**Principal’s Message**

Another great week at Fairfield West PS. The school has been buzzing with activity to get things in place for a productive year. Students are now in their permanent classes and have settled in beautifully.

I have meet with the P&C president Mrs Fiona Zuber and we are organising an afternoon tea on Wednesday March 7 at 2:15pm in the staff room. We would like to extend a warm invitation to all parents. We will be giving more details closer to the time.

Research shows that when parents are involved at their child’s school that the child feels more positively about their learning environment. Today we sent home some details about your child’s learning and have invited you to participate in the classroom, assisting with activities. Please seriously consider this invitation.

We are also currently in the process of organising some parent workshops. I will be sending a survey out next week, to see what type of workshops you would like us to facilitate during 2012.

Good luck to all the students competing in the swimming carnival next week and I would also like to thank Mr Ottmann for his organisation of this event.

Thank you also to those families who have sent in their voluntary contributions to the school already.

I look forward to meeting more parents at the school barbeque on 22 February.

*Genelle Goldfinch*

Principal (Rel)

**IPAD Technology**

Integrating Technology into classrooms

This year we are lucky that most classes have an Interactive Whiteboard. Last year we trialled an iPad project which saw 8 classes involved in using iPads as part of their learning. The response was positive and this year we now have two sets of iPads and will be integrating iPad use across the school so that everyone can be involved! iPads are the latest technology to have captured the technology realm and also that of educators. Only being introduced since April 2010, there is already a lot of research and trials being conducted on iPads as a learning tool.

Students have been learning using iPads in a number of ways from recalling and completing maths concepts to creating digital stories to share. Some students are using the iPad to make music and others are learning about phonics and grammar. All this and still having fun, utilising this engaging, interactive tool!

**Dates for your Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Swimming carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Feb</td>
<td>‘Meet the parent’ information night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Feb</td>
<td>Induction Assembly</td>
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**Care is Our Value of the Month**

Students demonstrate care by showing concern for the wellbeing of yourself and others, demonstrating empathy and acting with compassion.
Beat the heat

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Remind your child to protect themselves from sun and heat exposure while at school by:

- reducing their exposure to the sun, wherever possible
- wearing broad-brimmed hats in the playground to protect the face, neck and ears
- playing in shaded areas, particularly during peak times of UV levels
- drinking plenty of water
- using 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.

Catholic Scripture

Confirmation 2012

Enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be accepted at the 6.00pm Saturday, and the Sunday Masses in Smithfield Parish on the weekends of 3rd and 4th March and 10th, 11th March 2012. Enrolment forms are available from the Scripture Teachers or in the Parish Churches, or phone Halina or Maureen on 9725 4317.

Contact details

Fairfield West Public School
Palmerston Road
Fairfield West NSW 2165

Phone: 9604 5568
Fax: 9725 5379
Email: fairfieldw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Webpage: www.fairfieldw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Selective High Schools Placement Test – 15 March

The selective high schools test is held annually for Year 6 students wishing to enter a selective government high school. For key dates, online applications and more information for parents, see www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Australians throw away 3.3 million tonnes of food every year – up to a quarter of the country’s food supplies - mainly because we purchase too much. Consider planning your meals and only buy what you need. Reduce packaging in your child’s lunchbox and use re-usable containers rather than plastic wrap where possible.

Sport

Summer PSSA sport teams will be selected this Friday. Competition begins next week. Lunch will be from 11.00am to 11.40am and recess from 1.40pm to 2.00pm.

Black markers and black textas are banned.
We have had graffiti on school walls. Do not allow your child to bring black markers to school.

Update your details

Have you moved, got a new email address or changed phone numbers? Please inform the front office with any changes in your living situation so we can contact you if the need arises.

Child’s name: ___________________________ class: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ Home phone number: ___________________________
Mother’s name: ___________________________ Mobile number: ___________________________ Work number: ___________________________
Father’s name: ___________________________ Mobile number: ___________________________ Work number: ___________________________
Emergency contact (other than parent): 1) Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Mobile number: ___________________________ Relationship to family (eg. Aunt, Uncle, Friend etc): ___________________________
Emergency contact (other than parent): 2) Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Mobile number: ___________________________ Relationship to family (eg. Aunt, Uncle, Friend etc): ___________________________