Dear Parents and Carers,

DATES TO REMEMBER 2014

Friday 11th April  Easter Hat Parade and Mufti Day / Draw of P & C Raffle / Cake Stall
Last day Term 1

Tuesday 29th April  Students return for Term 2

Congratulations to the following students who received awards in the assembly of 2nd April:

BRONZE CERTIFICATE

| Teagan Wheeler KS | Melissa Guerrini 1H | Summer Brown 1H |

BRONZE BADGE

| Riya Grewal 1H | Bree-Anna Gorlo 2/6W |

SILVER BADGE

| Keelah Stockham 1H |

It is all about the LEARNING!

As term 1 comes to a close I want to thank all the staff, students, parents and carers for a positive, productive start to 2014. It has been a term filled with various learning opportunities for the students. Besides the teaching and learning that has occurred in each and every classroom, the students have been engaged with learning about:

- Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) throughout all aspects of school life throughout the day on a daily basis
- Anti-Bullying through the presentation by the Parramatta Eels
- Sport in Schools
- Hots Shots Tennis
- Animal Farm
- Guide Dogs
- Harmony Day
- Swim School
- Swimming Carnival
- Garden Greenies
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden
- PSSA

And the list goes on.

One of the most significant learning programs the students have been engaged with is our Language for Learning (L4L) Speech Program. This program is based on a three tiered model of support:
Universal – where all students are engaged in the L4L through teaching and learning programs in all classes.

Targeted – where in addition to all students in class accessing L4L, targeted small groups of students have been working with a Speech Therapist and our trained L4L School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) Ms Leonie Faccin.

Intensive – where targeted students are receiving one on one speech therapy support.

The L4L program is our schools Every Student Every School (ESES) Initiative and is one of the most valuable learning opportunities our students can have.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

I have referred in previous newsletters about various safety issues. Please note that the car park, including entering and exiting, continues to be a safety issue mainly due to the unsafe practices of parents and carers. I have mentioned that there will be changes made to the car park and some of those changes will occur in the holidays ready for term 2. New line markings including the changing of the arrows for safer flow of traffic will be done. New signage and safety mirrors will also be installed as soon as practicable.

It is important to remember that the car park and driveway are at times shared zones meaning both vehicle and pedestrian access. It is everyone’s responsibility to be safe in these areas at all times – remember it is the safety of children that should be paramount.

If your child / ren are travelling to school on bikes or scooters you are responsible to ensure that your child is safe by teaching them road rules and making sure they have the appropriate equipment such as helmets and chains to lock them up with. The school through learning programs such as the PDHPE syllabus and through participation in programs including Safety Awareness, Bike Week and so on does assist in keeping children safe. However as parents and carers you need to ensure your child / ren are safe at all times and that you are not threatening the safety of other children through unsafe practices.

As a school we are constantly looking into how we can ensure our students are as safe as possible. In term 2 and 3 we will have our Police Liaison Officer coming in and providing safety talks on a number of issues including: Stranger Danger - Keep Me Safe, Cyber Bullying, Anti Bullying and so on. As soon as the dates are confirmed for these talks notification will be provided in either the newsletter and or letters home.

P & C

The P & C held its first official general meeting for the year last week. It was a productive meeting with lots of positive discussion around the direction for the year. I would like to thank those parents and carers who attended the meeting. There has been a lot of work going into the Easter Raffle being held Friday and there has been wonderful support from the whole school community through the donations of Easter Treats – thank you all for the support.

The P & C Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on May 21 in C Block meeting room. A nomination form and list of vacant positions are available at the office.

ANZAC CEREMONY

Our school’s ANZAC Ceremony will be held early next term due to a number of reasons. I am sure we will all respect this significant day on 25 April and I look forward to our school community recognising this day in term 2. We will advise of the date as soon as it is confirmed.

FENCING UPDATE

Due to the poor weather last week the concreting at Northcott Road gate did not proceed. This work will now be carried out during the school holidays – weather permitting.
Principal's Afternoon Tea

It was with great pleasure that I hosted the first Principal's Afternoon Tea as part of our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) school learning and behaviour system. Jai Fryer and Lachlan Metcalfe who are in 1H are the first students to move all the way through our PBL rewards system, reaching the highest achievement of a personal invitation to have afternoon tea with the Principal. This means that Jai and Lachlan have received 40 merit cards, 3 certificates and 3 badges, their school photo being on the Wall of Fame and now the highest achievement of Principal's afternoon tea.

Jai and Lachlan have made this outstanding achievement through being Respectful, Responsible, Safe, Learners. It just proves that if you engage everyday with school and demonstrated positive learning and behaviour these rewards are achievable. The fact that these students are only in Year 1 also demonstrates that if other students apply themselves in this manner they too will be able to continue to achieve and move through our reward system.

Mrs Bade also joined us in this celebration of outstanding achievement. We all enjoyed lovely treats provided by Bo. I look forward to hosting many more afternoon teas at Lalor Park PS as students continue to demonstrate that they are Safe, Respectful, Responsible, Learners.

Please have a safe and restful holiday break. I look forward to continuing our learning journey in term 2.

Mrs J Gardiner