



Newsletter

12 MAY 2016

CALENDAR

May

13th CURRIUCLUM DAY. No children to attend on this day.

**16th—20th May
EDUCATION WEEK**

**17th Open Morning Tea
Grandparents Day
OPEN NIGHT 6.00-
7.30pm**

17th ICAS Testing—Digital Technologies

18th Year 3 & 4 Anti Bullying Incursion

20th Whole School Disco

23rd District Athletics

24th Prep Wildlife Incursion

27th District Cross Country

31st ICAS Testing—Science

June

13th Queens Birthday Public Holiday. Children do not attend school on this day.

14-17th ICAS Testing—Writing

15th Popcorn Day

15th ICAS Testing—Spelling

20th Year 3 excursion to RSPCA

21st Parent /Teacher Interviews
3.45- 7.30pm

21st School Council Meeting
7pm

22nd Parent /Teacher Interviews
3.45- 5.00pm

Dear Parents,

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

Thank you to our dedicated Parents Club for organising a fabulous Mother's Day stall last week. The children were very excited about attending the stall and purchasing a gift for their Mum or the special carer in their life.



Karen Jenkin
Principal

CELEBRATING EDUCATION WEEK- OPEN DAY

On Tuesday 17th May we will be conducting 'Open Day' at Pinewood P.S. The school will be open in the morning to families and friends from 9.15-11.00 am. A special Grandparents Morning Tea will be held in the hall, from 10.45-11.30 (Grandparents are welcome to visit the classrooms before the morning tea too!).

The school will be open again in the evening from 6.00-7.30pm. During this time parents are encouraged to visit their child's classroom and attend a short musical concert in the hall performed by the students.

Concert performance times will be:

Prep-Yr 2 @ 6.00 pm
Yrs 3 and 4 @ 6.30 pm
Yrs 5 and 6 @ 7.00 pm

REMINDER- CURRICULUM DAY FRIDAY

Tomorrow, Friday, 13th May, is a student free day. No children are required at school. The Out of School Hours Program will be open from 7.15am until 6pm.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Tests were conducted for students in Years 3 and Year 5 this week.

The results of the tests provide diagnostic information for parents and teachers about a child's performance in literacy and numeracy. This information is analysed by teachers to support teaching and learning programs and improve student achievement. NAPLAN reports are issued in September. At Pinewood Primary School the NAPLAN tests are only one of a number of assessments that are undertaken throughout the year.

A more comprehensive assessment of a student can be made by talking to teachers who are continually tracking each child's progress based upon standardised tests, teacher judgements and zoned assessments.



NEW PORTABLE ARRIVING

On Friday, Curriculum Day, a new Mod 5 portable will be arriving at the school (weather depending). It will be located alongside the current Yr4 portable. The DET is planning to remove the older portable near the staff car park, which is currently being used as the Music room.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

There are many simple activities parents can do at home with their child/children to encourage and promote mathematical thinking. The following article contains a few good ideas!

How parents can help their kids understand, and enjoy, maths.

Author [Kylie Robson](#) Clinical Teaching Specialist - Mathematics and Literacy Education, Faculty of [University of Canberra](#)

Teaching maths concepts has long been considered the domain of the classroom teacher, with many parents often feeling unable to help their kids develop this skill. However, parents already do many things with their kids that can encourage mathematical thinking and help them see the relevance of mathematics in their everyday lives. Cultivating this sense of relevance and interest in mathematics has been shown to be a key contributor to a child's future success in this area. Here are some opportunities for developing mathematical thinking, which parents and kids can enjoy together.

Out and about

Hand the map to the kids on your summer holiday. With school holidays around the corner, many families will be taking trips to the coast or interstate to see Nan and Pop. This break gives parents great opportunities to engage their kids in different types of mathematical thinking. Working out how many kilometres you will travel is an easy way to practise computation skills and develops an interest in map reading. Another calculation might be how far you can travel on one tank of fuel, then finding a place on the map to stop and fill up. Older kids can be in charge of planning overnight stops after working out how far you can travel in one day. Challenge them by adding extra information:
If the speed limit is 100km, what is the latest

time we can leave to arrive by 4pm?
This encourages them to think about the question and plan a method for finding a solution.

In the garden

Kids love getting dirty and playing in the garden. Parents can harness this enthusiasm and develop math skills at the same time. Spatial awareness is used when adding plants to the garden. Estimating the positions so the plants are evenly spaced is something we all do - why not give this job to your child?
How far apart should the trees be? And how deep the holes?
Estimating skills are also used when digging the hole for the plant. Determining how deep it needs to be is often calculated through guess and check, an identified problem-solving strategy. Kids with understandings of multiplication could use an [array](#) to plan the positioning of carrots in the veggie patch. With parental supervision, older kids can apply their knowledge of ratios when making liquid fertiliser - one part plant food to three parts water.

In the kitchen

Getting the kids in the kitchen is a favourite holiday activity for many families. The pride and enjoyment kids get from baking cookies or helping prepare the family meal are invaluable. Mathematical knowledge and processes are a fundamental part of this experience. Measuring quantities accurately is crucial if you want the cake to rise. Actively discussing this with kids brings the importance of this math concept to life. Develop curiosity by presenting problem-solving opportunities:
We need 1 cup of sugar, but we have only these 1/4 and 1/3 cups to measure with. What can we do?
And then ask again:
Great idea! What else could we do?
How much pastry do we need for four pasties?
Knowing that there is often more than one way to solve a problem provides comfort for those who think in different ways. Using scales to weigh ingredients reinforces the skill of reading these numbers and draws on knowledge of decimals. Calculating when the food will be ready uses knowledge of time, but also encourages basic number strategies, like counting by 5s, to be practised:



12 MAY 2016

The recipe says 'chill for 30 minutes'. It's 11.50am now, when will it be ready?
Fractional concepts are developed when cutting the cake into equal parts. Every child wants their fair share of that chocolate cake!

At the shops

When you're out at the shops, there are plenty of ways to get kids thinking about and exploring maths. Simple counting exercises with young kids are a great way to reinforce early number concepts like number sequences and [cardinality](#):

1, 2, 3, 4, 5. *We have 5 apples in the bag.*
Another number concept easily practised at the shops is comparison:

*Do we have more apples or oranges?
How much change will you get if you buy 10 apples?*

As parents, we often choose the item that represents better value by comparing the "price per 100 gram" - verbalising your thinking helps kids to refine their own mental processes. Budgeting, adding monetary values and calculating change are all skills that benefit from practice in a real-life situation. Giving older kids \$10 and a small shopping list develops these skills as well as fostering a sense of independence. The post-Christmas sales give kids some purposeful reasons to apply knowledge of percentages, if only to convince you that new toy is a real bargain! Parents can easily use every day experiences to reinforce and develop mathematical skills and support their kid's learning of this important subject area.

Showing how maths is used in daily tasks provides the perfect balance for the formal learning of the classroom. Mathematics is an area where both teacher and parent input is necessary.

Karen Jenkin
Principal

A REMINDER THAT CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORMS, INCLUDING THOSE WITHOUT CHANGES, WERE DUE BACK ON FRIDAY, 29th APRIL, 2016.

Please be aware that if contact numbers have changed and the school has not been notified, we cannot be held responsible for not contacting you in an emergency.

Compass Program for Parents

We are changing the way we do things at Pinewood Primary School by using the Compass program!

The school is being pro-active in using the program to keep parents up to date with what is happening with their children.

We have noticed that there are some families that have not yet accessed Compass and we encourage you to do so. If you have forgotten your login details please contact the school. Parents who have never logged in will receive letters with your user name and temporary password next week.

CHANGES WE ARE MAKING :

Term 2

- ◆ When you receive an **SMS message** from the school the identifying name will be PPSAlert. Please read as it may contain important information about the school
- ◆ The **Parent Portal** has been enabled which will allow parents to provide explanations for student absences. If parents are currently logged in, they will need to log out and log in again to see this new feature. From next Monday, parents will receive an SMS message at 10am when a child is reported absent from school. Parents will be reminded to log in to Compass and approve the absence or late arrival of each child. Pending leave approvals will be waiting in your News Feed.
- ◆ The paper **newsletter** will be slowly phased out. Parents will still have the option of receiving a paper copy. A request form will be sent home during the next few weeks.
- ◆ **Parent/Teacher Interviews** will be booked online through the Compass program. For parents that do not have a computer or the internet, an iPad will be available at the front office for parent use.
- ◆ Parents will be given a hard copy of the **student report** this year and reports will also be available from Compass.

Term 3

- ◆ Parents will be encouraged to make payments for **excursions & incursions** through Compass. By using the program, parents can give consent, pay and receive a receipt which will cut out the need to have cash on hand and also help parents who are unable to come to the school. Parents may pay by Visa, Mastercard, Visa Debit etc. AMEX is not accepted.
- ◆ For parents who do not have access to a computer or the internet, paper forms will still be available.



12 MAY 2016

AUSSIES OF THE MONTH

Hamna

Hamna is a very deserving recipient of this 'Aussie of the Month' award. She is a young lady with many fine qualities. Hamna is a friendly and reliable student who demonstrates reliance and a strong work ethic. She is a valued member of 3B.

Hamna is a very trustworthy member of the class. She can always be relied upon to undertake any task that she is asked to do.

Hamna enjoys learning and participating in all aspects of school life. She always strives to complete everything to her high personal standards, she continually produces work of an outstanding quality and looks for areas in which she can improve.

Congratulations Hamna on being awarded 'Aussie of the Month'. Without a doubt, this will be only one of many awards you will receive for the talents and skills you possess

Shayaan

Shayaan is an enthusiastic and reliable class member who is able to act responsibly at all times. He has a strong work ethic and shows good self-motivation when completing tasks.

Shayaan takes pride in all he does and consistently produces work of a high standard. He aims to achieve his personal best and is a strong role model for his classmates.

Shayaan respects the views of those around him and has a strong sense of fair play. As a result he is highly sought after to participate in group activities and had the honour of being elected as 3K's Junior School Councillor.

Shayaan displays many wonderful qualities making him a worthy recipient of our 'Aussie of the Month' award. Congratulations Shayaan.

OSHC NEWS

Due to the Education Week Open Night on Tuesday, 17th May, it would be appreciated if parents of children attending the Out of School Hours Program that afternoon, could be collected by 5.45pm as the hall is being used for the concert.

Parents arriving after this time can collect their child/children from the Library.

Jenny Walker
OSHC Coordinator

GARAGE SALE

38 ILLUKA CRESCENT, MOUNT WAVERLEY
SUNDAY 15TH MAY 10AM - 3PM
EVERYTHING MUST GO AS LEAVING THE
COUNTRY

Change of Uniform Opening Times for Term 2, 2016

From this week, the uniform shop will be opening on **THURSDAY morning & afternoon**

Thursday, 9.00am—9.30am
Thursday, 3.15pm—3.45pm