From The Principal’s Desk

Time seems to be passing quickly as we enter the sixth week of the first term. The children have well and truly settled into school and are achieving wonderful things in their classrooms.

The P&C Welcome BBQ was held two weeks ago and we had a great turnout from the school community. It was a successful evening and we received many positive comments about the fantastic food that was available on the night. Thank you to our P&C committee for an outstanding effort in organizing and running the event. If you are interested in attending, the next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 April.

Our annual swimming carnival was held on Thursday 18 February, with most students in Years 3-6 attending. Congratulations to all the children who participated in the competitive and novelty races on the day.

Last Thursday our swimming team competed at the District Carnival. Although temperatures soared, our team kept its cool and swam competitively throughout the day. Congratulations to Liam, Miranda and Ariella who made it into the District Team and will compete at the Regional Carnival.

Yesterday our local MP Mr Coure attended our Values Assembly to present certificates to our House Captains, School Leaders and members of the Student Representative Council (SRC). These students were recognised for the important role they play in our school.

Finally, we held the Interrelate program last Thursday evening. The feedback was positive and the students were engaged, learnt new things and had some fun. This program is biannual and so will be held again in 2018.

Important Notices

Anaphylaxis Reminder

A reminder that we have anaphylactic students attending our school so we are asking our school community to refrain from sending peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches for your child’s lunch. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Photographs

School photographs will be held on Tuesday 5 April. All students will have a class and individual photo taken. Please remember that students must wear full school uniform.

Family photos are also available. A
separate envelope needs to be completed for sibling photos. The photo envelopes will be sent home in the next couple of weeks.

Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
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<tr>
<td>Zachary S</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Silver</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hunter P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marko K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casey B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annais R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Steel Band

The ‘Panjammers’ have had a wonderful few weeks working together to play as a band. This week we had a great time practising our new song, The Macarena.

Steel Band fees for Term 1 are now due so numbers can be finalised. Unfortunately if your child has not paid by next Monday, they will be unable to partake in band practice.

Mrs Jenny Ferlazzo, Miss Stephanie Abela & Miss Amalia Stratikopolous

Steel Band Coordinators

School Veggie Patch

This year, the students in Stage 2 will be responsible for the school veggie patch.

The children have spent the past two weeks clearing the garden beds in order to plant a variety of herbs, fruit and vegetables.

Stage 2 will also be planting sunflowers to brighten up the gardens overlooking Forest Rd.

We are politely asking that the harvesting of vegetables is left to our students. A great deal of hard work has gone into preparing the garden beds and the children will be disappointed to find that their crops have disappeared before they can enjoy them. Thank you for your support.

Thank You

Thank you to the families who supported the Cancer fundraiser organized by Mrs Holbrook. A total of $61 was raised.

District Selection Policies

The Georges River PSSA offer trials for district representation in some team sports.

Please be aware that the initial dates released are only a guide for when the trials occur. Once a Convener volunteers to run the trial he or she may change the dates to suit their own personal timetable.

The PSSA have specifically asked each school to only send a very select few to these trials. It is not a case of simple participation. In order to be invited to attend, children must have an extremely high level of ability and we are generally asked to send no more than one or two to any specific trial (if at all).

This policy keeps the number of those trialling down to a realistic and manageable level. This is not to be confused with Friday PSSA sport which is much more about larger numbers participating.

For your information, please find a copy of the 2016 Georges River Primary School Sports Association selection policies below.

Mr Hyslop
PSSA Coordinator

Sushi Tuesdays

As advised on the school Facebook page, the price of sushi will be increasing to $3 per roll. This is effective immediately.
PSSA District Selection Policies

GEORGES RIVER PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION

SELECTION POLICY - CARNIVALS

From 2016

Selection Policy – Swimming / Cross Country / Athletics

Students must attend and compete at the Georges River District PSSA Carnival in order to allow them to be considered for selection in the Georges River team to compete at the Sydney East Carnival, unless they are:

i. Competing at a higher level PSSA/SSA (School Sport Australia) competition.

In this case, a request for consideration for inclusion in the George River team must be presented to the Convener. This is to be verified/endorsed by the student’s Principal and school sportsperson listing the student’s School performance and any relevant previous District/Sydney East performance in that sport. The student will then be considered for selection by a panel (ie. District Executive and Convener). Inclusion in the District team under these circumstances will not be at the expense of individuals who have competed at and qualified for the District team based on the qualification procedures determined by the Sydney East PSSA, and is also subject to approval from the relevant Sydney East PSSA Convener. Submitting a consideration for inclusion does not guarantee inclusion in the District Team. In all cases a request for inclusion must be presented to the District Convener a minimum of five school days prior to District Carnival.

SELECTION POLICY - TEAMS

From 2016

Selection Policy – Teams

The District PSSA pathway is for students who are able to demonstrate they are gifted and talented athletes. District trials are not a come and try day. Each school may send the advised maximum number of students to trial. In exceptional circumstances, dispensation may be given by the District Convener in consultation with the Executive to allow additional students to trial. Schools are not obliged to send the maximum number of students to trial. Schools must indicate to the Convener if sending no students to trial.

If a student is not available for the Sydney East trial and/or NSW State Carnival then the student is deemed ineligible to be chosen in the District team.

Students must compete at all stages of Georges River District PSSA Trials in order to allow them to be considered for selection in the Georges River team (or ‘Married Zone’ team where applicable) to compete at the Sydney East Carnival, unless they are:

i. Competing at a higher-level PSSA/SSA (School Sport Australia) competition.
ii. Suffering injury. In this case, the individual must attend the trials and a Doctor’s certificate must be presented clearly stating the injury (‘Medical condition’ or ‘illness’ is not deemed acceptable). A request for consideration for inclusion in a train-on squad (where available) for the District team must be presented to the Convener prior to the District trials. This is to be verified/endorsed by the student’s Principal and school sportsperson listing the student’s School performance and any relevant previous District/Sydney East performance in that sport. The student will then be considered for selection by a panel (ie. District Executive and Convener). Individuals will be required to be fit to participate, verified by a Doctor’s certificate, in the subsequent trials / train-on squad within one week following the date of the original Georges River trial. Submitting a consideration for inclusion does not guarantee inclusion in the District Team.

iii. Participation in an approved school-based activity. In these cases, a request for consideration for inclusion in a subsequent District/Married trial and/or ‘train on squad’ (where available) must be presented to the Convener a minimum of five school days prior to District trial. This is to be verified/endorsed by the student’s Principal and school sportsperson listing the student’s School performance and any relevant previous District/Sydney East performance in that sport. The student will then be considered for selection by a panel (ie. District Executive and Convener). Submitting a consideration for inclusion does not guarantee inclusion in the District Team.

All students trialling for a Georges River District PSSA Team need to have the school's permission to attend and compete at District / Married Zone trials. The school Principal must sign the student's District consent/permission form prior to the District trial to allow attendance and participation in the District trial. The signed permission note must be returned to the Georges River District Convener by the due date. Students who do not have a District consent form signed by the School Principal will not be allowed to trial.
PSSA Match Results

Boys Oz-Tag

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round One</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>5 - 1</th>
<th>PWPS def NPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>10 - 2</td>
<td>PWPS def NPS</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round Two</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>8 - 5</th>
<th>PWPS def PPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>8 - 5</td>
<td>PWPS def PPS</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

AFL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round One</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>35 - 15</th>
<th>PWPS def BHPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>25 - 34</td>
<td>PWPS def by BHPS</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round Two</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>22 - 2</th>
<th>PWPS def HRPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>24 - 4</td>
<td>PWPS def HRPS</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Girls Basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round One</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>26 - 6</th>
<th>PWPS def HSPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>34 - 14</td>
<td>PWPS def HSPS</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round Two</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>22 - 2</th>
<th>PWPS def HRPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>24 - 4</td>
<td>PWPS def HRPS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Students in 1LB have been revisiting Buzzie’s positive behaviour system by looking at the behaviour expectations in different parts of the school. We discussed that to create a safe, fun and positive school environment we need to display PWPS values of respect, responsibility, effort and safety. The students created these beautiful Buzzie paintings!

Mrs Lopes and Mrs Butler
Students in 1S are participating in the Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) program. This week, we have been focusing on addition strategies. In differentiated groups, students participated in ‘hands-on’ activities to assist in developing knowledge of number facts such as ‘friends of ten’. Using dice and dominoes, the children are learning to visualise number patterns to complete sums mentally and using non-count-by-one strategies.

Mrs Sheen
Like us on Facebook
We now have an official Facebook page administered by the school, authorised by the Department of Education. Find us at [https://www.facebook.com/#!/PenshurstWestPublicSchool](https://www.facebook.com/#!/PenshurstWestPublicSchool) or by looking for our page name: Penshurst West Public School - NSW DEC.

## Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>29/2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td></td>
<td>4/3 Rnd 3 PSSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>7/3</td>
<td>8/3 P&amp;C 7pm</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>World's Greatest Shave</td>
<td>11/3 Rnd 4 PSSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>14/3</td>
<td>15/3</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td></td>
<td>18/3 Rnd 5 PSSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gymnastics Finishes</td>
<td>24/3 Easter Hat Parade</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PSSA Rnd 7</td>
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</table>

## HOLIDAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>25/4</td>
<td>26/4</td>
<td>27/4</td>
<td></td>
<td>29/4 PSSA Rnd 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>Students Return Term 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4/5 Sports in Schools K-6 PE and Athletics Program. $45.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>11/5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19/5 NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Sports in Schools K-6 PE and Athletics Program</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>Life Education</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17/5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Life Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>Sports in Schools K-6 PE and Athletics Program NAPLAN Life Education</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are my legal responsibilities?</th>
<th>What if my child has to be away from school?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.</td>
<td>On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.</td>
<td>• being sick, or having an infectious disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The importance of arriving on time</strong></td>
<td>• having an unavoidable medical appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arriving at school and class on time</td>
<td>• being required to attend a recognised religious holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day</td>
<td>• exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g. attending a funeral.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine</td>
<td>Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• gives students time to greet their friends before class</td>
<td>Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• reduces classroom disruption.</td>
<td>Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Travel**

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
PENSHURST WEST FC

Men, Women, Boys & Girls Needed!

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS OPEN
4th JUN 2016 visit
www.myfootballclub.com.au

EARLY BIRD RATES APPLY FOR REGOS
(Compliaed before 15th Jan 2016)

Check our website for further rego instructions
www.penshurstwestfc.com.au

Free shorts & socks for new players
One-off registration fee

New Players Registration Dates for 10s:
- Olds Park Sports Club
  1 Olds Park Lane, Beverly Hills
  Sun 21st January 2016 9am – 4pm
  Sun 7 February 2016 10am – 2pm

Contact us:
secretary@penshurstwestfc.com.au

PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE

PENSHURST RSL JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE IS NOW TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR THE 2016 SEASON

Remember this is junior rugby league, not footy. There are modified rules and safety emphasis

To register online visit www.penshurstfooty.org and follow the link.

If you would prefer to register in person you can attend one of our registration days.

| Date         | Time          | Location
|--------------|---------------|-----------
| 12/02/2016   | 10:00am to 1:00pm | Penrith RSL Club, Penrith
| 19/02/2016   | 10:00am to 1:00pm | Penrith RSL Club, Penrith

For more details visit www.penshurstfooty.org

PENSHERST RSL
RUGBY LEAGUE

FITTNESS KARATE & Flexercise

Welcome to F K F

We sincerely believe that every person should be trained both mentally and physically in order to achieve a well balanced lifestyle and fitness level.

We are a not-for-profit group who do our best to promote fitness within the community.

FITNESS KARATE

Group Exercises in Karate & Self Defence, with the focus primarily on Fitness
Tuesday & Friday 7:00pm – 8:30pm

FITNESS Flexercise

Exercises to improve overall Flexibility & Muscle Tone
Monday & Thursday 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Training is held at the Penhurst West Public School hall, corner Scott Street & Forest Road, Mortdale NSW 1213

Interested? Then contact ROBERTO on
0458 207 991 or robertofkf@bigpond.com

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

This is our game

PENSHURST PANTHERS

SYDNEY SOUTH CLUB OF 1954
EST. 1954
SYDNEY SOUTH CLUB OF 2015

Receive Free Panthers Footy Shorts (Value $25) WHEN YOU REGISTER WITH THE PENSHURST RSL PANTHERS
** Valid for all before or after school & PSSA participants only **

Register Now: www.penshurstpanthers.com.au

Play Sunday morning’s starting April 2016
Home games are played at Club Park Penhurst
Support your local AFL club
Student Absence Slip
Please return this slip to your child’s teacher the day your child returns to school.

Dear ________________________________ (teacher’s name)

My child, ________________________________________, of Class __________ was absent from school from _______________ to ______________ because __________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

Signed: ______________________________ Print Name: ____________________________ Date: _________

X---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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