**Principal’s Message**

Dear parents and caregivers

It has been another busy week at Fairfield West Public School.

P&C

The P&C wrote a letter outlining their concerns regarding safety and litter running along the back of the school. I presented this letter to Minister Bowen. We then met with Mayor Frank Carbone to go through issues in the pursuit of a suitable resolution. Frank Carbone is working through appropriate solutions and will get back to me on proposals.

Zone Swimming

Our Fairfield West representatives did us proud! Great work swimming team. Thanks to Mr Ottmann for his organisation and the team of teachers who assisted on the day. Read more about the triumphs overseas.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day on 21 March is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. Students will be participating in Harmony Day activities, where they can recognise and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

Good number sense

Maths is a numbers game but for some students - and parents - the figures don’t add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.


Reading with your child at home

When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.


Removing head lice and nits

Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they’re not dangerous. Here’s everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.


Enjoy your weekend!

Genelle Goldfinch

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**Horsley Zone Swimming Carnival**

On Tuesday 5 March FWPS took 17 students to Prairiewood Leisure Centre to compete in the Horsley Zone Swimming Carnival. Despite only taking a small team to the carnival our students performed exceptionally well on the day, leading to our school finishing 5th overall out of 16 schools. Our students swam very well individually and as a team. Joshua Della-Vedova (2nd 11 years 50m Freestyle, 2nd 11 years Backstroke, 2nd 11 years Butterfly), Brayden Ottmann (2nd 10 years Freestyle, 2nd Junior Backstroke, 1st Junior Relay), Ryan Mao (1st Junior Relay), Lloyd Herwig (1st Junior Relay) and Jaiden Li (1st Junior Relay) have all made the Horsley Zone Swimming team that will compete at the Sydney South West Carnival on Tuesday 19 March. This will be held at the Gordon Fetterplace Aquatic Centre, Bradbury.

Other notable performances on the day included Bonita Herwig finishing just out of the placings in the 11 years 50m Freestyle, Ryan Mao finishing 4th in the Junior Boys Butterfly and 5th in the 10 years 50m Freestyle, Prasana Harrison finishing 5th in the 11 years Girls Backstroke, Jaiden Li finishing 5th in the Junior Boys Backstroke, Joshua finishing 5th in the 11 years Boys Breaststroke and Open All Age 100m Freestyle and Brayden finishing 5th in the Junior Boys Butterfly. The Senior Girls Relay team narrowly missed a place at the SSW Carnival finishing 4th.

Big thanks go to Mr Booth, Ms Macri and Ms Amiri who helped transport the students on the day and who performed their duties at the carnival in a very efficient manner. Also, thanks go to the parents and relatives of the students who turned up and supported the students on the day.

We will keep you updated on how the students go at the Sydney South West carnival in just under two weeks’ time.

Mr D Ottmann

Sport Coordinator

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**WORLD EDUCATION GAMES**

5/6P competed in the global competition 'World Education Games' on the 5 - 6 March. This annual competition aims to get all students excited about learning, and gives the top students in each school the opportunity to see how they measure up against the best around the world. The students in 5/6P competed in both the spelling & mathematics competitions. They were very excited to be participating in this worldwide event. The students in 5/6P were extremely engaged and motivated by the fact that they were competing with students all around the world. It was a great chance for them to utilise their spelling, mathematical and ICT skills. 5/6P thoroughly enjoyed this event and hope to compete next year!

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**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS**

At this time each year we seek voluntary school contributions to enhance Fairfield West Public School's educational resources such as: work sheets; use of the library; iPads; computers; printers across the school and sporting programs, to mention just a few things.

These school contributions are voluntary and payment is a matter for decision by you as parents. Contributions help provide additional educational resources for the benefit of your child.

There has been a slight increase in fees this year, the first in twelve years. Due to the rising costs of resources used daily; it is $40 for one student, $60 for two students and $70 for three or more students. We have provided an envelope for your convenience which then can be returned to the front office.

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**UNIVERSITY OF NSW COMPETITIONS 2013**

Once again our school will be taking part in the University of NSW Mathematics and English Competitions. This year however, we will also be participating in the Computer Skills Competition. Students wishing to participate in the competition need to return their application form and money ($8.80 per test) no later than 5 April to the office. Application forms and money WILL NOT be accepted after this date. Please go to the office for extra forms.

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**SPORT**

Summer PSSA sport teams will be playing at Avery Park. Tennis will play at Brenan Park and Swimming at Fairfield Leisure Centre.

Lunch will be from 11.00am to 11.40am and recess from 1.40pm to 2.00pm.

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**FAIRNESS IS OUR VALUE OF THE MONTH**

Students demonstrate fairness by being fair to themselves and their friends at school, home and in the community.

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**FWPS PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION**

Capture an interesting image of a machine, print it out and give it to Ms Ingram. You could win a digital camera! Entries close end of term 1.

Ms Ingram