to the international stage, for Best Practice in Environmental Education. Each year, as part of the School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP), the committee develop strategies for Management of the Curriculum, Resources and Grounds. In 2013, we are aiming to reduce the schools paper purchase and printing costs. This will be of great benefit to our learning community and help to reduce our impact on the environment. Through consultation with the staff and P&C we are seeking your support in this initiative. Currently the school has an annual paper use of 12 pallets of boxes, which are approximately 1200 reams of paper. Our Environmental Leaders will record and measure data to reflect the school’s reduced impact on the environment and investigate other ways to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle to meet the outcomes for our SEMP.

Our school newsletters are always available on the school’s website. If parents/guardians still wish to receive a paper copy, please complete the slip at the end of this newsletter to request a paper copy.

For further information go to: http://www.snowbound.com/resources/articles/business-benefits-industry-information/paperless-office-its-time-has-come
Please note the school is not seeking to endorse the company.

P and C - thank you!!
I know I have done it here before but I must take the time to once again offer a huge thank you to our out-going P&C who have done such a magnificent job in filling executive positions for the past several years and beyond. These positions are all volunteer and the huge amounts of time and effort you have given is a reflection of the giving nature and striving you...
have in order to make a positive difference across our school community.

Outgoing Executive include:
P&C President; Mrs Leanne Hazel has raised the efforts of the P&C to a very high and exacting standard. Mrs Hazel has been the driving force behind the hard work and huge contribution that our P&C have made towards the current and future learning of the students at Parklea Public School and ensuring that the start to each year begins with the welcoming of new families in order to build a supportive culture. She has been thoughtful and knowledgeable in all interactions with our school and her contributions as a leader and strong supporter of all families is admirable.
P&C Vice President; Mr David Gracie has worked extensively to support the leadership and directions of the P&C. Mr Gracie has stepped up to take the helm whenever the president was unavailable and he has made a positive mark through his dedication and promotion of the work of the P&C.
P&C Treasurer; Mrs Natalie Walker has been a long-term leader of the P&C finances. Mrs Walker has been instrumental in successfully co-ordinating finances as well as roles within the school uniform shop and Walking School Bus. Many thanks for the huge amount of time you have given to the school community in so many different areas.
P&C Secretary; Mrs Karen Taylor has been a dedicated secretary who has given a great deal of time, energy and effort in organising minutes and information to ensure smooth communication between and across the many committees and the school.
P&C Fundraising Co-ordinator; Mrs Catherine North has done a huge amount of hard work in co-ordinating the efforts of a dedicated team of volunteers. The work of the fundraising committee can be seen in the many cake stalls, discos, raffles, family evenings, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day and Performance Night. I am sure that I have left something out but this does highlight how active Mrs North and her band of hard workers have been.

Many, many thanks for all you have done in so many areas of our school to make Parklea a better place to learn and grow. Best wishes for your future endeavours and I know that you move on with the gratitude of the whole school community.

To our new, incoming P&C executive, many thanks for your commitment and effort in carrying forward the wonderful work of our outgoing P&C.

Reminders – addressing problems
No problem will continue to be a problem if we calmly work through solutions together.

We have many new families to our school each and every year. As parents and carers, there are times where we may have concerns that we need to have addressed. Can I ask all parents to speak with the class teacher if you think something is not right. I do know that as a parent there are many things to juggle on any given day. I also know that as a teacher/educator that we do not come to school with the view that we are going to create problems for parents/carers.

We are actually working together. For the majority of parents and carers who have a concern and bring the concern to the teacher, a solution is reached quickly. Could I please ask that you approach the school to make an appointment for an interview with the class teacher in the first instance. This allows for the teacher and the parent/carer to set aside a time uninterrupted to focus on the problem. If you turn up to the classroom without an appointment chances are that the teacher will not be able to speak with you as there is a class to teach.

If you have spoken with the class teacher and you are finding that the problem has not been addressed or resolved, please don’t give up in frustration. You should be making an interview time to discuss the problem with the team leader. The team leader will only take an interview if you have addressed the problem with the class teacher first.

Team Leaders include:
Kindergarten: Mrs Ogie
Year 1 and Year 2: Mrs Marsonet
Year 3 and Year 4: Mr Fisk
Year 5:  Mrs Milson-FitzGerald / Mrs Cardwell
        Mr Roche
Year 6:  If you feel that the problem has not been resolved with the team leader, please feel free to contact the Deputy Principal or Principal. Our aim is to ensure that we address any problem at the appropriate level to the satisfaction of both parents/carers and the school in a calm and respectful manner.
Deputy Principal: Ms Denham
Deputy Principal: Mrs Gracie
Principal: Mr Sutherland

Best wishes,
Ross Sutherland

NEWS FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS
Meet the Teacher Evening
Our ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening, will be held tonight (Wednesday, 6th March) from 5.30pm. It is an ‘Open’ classroom event meaning that parents and children can visit their classroom between 5.30pm and 6.15pm. Classroom teachers will also be in their classroom and will provide a written overview of the grade organisation and expectations for the year. If you would like a more private interview time with the teacher, this is not the time to do so (if need be, you can request an additional meeting time with your child’s teacher for another occasion).
Classrooms will be closed at 6.15pm and parents, children and their teachers are invited to an informal BBQ to be held under the covered area outside the school hall. Thank you to those who pre-ordered their sausages. We have only ordered enough sausages to match the orders placed so please do not request food if you did not place your order previously. Also, can we please ask parents to supervise your own children during classroom visit and BBQ times. The school will close at 7.00pm to signal the end of the BBQ.
We look forward to meeting with you on the night!

Medical Conditions and Planning
Thank you to those parents who have contacted us about various medical conditions that your child / children may have. We are endeavouring to make contact with all of you so that an updated health care plan can be formulated for the 2013 school year. Mrs Gracie and Mrs Bugeja have been working on this and you may receive a form to complete soon. If the form does not provide sufficient space for you to comment, please provide an additional summary of the condition and its treatment (including dosage of medication required).
We also request that unless a child has a serious illness or condition that requires ongoing medication (e.g. anaphylaxis, diabetes, ADHD, or other diagnosed diseases), it is the parent’s responsibility to work with the general medical practitioner to ensure that medication for regular illness (e.g. antibiotics, panadol, asthma nebuliser etc.) need to be given by the parent or carer outside of school hours. It is not the responsibility of the school’s first aid team to administer this kind of medication.
We are seeking your support in this matter but please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Glenwood High School NSW
There will be a consultation evening for those students wishing to apply for Glenwood High School’s Gifted and Talented class for Year 7 2014.
Date and Time:
Tuesday, 26th March 2013
6:00pm
Venue: Glenwood High School Library
Bookings are essential.
This evening will provide an insight into Glenwood High School’s Gifted and Talented Program including the selection process and addressing the expectations and requirements of students within our program. A Gifted and Talented prospectus and application form will be available on this night.
If you are unable to attend our Consultation meeting, please contact Glenwood High School for a Gifted and Talented Prospectus. RSVP by 2:00pm Friday 8th March 2013 on 9629 9577

Fruit Break
Mrs Millson-Fitzgerald (our in-house Environment and Sustainability Queen) has asked us to remind you that our Fruit Break time-slot is exactly as it sounds – a time to eat a few bits of fruit. Most children do not have the capacity to eat a full piece of fruit during the time provided and therefore our compost bins are full of wasted fruit. Potentially this is great for our gardens, but we are also attracting fruit flies in plague proportions. We also need to be mindful of not encouraging students to be wasteful as there are many other people in the world who are less fortunate than us without access to fresh food supplies.

and have a wonderful week!  
Mrs Gracie and Ms Denham

Sports Update
It has been a busy start to sport with trials for PSSA teams being held, the school and zone swimming carnivals occurring, visits from the AFL and the NRL/Eels and Panthers through the Community Carnival program.

News just in!!! Congratulations to Ben Considine in Year 5 who has made it into the NSW state tennis team - what an achievement. Watch out Parklea, we could have our own Pat Rafter in the making! Good luck Ben...

Friday PSSA commenced in Week 4 with Parklea participating in Oz Tag (mixed), AFL (mixed), Cricket (boys) and Tee-ball/Softball (girls). A big thank you to the parents/carers who completed permission notes, white forms which included medical information and paid in the timeframe given. It was appreciated by the coaches and enabled our school to compete in the first round of summer PSSA for 2013. Results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>PRK v</th>
<th>JNR OR SNR</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>WIN/LOSS/ DRAW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oz Tag</td>
<td>Schofields green</td>
<td>Jnr 5 - 5</td>
<td>Draw</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFL</td>
<td>Kellyville Ridge</td>
<td>Snr 8 - 3</td>
<td>Win</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>John Palmer</td>
<td>Jnr 53 – 0</td>
<td>Loss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>John Palmer</td>
<td>Snr 50 - 8</td>
<td>Loss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Quakers Hill East</td>
<td>Jnr 63 - 56</td>
<td>Win</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Quakers Hill East</td>
<td>Snr 33 - 39</td>
<td>Loss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It was great to hear reports back from the coaches of the good sportsmanship and students trying their best throughout the matches being played regardless of the result. Training days and times for PSSA are as follows. Should your child be unable to attend, please inform his/her coach as soon as possible. A reminder to our AFL players – you must have your mouth guard with you for both training and game day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>COACH</th>
<th>TRAINING DAY</th>
<th>TRAINING START TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oz Tag</td>
<td>Mr Roche (6R)</td>
<td>Wednesday morning</td>
<td>8.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFL</td>
<td>Mrs McDonald (3E)</td>
<td>Friday morning</td>
<td>8.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>Miss Watson (5W)</td>
<td>Wednesday morning</td>
<td>8.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tee-ball/Softball</td>
<td>Miss Beehag (5B)</td>
<td>Wednesday morning</td>
<td>8.15 am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs McDonald is looking for a parent to help train the AFL team on Friday mornings. If you have some expertise in AFL and would like to
assist developing the AFL team's skills please get in contact with her.

Our school swimming carnival was held on Monday, 14th February, at Riverstone Pool. All the participants tried their best, earning house points for races entered and supporting other competitors during races. Based on times, a zone team of 37 students were selected to represent Parklea at the Ridges Zone swimming carnival held on Thursday, 28th February. Overall, Parklea finished 8th out of ten schools. Our students all competed to the best of their ability and experienced a higher level of competition on the day.

Two notable results were achieved by Ryan Hurley and the Senior Boys Relay Team. Ryan finished first in the 9 years 50m freestyle while the senior boys relay team consisting of Declan Hey, Mark Markov, Keegan Bell and Jake Virgona finished third. The five boys will now represent Ridges zone at the Sydney West Regional Swimming Carnival on Tuesday, 19th March, at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre, Homebush. Congratulations boys on your fantastic achievement and good luck at the Sydney West carnival!

The NRL Community Carnival visited our school on Monday, 25th February, and gave a presentation called “Tackling Bullying” to the primary students. The presentation was well received by the students who were able to ask questions to the Parramatta and Penrith players and Footy Show personality Mario Fenech about how they dealt with issues such as bullying when they were growing up and strategies they used to make new friends. The students are to be commended for their excellent behaviour throughout the presentation.

The AFL Giants development officer and his coaching squad visited the school on Friday Week 4 during School Sport. The students were introduced to some fundamental AFL skills while the teachers involved were learning how to teach the skills to students. It was a great learning environment for students and teachers alike!

Finally, keep an eye out for two notes which will be sent home shortly. One will be about the School Cross Country (being held early Term 2) and the other will be an expression of interest for Winter PSSA trials. Subject to numbers, trials for winter sports will be offered in:

- **Girls** – Junior and Senior Netball, Open (Yr 3-6) Soccer
- **Boys** – Junior and Senior Rugby League, Junior and Senior Soccer
- **Mixed** – Open (Yr 3-6) Newcombe Ball

Winter PSSA trials are being held earlier this year as the winter competition begins Term 2 Week 2. Invoices for those students selected will be sent out before the end of term 1 because of the earlier commencement date.

*Mrs Iredale
On behalf of the Sports Committee

‘Learning to Learn’ with Lane Clark

Over the past few weeks a group of Year 4 students have had a great opportunity to work with Lane Clark on the Learning to Learn (Guided Inquiry process). Lane spent four valuable days teaching our students with staff observing and critically analysing the model so that it can continue to be sustained in regular classrooms during Integrated Studies time (Human Society and its Environment and Science and Technology).

The students and staff were immersed in the “Think-it-great” process where students were stepped through immersion centres, cross-classification examples and venn diagramming (to compare and contrast).

The goal of this process is for the students to determine a ‘so what?’ i.e. something that impacts on their lives and the lives of others and how to make that ‘so what’ the best it can be (hence: to think of ‘it’ and to then re-think of ‘it’ great!). The focus of this process for Lane’s visit was to consider what makes a great greeting card and why? Many different outcomes from the English, Maths and Science & Technology syllabus documents were covered during this process and students enjoyed their time learning in this environment.
ESL NEWS

Harmony Day

When: Thursday 21 March 2013

Dress: All students are encouraged to wear something orange.

Donation: Gold coin donation to ‘Oxfam’. Oxfam Australia helps communities to overcome poverty and injustice in many countries. 2013 is the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation. A donation of $500 to Oxfam can provide a water harvesting system to supply clean water for 200 families in drought stricken southern Africa.

Harmony Day on 21 March is Australia’s annual celebration of cultural diversity. The 2013 Harmony Day theme is Many Stories – One Australia. It recognises that each Australian has a unique story. In sharing our stories we can learn, understand and respect each other. Harmony Day promotes a tolerant and diverse society, celebrating the cultures that make Australia a great place. All students are encouraged to wear either their national costume or something orange on the day (the colour orange represents harmony). On this day classes will be participating in Harmony Day activities in their classrooms.

Multicultural/Aboriginal Perspectives Team

everyone belongs
www.harmony.gov.au

Request for printed paper copy of newsletter

Our family request a printed paper copy of the Parklea Public School newsletter.

Oldest in family name:   Class: