From the Principal

Social Media
Social networking is a popular way for children to communicate, however with it comes responsibility. Many of these sites/Apps are recommended for children 13+, however we are aware that many of our students who are under the age of 13 are using a number of these sites. We highly encourage parents to talk with their children and to regularly check the sites and Apps their children are using.

It is essential for parents to speak with your children and find out which sites they are accessing and what privacy settings they have activated. It is also imperative parents speak with their children about not accepting friend requests from people they do not know.

Here are 2 useful websites for parents
http://www.cybersmart.gov.au
This is a great site for both parents and students and provides plenty of information and helpful hints.

ThinkUKnow is also another website for parents. It has a number of fact sheets in regards to popular Apps and websites.
http://www.thinkuknow.org.au

Olympic Ceremony
The whole school will participate in an Olympic Ceremony on Friday 12th August. Parents are most welcome to watch this event. We envisage starting around 9:15am. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and we will hold this event in the quadrangle. The children will be on the artificial turf and we ask parents to stand on the decks. The parade of nations will be held on the oval.

If the weather is inclement we will hold a modified version in the gym. All children need to come dressed in their Olympic country colours.

New Parking Sign
A new sign has been placed out the front of the school “2 minutes Drop Off and Pick Up”. For the safety of all students parents need to obey this sign and not park in this area for extended periods of time.

Girls Football
Congratulations to the Girls football team who won all their games today. The Girls now go onto the State Finals.

A fantastic team effort. Good Luck in the next round!
From the Principal   …. cont’d

Lego Mindstorms EV3
We have recently purchased a number of Lego Mindstorm EV3’s for the ICT room as part of our commitment to implementing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) at PPS.

In the past week, I have built and coded a Lego Mindstorms robotic model. This includes multiple sensors, functioning wheels and an EV3 “block”. The block is basically the brains of the build; you can send script (coding) to the block through Bluetooth or USB and after you have sent the script, the block will remember it and you can play out the script to make your robot move, play sound, display an image or sense things. This is just a core set and can be branched off into many different designs, leaving unlimited possibilities for us to explore. By Kai P.

MYTERN

Unpacking the daily MYTERN Message: Redefining perfection

Don’t be too quick to judge a rough road, as it can often present you with a totally new perspective. Learn to see imperfection as part of being perfect.

Begin by discussing the yin/yang symbol  and how it represents a balance of black and white, good and bad, red roads and green roads.

Does our present society still define perfection as a balance, or are we expecting people to be pure white? If so, is this attainable?

Discuss areas of each family member’s life where they may have unrealistic expectations of themselves and others. Stress the value of travelling the red roads, for without rough roads, how can you appreciate the smooth ones?

That’s why there will always be moments when you are sad, because if you were never sad, how could you possibly know what being happy is?

Leanne Bradney
Principal
AND NOW A WORD FROM MRS RICHARDS .......

There is much mention of STEM lately. STEM is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and the improvement of STEM teaching is both a state and federal government initiative. I thought it would be interesting for parents to see what is currently being done at our school in this area.

**Grade 2**

As part of Grade 2 rotations, students have been participating in S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) activities on a Friday afternoon. The students are presented with a challenge and a goal for the session and have worked independently, in pairs and in small groups to complete tasks within a one hour learning block. The tasks require them to use a variety of materials and to follow a process of: Ask – Prepare – Plan – Create – Produce – Present. Problem solving, lateral thinking and collaborating with others are some of the skills that are used during S.T.E.M activities.

Explaining the science, technology, engineering or maths behind the activity is essential to ensure that the students make connections with their learning during the completion of the task.

**Grade 3**

In Grade 3, the children love getting hands on and thinking outside the box! Rotation activities are all centred on STEM giving the children a range of opportunities to think critically, work in groups, interpret and communicate information and problem solve. Current activities include...

'Smart Games' - these include a variety of different hands on games that include logical thinking, problem solving and manipulating objects to find solutions. Students work collaboratively showing persistence and enthusiasm in completing as many tasks as they can!

Spinning tops - students focus on symmetry, force, motion, weight and gravitational pull to create a spinning top! Using trial and error, the students consistently try to improve their spinning top in order to break the class record!

Structural Design - an engineering activity using only paper to create a weight bearing structure. Students need to think outside the box to create the strongest structure! This week’s record held 43 books! Well done Mia and Jayda!

Static Electricity - students rotate around the classroom engaging in activities that demonstrate static electricity. Students used balloons, aluminium cans, dancing paper, gelatine powder, wooden panels and crazy hair to see it in action!
Grade 4

This year in Grade 4, the students are broadening their opportunities to explore Science, Technology and Engineering through a range of activities that take place during our Rotations sessions on Thursdays.

Science

So far this year, the students have investigated the science branches physics, chemistry and biology. We have explored the properties of sound through conducting a range of experiments that showed how sound waves travel and provided the understanding that sound is a vibration. We have also studied our solar system and the relationships of the planets to one another. Our science incursion allowed children to conduct simple experiments that mimicked physics in space.

This term we explore the concept of living and non-living matter. Observing the life-cycle of chickens has been a memorable aspect of this study.

Digital Technologies

Students will be using Scratch in Grade 4 rotations this term as part of our STEM based focus. Scratch allows students to code their own interactive stories, games and animations. During this process, students will learn to think creatively, reason systematically and work collaboratively. For further information visit: https://scratch.mit.edu/

Design Technologies (Engineering)

This term, the students will be developing and communicating simple design ideas, selecting relevant materials and constructing their designs. They will evaluate the effectiveness of their design idea.

Grade 5/6

The students in Grade 5/6 are studying a Science topic this term called What’s the Matter? They will cover gas, liquid and solid materials. The children will rotate around ‘hands on’ lessons in mixed rotational groups.

Seesaw learning journals - These are student-driven digital portfolios that empower students to independently document what they are learning at school. Students can use photos, videos, drawings, text notes, links to show what they know. When students add to their Seesaw journal, content is uploaded, organised by student, and immediately accessible to teachers from any device.

Genius Hour- This was explained in detail in last week’s Focus. Children use digital technology to present their project information e.g. film using the green scene, Prezi, audio using the ipads.

**STEM is not limited to the older children. Next week we will find out how the Prep and Grade 1 children cover this aspect of the curriculum.**
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Prep
We have had such an exciting week! We all had a ball during Japanese Day last week. The Drumming incursion was fantastic and some lucky children and teachers even had a turn!

We were so impressed with the Prep’s costumes, particularly after an amazing effort with 100 Days of School. Well done kids and parents!

On Wednesday we had a Puppet Show which the children thoroughly enjoyed and even learned how a puppet theatre/show works. Welcome to student teachers Miss Roberts (Prep D) and Miss Congerton (Prep S) who will work with us for the next four weeks.

Friday 12th will be the day we have the Parkdale Opening Ceremony for the Olympics. Children need to wear the colours of their country’s flag colours on this day. Look out for a note with more information.

There is currently a National Water Poster Competition on. Look out for the details on the school website as well as notices outside the classrooms.

Next week we will revise the letters we have learnt so far. Our CAFÉ focus is ‘Voracious Reading’ (reading a variety of books/text types).

Don’t forget tomorrow is ‘Show and Tell’ and all children need to bring something green (just one item please).

Grade 1
We have reached the end of our Maths unit on ‘Time’. We hope that your children are continuing to practise telling the time at home! This week we will begin looking at subtraction in our Maths groups.

We are continuing to gear up for our Olympic Games Ceremony, which will be held at school on Friday 12th August. On this day we ask that the children come to school dressed as Olympians in the class countries’ colours or national costume!

Just in case you haven’t heard 1A will be Mexico, 1D the Netherlands and both 1S & 1J will be Kenya.

Grade 2
Our Café Focus this week is ‘Comprehension: Identify the main idea and supporting details’. At home, after reading, ask your child if they can tell you what the text is mainly about and if they can identify any details that support the main idea (i.e. how do they know?).

For Maths this week we are finishing up our ‘Money’ topic. Please continue to support students with using money in everyday situations.

Grade 2 ….. cont’d
We have been busy learning all about Information Reports and how to write one. This week students received a homework task which requires them to research an Olympic Athlete and present their information in poster form. They have two weeks to complete the task which will be shared and displayed in the classroom (no oral presentation is required).

We are looking forward to our whole school Olympics Opening Ceremony morning on Friday 12th August. We are asking students to dress in the colours of their grade’s chosen country (notice sent home today).

Grade 3
Welcome to Term 3, Week 4!
Rotations have started this week and students have thoroughly enjoyed the activities. Ask your child what great activity they completed.

The Olympics! The children are getting into studying their countries for our Olympics focus.

The Grade 3 classrooms are studying the following countries:

- 3F - Egypt
- 3T - Greece
- 3U - Switzerland
- 3J - Japan.

If you have any books, DVDs or any resources on the countries, please share them with your class!

Just a reminder that R.O.A.R reading is held in the Grade 3 Hub every Wednesday. If you would like to assist in your child’s class, please come and join us.

Please remind your child to complete their Mathletics tasks. These are set every Monday morning.

Diaries! Diaries! Diaries! Please remind your child to write in their daily reading.

Tip of the Week - When listening to your child read, begin by asking them the ‘5Ws’ – when, where, who, what and why. This might sound like: “When is the story taking place?” “Where is the story taking place?” “Who are the main characters?” “What is happening in the story?” “Why is ‘x’ happening?”

*If you have a tip or recommendation you’d like to share in ‘What’s Happening,’ email your teacher and let us know whether you’d like to be named! We look forward to next week’s ‘Tip of the Week!’
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Grade 4
Our beautiful chickens have all been adopted out to loving homes and we trust that these families are enjoying their new cute additions. Thank you for your support with this program. Some children did get to watch a hatching in progress and this was a very exciting and special experience.

On Tuesday morning a representative from Kingston Council came to talk to the children about waste management and recycling. It is always beneficial to revisit what we can and cannot recycle. Ask your child what they have learnt about recycling and see if you need to make changes at home. For instance: did you know that you can put alfoil and empty aerosol containers into the recycling bin?

Over the next two weeks the children will be performing their music plays with Mrs Meek. Thank you for supporting this activity by helping your child source a simple costume.

Congratulations to the recipients of AR Certificates for this week: Matthew B, Charlie H, Sylvia W, Cooper S and Xavier H.

Grade 5/6
The Grade 5/6 teachers are extremely pleased with the amount of students participating in the extra-curricular activities on offer, whether it is a lunchtime club, music activity or special sports day. This sets a wonderful example for the rest of the school. Furthermore, their continued work ethic (at school and on homework tasks) during a busy part of term is commendable.

Our Maths focus for the next few weeks is the addition and subtraction of fractions, with some groups extending into division and multiplication. Home activities are available through the online program, Mangahigh, either by selecting the ‘tasks set by teacher’ option or by typing ‘Fractions’ into the search section.

This week the Grade 5 students learnt about landfills and waste management during an environmental incursion, while the Year 6 students were visited by Metro to increase their knowledge of our public transport system.

Next week we begin our Olympic mini-theme, with the whole school Opening Ceremony occurring on Friday. Be sure to ask your child/ren what country they are representing to ensure they are well prepared for this event.

2016 VICTORIAN PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE
Congratulations to the following students who have successfully completed the 2016 Premiers’ Reading Challenge:

There are still five weeks to complete the Challenge so keep up the great reading.

The final date for entering books online is Friday 9th September.

PARKDALE BAND 1st GIG!

Students, staff and parents were entertained by the first live performance of the Parkdale School Band. They played ‘I Got a Feeling’ by the Black Eyed Peas.

Despite a huge amount of nerves, they did a fabulous job and everyone was impressed.

A big thank you to Trevor (Drum and Guitar Teacher) and Ms Meek (Music Teacher) who rehearse with the band every Wednesday at lunchtime.

Members of band are: Matthew M, Archie K, Hannah A-T, Tess A, Max B, Archer R, Tristan A and Bree F (abs for this performance).

LIBRARY
Volunteers wanted to help cover books tomorrow morning. We have a large quantity to be covered so that we can put them on the shelves for the students to borrow.

Thank you.

DRUM LESSONS
Drum lessons are now available with Trevor Maddicks of TimeWise Music on Mondays during school hours at Parkdale Primary.
If there are any students interested in learning Drums, please email: timewisemusic@optusnet.com.au for an enrolment form. Alternatively, please call Trevor direct on 0404 018 382.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>3J</td>
<td>For fantastic Camp slideshows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>For speaking Japanese for the whole session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>4M</td>
<td>For fantastic listening during a tricky art activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3U</td>
<td>For fabulous organisation and great work in the Art Room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Shivani K.</td>
<td>For great effort sounding out new words in her ‘100 Day’ writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep D</td>
<td>Lottie M-W.</td>
<td>For her effort in learning her spelling words each week. Super Job!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maya S.</td>
<td>For her fantastic 100 days recount writing. Great Work!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep M</td>
<td>Abigail H.</td>
<td>For settling into Parkdale Primary beautifully! Welcome Abigail!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harrison G.</td>
<td>For doing a wonderful job sounding out words in his writing! Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Olly P.</td>
<td>For a great understanding and use of adjectives!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep T</td>
<td>Anika D.</td>
<td>For showing wonderful confidence by wearing her amazing ‘Sushi’ costume all day on Japanese Day. For his wonderful creative “Bullet Train” costume on Japanese day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlie E.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Cameron D.</td>
<td>For using descriptive vocabulary in his writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Josh L.</td>
<td>For his persistence with his writing and handwriting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kassia H.</td>
<td>For using our Café focus and being a voracious reader!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1J</td>
<td>Zoe H.</td>
<td>For sustained reading during morning reading. Well done!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aatiyah P.</td>
<td>For an excellent piece of response writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Lily H.</td>
<td>For working hard at her weekly spelling lists and moving on to orange group! For always working hard and completing all tasks to a high standard!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shalini D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2H</td>
<td>Skye B-Mc.</td>
<td>For her listening skills!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angus S.</td>
<td>For his hard work during class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2M</td>
<td>Lachlan A.</td>
<td>For demonstrating good focus and effort when working.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2P</td>
<td>Lola H.</td>
<td>For having a positive attitude towards learning and for being a kind and considerate class member.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2T</td>
<td>Xavier M.</td>
<td>For your excellent effort in maths. Keep up the good work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Seb B.</td>
<td>For writing a fabulous Camp snapshot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3J</td>
<td>Noah G.</td>
<td>For his enthusiasm to take care of the chicks in the hub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curtis B.</td>
<td>For enthusiastic and thoughtful writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3T</td>
<td>Miguel P.</td>
<td>For studying hard, practising his weekly spelling words and making fantastic progress. For working hard on her spelling and getting great results on every test and Nessy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neve K.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3U</td>
<td>Cooper R.</td>
<td>For his effort and improvement with his writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Jack C.</td>
<td>For showing great resilience and persistence on Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sammy R.</td>
<td>For always displaying a positive attitude towards all areas of the Curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Noah A.</td>
<td>For his improved concentration during all set tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Joel Mc.</td>
<td>For consistently high effort on all set learning tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Elena B.</td>
<td>For your wonderful effort with everything you past on seesaw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5S</td>
<td>Hugo H.</td>
<td>For working hard during “Genius Hour”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Sascha P.</td>
<td>For her outstanding written work during Memory Book sessions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Georgia H.</td>
<td>For her fabulous enthusiasm and initiative in all writing tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6G</td>
<td>Locky R.</td>
<td>For his enthusiasm whilst playing the drums during the Japanese incursion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Saige H.</td>
<td>For her creative diligent approach to her museum display.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hope you’ve ordered your tickets for our "Almost Anything Goes" night on August 12th it’s sure to be a blast! This can be done via the Qkr! App or at the school office.

Our next PPA meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th August at 7:30pm in the Staffroom, all welcome.

Samm Hughes President, Julia Broadbent Vice President, Paula Fleming Treasurer and Kate Ashley Secretary.
COMMUNITY NEWS
MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
CRAFT, COFFEE AND CHAT
Our ‘Craft, coffee and chat’, group is now up and running. Bring along your favourite craft projects or enjoy card games / board games, in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. $2 per week, per person Coffee, tea and biscuits provided.
The group is facilitated and craft ideas can be swapped and shared within the group.
*Every Monday: 12.30 – 2.30pm
For more information, or to enrol, please phone: Mordialloc Neighbourhood House; 9587 4534