PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

PLAYGROUND

Today we received a delivery of organic mulch to ‘top up’ the existing soft fall material. This delivery has not only fulfilled a safety requirement but has again lifted the overall appearance of our playground.

I have received numerous positive comments about the massive transformation that has taken place at school – other principals are quite envious of our school environment.

HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day (March 21) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about respect, inclusiveness and a sense of belonging by everyone.

2015 celebrates 15 years of Harmony Day and we will celebrate this significant day by providing cultural experiences throughout this week for all students to participate in.

Students will be involved in cultural mufti, class performances from a selected country, taste testing and a ‘world tour’.

I thank Mrs Ford for coordinating this celebration and teachers for their efforts in developing an appreciation of other cultures amongst the students.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

This Friday March 20, we will be having school photos taken.

Please ensure that your child wears their full summer school uniform, to ensure consistency for the class photos.

NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

Next Monday March 23, I will be attending a young leaders day held at the Qantas Credit Union Arena, Darling Harbour.

Jada, Katrina, Connor and Darcy will accompany me to this annual event specifically designed for student leaders to listen to highly motivational and inspirational leaders in sport, business, community service, politics and the arts.

This is a great opportunity for our students to receive inspiration to complement their leadership roles throughout the year!

Mike Watson
Principal
STAGE 1 (K – 2) COMMENDATIONS
Congratulations to these students who received awards last week. Well done!

KZ  Cruz Mackintosh - a super effort when learning sounds
     Brianna West - great work in writing
K-1F Cailin McHenry - excellent effort in reading groups
      Anna Pugliese - awesome comprehension skills
1-2M Hayley King-Manion - improved effort and behaviour in class
      Corbin Shearer - great effort in Maths
2C  Ruby Blume - bringing in pictures of Ireland
     Max Pinson - painting an Irish flag

STAGE 2 & 3 (YEARS 3-6) COMMENDATIONS
Congratulations to these students who received awards last week. Well done!

2-3V Tyler Crnogorac - improvement in all areas
      Maxine Suela - always making an effort in class and being a great role model
3-4T Mikaela Simmons - outstanding efforts in persuasive writing,
      excellent listening and involvement in class activities
      Riley Taylor - always making a great effort and giving valuable contributions to discussions
4-5C Lana Stark - great effort and attitude to her work
6B  Ethan Hearne - excellent effort in Maths groups
     Jada Cooper - being a responsible, valued member of 6B

WORKBOOKS/VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION – 2015

Invoices have been sent home to all families and thank you to those who have paid these.
Please be aware there is a discount of $5 per student for early payment of voluntary contributions if paid before 2/4/15.
There is a $5 per student discount for families if paid before 26/6/15.
The student workbooks are being used in classrooms and payment of these books would be appreciated.
Kindergarten $40 and Year 1-6 $30
There is also a sports fee of $2 per student to cover insurance for using council grounds.
Spirit poles

Around the school
EASTER RAFFLE

As you are aware the P&C are organising an Easter Raffle, which will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade at school on Thursday 2nd April. The P&C I am requesting donations of Easter Eggs, Bunnies etc., in assorted sizes. These will be combined to make 3 great individual prizes. Please bring your donations to the administration office by Friday 27th March.

Thank you for your support

FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 20th March - School Photos
Thursday 26th March - School Disco
Friday 27th March - Donations for Easter Raffle
Friday 27th March - Stage 2 Surf Educate Excursion Manly
Thursday 2nd April - Easter Raffle

The school office is open from 8.30am until 3.00pm.
Uniform purchases 8.30am to 2.45pm

LAST DAYS FOR PAYMENT

Now due - Voluntary Contributions
Now due - Workbook fees
Friday 20th March - Suara Indonesian Dance Group $5 per student
Friday 27th March - Stage 2 Surf Educate Excursion
Tuesday 31st March - P&C Raffle tickets to school office

Payments can be made by cheque, cash & eftpos
Please be aware that the school office cannot accept eftpos or credit card payments for Book Club.
Parenting Ideas Insights
Building parent-school partnerships
WORDS Michael Grose

Teach children to persist

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; where 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 shoe laces 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 improve its development by making life too easy for children so that they don’t have the opportunity 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 growth 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 than 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 be come 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 behaviour 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 young or 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.

Michael Grose

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael’s NSW Parenting Ideas Club today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.

parentingideas.com.au
28th Annual
Penrith Working Truckshow
Sunday 29th March 2015 - 8am-5pm
Australia’s Best Value Family Day

Fun and Excitement!

The Best In Country Music

- Darren Carr
- Christie Lamb
- Mark Shay

Plus much more!

McAlister Kemp  The Wolfe Brothers  Kaylens Rain  Jared Porter

- Direct access from Penrith Station
- Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (20 rides)
- Concert sound & full stage
- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum

Held at Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith. Phone: (02) 4731 3000
The Museum is a registered charity and all funds raised are directed towards saving our families from the dangers of fire while preserving the heritage of our communities bravest.

Sydney Classic & Antique Truckshow on 31st May, 2015
(See website for more details)

www.pwts.com.au
Connor Simmons

Day: 1

We arrived at the camp just before morning tea and were greeted by the staff members at Long Neck Lagoon. We were instructed on how to set up our tents and prepared them for sleeping. We enjoyed our lunch and then began the day’s activities, which included canoeing, orienteering and a short first aid course.

Day: 2

We all woke up keen to start our day, (except Mr Clark who had stayed up way past his bedtime of 7:30pm.) With the orienteering skills we had learnt on day one and a few lessons about how to use a G.P.S we started the day with a treasure hunt.

Next we had bike riding. Unfortunately this ended in disaster, when Mrs Berghofer was forced to make a sudden stop and injured her ankle.

Darcy Martin

When we arrived we put up the tents which was fun cause I have never put up a tent before!

Then we were split into two groups and it was time to start the activities. Group one did first aid and group two did canoeing. I was in group two, canoeing was very peaceful and we saw some cool birds. Once canoeing was over we had lunch then we did first aid and group one did mapping and orienteering. During first aid, I was used as a demo. I had to pretend I had a snake bite. We learnt how to wrap my leg with bandages so the venom does not get to my heart. Then they gave us some first aid kits. It was a huge day! After that we had dinner and went to bed.