



# Passfield Park School

March 1, 2013

Dear Parents and Carers

## Successful Start

Welcome back to the new school year. A special welcome to all our new families – we have four new students in kindergarten, and another in year 3. I hope you all enjoy our school community.

I've been really thrilled to see how settled and hardworking all the classes are – our staff has been working in teams to write quality programs to cater for all our learners and it is great to see all their planning paying off with students engaged in quality learning from the first week of term. We are all just about getting used to where everyone is as most teachers and students changed rooms. I think the students have been much better than me at remembering where everyone is!

## It's all going swimmingly...

Our primary students are about to start with the annual swimming scheme. It's always a busy two weeks with tired students and staff, but a great way to learn new skills both in and around water. Please remember to label EVERYTHING for your child – sometimes bags break and we have to try to match socks, undies and shirts to each individual! Many thanks.

## Bunnings BBQ

Many thanks also to the families who helped at our BBQ on February 3<sup>rd</sup> – we had many donations of drinks and time and saw many families buying a sausage sandwich. We made over \$1200 towards the new bus – that was fantastic!

## Parent Teacher Night

Thanks to all who came to the parent information night – we had a very productive and chatty time right across the school! It was tremendous to see so many people from our school community enjoying a supper together and meeting with teachers. Teachers really enjoy meeting parents, especially at the start of the year.

## Parents and Friends Group

Next Friday (March 8), there will be a meeting of our parents and friends group in the staffroom, shortly after 9:00am. It would be good to see any new people too – we don't meet to fundraise, we meet to chat and support each other, and perhaps organise another disco! This meeting will also provide an opportunity to give some feedback on our COACH3 IE/TP process, so please come along to the staffroom and join myself and parents for a cuppa and chat.

See you there!

Kind regards

**Julie Raciborska**

Principal

## Diary Dates.....

March 4-15	Swimming Scheme for infants and primary students
March 18	Clean up Australia Day
April 12	Last Day for Term 1
April 29	Staff Development Day
May 16	School Photos
June 5	Staff Development Day

## Peanut Allergy

Just a reminder not to pack peanut related foods for your child to bring to school. This includes nutella sandwiches. Some of our students have severe peanut allergies.

Thank you for your consideration.



Would \$500 help you pay for school uniforms, books or a laptop?

Match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, through Saver Plus.

You may be eligible if you have:

- a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card
- a child at school or starting next year
- some regular income from work (you or your partner).

Contact Liz Tinney, your local Saver Plus Worker:  
02 4633 3722 / 0407 310 205 or  
liz.tinney@benevolent.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in the Macarthur Region by The Benevolent Society.  
Saver Plus is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Check out our school website  
[www.passfield-s.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.passfield-s.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## Orange Class settling in

Welcome to the new school year. Orange Class has five students - all boys. We would like to welcome the Nhongvongsithi family to our school community. It was great to see so many parents and carers last Tuesday evening at Parent/Teacher night.

The boys are settling in to the school and class routines and learning to follow the school and class rules. During the hot weather the boys have been enjoying waterplay and ice blocks.

We celebrated Zeke's 11th birthday with a cake, bubbles and balloons last week. We will have to wait till August for our next birthday.

*Belinda, Kris and Jenny*

## Interactive Whiteboard Popular in Purple Class

Welcome back, we hope you had an enjoyable break. Purple Class has had a happy return to school and are settling into their new routines and timetable very well. It is great to see students working enthusiastically in all areas but especially in reading groups each day. We have started our Science unit of work on Toys and activities on the interactive whiteboard are proving to be very popular and motivating with students eagerly waiting for their turn.

Some photos and activities from our first few weeks back at school are presently on display in the foyer and we hope you get the opportunity to take a look on your next visit to school.

We are looking forward to an enjoyable and rewarding year with Purple Class.

*Di, Jeanette and Kris*



## Art Play

For Children with Autism

**Make your own super hero cuffs!**

Sunday 3rd of March  
10am to 11am



Cost is a gold coin donation



\* Empowering children with Autism and their families through knowledge and support \*

Where: AASS House 88 Memorial Ave, Liverpool 2170  
RSVP: Call 0410 03304 (Tina Tran) OR email autismart@hotmail.com

Kindly sponsored by



## Mixing it up in Blue Class

Welcome to 2013 and Blue Class. This year we have three girls and five boys in Blue Class. We will be combining with Green and White classes for some of our programs. These are going to be very exciting with the students learning, among other things, Science, Spanish, Geography, History, Food Technology and Visual Arts.

In cooking, the class had a vote and decided on making pizzas using English muffins. Toppings include ham, pineapple and capsicum. The students are making chocolate milkshakes to enjoy with their pizzas.

For Term 1, we have started bowling for our sport, with a terrific effort being put in. All the students have achieved at least one strike. The students are enjoying themselves, as the photos show.

Birthday wishes go to Brooke who had her birthday during the Christmas break.

*Olena and Mandy*



## Great Start in White Class

White Class has had a great start to 2013. With the change of class and room there have been a few adjustments and we have settled into our routine well. We are working on a program which includes a range of work skills as well as academic activities. We are enjoying bowling at Campbelltown Bowling Alley and are achieving some good scores.

Each student is working to achieve his individual goals. And we all work to make the classroom a happy and productive environment.

Our Tuesday 'canteen' program keeps us busy with preparing the bags, buying the goods, cooking and packaging the items for sale and then sorting the money. We have been pleased to see more students are accessing the canteen.



*Alison, Michele and Rami*



## Big Birthdays in Green Class

Welcome back everyone. Congratulations to our School Captains for 2013 - Jessica and Daniel and our Vice Captains—Hala and Ethan. This term we have a number of birthdays—Happy Birthday to Ethan who turned 18 on January 4, Daniel who was 18 on January 6 and Jeremy who is 18 on the March 3.

For Sport this term, we are going swimming each Tuesday. We are having fun playing water games, racing each other and relaxing in the water.

Out of school work experience will be starting shortly for most students in Green Class and everyone is involved with in-school work experience. Each week we join Blue Class to help around the school by collecting the recycling from each room, cleaning tables and seats in the playgrounds and supplying classes with tissues, gloves, wipes, soap and detergent. Students are awarded points according to how well they work. If full marks are achieved, a prize may be chosen from the lucky dip. So far this term, nearly every student has earned a prize.

We have had fun on our Community Access outings so far this term. We are looking forward to our visit to Madame Tussaud's next week and our trip to the Easter Show in Week 9.

*Alison and Julie*

## Silver Students working hard

Welcome to all our new Kindergarten students, Lincon, Shahrim, Tamzid and Harry. They have really settled into Silver Class with the help of their Year 1 classmates Mayss and Vito setting a great example. Silver Class has got stuck into work as they practice writing, spelling and saying their names and learning about their identity. They have been learning new signs and practicing the letter 'a' sound. Silver Class has been cooking some great breakfast meals so far this term. They have cereal, flavoured milk drinks, toast and muffins. All the students are enjoying themselves at gym this term. Mayss is showing great leadership for her peers and enjoys dancing and jumping. Vito also likes to dance and climb the ladder. Harry and Shahrim like throwing the balls into the buckets and Lincon has fun jumping and balancing.

*Sarah and Sonia ☺*



## Pink Class Party Party Party

It was wonderful that students returned to school ready to get straight back to work and routine. Along with working hard, Pink Class students have enjoyed celebrating, playing and having fun. We have already celebrated two birthdays this term, Claire's and Jesse's, and will celebrate Daniel's birthday in March. Students enjoyed making jelly for Jesse's pirate party and icing and decorating biscuits for Claire's party. It was lovely to have our Silver Class friends join us for Claire's and Jesse's parties.

Our sessions at Lollipops Playland are proving to be very enjoyable and they provide plenty of exercise, as students constantly climb, slide, jump, run and play. As well as exercising, students are developing trust and becoming more adventurous and confident.



*Cheryl and Rob*



### Would \$500 assist you with education costs?

You could receive up to \$500 to help pay for educational costs including:

- school uniforms
- text books
- excursions
- laptops
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs!



The Benevolent Society delivers Saver Plus in your local area and is looking for new participants.



To be eligible you must:

- have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and
- have a child at school, or study yourself.



To find out more contact Liz Tinney,  
Saver Plus Worker at The Benevolent Society  
4633 3722 / 0407 310 205 or  
[liz.tinney@benevolent.org.au](mailto:liz.tinney@benevolent.org.au)

Saver Plus is a matched savings and financial education program, developed by Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, and delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, with ANZ providing matched savings for participants.

## Red Readers

Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a great summer break. Red class students have settled back into school routine beautifully. They readily complete their academic tasks in anticipation of choosing their preferred activity. We are loving singing alphabet and number songs, especially with train clips. In literacy, reading from Boardmaker adapted PM readers and Proloquo2go versions of these books is popular with the students. In the 'reading eggs' program students are matching sounds of letters with increased confidence and sense of achievement.

For sport, we are going to Lollipops Playland to work on our gross motor skills. On Thursdays, we have an hour of fun climbing, sliding, swinging, jumping and spinning. Bounce castles, ride on cars and the trio slide are our favourites.

Thanks to the parents who could make it to the Parent/teacher night.

We begin our shopping and cooking program in week 6.

Wishing our students, another great year at school!



Sukhraj, Sharon & Rachel

## Yellow Class Shop and Learn

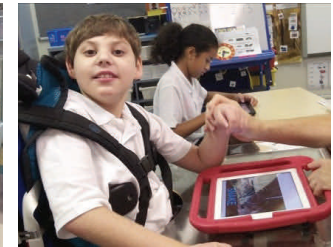
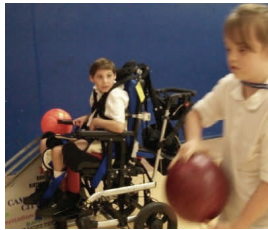
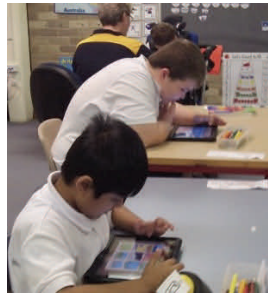
Yellow Class has developed into a cohesive, motivated group of students keen to learn not just in the classroom but through the many out of class activities provided.

They are emerging into an enthusiastic bowling team and are enjoying their shopping trips each week to local shops to buy a wide variety of healthy fruits to make their fruit salads.

Each student's ability to make personal choices has developed as they request and purchase small items from the Sarah Redfern PS canteen and through this experience, we have seen their confidence, money skills and communication skills grow.

Ronnan had a birthday earlier this year so we celebrated it together in our first week of school this year.

Cheryl and Narelle



## HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus?

It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – *have you?*

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive \$410 a year for each primary student and \$820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don't have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children's education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

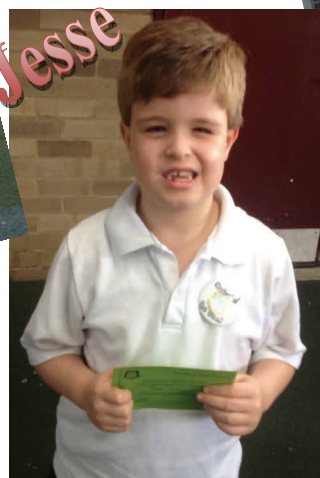
Check your eligibility by visiting [australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus](http://australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus) and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by



# Congratulations to our students of the week



Sarah



Jesse



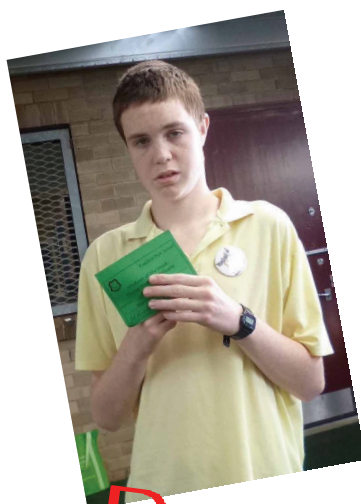
Daniel



Cassandra



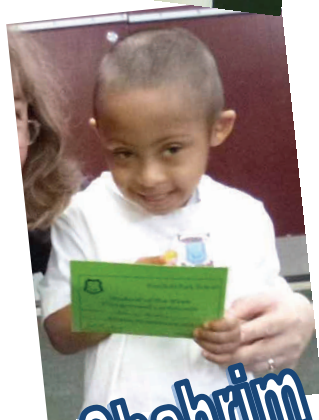
Brooke



Ben



Andrew



Shahrim



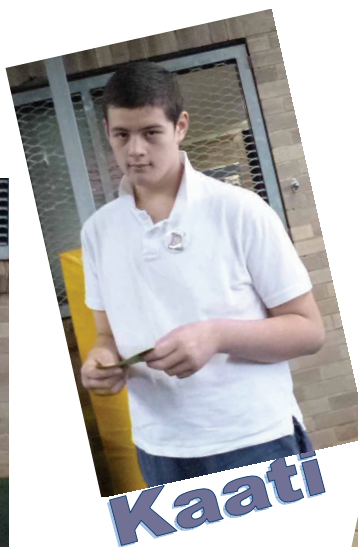
Addison



Jackson



Raya



Kaati



Jayden

Jackson