to cope and get through their difficulties. “You can do it” is far more powerful in terms of promoting an attitude of persistence than “If it is a little too hard then try something else.”

Let children know that there is a correlation between effort and success. In fact, they need to learn that by giving effort they will more than likely experience more success. The ability to persist in the face of difficulties maybe an old-fashioned quality but it is one of the best success attributes that children will ever develop.

Here are four practical strategies you can use to promote a sense of persistence in your children:

1 Develop a vocabulary for persistence. Words like “Hang tough”, “Work hard” and “Hang in there” can become part of their every day vocabulary.

2 Point out to children when they stick at a task. Most parents know it pays off when they catch their children being good but it also pays off to catch them being persistent. The behaviours you focus on as parents expand so let them know when they have been persistent. Also remind them that persistence generally pays off.

3 Help children to remember times when they experienced success by hanging in when they were younger. Let them know that persistence has paid off before and it will again.

4 Talk about hard work with your children. They need to understand that to be successful they need to do things that are NOT fun or easy. While it would be good if all work and learning was fun, in reality, this is not always the case.

My thanks to those families who returned the surveys about Out of School Hours Care (OOSH). I appreciate your feedback and the time you spent completing the survey. The results have not yet been collated but I will further inform you of any developments in the near future.

Have a wonderful week, everyone! Mrs Breaden
K-2 LITERACY AWARDS
The children who received the literacy awards and capes at the Infants Assembly were:

Kindergarten:  Dylan Van Opynen  
              Ella Carpenter  
Year 1:        Liam Ross  
              Alana Murray  
Year 2:        Kyian Cottier  
              Emma Ferris

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who gained a:

White Merit Certificate
Joshua Barnes 1L
Olivia McMaugh 1B
Ava Hamood 2E
Faith Clarke 3N
Zachary Rich 1L
Kade Ashcroft 1L
Nicholas Gascoigne 4O

Student of the Week
Name: Jordan Moody
Age: 12
Class: 6W
Teacher: Mrs Woolstencroft

Teacher comments: Jordan is a happy, energetic member of 6W. She is thoughtful in all aspects of life, and always contributes positively in class.

Favourite activities: I like playing hockey and doing cross country. I also really like to cook.

What career interests you? I would really like to be a doctor or a vet.

Value of the Week

CONFIDENCE

What is Confidence?
Confidence is having faith in something or someone. It is a kind of trust. When you have self-confidence, you trust that you have what it takes to handle whatever happens. You feel sure of yourself and enjoy trying new things. When you are confident in others, you rely on them and confide in them.

Why Practise Confidence?
Without confidence, fears and doubts hold us back. We feel worried and uncertain, and afraid of making a mistake. With confidence, we try new things and learn all the time.

How Do You Practise Confidence?
Practising confidence is knowing you are worthwhile whether you win or lose, succeed or fail. You feel sure of yourself and gladly learn from your mistakes. You don't allow doubt or fear to stop you. You try lots of new things and discover what you are best at. You think positively. You have confidence in life, trusting that all things work together for good.
**2016 AUSTRALASIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS**

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement. ICAS is unique, being the most comprehensive generally available suite of academic assessments for primary and secondary school students.

A new ICAS test is developed annually for each subject in each year level by a team of subject matter experts. All ICAS tests are reviewed by experienced teachers to ensure that they accurately assess students’ skills and are relevant to what they are learning at school. Administration Guidelines are provided to the schools with the ICAS papers to ensure that the same conditions are afforded to all students sitting ICAS.

These competitions are for students in Years 3-6.

The closing date for entry in the following competitions is **Wednesday, 6 April**.

The competitions will be held on the following dates:
- Digital Technologies (Computer) - Tuesday, 17 May
- Science - Tuesday, 31 May

**DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES COMPETITION**

I give permission for my child/ren:

- __________________________ Class ______
- __________________________ Class ______
- __________________________ Class ______

to participate in the **2016 Australasian Schools Digital Technologies Competition**.

Please find enclosed $8.00 entry fee for each child.

Parent/carer __________________________

Date __________________________

**SCIENCE COMPETITION**

I give permission for my child/ren:

- __________________________ Class ______
- __________________________ Class ______
- __________________________ Class ______

Please find enclosed $8.00 entry fee for each child.

Parent/carer __________________________

Date __________________________
Bikes out of Sheds Social Ride

Sunday, 13 March is the day to pull the bikes out of the shed and join a happy group of cyclists at the East Street end of the Pak Park cycle path and enjoy a ride around the two kilometre circular route. It doesn't matter if you are riding a trike, a penny farthing or a flashy road bike. Just come down and enjoy yourselves with the crowd where there will be experienced riders to help you with seat height, flat tyres and even advice on riding. Bring your children and their grandparents. No need for flashy clothes. Just turn up at 8.00am and enjoy yourselves.

There will even be a bicycle mechanic at the start for minor repairs to the bike which has been sitting in the shed for who knows how long!

For more information see https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/sixty-ride/locations/3911/ or ring Peter on 0448 166 016.

Lachlan Swimming Carnival

On Friday, 19 February, 29 students travelled to Condobolin to compete in the Lachlan Swimming Carnival. We had some fabulous results and personal bests by many students.

The following students performed exceptionally well and received the following places:

- Meg Turner  - 1st 100m freestyle, 1st 50m freestyle 11yrs, 1st 50m breaststroke 11yrs, 1st 50m backstroke 11yrs, 1st 50m butterfly 11yrs, 1st senior 200m medley, 2nd senior girls relay
- Lucy Turner  - 2nd 100m freestyle, 2nd 50m freestyle 11yrs, 2nd 50m breaststroke 11yrs, 3rd 50m backstroke 11yrs, 3rd 50m butterfly 11yrs, 3rd senior 200m medley, 2nd senior girls relay
- Jordan Moody  - 2nd 50m backstroke senior girls, 2nd butterfly senior girls, 2nd senior girls relay
- Liam Moody  - 3rd 100m freestyle, 1st 50m freestyle 11yrs, 1st 50m breaststroke 11yrs, 2nd 50m backstroke 11yrs, 1st 50m butterfly 11yrs, 1st senior 200m medley
- Ewan Moody  - 2nd 50m freestyle 8yrs
- Harmih Turnbull  - 3rd 50m freestyle 11yrs
- Lucy Hall  - 2nd 50m freestyle 9yrs, 3rd junior girls relay
- Joel MacGregor  - 2nd 50m freestyle 9yrs
- Maddison McCormick  - 2nd senior girls relay
- Zoe Anderson  - 3rd junior girls relay
- Elizabeth MacGregor  - 3rd junior girls relay
- Danielle Goodrick  - 3rd junior girls relay

The following students will be representing at Dubbo at the Western carnival this Friday, 4 March as members of the Lachlan Swimming Team for 2016: Meg Turner, Lucy Turner, Jordan Moody, Liam Moody, Ewan Moody, Harmih Turnbull, Joel MacGregor, Lucy Hall, Elizabeth MacGregor, Danielle Goodrick, Zoe Anderson and Maddison McCormick.

Many members of our swimming team have been training every day for many months and have shown great commitment and dedication to the sport. We wish them the best of luck on Friday.

Thank you, Mrs Dolbel
School Photos

Dear Parents and Students of Parkes Public School

Your photo days are: Tuesday, 15 and Wednesday, 16 March.

This year your school photos will be available to order online - it’s quick, easy and secure (PayPal/Credit Card). No envelopes will be handed out, but each child will bring home a slip with their unique ‘SHOOT KEY’. If you don’t have one, please email us: cliff@cliffdykes.com.au

To order just go to our Website
- www.cliffdykes.com.au
- select “Order Online”
- set up an account
- enter your shoot key
- click on your child’s image and select your preferred background
- select your package
- if you wish to enter another child’s code, just click ‘Change Shoot’ from the menu
- once you have completed your orders, go to checkout.

Photo packages range in price from $15.00 to $40.00. Family portraits are priced at $35.00. All packages ordered within 21 days of photo day will be returned to Parkes Public School. After 21 days a postage and handling fee of $7.95 will be added to the purchase price and the package will be posted to you.

Family Photo Envelopes will be available at the school office. Please send in on photo day.

Please contact our Production Centre if you have any problems on 6342 3070 or email at cliff@cliffdykes.com.au

Thank you and please enjoy your photographs.
Cliff and Kay Dykes

Community Noticeboard

Aspect Recipe for Success Workshop

This Autism-specific Positive Behaviour Support Workshop uses contemporary evidence based strategies, based on many years of direct work with families, organisations and people living with autism.

Who should attend? Families and professionals supporting or working with people on the autism spectrum, including carers, direct support staff, managers, educators, respite staff, supported employment and Allied Health professionals.

You will leave the workshop with greatly increased confidence in your ability to make a difference in environments and situations where there is challenging behaviour.

When: Tuesday, 15, Wednesday, 16 and Thursday, 17 March 2016
Where: Orange Ex Services Club
Time: 9.30am to 2.30pm
Cost: Free for family members and professionals who attend with a family. All other professionals $600.

For further information contact:
Sarah Maxwell on 0466 518 747 or email smaxwell@autismspectrum.org.au
IRONFEST
Lithgow Showground on Saturday, 16 and Sunday, 17 April 2016.

Aiming to educate through entertainment, Ironfest features historical events over these days – jousting and other events depicting accurately extremely interesting periods in history. The re-enactments are very dramatic, featuring artillery, cavalry and infantry, and there is a fully authentic military encampment, hospital and blacksmith’s workshop. Lots of roving entertainers, music, dance, woodturning demonstrations, birds of prey, as well as Australian made goods on sale at the stalls.

Ironfest is open on Saturday from 9.00am to 5.00pm and on Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm.

For more information you can visit the Ironfest website at www.ironfest.net.

Tickets available at the gate during Ironfest.
**Cost:**
- One day - Adult $40; Concession $30; Child $25; Family* $95.
- 2 Day Weekend - Adult $55; Concession $45; Child $35; Family* $140

*Family includes two adults and three school age children. Any extra children over the age of six are to have their own ticket.

UPCYCLING
Jane Milburn, rural communicator and up-cycler, believes there is a pressing need to rethink our approach to clothing for sustainability. Jane’s model includes empowering individuals to reimagine and recreate their own wardrobe collection by resewing at home. Jane is part of the Fashion Revolution bringing awareness to where clothes come from and the resources from which they are made.

**EVENING CHAT**
Friday, 4 March, 6.00pm - 7.30pm at Parkes Library

RSVP Thursday, 3 March on 6861 2309

Jane will share her passion for bringing awareness to where clothes come from and the resources from which they are made over some wine and cheese.

**WORKSHOPS**
Reuse clothing in creative and sustainable ways. Bring along your imagination and creative spirit. Workshop for all skill levels and with all natural-fibre garments.

**Saturday, 5 March, 10.00am - 4.00pm**
**Sunday, 6 March, 10.00am - 4.00pm**
Parkes Library, Coventry Room

*Workshops are free. Bookings required on 6861 2309*