Buzzing School

As we come to the end of the term the teachers are very busy finalising reports that will be sent home on Friday. They are also preparing for the parent teacher interviews they will have with you on Tuesday next week.

This week the school is also starting its process of passing on information to prospective parents for 2016 with our parent information evening. I would like to thank all the parents who have been involved in the growing the school subcommittee in preparing for this evening. In particular, Kate has been working hard going to preschools and child care centres to talk about the school and spread the word about our wonderful school. Daniel has given up his time and his graphic design prowess to ensure that the message about the evening has been passed over in the most impressive manner. Miss Pagel-Campbell and Mrs Ward are giving up their time to come and talk about the school and Mrs Ross has been a brilliant support in working hard behind the scenes to ensure that all the material is prepared. Thank you to everyone else who has helped. Our aim is growing for the future and this slogan builds on our motto, ‘Grow with Knowledge.’

Reports

School reports will be sent home on Friday afternoon. Your child’s report will be sent home in an envelope with your name and that of your child. It will be also made available via the Parent Portal for you to access at any time. Your child’s report is intended to provide information on your child’s progress. A 3 point scale is reported on for kindergarten and a 5 point scale for years 1 to 6.

Six key learning areas KLAs are reported on: English, Mathematics, Human Society and its Environment, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Creative Arts and Science and Technology.

The points on the scale are equivalent to the grades (for years 1 to 6) A to E as stipulated by the federal governments reporting policy. The front of the report provides an overview of the scales used. Comments are provided for all KLAs and provide information about what children can do and what they are developing or working towards. Please read the report and talk to your child about their progress. Should you have any questions about the report, please use the opportunity of the parent teacher interview next Tuesday or if you cannot make this day, arrange another mutually convenient time with your child’s teacher(s).

Parent Teacher Interviews

An interview with your child’s teacher is available next Tuesday for you to discuss your child’s learning and any other issues you wish to discuss. These are bookable through the Parent Portal or by contacting Mrs Ross in the office. While time slots are filling up fast, there are still slots available for all classes. If you cannot make this date, please talk to your child’s classroom teacher about a mutually convenient time to discuss issues.

Parent Portal

This week we communicated with all parents about the availability of a Parent Portal. This new initiative at the school intends to provide parents with greater access to matters relating to your child such as attendance data, personal information you have provided to us and the ability to access reports and book parent teacher interviews. In future we will be adding features to the portal that will allow you to access additional information.
If you have not already done so, please make an account; register at:

After registering you can use the family or student key that was sent to you to link your child/children to
your portal account. If you have lost the letter (sent home to you in an envelope) or deleted the email that
contains this key, please contact the school office and we will provide it to you.

The portal can continue to be accessed at: http://web1.stpeters-ps.schools.nsw.edu.au/portal/login

Please bookmark this address or if you are using an iPad, iPhone or mobile app, please add an icon to
your phones home screen.

Neil Lavitt

Chloe & Sam

Today we say goodbye to Chloe and Sam as the family move to north Queensland. We wish them all the
best in their new school and look forward to hearing from them once they are settled.

Spark Program

Last Friday was the final session of the Spark Reading Program in which a number of students have
participated working with Reading Mentors from IAG. This program benefits both students and mentors;
the students gain confidence in their reading and relating to adults in the business world in a controlled
and safe environment, and for the mentors it allows them to participate in a child's educational journey. As
the co ordinator of this program it is very rewarding to watch the students grow in confidence, skills and
enthusiasm as a result of this program. We are very grateful for the participation of these mentors from
IAG in this program at St Peters PS.

Robyn Ward

In K1MP we are wondering where the time has gone and we are sure you are wondering that too!

The children in K1MP are such clever learners. At the beginning of the year as part of the daily literacy
session we began a “secret sentence” activity. This is where we write a sentence (or sometimes 2
sentences or even a question) and the children need to work together to decode the sentence (s) by
telling information about the sentence (s) - the letters, the words, the punctuation to eventually find the
meaning. As a group, the children are now getting very efficient with this as their reading knowledge has
increased. Try it at home and you'll be amazed at what your child can tell you about the sentence you
have written!

In K1MP we have lots of runny noses at the moment and therefore we are running out of tissues very
quickly! Thank you to the families who sent tissues last term and to the families who have already sent
tissues this term. We ask that our families kindly send us another box of tissues to keep us going. We
really appreciate it.

We hope that the children are enjoying preparing and practising their talks for Speaker of the Term next
week. We are looking forward to hearing these talks and we know they will do a great job.

Kate Paget-Campbell and Michelle Milner
1/2S
For the last 3 weeks students have viewed artworks by Ken Done and worked on their appreciating art skills. This involved talking about the art, what they like and don’t like and how the art was made. Students have then created their own versions of the artworks. Here are some pictures.

I look forward to talking with parents next week about the progress students are making in class. It has been a busy term and I am pleased with the progress and enthusiasm that all students in 1/2 S continue to show everyday.

N Sheridan

South Sydney Rabbitohs
Yesterday students were fortunate to have a visit from three South Sydney Rabbitohs players and the NRL game development officer. They spoke to students about well-being and the benefits of leading a healthy and active life. All students received cool prizes. We hope to see them back at the school soon.

3/4T
I’ve been so impressed by the improvements that I am seeing in the students’ results during our weekly spelling and multiplication/division tests. I can tell that the students really want to improve and they are trying their best, which is great to see. For the last couple of weeks the students have been learning how to apply multiplication facts to solve division problems. The enthusiasm of the students to learn these division skills is very exciting. They seem to be enjoying the challenge.

Things to remember: students need to bring a note to school explaining all absences, library books and recorders are to be brought to school on Tuesdays and 3/4T is hosting the school assembly next Wednesday (24th June).

I hope that everyone will have a safe school holiday and that they will come back full of energy and ready to learn in Term 3.

Kellie Thomson

Future Classroom
This semester, 56LW have been busily working on a Project based Learning (PBL) Project with the driving question: What will our preferred future classroom be like.

To this end, students in 56LW have been investigating design ideas, making choices about those ideas and then rationalising decisions about those ideas using cost, size and design criteria. Students have to produce a floor plan, a report and a presentation and are working in groups that they chose themselves. The energy of all students working on this project is amazing to witness, with clever use of technology to collaborate using Google Apps for Education and in some cases application of online design tools for creating floor plans and trying out ideas.

The intention of the PBL is to provide an opportunity for students to work on a real world problem and apply their existing learning and create new opportunities. Communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. These form the four pillars of 21st century learning. PBL will be a school focus in 2016 with staff undertaking professional development in PBL this year.

**Got Game**

Got Game finishes next week and we’d like to say a big Thank You to Mark and Miro for teaching the students valuable gymnastic and basketball skills over the last two terms. The students have really enjoyed the engaging and skill focussed lessons each week. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Got Game in the future.

*Kellie Thomson*
Sports Co-ordinator