Calendar Term 1

**Uniform Shop:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2:30pm – 3:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:45am – 9:30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dates to Remember:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th February</td>
<td>Swimming carnival 12pm- 3pm Riverstone Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th February</td>
<td>Infants Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th February</td>
<td>Library borrowing begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th February</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ and Parent Information Evening Primary Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th February</td>
<td>EAL/D Morning Team (in the Staffroom) Riley Cake Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th February</td>
<td>Infants Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th February</td>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd March</td>
<td>Glenwood High School Information Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td>Induction Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Quakers Hill High School Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th March</td>
<td>Selective High School Placement test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>Glenwood High School GAT Information Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th March</td>
<td>K-2 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th March</td>
<td>3-6 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>K-6 Perfections for Term 1 close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>National Young Leaders Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>Muffin Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th March</td>
<td>K-2 Term 1 Perfection Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Principal’s Report:**

**Welcome:**
Welcome to 2015. We trust all of our students, their families and friends enjoyed a happy and relaxed summer holiday. A special welcome to the new students who have joined us this year. We know you will make lots of new friends and settle in quickly.

**Welcome To Kindergarten:**
Welcome to all of our new Kindergarten students and their parents. You have chosen an excellent school and we look forward to developing a wonderful partnership with you. If there are any concerns, please speak with your child’s teacher or Miss Akmens, the Kindergarten Assistant Principal.

**Routines:**
At the start of the year, it can be difficult getting the family organised, but this is a good time to set up the daily routines to get everyone off to school and work on time. Being very clear with children with what needs to happen will make parents jobs easier. Sometimes even a checklist is needed. Regular attendance patterns need to be set up straight away and will make it easier later on. This is especially important for Kindergarten students who are busy making new friends and learning "how school works". If any parents are having problems getting children to school for any reason, please let us know and we will help. Sometimes there are little things troubling a child that we can sort out. Not sending children to school regularly is considered educational neglect.

Please visit our online school calendar: http://tinyurl.com/ppscalendar

@ParkyThePelican
https://twitter.com/ParkyThePelican
School times:
There are teachers on duty in the school playground from 8.30am. Children should not be at school before then. OOSH is a before and after school care service on our school grounds. Parents who need to leave for work early should investigate this rather than just send their children to school.

Classes for 2015:
Thank you for patiently waiting for permanent classes to be formed. Once we finalised enrolments, our new classes could be formed. As you can see, this is why it is so important for parents to inform us if their children are going to be late back at the start of a year or are going to be leaving our school. We spend many hours ringing parents and tracing family members to find out where children are. We have to inform the Department of Education and Communities how many children we have, and this determines how many teachers we are allowed to employ for the year. Thank you to the parents who have given us this information and those who have rung up to tell us if their child is sick.

We have several new staff members this year who we warmly welcome to Parklea Public School. We thought we would provide you with a list of all the classes for this year with the names of the teachers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Blue</td>
<td>Miss Akmens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Green</td>
<td>Miss Jacoby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Red</td>
<td>Miss Foister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Yellow</td>
<td>Miss Klaack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Orange</td>
<td>Miss Axiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Aqua</td>
<td>Mrs Cliff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 1 and 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1 Blue</td>
<td>Miss Svarc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1 Green</td>
<td>Miss Kim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1 Red</td>
<td>Mrs D’Amico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1 Yellow</td>
<td>Miss Mason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2 Green</td>
<td>Miss Andeshmand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2 Red</td>
<td>Mrs McGregor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2 Yellow</td>
<td>Mrs Gibb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 3 and 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Dhillon and Mrs Hack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3 Green</td>
<td>Miss Cahill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3 Red</td>
<td>Miss Viscomi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4 Blue</td>
<td>Miss Beehag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4 Green</td>
<td>Mrs Prudames and Mrs Neorcsik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4 Red</td>
<td>Mrs Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3 Purple</td>
<td>Miss Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 5 and 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Bugeja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5 Green</td>
<td>Mrs Bushnell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5 Red</td>
<td>Mrs Iredale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Flannery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6 Green</td>
<td>Mrs Mutch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6 Red</td>
<td>Mrs Marshall and Miss Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5 Purple</td>
<td>Mrs Koller and Mrs Foxley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specialist Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English As an additional Language or Dialect</td>
<td>Mrs Temby, Mrs Pena and Mrs Hager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning and Support</td>
<td>Mrs Mendyk and Mr Fisk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Recovery</td>
<td>Mrs Cardwell and Miss McNabb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Ms Millson and Mrs Terry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C Meeting:
The Parklea P&C are a small group of highly dedicated and caring parents who meet once per month in school terms. They discuss ways that our school can be improved, fundraising opportunities and other school related topics. We encourage more parents to come along to these meetings. They are informal, a way of making new friends and an opportunity to keep well-informed about your child’s learning and the services available to support your child.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 17th February at 7pm in the staffroom

What to do if my child says “I’m in a new class without any friends?”
In 13 plus years of education, your child will eventually find themselves in a class without their closest friends. It’s normal for them to initially feel a little anxious about this, so how should you handle it?

Tempting as it may be to request a class swap (which can be a logistical nightmare
for schools and not always possible), here are some important things to consider first.

**Don’t rob your child of this opportunity to develop social skills.** School is a place where our kids learn important social skills as well as academic ones. Finding their place and making friends in a new group is a vital skill to develop and one they’ll rely on their entire lives. The classroom is one of the gentlest places to start learning this because:

- Teachers turn a “bunch of kids” into a team every year.
- They keep an eye out for students who aren't mixing in, and create opportunities to pair them up with different children.
- There’s still lunch and recess to play with their mates.
- It's also a great opportunity for them to learn about separating social time and work time.
- Lots of their classmates are in the same boat.
- Everyone is starting a new year, with a new teacher and a new classroom and many will be looking for new friendships too. Some kids choose a new “best friend” in every class they have, which builds a rich network of friendships over the years.
- Children learn different skills from different classmates.
- These days there are lots of opportunities for group work in class, when students team up and work through tasks together. Unlikely pairings can produce excellent workmates, who share a common language of learning and help each other along.
- You can gently help them make new friends.
- If you are able to spend some time in your child’s classroom (for example, by helping out with reading or maths groups) you’ll meet the other children and be able to suggest possible friends to your child. Your child will be thrilled to see you in their classroom and it also seems to fast track their sense of ‘belonging’. Encourage play dates with classmates.

If, after a couple of weeks, your child doesn’t seem to be settling in or is still anxious about their new class, by all means contact the classroom teacher or make an appointment to have a chat.

**We are looking forward to seeing you all at the parent information evening and welcome BBQ on Tuesday 17 February. See you there.**

**Mrs Mlinaric and Mrs Gracie (R/Principals)**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTIES:**

**Changes to School Exemptions:**
There has been an update to the attendance policy within the Department of Education and Communities. Previously, if you were going on a family holiday during a school term, the principal would grant you an exemption from school attendance. These exemptions would not appear as absences on your child’s school report.

The new policy stipulates that family holidays are no longer an accepted category for exemption from school attendance. Family holidays will now be recorded as ‘Leave’ and will appear as days absent from school on your child’s end of semester report.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the office.

**Back to school checklist:**
Life seems to go from zero to one hundred during the first few weeks of school. We’ve pooled our years of experience to bring you some suggestions to make the rest of the year run more smoothly. Good luck!
• Check the school has all your contact information including daytime phone numbers. Have you changed address or phone number since last year? Have you nominated a current emergency contact – someone who would be able to come and collect your child if you weren’t available? After you check with them, supply their details to the school.

• Medications that are kept at school. Are they up-to-date with complete, current instructions for use? Have you supplied any ‘consumables’ necessary for administering the medication to your child?

• Connect with at least one other parent in the class and exchange contact details – it’s great to have someone to double check with when you’re not sure about class events etc.

Our ‘Safe, Settled Students’ Morning Routine:

There have been some significant changes to our morning routine each day. It is important that you are aware of these and assist us with following and supporting these changes on a daily basis.

In the past, it has been extremely difficult for our staff and students to get to their classrooms in a safe and convenient manner due to the congestion of parents/caregivers obstructing the walkways and COLA area. Our Stage 3 students now line up in the hall each day to provide access for families to enter and leave the school safely.

We are asking that all parents/caregivers who have children in Years 1 to 6 move to the flagpole area when the 9:00am bell has gone and avoid waiting next to your child’s class. This includes the other side of the COLA as well as the back of the COLA. If you have to speak to your child’s teacher, please do so before the 9:00am bell or make an appointment to see your child’s teacher through the front office. Our teachers and students are eager to start their day and it’s very unsettling for our students to be waiting while conversations are taking place.

It’s very important that all students arrive by 8:55am every morning to assist us in commencing school in a more settled manner.

Kindergarten students will continue to line up at their designated area and we also encourage parents/caregivers to move from this area as soon as possible so our teachers and students can access the walkways. Students are not allowed to be playing or sitting outside the Kindergarten classrooms before school as these areas are considered to be out of bounds.

Kindergarten teachers have been talking about ‘out of bounds’ areas in our school this week so it’s important that families encourage their children to follow our school rules.

Morning Assembly:
As part of our new ‘Safe, Settled Students’ morning routine, we will be having daily morning assemblies once the 9:00am bell rings. These brief meetings will continue to evolve throughout the term and will include Years 1 – 6 students only (as Kindergarten students have a separate meeting spot).
Parents are welcome to attend but are asked to congregate in the Parent Meeting Spot under our flag poles (as shown below):

Child Safety Handbook; a Resource for Parents, Carers and Teachers:
Next week, all students K-2 will receive a free copy of this handbook. This aims to raise awareness about the risks to children and the steps that can be taken to protect them and keep them safe. This has been produced by the NSW Policy Legacy in consultation with the Protective Behaviours Consultancy Group of NSW.

Guide Dogs Visit:
On the 24th February, there will be a talk in the hall hosted by a representative from the ‘Guide Dogs Association’ for our K-2 students. We currently have students in our school who have visual impairments and this is a great way for all students to gain an understanding of the modifications and adjustments schools make to cater for their learning needs. We know students will find this interesting and gain useful strategies to support students with vision impairments during their time at Parklea.

School News:

High School Selective Testing:
Selective High School Placement Tests will be held on Thursday the 12th of March 2015. For Year 6 students who wish to apply to sit the Selective High School test, you must apply online. The following are some key dates for you to be aware of:
- Thursday 26 February 2015 - Test Centre advice
- Thursday 12 March 2015 - Selective High School Placement Test
- Early July 2015 - Outcome advice

The following link can be used for further information regarding this process: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/schoolsweb/learning/k_6assessments/ss/ss_apppackage.pdf

Go to the Application link at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement and read the instructions carefully. You will register to receive a password and then log in to complete the application and submit it. You will receive a printout of your application with your child’s student number. You must quote this number whenever you make enquiries about your application. If you find you have made a mistake, email the unit to change any information. Do not apply twice for the same student.

Other Important Items:

Communicating with your school:
While it can be hard for busy parents, staying in contact with the school is important. Communication is one of the key parts of the relationship between the school and home.

Watch this video to find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbei

Kind regards,
Mr Fisk & Mrs Cardwell
(R/Deputy Principals)
Series books to ignite summer reading:
Series books can be a great way to get your kids hooked on reading. Reluctant readers and children who struggle with comprehension can also find series books easier to enjoy.


Summer food safety:
You can greatly reduce the risk of food poisoning during the summer period by chilling food in the fridge before packing your child’s lunch and then putting a frozen drink into their lunchbox. The food will stay about 12 degrees cooler.

Have a look at more school food tips: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/power-foods-for-kids

Jargon buster:
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school.


Avoiding injuries:
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain?


Maths questions:
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey’s Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.


Helping your child with homework:
How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns.

We are safe, respectful, learners
Parklea Public School needs your help!  
Now is your chance to support the community that supports you. 
Become a sponsor today!

Dear Business owners,

At present in the cold of winter and during the heat of summer, the children at Parklea Public School are, on many occasions, unable to utilise the schools hall as there is no adequate heating or cooling.

How can you and your business help?

Parklea Public School, along with the support of our school’s P&C association, is currently seeking sponsors from the local community to enable the school to purchase air conditioning for the school hall.

The school is offering four (4) levels of sponsorship from Bronze at $100 through to Platinum sponsorship at $1000 or more.

What can the school offer you in return?

Sponsorship provides advertising to your business through our extensive family / community network in the following ways up until 30th June 2015.

Bronze sponsorship $100
- 1 small business logo (size half business card) in our school’s eNewsletters;
- Your business logo appears in the bronze sponsor section of the school website;
- Bronze Certificate of Appreciation to display for your business.

Silver sponsorship $250
- 1 business card size ad in our schools eNewsletters;
- Your business logo appears in the silver sponsor section of the school website;
- Flyer distribution once a semester;
- Silver Certificate of Appreciation to display for your business.

Gold sponsorship $500
- A6/quarter page ad in our school’s eNewsletters;
- Your business logo appears in the gold sponsor section of the school website;
- Flyer distribution once a term
- Gold Certificate of Appreciation to display for your business.

Platinum sponsorship $1000+
- A5/half page ad in our school’s eNewsletters;
- Your business logo appears in the platinum sponsor section of the school website;
- Flyer distribution twice a term;
- Platinum Certificate of Appreciation to display for your business;
- Exclusive invitation for advertising at school functions (e.g. Performance nights, discos, carols, etc.)

Note: Your sponsorship level and entitlements will be determined by the financial contribution you provide to the school.

How do you become a sponsor?

Businesses that would like to sponsor our school are encouraged to send an EOI email addressed to Mr Scott Fisk (R/Deputy Principal) via our school’s email address as shown below:

parklea-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Due to the setup of our school’s new finance system, donations can only be made by cheque written to Parklea Public School. (Please be sure the cheque is clearly identifiable with your business name).

We thank you in advance for your consideration and look forward to building a stronger community together.

For further information please contact;

Scott Fisk, R/Deputy Principal
Thank you to all our **Bronze Sponsors** for their continued support!!!

Become a **Bronze Sponsor** and your business logo could be here!!!
Thank you to all our **Silver Sponsors** for their continued support!!!

Become a **Silver Sponsor** and your business card could appear here!!!

Become a **Silver Sponsor** and your business card could appear here!!!

Become a **Silver Sponsor** and your business card could appear here!!!

Become a **Silver Sponsor** and your business card could appear here!!!

We are safe, respectful, learners
Do you want to be in control of your Super? We can show you how!

City Mutual Group... The SMSF experts.

Contact Greg on: PH: 1300 723 599

Become a Platinum Sponsor and your business could advertise here!!!
Glenwood Netball Club are looking for new members to join our Club in the U7, U8 and U10 age groups.

If you know of any young girls who would like to play netball in season 2015, please ask them to contact our Registrar, Carly Hallett, via our email address registrar@glenwoodnetball.com, or the Club Secretary, Chrissy Chapman, on secretary@glenwoodnetball.com.