Hello parents, carers, students and friends of Padstow North PS

A big shout out goes to Mr and Mrs Cazouris our P&C President and Vice President, Mr and Mrs Allsop-Guest and all of our P&C volunteers, friends, families, students and staff who helped make our biannual Spring Fair a huge success. The day proved to have something for everyone – it was a lot of fun! I would also like to send a big thank you to Mr Bowden for volunteering on the day. Mr Bowden retired from his position as Principal Padstow North PS on Monday 19th October; he will always be a proud and welcome member of our school community.

Students in our school and local community also came together during the Term 3 holidays at the Kids Craft Program run by iShine church. Sponge Bob Square Pants and Elsa from Frozen even came along to join in the fun.

This term has been, and will continue to be very busy for our students, families and staff. We look forward to our Kindergarten and Year 1-6 orientation days for new students and their families, along with our students moving from Year 2 to 3 in 2016. We also have Presentation Day, Year 6 Farewell, Carol’s Night, a K-6 fun day, and Year 6 Orientation Day for our Year 6 students moving into high school in 2016. This Friday, 30th October is World Teachers’ Day – a day where everybody can celebrate the wonderful work teachers do. I received an email about a former student this week – he was awarded the Star of Courage by the Governor General Peter Cosgrove for Bravery. The student acknowledged our teachers for their contribution toward helping him become the man he is today.

A big thanks to the staff at Bankstown Airport Bunnings for donating 10 umbrellas to our school. Stage 2 students were lucky to have them when it started to rain while they were on their walking tour of Padstow last week; and I am sure our K-2 students will find them useful for getting to the library, canteen and computer room on rainy days.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what’s happening at Padstow North Public School, we are very excited to report what our students have been doing. If you enjoy reading our newsletter and would like to see what’s happening around the school more regularly visit the website: www.padstownth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au.

Natalie Armstrong
Acting Principal
**From Paddock to Plate**

This term, Kindy are learning about how food comes from the farm or paddock to our plates. We have arranged an excursion to Calmsley City farm to coincide with our theme.

Students have been brainstorming ideas and reading a variety of books about farms. This week we are reading the book ‘The Windy Farm’ by Doug MacLeod. It has been interesting to hear all about students that have visited a wind farm at Cowra, in Regional NSW.

**Measurement**

This week we are studying Mass. It has been interesting to see the students develop an awareness of using their hands to understand the terms ‘heavy, light, hefting’. Students have been using equal arm balances and using their hands to feel and also estimate the weight of a variety of objects. Some have included glue sticks, books, unifix cubes and pencil cases.

**Art**

Our art unit is also linked to our theme ‘From Paddock to Plate’. Students have been creating fantastic pieces of artwork all about horses. Look how clever Kindy are!

**Developmental Play**

Students each week engage in developmental play using a variety of resources and also playing with peers. This own learning encourages play, sharing, interactions with peers, problem solving, hands on materials and also good use of communication. Students enjoy this time as they can enjoy their own learning.
Dinosaurs!!!!!!

Stage 1 have Roooaaarrred into term 4! We are super enthusiastic about our topic of dinosaurs this term! We have been sharpening our research skills (not our claws!) to explore different dinosaurs, their habitats and characteristics. We have also been focusing on writing persuasive letters and have come up with many interesting reasons to convince our parents that a dinosaur would make an excellent pet. Here are some of our examples, we are sure you will be convinced that your next pet at home should definitely be a dinosaur!

“A dinosaur would make an excellent pet because:

“It could help me eat all of my vegetables because it is a herbivore. My triceratops can eat all of the yucky vegetables I don’t like to eat …eww broccoli!” – Brianna, 2 Smith

“It would be the best security guard. He would keep us safe all the time. He would be a guard dog and scare robbers away.” - Adrian, 2 Smith

“I could sit on its head and see on top of the world, it would be amazing to see the different angles of the city.” – Madeleine M, 1 Monash

“If I was mad at someone I would lie down on my pterodactyl and calm down. When it spreads its wings it would look like a hammock.” – Tahlia L, 1 Monash
Stage 2 Walking Excursion

On Thursday October 22, Stage 2 went on a walking excursion around Padstow. We went because we are learning about built environments in science.

When we were walking, we were looking at what has been built in our environment to meet the needs of the people in our community. We saw the Senior Citizens Centre, the train station and other transport, the Baby Health Clinic, the swimming pool, the War Memorial, the library, public toilets and 4 different churches.

We were supposed to have a lovely picnic in Playford Park before we mapped the park for our science projects, but, unfortunately, it started to pour. We were very lucky that a man from the soccer club came and let us inside the clubhouse. After we ate lunch, we huddled under umbrellas and walked back to school.

Spring Fair 2015

In preparation for our Spring Fair stall Stage 2 students were involved in categorising books and pricing them ready for sale. We discussed the importance of merchandising a store to attract customers and how we could maximise our sales.

Categorising books and other texts is also a key component of the English syllabus. Students need to be able to identify the purpose and intended audience of a text. This skill was very useful in the sorting of books for the stall. The process also consolidated concepts being explored in our HSIE unit this term ‘Who Will Buy’.

Stage 2 would like to thank the community for the donations of books and prizes. We would also like to thank the parents who volunteered on the day in our stalls. A big thank you to the Stage 2 team of dedicated teachers who attended the Spring Fair.

What a fabulous community event!
Stage 3 went on camp to Mogo, in week 2. One of the highlights of our trip was panning for gold. Yes we all actually found real gold specks. Some of us were a little confused over what was and what was not real gold. We were told “It’s the belief that matters!”

We discovered the barber was also the dentist, doctor and surgeon and the undertaker! Declan was brave enough to sit in the chair and survived to tell the tale.

We saw how harsh the conditions were in 1850 and learnt a new name for the outhouse. Just ask us!!!

We all had a great time bush-dancing and making one huge racket. The owner could hear us inside her home on the property.
ICT Committee Tech Spot

Teachers are continuing to include technology as part of their exciting and engaging learning programs across our school. Thanks to the fundraising of our families as part of the Term 3 Sportathon, we will soon be adding another 15 iPads to the 40 that we currently have.

We were also lucky enough to be able to purchase some very exciting ‘robots’ using our Woolworths Earn and Learn points. We know that students will enjoy using these as part of their mathematics lessons, learning the foundations of computer coding from as early as kindergarten.

Mrs Chegwidden

P&C Report

A big thank you to all the volunteers who have put in many hours in planning for our 4th Spring Fair. The day could not have been a success without the support of all the families and friends who came and helped on the day. All profits made from this event will go towards the extension and refurbishing of our school canteen.

Our next P&C Meeting is on Tuesday 10th November at 6:30pm in the Staff common room. This will be our AGM (Annual General Meeting) and we will be looking to fill the following positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Canteen Convenor, School Banking Coordinator and Book Club Coordinator and more.

If you are interested in any of the listed positions please come along to our AGM. Many of our current committee are leaving the school this year. Without the P&C the students and school would miss out on an awful lot of resources. Please consider joining the P&C team, you can share a role with a friend if need be.

Faye Cazouris
P&C President 2015
0402077736

Whooping cough information for schools

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

School Swimming and Water Safety Program

In the first two weeks of this term, 60 students from Year 2 to Year 6 attended the School Swimming and Water Safety Program at Revesby Pools for 9 consecutive days. All the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have improved their water swimming safety and confidence. At the end of the fortnight the students received a certificate for successfully completing the course, which highlighted their achievements.

Mr R Grinham & Miss Wells
Drama Club

Over the last two terms our school Drama Club has met every Thursday to rehearse their lines and practise their singing. A great deal of work goes into preparing for the play and students have been learning how to convey meaning using exaggerated actions and vocal expression. They have also learnt how to inject personality into their character by providing traits gleaned from their own experiences. It has been a really enjoyable year for the drama club and we are looking forward to performing for the school and our parents in the musical comedy ‘Pirates of the Curry Bean’. We look forward to seeing you in the school hall on Friday night, 13th November, as we are very excited to be performing for our families.

Mr R Grinham

Milo Cup Cricket

The Milo Cup regionals were held at Greenway Park and their brilliant play during this tournament ensured our boys only dropped one game, despite struggling with the heat, and the girls dropped two games against strong opposition, while at times feeling nervous, to finish seventh. It was a brilliant day with all schools involved showing great sportsmanship and students trying their hardest. For a school to have two teams make regional level is an accomplishment, and to have the boys finish third and only just miss out on the finals by just a few runs in the whole competition is simply outstanding.

Padstow North is very proud of all our cricketers and wish them all the best.

Mr R Grinham
Girls Day In

On the last day of Term 3 the girls from Year 6 walked to Sir Joseph Banks High School for a special day for girls. We listened to guest speakers who told us that women could do whatever they set their mind to doing. Then we had a trivia quiz. We were mixed up with all the high school students and Zahra, Vivien, Alana and Larissa’s group (together with some high school girls) won the competition. After lunch came a talent show. Padstow North girls sang and danced. Suhaila and Rayyan were the judges along with students from Riverwood Public School. They did a fantastic job awarding points and choosing a winner.

Thank you to the organiser, Ms Alexandra McGill, at Sir Joseph Banks High School for a great day.

Mrs Mizon

Bankstown/ East Hills Dance Festival

On Tuesday, 20th October, 65 dancers from years 1-6 represented Padstow North Public School at the Bankstown/ East Hills Dance Festival at Bankstown Sports Club. Our students looked amazing in their costumes dancing to hits “Happy”, “See you Again/Sugar/Bad Blood” and “Uptown Funk”.

All students were so well behaved and did a great job. Thank you to all the wonderful parents who came to support our school and to Mrs Ellis and Miss Wells for choreographing the years 1-2 and 5-6 dance troupes.

Mrs Liz Rudder

Library

The joy of a bedtime story is the key to developing a love of reading. Frank Cottrell Boyce.

A recent study in the U.K. found that many parents stop reading to their children when they become independent readers. The study also found that 83% of children enjoyed being read aloud to, with 68% describing it as a special time with their parents. According to Carnegie medallist Frank Cottrell Joyce sharing the pleasure of reading with children is just as important as teaching them how to read as it gives children motivation to want to learn to read.

Thank you to Miss Prior who took over my library and teaching duties while I was away for the first three weeks of this term.

We have been given some exciting news that our library is going to have a new library system called OLIVER. The system our students will have access to will be ORBIT. It will be user friendly, colourful and easy to access. These systems are being introduced to all Department of Education libraries. At Padstow North the new system will be introduced towards the end of Term 1, 2016.

Mrs Harris

KATTTS Club

KATTTS has continued to be a tremendous success in Term 4 with students energetically beautifying our gardens and making our school grounds a cleaner, nicer and safer place. The students have finished their first garden makeover by replacing the soil, painting the brick work (thanks Stan), and planting new plants in front of the office. They also have been working on the garden behind the flag poles, weeding and aerating the soil, getting it ready to lay 5-10cm of mulch. Keep up the good work KATTTS.

Mr R Grinham
Thanks to our Sponsors for their support of our Spring Fair 2015

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## School Calendar

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