From the Relieving Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a busy fortnight we have had at Casula Public School. Counting down three weeks until the holidays.

Farewell Claire Smith
Last Friday, we farewelled Claire Smith who has retired from teaching. Claire has had a long career, serving 38 years in public education, 26 of these years at Casula Public School. Claire held an Assistant Principal role at the school and often worked closely with the younger students and students learning English.

Sadly last year, Claire developed breast cancer and decided to continue working through her treatment. She will have an operation very soon and has chosen to retire at this time to help her with recovery. She has been very brave throughout her journey and always thought about the school, often taking on extra jobs that she did from home. The staff at Casula put on a breakfast feast and presented Claire with beautiful flowers and a gift on her last day.

Claire wanted the school community to know about her cancer battle and she knows that we are all thinking of her through this difficult time. She will visit again in August and we will hold a farewell assembly for her. We will miss you!

There are many people in our school community fighting cancer. It is a terrible disease that claims so many lives. To raise awareness and fundraise money for cancer research, our school will be participating in “Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea” on Tuesday 23rd June. We ask that ALL students and staff come to school wearing YELLOW and bring a GOLD COIN donation.
The school disco was a great success. Over 400 students attended and had a wonderful time. We raised significant funds for the Year 6 Farewell. Thank you to Mrs Weston and the Year 6 team for all of their hard work and I would especially like to thank all the teachers that stayed after school to supervise.

Parent Forum
This Friday we are inviting all parents of students in Years 1 and 2 to attend an information session about L3 (Language Learning Literacy). Miss Le will be presenting and she will outline the program, including the support parents can offer their children at home.

P&C
I would like to formally thank the P&C for their support over the past 3 months. They have raised money to fund 20 iPads, sports equipment for lunchtimes and Soccer jerseys for PSSA. This all helps and we really appreciate it. It is never too late to join our P&C. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 9.15am in the community room. It is important that you as a parent of students in our school can make decisions that impact you directly.

Advanced Life
Photos from Advanced Life should be arriving shortly at the school. I apologise for the delay in delivery. Next year we will be using “The School Photographer”. We have booked this company for March 2016.

NAIDOC DAY
A note will be sent home this week regarding our NAIDOC Day celebrations. We will celebrate this special occasion on Wednesday 17th June with an assembly, an Aboriginal performer and activities. Families will not have to pay for the performer this year. The school will be covering the cost. I would like all staff and students to wear red, black and yellow, the colours of the Aboriginal Flag. The theme for this year’s celebration is ‘We all stand on sacred ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate’.
Athletics Carnival
Our annual Athletics Carnival for K-2 was held last Thursday at school. Thank you to Dance Fever for providing the equipment for the activities. What a fun day we had!

Our annual Athletics Carnival for 3-6 was held last Thursday at Campbelltown stadium. The carnival was a huge success. Thank you to Mr King for his organisation.
Brandon Kent
Next term we will be welcoming a new staff member to Casula. Brandon Kent has been appointed to our school to replace Vicky Valensise, who was successful at gaining an Assistant Principal position at Chipping Norton Public School. Brandon will have a support teacher role in the school, working with students who require extra support and to free up some teachers to support beginning teachers across the school.

PRE-KINDER – A Jump Start
This year we are offering a new program at the school for students beginning Kindergarten in 2016. One day a week for 90 minutes our pre Kindies will come to school and engage in learning activities. Invitations will be sent out this week and we urge you to fill out the return slip and hand it in at the office. Mrs Jolly will be the leader of this project.

Congratulations to the following students who have represented our school at a Zone level:

Boys Basketball          Rory Southwell (5-6D) and Sandil Kuruppu (5-6D)
U11s Rugby League        Cameron Banovich (5W) and Mahmoud Alameddine (6R)
Opens Rugby League       Andrew Phillips (6W)
Girls Softball           Britney Phillips (4/5C)
Boys Softball            Jacob Christie (6W) and Nathan Jennings (6R)
AFL                      Andrew Phillips (6W) and Nathan Jennings (6R)
Boys Soccer              Majed El-Saje (6W)
Regional Swimming team   Marina Jovanovic, Evan Boyle, Natalia Jovanovic, Yenny Sun, Jerry Sun
Regional Cross Country team Natalia Jovanovic, Chris Kasovski, James Kasovski

Professor Maths
CPS students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed their visit from Professor Maths this week! Students explored a range of mathematical games and challenges in groups, and had a lot of fun trying to solve them. Groups who completed a "Super Challenge" got to wear a professor wig and glasses!

Ramadan
The holy month of Ramadan is approaching. Each year, Muslims spend the ninth month of the Islamic calendar observing a community-wide fast. Muslims who are physically able are required to fast each day of the entire month, from sunrise to sunset. The evenings are spent enjoying family and community meals, engaging in prayer and spiritual reflection. The purpose of this holy month is much more than abstaining from food and drink; it is a source of purification for the soul, heart, mind and body. Ramadan serves as a tool for Muslims to practice on increasing their patience and self-control. It is also a humbling reminder of those who are living in hunger and poverty on a daily basis, and allows for one to truly count their blessings. Muslims who have the means are required to give an obligatory charity to the poor during Ramadan; the purpose of this charity is to provide food for those who are in need. Ramadan ends with “Eid al-Fitr,” meaning “the celebration of breaking fast.”

During this holiday Muslims will attend the Eid prayer in the morning then spend the rest of their day with family and friends in celebration, exchanging gifts and enjoying food and drink.

Casula Public School would like to wish all Muslim students and their families a wonderful and rewarding month. If your child is fasting, please let your child’s teacher know.

Have a great fortnight,

Mrs Diamond
On Tuesday 26 May, 48 of our students went to Chipping Norton to represent our school at the Liverpool Zone Cross Country Carnival. All of the students were very well behaved and received compliments from other teachers about doing the right thing. All students put in their best effort and we were especially proud of the following students who achieved outstanding results:

8/9 Boys James Kasovski 2nd and Chris Kasovski 4th
10 Girls Jade Mellish 3rd and Natalia Jovanovic 5th
10 Boys Tarik Mesa 3rd
11 Girls Tianna Harkins 7th
12/13 Girls Marina Jovanovic 1st and Yenny Sun 6th

The above students will now go on to represent the Liverpool Zone at the Regional Cross Country at Hurlstone Agricultural High School on 11 June 2015. We congratulate them and wish them all the best at the next level of competition.
We love learning in KC...

We love learning about the authors of our favourite books at the library.

We love working with our friends in TEN time!

We love writing all the words and numbers we know...

We love working in the garden with KE.

We love trying our best and learning new things.

We love using different activities to learn.
**Wizz it up!**

**WHAT IS WIZZ IT UP?**
On Monday the 25th of May, 4 teams of 6 students from our school went to Thomas Reddall High School to compete against 7 other schools in a competition called Wizz It Up. Wizz it Up is a competition with quizzes that test your general knowledge and creative ability in four sessions.

**What Happened There?**
We were there all day and after 4 tiring and puzzling sessions we sat anxiously waiting for the results in our groups only to find out that we would all be returning to school with big prizes.

By: Nisha, Kayla, Elaine, Karina... oh and Mr Davis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placing</th>
<th>Section/Team Placing</th>
<th>Year 5 Girls</th>
<th>Year 5 Boys</th>
<th>Year 6 Girls</th>
<th>Year 6 Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It was the first day of Winter and the wind was howling like a wolf. As the children sat under the bare trees, they were wearing their warm gloves and watching the leaves dancing around them. The bell rang loudly and the children scattered in every direction like ants. They entered their classroom and Alexia, a girl who had everything, walked into the classroom with the most beautiful shoes.

By Hanan

3/4L have been writing imaginary texts. The stories have been set at school during Winter. Here are some of our interesting and unique story starters......

As the children sat on the silver seats they wore gloves on their hands. All of the trees were naked without their orange leaves. Near all of the trees was a haunted tree and a brown tree. The children were scared. All of the children were scared. The sky was grey and it was going to rain but the bell rang so loudly.

By Ethan

It was the very first Winter day when the children gathered together with their gloves on because their fingers were frozen. But they played on the spider web anyway. The wind was making the leaves dance crazily. When the bell rang, the children ran to different classes. While the class was busy learning, Marco arrived in a shiny blue helicopter.

By Marco
PSSA RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2 – Round 3</th>
<th>FINAL SCORE</th>
<th>PLAYER OF THE MATCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GIRLS SOCCER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNIOR A GAME 1</td>
<td>Vs Hammondville</td>
<td>0-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNIOR B GAME 2</td>
<td>Vs Hammondville</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR GAME 1</td>
<td>Vs Hammondville</td>
<td>0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NETBALL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNIOR GAME 1</td>
<td>Vs Liverpool West</td>
<td>Loss 9-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR GAME 1</td>
<td>Vs Liverpool West</td>
<td>Win 12-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RUGBY LEAGUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNIOR GAME</td>
<td>Vs Prestons</td>
<td>Loss 28-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR GAME</td>
<td>Vs Prestons</td>
<td>Win 40-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library Corner

Book Fair will be arriving at our school in Week 3, Term 3. We will have two companies, Scholastic and Carnival providing our school community with great books to purchase. Students will be given an opportunity to view the books and write up a wish list before the book fair. More details will be provided regarding this event over the coming weeks. Commission made from the Book Fair will go towards purchasing more iPad's for our students to use in the Library for researching and learning ICT skills.

A reminder that payments for our Year 6 library excursion to see the performance of The 26 Storey Treehouse need to be completed before the end of this term.

Congratulations to those students who have already completed or have just about completed Premiers Reading Challenge 2015. The challenge will close in August so there is still plenty of time for all grades to READ, READ, READ!!! K-2 need to read 30 books with the green dot, 3-4 read orange dot, 5-6 read with a red dot. Mrs Pucovski will be reminding and encouraging all students to borrow books for the challenge when the classes visit the library for their lessons.

Happy Reading Everyone!!!

Mrs Pucovski
Could try harder... always does her best... lacks concentration... easily distracted... a pleasure to teach... Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?

Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?

Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc., with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

- Focus on strengths. Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.
- Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.
- Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.
- Take note of student self-assessment. Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.
- Discuss the report with your son or daughter. Talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.
### Did you know?

**EVERY DAY COUNTS...**

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When your child misses just...</th>
<th>that equals...</th>
<th>which is...</th>
<th>and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...</th>
<th>This means that the best your child can achieve is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day each fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 ½ years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day a week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 ½ years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days a week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days a week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Give your child every chance to succeed...**

**Every day counts!**

---

### Families Together

**HELP.........**

**My Child is Anxious**

Presented by Megan Taylor

Megan is a clinical Psychologist with over twenty years experience working with adolescents, young adults and their families. This program aims to inform parents about the nature of anxiety and help parents and their children with the anxiety associated with it.

This session is suitable for parents with children up to age of 12 years and is open to parents of any age. The session is fully paid for and includes a snack and a light meal at the end of the workshop.

**Bookings are essential and places are limited.**

Please call 0407 776 626 to book your place.

**Families Together is for mothers, fathers, grandparents and caregivers of children aged 0-12.**

**Children’s current teachers, friends, family members and other professionals will also be welcome.**

**DATE:** Thursday 30th July 2015

**TIME:** 6:30 – 9:00pm

**PLACE:** Studio Room

St John’s Park Bowling Club

31 Edensor Rd

St John’s Park

**No cost!**

---

### Total Smiles Dental Practice

**Preventative and cosmetic family dentistry in a gentle and comfortable environment.**

**ALL DENTAL SERVICES**

- Oral hygiene
- Periodontal treatments
- Restorations
- Root canal therapy
- Extractions
- Crowns, bridges and veneers
- Dental Implants
- Dentures/Implant Dentures
- Mouthguards/Splints
- Orthodontics
- TMJ treatments
- Snoring devices

**NEW PATIENTS AND EMERGENCIES WELCOME**

No Gap preventative treatment for children in a health fund

S4 Hoxton Park Rd Liverpool

PH 98222835

www.totalsmilesentalpractice.com.au

Email: totalsmilesdentaltpractice@gmail.com

---

Casula Public School Newsletter

Week 8, Term 2
Stepping Out School of Dance

Unit 9/45-47 Whyalla Pl,
Prestons NSW 2170

www.steppingoutdance.com
email: rain.drops@bigpond.com

Christine PH: 96057472
Mobile 0409548396

Jazz Hip Hop Tap Ballet Irish Drama Singing
Acrobatics/Tumbling