Welcome to another edition of our newsletter, the penultimate one for term 3. The term is progressing nicely with some great learning going on in all classrooms. In this edition we have two of our students Emma and Mia write a short article about the learning going on in our classrooms. Over coming editions, we are increasing our student contributed content.

Our teachers tell me that the Book Parade went well yesterday and I feel so sorry I missed the actual parade as the pictures look fantastic. Mrs Ward has already sold many books at the Book Fair and we thank all those who have donated books to the school library.

**Dates to Remember**

**August**

24th - 28th - Book Week
26th - RAW Art (Paint Shirt Required)
27th - Book Week Excursion
31st - Cup Cake day

**September**

2nd - RAW Art (Paint Shirt Required)
3rd - Speaker of the Term 5/6LW
4th - Fathers Day Stall - P&C
4th - Assembly led by 1/2S
7th - P&C Meeting at 6:30pm
9th - UNSW Middle Years Childhood Survey
12th - Bunnings BBQ at Alexandria
14th - T20 Cricket Rescheduled
14th - WestConnex Meeting 7:30pm
16th - Assembly led by 5/6LW
16th - P&C Chocolate Fundraiser
  Money to be returned to P&C
18th - Last day of Term 3

**October**

5th - Labour Day Public Holiday
6th - Students Return to School for Term 4
9th - PSSA Recommences
16th - Pogo-athon - 3/4T

**Reminders**

- All absences need to be explained - preferably by written communication.
- All notes that contain money must come to the front office.
- Follow our twitter account @SPPSnews at http://twitter.com and receive timely news updates.
Last week our years 3 and 5 students received their NAPLAN test results. The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests are a point in time test that provides information on a child’s attainments in different areas of English (reading, grammar and spelling and writing) and Mathematics. The reports provide for parents an overview of where their child’s learning is in these areas. Each area of learning is reported on a common scale and divided into bands. Parents can see how their child compares to the school average and the national average. For the school it provides us with valuable diagnostic information that can be used for the planning of learning.

Early indications from the data are very promising for the school. The school performed above state average for all measures in year 3 and for all but 1 areas in year 5. Most importantly, growth for year 5 students was well above state average for all areas of learning and in writing it was nearly double the national average. When compared to the public schools immediately around the school, our results show that based on these averages, St Peters Public School performs just as well as these schools. This shows just how consistently high the quality of public education is in this area and that there is no academic advantage of choosing a different school to your local school. As the pedagogical research shows us, with quality teaching, students learn as happy children with your supportive parenting. St Peters does this very well. I would like to thank all the teachers past and present involved in these students learning.

Absences

Please be advised that it is necessary to provide a reason for your child's absence from school. If a reason is not provided, the absence will be marked as unjustified. The reason can be provided in the form of a note, an email to the school and now it can be advised directly through the parent portal. The advantage of this method is the reason goes directly into the student's attendance record.

To access the parent portal you may go to:


P & C News

Father's Day Stall and Raffle - Next Friday 4th September the P&C is holding a Father's Day stall and raffle. In the next couple of days you will receive information about this and 10 tickets to sell for the raffle. There are a number of great prizes that have been donated this year so get your tickets in! The stall will also be run on this day. All students are asked to bring in $5 to purchase a gift.

P&C Meeting - The next P&C Meeting is scheduled for Monday 7th September at 6.30pm. If you can’t get there by 6.30 don’t worry! We don’t get upset if you’re running late – if you need to bring the kids, that’s fine – please bring a quiet activity for them to do. Nibblies will be provided.

Bunnings BBQ - On Saturday September 12th we are hosting the Bunnings BBQ at Mascot Bunnings from 7.30 – 4.30. In the last newsletter this was erroneously listed as being at Alexandria – apologies for the mistake. This is a significant fundraiser for the school and we ask all parents to lend a hand in someway. A roster will be up on the board in the next day or so, please spare some time to help out. If you can’t make the day perhaps consider helping in the lead up by collecting the stock we will need (soft drinks, sauces, napkins etc) or maybe you can do a delivery of sausages or ice on the day even if you can’t do a shift. Please see Natalia O’Brien (Kolenc) if you would like more info or can help out.

WestConnex Meeting - At 7.30pm Monday September 14th the WestConnex Delivery Authority will be attending a meeting in the school hall. If you have concerns about WestConnex and would like to get more information about the impact of this development please come along. The agenda for this meeting will be up on the board and supplied to the school community closer to the date. This meeting is specifically for the school community, preschool community and other users of the St Peters Public School site who will potentially be impacted by the WestConnex construction. If you have any queries or questions please contact Peter Ross (Marlow’s dad).

Thanks, Mel Andersen
This week we first asked Miss Sheridan about her class. She told us that learning in 1/2S has been quite interesting for all members. In maths, they have been working on fractions. Something also very fun that they enjoyed this week is that they have been learning maths by using different card game or dice games. For instance this week, they will be learning about addition with card games.

In English, they looked at the book called 'Pig the Pug'. They read the book and wrote character descriptions about the two main characters. Also the class wrote stories about Pig the Pug and Trevor the Dog, then listened to an audio of Pig the Fibber, which is a sequel to 'Pig the Pug'.

Another of the things that the students enjoyed is the experiment they did in Science. 1/2S was learning about how things work when they get mixed together. As a trial, they mixed lemon juice and bi-carb soda. The end result was a lemon fizzy drink. 1/2S had a really good time during the book parade for Book Week and the classroom activities that they did.

For the past couple of weeks 34/T have been quite busy! Miss Thomson told us about the happening in her class. Starting a new unit of poetry that they will be beginning shortly, in these poems they will particularly be focusing on getting them to rhyme and have similes in them. When we spoke to Ms Thomson she was eager to get started on the poetry and can't wait to see what her class comes up with. In maths they have been looking at making 3D objects out of playdough and then cutting them to find the cross sections horizontally and vertically. They then attempted creating hexagonal pyramids out playdough which was very challenging and Luke did a great job in completing this task.

In 5/6LW we have been busy bee's!! Focusing quite a lot on our government and what the different levels do for us. We have been looking at their responsibilities and how we would be in a lot of trouble without a government guiding our nation. The class has been drawing portraits of Prime Ministers, starting with a blank sheet of paper we had to draw a grid to scale and then got our drawing skills on. Not only that but we have also been doing information posters about the responsibilities of our government and what they do for us. This has been a very enjoyable task and everyone has worked well as a team to get their poster looking remarkable!

In maths, we worked with decimals. We had to multiply and divide numbers with decimals. At first, it was very tricky, as not many of us understood the method, but as plenty of people say, you need to make a mistake before you succeed. In the end, we all found the way to get the correct answer.

In the next edition we will be focussing on K/1MP and our guest student writers will be James and Steven. Mia and Emma
Updated Phone System

The school has just had its phone system updated to provide additional functionality. You will now be able to leave a message should the phone remain unanswered. You will also be given the option if you call the school outside of its manned hours to leave a message.

The school is doing this to improve the flexibility of communication with the school. From time to time additional messages may be left about changes to important events.

Bookweek

Thank you to the parents, carers and students for a great turn out in costumes at our Book Parade on Monday. It was great to see such a variety of characters relating to favourite books. The students especially those in K-2 are to be congratulated on their confidence in the presentation of work before a large audience. Thank you to the families who have already visited the Book Fair in the Library and purchased books. The Fair will continue into next week before and after school on most days.

Home Reading

Just a reminder to parents to please make sure you sign the sheet when your child has read the home reader as it is the indicator to the parents changing the books that this resource has been read. Students change reading levels based on Reading Running Levels undertaken by class teachers and in consultation with Mrs Ward, however this may take a few days to filter through to the students actual Home Reader.

Cupcake Day

Students in 5/6 are holding a CupCake Stall on Monday 31st August at lunchtime as a fundraiser for the RSPCA. The cakes will sell from 50c to $1.50 depending on the size. The students in 5/6 have considered students with allergies and those who need gluten free as part of their preparation for this event. Please make sure your child has some money on the day so we can raise much needed money for this worthwhile cause.

Kids Krav: Not Just a Flashy Pyjama Party

Krav Maga is the world’s leading self defence system, and our age-appropriate Kids Krav program challenges and inspires kids. It’s also amazing fun!

Kids will learn to recognise, avoid and escape dangerous situations and develop body awareness, assertiveness, focus and respect

**Kids Krav** classes (5-12 y.o) are 4pm Monday and 4:30pm Wednesday at St. Peters Public School.

**Adults Krav Maga** are 6.30pm Tuesday and Thursday at St. Peters Public School.

Book now on 0408 864 851 or garth@urbankombat.com.au

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In the last newsletter I failed to pass on the schools thanks and acknowledgement to the Australian Government in providing subsidised funding through the PACER program. This funding allowed us to subsidise the cost of the excursion for each student who attended. We would like to pass on our thanks for the continued support of this important Australian Government program in supporting our students' visit to our national capital.