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

We are well into Term 3 by now and have just celebrated a very successful Education Week at Padstow North PS. Education Week is a major event on the NSW public schools calendar. It is time to celebrate the achievements and successes of our students, teachers and support staff across all NSW public schools. Our teachers and students opened up their classrooms to showcase the learning experiences they are a part of at Padstow North PS. The sport-a-thon was also held during Education Week. By participating in a day of sporting activities our students raised over $8000.00 for the school! This money will be used to improve our learning spaces and purchase resources for the students. Thank you to everyone involved.

Our school grounds are a wonderful extension of our learning spaces, taking learning outside. Our students enjoy the space and resources they have to use each day. A big thanks to our KATTTS club who are a group of students dedicated to keeping our grounds and gardens thriving. They work hard after school every second Monday to weed, tidy, plant new trees, and transform our garden spaces. This term they are working hard to renew the two gardens outside the main office. They are also preparing to mulch the flag pole garden. Thank you to Mr Grinham and those parents who also come along in their own time to help the students out. Mr Bulmer did a fantastic job pruning the tree at the back of the canteen last week!

As 2016 creeps up on us remember it is time to enrol your little one for Kindy next year. Preparation is already underway for our Kindergarten Orientation Days and of course that very special first day of Kindy in 2016. If you haven’t already done so, please see Mrs Peterson in the office for an enrolment form.

Did you know that as of 1 July 2015 the Department of Education and Communities is now known as the Department of Education? This name change follows administrative changes to a number of NSW Government agencies.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what’s happening at Padstow North PS, 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 go to the website: www.padstownth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au.

Natalie Armstrong
R/Principal
Education Week

Kindergarten Kirkpatrick, Cherry and Kenny all enjoyed Education Week. They invited their parents into their classroom to see all the exciting things they are learning at school. Parents learnt what happens during reading groups and literacy sessions and were able to play with the iPads and hear their children read.

They also enjoyed the Sport-a-thon and have a “work free” school day that only involved sports activities and fun. Parents joined in to play scoop and catch, poison ball, indoor soccer and tennis.

Kindergarten loved having their parents come to school with them and I’m sure would love to see it happen everyday.

Maths in Kindergarten

In Maths, Kindergarten have been learning about lots of different concepts. They can make patterns using shapes and numbers, can count forwards and backwards from a range of numbers, can find and measure the area of 2D shapes and much more.

In Kindergarten Kenny, students had to make a pattern using the blocks and explain it to their partner. This ensured that students not only understood what they had to do, but had the language and skills to explain it to someone else. Language is a key factor in understanding a range of maths concepts. Students need to hear and use the language of mathematics to gain a deep understanding of what is being taught.

Have a look at what we can do...
Playground Fun!

Stage 1 are always busy learning in the classroom... but we actually learn a lot on the playground too. The teacher’s value the time children spend on the playground and make observations of your child in order to build up a deep understanding of their development and progress socially.

Playing outside is not just about getting rid of energy...it is a vital part of childhood that helps children develop physical strength, coordination and balance. It can also provide opportunities for children to learn and develop:

· Social Skills - when they play with other children they learn to communicate, share, collaborate and empathize with others. The children learn to navigate social boundaries and resolve conflicts.
· Imagination and creativity - outside play is often open-ended and children are creative about what and how games are played. We observe such fantastic creative games such as Dragons, mums and dads, teachers and schools, Pokémon, soccer and many other games that the children can happily play for hours.
· Thinking and problem solving skills - as children assess risks and tackle new challenges such as climbing higher on the play equipment, kicking a ball for a goal; they learn about having a go, persistence and perseverance and the success those attributes can bring.
· Sense of self - as they master new skills and play with other children they improve their competence and confidence in their own physical and social abilities.
· Sense of connection - to place, to peers and the environment. It is always pleasing to hear of the fun, connections and laughter the students experience on the playground.
· Self-care skills - managing physical and social challenges helps children to learn about keeping themselves safe.

Ask your child what they did on the playground
Learning in 3 Stanley

3 Stanley are lucky they had a lovely, restful holiday as we have ‘hit the ground running’. We are enjoying studying text related to Aboriginal culture and participated enthusiastically in the Naidoc Week celebrations. This term we will continue to explore Aboriginal customs and beliefs in our History unit, ‘Community and Remembrance’. The History syllabus is a new document that is replacing the current HSIE syllabus. Stage 2 are excited to be using it for the first time at Padstow North.

Welcome to Miss Moore who is from the University of Notre Dame. Miss Moore is in her final year of university and, with support from Mrs Mackenzie, will be teaching our class for Term 3. It is our responsibility to ensure we equip Miss Moore with the necessary skills, knowledge, experience and love of teaching, so she will leave our school with the determination to strive to be an amazing educator in our profession.

Learning in 4 / 5 Hamilton

4 / 5 Hamilton have started the term with a positive attitude toward their learning. They were given a task to design a handball court with an area of 24 square metres. In small groups Hamilton needed to work as a team and decide what common factors make an area of 24 square metres. Each student discussed, planned and implemented the task. Students were given a piece of chalk, 1m ruler and a geometric perpendicular shape to help measure 90 degrees of each angle. Once the students finished drawing their handball courts, they enjoyed playing a friendly game of handball.

Learning in 4 Baird

4 Baird have had a great start to Term 3, with lots of fun learning. We have been learning about comics in Literacy, learning about the author’s purpose and how they achieve that purpose. We love using technology, like the iPads and laptops. These devices provide new and exciting ways of learning. In this activity, we used Popplet to photograph one frame from a comic in our school magazine and record all of the information that we could find in the image. We even created our own comics using the Comic Life App. These are on our class blog if you would like to have a look - https://4bairdsblog.edublogs.org/

Learning in 3 Wake

In Term 2 3 Wake learnt about simple machines and how they work during science lessons.

At the end of the term students were given the task of creating a model, using science kits, mobilo, lego or k’nex, based on the knowledge they had gained about simple machines.

Among the models were cars, cranes, trucks with a ramp, a well with a pulley, an umbrella, and a fire truck. This term 3 Wake students are learning about their new science topic Day and Night.
5/6 Kingsbury

Our class took turns to create poppies to mark our respect for the fallen ANZACs. We made approximately 200 poppies to display “Lest We Forget” on the back wall of our classroom.

Mosaics
Our class have been making mosaics. There are several steps to creating a masterpiece. The first step is to plan out a picture on a (300x300) square of ply timber. Next you’ll need two tiles and a hammer. Smash up tiles in a small size and place them on the timber. If they don’t fit nicely, use pliers to shape them into place. Once you’re finished fitting in, it’s time to glue. Glue all the pieces down and you’re ready to grout. When you’re finished grouting you’ve completed it. No one is up to grouting yet.

Tasmanian Devils (Information report)
We used laptops and computers to research about their diet, habitat, behaviour, description and reproduction to create information reports.

Estys Gold
This term we have chosen Estys Gold which is a novel about two girls and their life on the gold fields which incorporates our H.S.I.E. unit Gold.
ICT Committee Tech Spot

Google Apps
All students now have access to Google Apps, and several teachers have been using applications from this service in classroom activities. Students access Google Apps by logging in to the DEC student portal using their Department USER ID and password. Once in the student portal, students expand the Learning Tab and click on the link to Google Apps. Instructions are available online at https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/learnysysupport/googleapps/student_access.htm

KidSpace/Student Portal
Please notify your child’s classroom teacher if they cannot access their Student Portal account. All students have access to an individual Department of Education email account.

Mathletics
If your child is having trouble accessing Mathletics on a PC or other devices, links to some tech solutions which might help, have been included below: http://www.3plearning.com/tech/mathletics/

Technology Code of Conduct
A reminder that all students were required to read and sign the school’s technology code of conduct earlier in the year, along with their parents and carers. The requirements included in the document are designed to uphold the standards of ‘netiquette’ (manners using the web) and ensure the safety of all students and staff at our school.

Awareness of safety is always a priority in lessons. Please make yourself aware of what your children have access to at home. The A-Z site has wonderful hints and resources regarding cybersafety: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cybersafety

Mrs G. Byrnes
ICT Committee Coordinator K-6

East Hills Festival Choir

Students from our school choir will soon be taking part in the coming East Hills Choral Festival. Their next rehearsal takes place on Thursday 13th August, at Padstow Heights Public school, followed by 3 performances at Revesby Workers’ Club On Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th August. Tickets for the evening performances can be purchased online from: http://www.trybooking.com/HXAD

Library News

The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge is well under way and a number of students have completed the challenge or are well on their way to completing it. Congratulations to the following students who have finished – Noah A, Jessica B, Hashim C, Yvonne L, Zahara W, Daniel L, Aditi S, Ethan C, Lachlan B, Ammarah C, Bethany P, Riley B, Judy B. The final day to complete the challenge is August 21st.

The Readings Children’s Book Prize recognises and celebrates books that families love reading together, or that children read under the covers with a torch late into the night because they can’t bear to put it down – books they tell their friends about. It aims to raise the profile of debut and on-the-rise Australian children’s book authors. The winner of the Readings Children’s Book Prize 2015 is... Rivertime by Tracie Ballal! Rivertime is a tender and beautifully illustrated tale of a boy and his bird-watching uncle on a paddling trip along Australia’s Glenelg River. The book has also been shortlisted in the Picture Book of the Year Award and the Crichton Award for New Illustrators. Winners of the Book of the Year Awards will be announced in Children’s Book Week which will be celebrated 22nd-28th August 2015.

During Book Week we will be holding a Book Fair in the library on Monday 24th August (3-4.30pm) and Tuesday 25th August (8-9am). There will be a good selection of books for sale to enhance your home libraries. There will also be an opportunity to donate a book to the library. The purchase of books is cash only. Each child who attends the Book Fair will enter a Lucky Door draw, with the winners (one Infants and one Primary) receiving a book selected from the Book Fair.

As part of Book Week author and illustrator Tina Matthews will talk with Stage 1 on Tuesday 25th August. There is no cost involved. Her books include Out of the Egg, Waiting for Later, A Great Cake and So Many Wonderfuls. This will be followed by a Book Parade and Book Week Competition Winners (Tuesday 25th August 12.30-1.15pm under the Infants COLA) where students are asked to come dressed as a book character or make a book poster. Parents are welcome to come along to the Book Parade.

* Book Fair – Monday 24th August (3-4.30pm) and Tuesday 25th August (8-9am) in the school library.
* Author visit (Stage 1) on Tuesday 25th August – no cost
* Book Week Parade and Book week Competition Winners – on Tuesday 25th August (12.30-1.15pm)

S. Harris
Teacher Librarian
NAIDOC Week Celebration
We Walk Together

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920’s which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians.

NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements and is an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society. This year the theme was We all stand on Sacred Ground – Learn, Respect and Celebrate”.

At Padstow North PS we encourage all students to be proud Australians and have a good awareness and understanding of Indigenous Australians. This year we saw a female dance group lead by Peta Strachan, perform at our school. The graceful and beautiful stories were told through dance and the children had an opportunity to participate in these dances, hear Indigenous stories and increase their awareness about Aboriginal culture.

In conjunction with this interactive performance, students have been focusing on rich literature - both traditional and contemporary to learn about the history and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. An Aboriginal perspective is woven through all curriculum areas we teach on a daily basis.

The following link is a great website some of the class teachers used to share Dreamtime stories. http://www.abc.net.au/dustechoes/

D. Tardent. F. Spiros
E. Mackenzie

It’s back! MindQuest 2015

Does your child have a talent in English, Mathematics, History or Science? On Saturday 12th and Sunday the 13th March between 9:30-3:30pm, St George Girls HS will hold the NSW Talent Enrichment Weekend. Students from Years 1-6 are welcome to join. If your child is interested in applying for any of these workshops the application forms will be available at the infants and primary offices. A partial scholarship is also available for the families who might find it difficult to pay for the course fees, however there is a limited number available.

Ms Savva
Extra-Curricular Coordinator

2015 School Athletics Carnival

A beautiful sunny winter day appeared for the annual Athletics Carnival. Excellent participation made for another successful carnival. There were many close races, and great sportsmanship was demonstrated by all participants. It was wonderful to see all the supporters; the students really enjoy having you there. A huge thanks to the canteen staff and parents who volunteered on the day. Your support is greatly appreciated by both staff and students.

A team of over 40 students will represent our school at the 2015 East hills District Carnival being held on Wednesday 13th August at the Crest Athletics Track.

Uniform Shop

The RED, WHITE and BLUE microfiber jackets are now in stock. Sizes range from 4 – 18. If you would like to place an order please download the order form from the school website. The cost is $60.

Thank you
Amy Sindyan
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator
PSSA Soccer

As we come to the end of the competition, both our juniors and seniors are sitting on equal forth with three other schools. Our last match will be against Picnic Point which will determine if we get a chance to play in the finals. So far during season 2 we have had three games cancelled due to bad weather, and unfortunately we believe that we would have had a good chance to take the points from each game which would have placed us in a stronger position. Both our teams have settled down though and are playing good, entertaining soccer - setting up plays, pushing the ball around and scoring plenty of goals. Well done to both teams, and let’s hope that we get good weather on Friday and show Picnic Point how good we are.

R. Grinham
Boys Soccer Coach

At the end of last term Round 4 ended with both teams playing well against Revesby. The seniors were defeated 4-0. The juniors had a great win 3-2. Both teams were looking more confident and gaining momentum. Unfortunately, with two washed out games and a bye this term the girls have not had a chance to display their improvements against competing schools. An enjoyable training session was held during the bye round with both teams showing teamwork and improvement in skills and positioning. The last round before the semi finals will be played on Friday. Thank you and congratulations to all the girls for their cooperation and sportsmanship both on and off the field.

D. McNamara
Girls Soccer Coach

Sport-a-thon 2015

Wow! We had a great day on Thursday 30th July. Thank you to all the students, parents, grandparents and carers for helping raise $8364.00 for our school.

The money raised from the sport-a-thon will be going to purchasing new iPads for the classrooms, fixing some broken playground equipment and purchasing new playground equipment such as soccer balls, footballs and handballs to play with in the playground.

It was such a great day with fun in the sun and lots of sporting activities. All students had fun engaging with their peers and stamping their passport at each activity. The classes were all dressed in colours from countries around the world.

Also a big thank you to Great Western Sydney (GWS) Giants AFL Club who came and ran a free AFL clinic with every class free of charge.

Thank you to all the teachers for their support. We look forward to doing it all again next year.

Mrs Liz Rudder
Sport-a-thon Coordinator

KATTTS Club

KATTTS has continued to be a tremendous success in Term 3 with students energetically beautifying our gardens and making our school grounds a cleaner, nicer and safer place. Recently, students carefully removed storm debris - placing leaves, sticks and branches in bins. In an exciting new development Bankstown City Council donated over a forty plants and shrubs for students to plant around the school, which will contribute to our playground environment. I would like to thank all the students who belong to our KATTTS club and congratulate them on doing such a marvelous job for which the whole school benefits.

R. Grinham

P&C Report

A big thank you for all the volunteers who helped with the sausage sizzle during the School Sport-a-thon. It was a very successful day.

During week two of this term all students received a note regarding the orders for Father Day. Please ensure if you are purchasing a gift that the order form is returned to the school before the due date as gifts need to be purchased.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 August at 7pm in the staff common room. Everyone is welcome.

Faye Cazouris
P&C President 2015
0402077736

Fundraising News

McDonald’s Night
Give yourself a night off from worrying about dinner; bring the kids down to McDonald’s Padstow (cnr Davies & Arab Rd) on Tuesday 11th August 2015 from 4pm to
8pm. Use the till that has Padstow North Public School and the school will receive 20% of the taking from that till. So come along and join in the festivities and bring your family and friends too!

Father’s Day
By now you should have all handed in your completed Father’s Day personalised products and stall form and money. We will also be continuing the tradition of a Father’s Day BBQ on the morning of Friday 4th September, so keep an eye out for notes soon.

Bookclub
Thank you Christine To for volunteering to coordinate the bookclub for the school, she is currently being trained on the process and will be starting to coordinate it herself when we receive Issue 6.

Jaime Wong
P&C Fundraising Coordinator

School Banking

Remember to send in your school banking books next Tuesday 11 August to go into the draw to win some great prizes.
Thanks to our Sponsors for their support of our Spring Fair 2015

GOLD Sponsors

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13 13 18
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