Dear Parents and Carers

Your invitation

On February 13th, 2015, we celebrated the 7th anniversary of the apology to the Stolen Generation, perhaps one of the most important speeches ever made in our country by our then Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd.

In order to commemorate this event we have, in conjunction with Two Women Dreaming, organised a guest speaker to present to our students. Aunty Jean Carter was one of the people forcibly removed from her parents during the time of the Stolen Generation and on March 6th she will share her story with us. After her talk we will participate in art and jewellery making activities with students and would like to invite you along to the event. We are still awaiting confirmation of the time Aunty Jean will speak with us but I wanted to flag the date and extend an invitation so that you can witness a real life account of events that transpired. More information will follow in the next week.

I would like to congratulate Mr Jarius and the following students who are working tirelessly to ensure that their skills and involvement in this project is at the highest standard: Jermane Cheung, Iesha Duckett, Carmen Ingrey, Christine Withers, Tori Wood-Ella, Ashanti Foster, Lateia Duckett, Coolalia Holten, Maui Mongta, Cruz Gurleyan, Kiani Duckett, Shauntai Jarrett and Lakeisha Jarrett.

School Attendance

I would like to remind parents that all students are required by law to be at school, on time, every day. Whilst we understand that sometime events happen in the morning that mean we all run late on occasion, when this becomes a regular occurrence, the school is obliged to act. This will initially involve a telephone call and a letter home from the Learning Support Team, but if lateness, or pattern absence persists, the Home School Liaison Officer will become involved to support families in making sure children attend regularly.

Additionally, it is an expectation that parents will take holidays during school holiday periods. If for any reason your child is not going to be at school for anything other than sickness, you need to make an appointment with me please and make an application for leave. This includes sporting events, leave for vacations etc.

Until next time, please stay safe and please look after one another.

Dace Elletson
Principal

PLP Meetings

Thank you to all parents who have made appointments to develop your child’s personalised learning plan. If you haven’t done so already, please contact classroom teachers to make an appointment.

CALENDAR

Thursday - 26/02/15
ESPSSA Swimming Carnival

Thursday – 05/03/15
Girawaa excursion

Monday - 16/03/15
Seeds to Success

Thursday -19/03/15
Harmony Day

Thursday – 26/03/15
Magadaang excursion
This week on the website:

We have a fantastic article on our website about our Maths Fun day. Click here to read more.

Click to watch this fantastic video to listen to students explain how they worked systematically with the use of diagrams to ensure they had found the correct answer.

Congratulations to Jayden who has returned to school as our Radical Reader of the Week. Jayden grew a number of levels in reading during the holidays and is set for a big year!

Well done Jayden!

HOMEWORK CLUB

HOMEWORK CLUB IS HELD EVERY TUESDAY FROM 3.15 TO 4.15

Girawaa

We have started working with our buddy class Burri Burri which have become our peer support buddies. We found out lots of details about our year 6 students such as their favour colour, food and what they wanted to be when they grow up. We are excited to be doing this every week.
La Perouse Skipping Team

Further to information I’ve previously mentioned, La Perouse PS has been offered an exciting opportunity to partner with one of Australia’s leading and most reputable charities – **Jump Rope for Heart**. Our students have been learning new, and practising old, skipping skills each Tuesday and Thursday under the guidance of Mr Jarius and Mr Kane Radford (Outreach Officer – Jump Rope for Heart). They are now ready to take the exciting next step on their journey of promoting good health and an active lifestyle and I would encourage all parents and community members to attend our official launch and to support our children and school. We are thrilled to announce the following dates:

**Launch:** **Wednesday 4th March 2015**
We will formally introduce the skipping team to the school and community at assembly – please join us! There will be other special guests as well. This will involve the whole school and should only be around an hour maximum (9:30am-10:30am). During this time, students will be awarded with their team uniform and skipping ropes (these are being provided free of charge from a generous private donor).

**Workshop:** **Thursday 5th March 2015**
This is a whole day of skipping where students in the team will be up-skilled by a national coach. He will choreograph the routine that will be performed at regional NSW schools in May. **Students involved won’t be in class during that day.**

**Regional Trip:** **Sunday 3rd May - Tuesday 5th May 2015**
Students on the team will travel to Dubbo and Coonamble and other towns and schools surrounding that area. The main purpose of this trip is for our students to send the important message that all people benefit from an active lifestyle. It is widely reported that the life and health outcomes of people living in regional areas (particularly Aboriginal people) are not the same as that enjoyed by others living in major cities.

**DVD:** *(release date to be advised)*
A professional production company will film the journey of the launch, workshop and regional trip. This will be in the style of a reality TV show and will document the journey that our students travel in the next couple of months. Apart from promoting the Heart Foundation and our skipping team, the DVD will also have a section to teach other students or teachers different skipping skills. This DVD will be released to all primary schools in NSW once post production has been completed.
In Burri Burri this week

Life for soldiers living in the trenches.

Students in the Burri Burri class have been investigating what it may have been like for soldiers living in trenches during World War I. They have been focusing on writing an effective introduction to a whole piece of text and using a persuasive device to make the reader feel sorry for the soldiers. Here are some examples:

Of course it was hard living in trenches. I'd be sad and angry if I was in the war, doing everyone’s dirty work, having a chance at getting a disease called trench foot, only allowed to sleep for an hour at a time, living with lice and rats plus more. Would you want to live in the trenches for eight months or more? You would have to move back and forth in different disgusting trenches full of rats, lice, dirty water and all kinds of things.

Jermane

Life in the trenches was terrifying for soldiers. They have to live with rats and lice, had to sleep on hard floors only an hour at a time, you were in the war, eating disgusting food and daily jobs like cleaning toilets, repacking sand bags, cleaning guns and bury dead.

Carmen-Lee

Life in the trenches is horrible. I mean like, really horrible. You have to live with rats! If I was there in WWI, I wouldn’t be able to come up with a single reason why I would want to go. And speaking of which, everyone that did go would have to live with open toilets, lice all over them, horrible food and muddy surroundings.

Alex

Soldiers would have to live with rats and lice, they had to sleep on rocks and had to clean toilets.

Taylor

Life would be hard for soldiers living in trenches. Soldiers had to do jobs like clean the toilets, carry sandbags and dig trenches. They only slept for an hour at a time during the day and had to live with rats and lice

Cruiz

Magadaang

Last week our class had the ‘Magadaang BIG Cooking Challenge’! We had to decide what we were going to cook from the mystery bag of ingredients. We were given Lebanese bread, cheese, spinach, pineapple, mushrooms, salami and ham. We decided that we would make mini pizzas! It was a lot of fun to get in the kitchen and get our hands dirty. Yum!