Welcome back to Term 4: I can’t believe we are here already!

Parkhill Turns 20!
Term 4 2015 marks the 20th year of Parkhill Primary School. It was during this term that 3 schools: Jordanville, Ashwood and Alamein Primary Schools amalgamated onto our current site. To celebrate this milestone, we are planning an assembly on the afternoon of Friday 6 November in the Hall. All parents are invited to this celebration to hear a little of our wonderful history from special guest speakers who played a significant role in establishing our school way back in 1995! More details will follow closer to the time.

Welcome to our new students:
Welcome back to Hannah (4D) and Alex (1M) Zigmann – great to have you back at Parkhill!
Melika Bol Bol 3H
Angela Wang 1B
Aston Wilson PR and Cameron Reeve 5S
Ben Maltezos 2M
Alex Coppin 4D
We look forward to getting to know you all and benefitting from the great things you will bring to Parkhill.

Staffing and Grade Structures for 2016:
Throughout November and early December we will be working on our class structures and student combinations for next year. Changes in student numbers and staffing combinations usually cause us to reshape our proposed class structures several times throughout this term. At this stage we are planning to have 15 classes next year for what is expected to be approximately 345 children. We will be adding an additional Year 5 class to ensure that all classes will be straight classes in 2016.

Due to this, it is vital that we are made aware of any circumstances that may impact on our enrolment numbers. Please let us know urgently if you intend to enrol a child at our school, if you are aware of people in our community who will be enrolling or if your family living situation will change in 2016. We desperately require this information as soon as possible in order to establish grade structures for the start of the new school year. If you will not be at Parkhill in 2016 please notify the school office in writing as soon as possible. Thankyou.
2016 Grade Placements:
We are currently working out a class structure that provides the best learning opportunities for all of our students.

What criteria do we use to make up class lists?
Factors influencing class structures are:
- the educational needs of the students,
- the projected number of students in each year level,
- the ratio of girls to boys,
- the number of teachers employed at the school; and resources and facilities.

Factors which are considered in the placement of students include:
- academic performance – judgments over time
- work habits eg ability to work independently
- behaviour
- gender
- social network /friendships
- social maturity
- special needs eg twins, siblings.

What is the process for placing students into classes?
Based on the criteria listed above, teaching and other staff meet Mid-Term 4 to establish classes for the following school year.
Teachers ensure each new class has:
- a balance of academic ability
- gender balance
- socially balanced groups

During this process, changes and adjustments are made over several weeks. Each change may trigger a chain reaction of other changes.

Proposed class lists are submitted to the Principal and Assistant Principal for final ratification. Once balanced classes are formed, the teachers are allocated to the class we feel will offer the “best fit” with a particular group of students.
Students will have the opportunity to meet their 2016 teacher and new classmates during our Transition Day on Tuesday 8 December.

With this in mind, parents are now invited to write to me about any additional information that will help us in determining a placement for your child.

Please note, letters need to focus on the educational needs of their child and not on specific teachers. Requests in relation to the choice of a particular teacher cannot be considered as a placement factor.

Letters will be considered up until Friday 6 November. Letters received after this date cannot be accepted unless in exceptional circumstances. Please address these letters directly to myself with all details and information provided kept in confidence.
2016 Prep Transition Days for Term 4:
We look forward to seeing our new Prep students on the following days throughout Term 4 from 9.15am to 10.15am:
- Wednesday 4 November
- Wednesday 11 November
- Wednesday 18 November
- Wednesday 25 November
- Tuesday 8 December (finish at 10.45am)

Student Achievement:
Three ex Parkhill boys, Fionn Barritt, Jack Stewart and Joseph Pagliaro (brother of Ruby 4D) had great sporting success over the holidays, winning the Under 15 Australian Lacrosse Championship as part of the Victorian "Southern Crosse" team. All three boys started their lacrosse careers as part of Physical Education at Parkhill in Grade 5/6.

Any boys or girls interested in trying lacrosse can get in touch with Amanda Pagliaro (9808 5955) or email juniors@clclax.org.au for more information.

In wishing you all a wonderful Term 4, I look forward to you joining us for all the wonderful school activities we have planned. Keep an eye on the Newsletter and in your child’s school bag for the endless stream of notices and also on our very useful Tiqbiz App reminders for details of upcoming events. Have a great term!

Bye for now
Rod McKinlay

Model Solar Challenge this weekend!

We’ve finally made it - the solar challenge is this weekend. Our two teams and cars are ready to race on the big track. The teams have put in such a big effort to get these cars up to race standard and will no doubt do their best in the races.

Please join with me in wishing

PH Apollo - Marvin, Jack, Connor and Marcus; and
Spocket - Oliver, Iverson, Martin and Mitchell,
the very best of luck for the weekend. Cheer us on!

Michelle Smith
Solar Challenge coordinator
2015 Calendar of Curriculum events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 10 &amp; Sunday 11 October</td>
<td>Solar Challenge Good Luck teams!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13 October</td>
<td>Parkhill Athletics Carnival—Bill Sewart Reserve Prep—Grade 2 10.00am—12.30pm Grade 3—6 9.00am—3.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13 October</td>
<td>Active After School Sport Commences it’s 5 week program. Selected students will have received notification. <strong>Tuesdays</strong> Grade 1 &amp; 2 from 3.45—4.45. <strong>Thursdays</strong> Grades 3—4 from 3.45—4.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 19 October</td>
<td>Super-a-thon Forms due back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 October</td>
<td>Whole school Science Day @ Parkhill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 23 October</td>
<td>Whole School Super-Athon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 23 October</td>
<td>Grade 2 Sleepover @ Parkhill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28 October</td>
<td>Prep fire Ed Session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 October</td>
<td>Grade 3 &amp; 4 Camp @ The Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 2 November</td>
<td>Curriculum day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3 November</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4 November</td>
<td>1st Transition Session for 2016 Preps</td>
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</tbody>
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Birthdays October

- John V
- Alannah E
- Sophia A
- Noah A
- Tayah M
- Jennon M
- Matari H
- Emerson W
- William K
- Beau V
- Levi S
- Oliver H
- Chloe O
- Jai P
- Noah C
- Olivia H
- Ian M
- Eli M
- Will C
- Emilia C
- Benyamin M
- Steven D
- Ravyn D
- Haroon A
- Connor W

Administration Information

Mazz Higlett & Jo Ravida

Tiqbiz Pass—**NEW NEW SYSTEM!!**

We have a new sign in system (again!) at Parkhill for all of our students, volunteers and visitors.

It is now easier to allocate a number to each volunteer and once registered this is the only thing required for you to sign in and out when visiting or volunteering. Please remember your Working With Children Check **must be carried** with you at all times.

Science

Science in Term 4 is all about chemistry and robotics but more importantly Parkhill Primary School will be celebrating Science Day!

Wednesday 21st October will be dedicated to all things Science. Students will rotate through a range of fun, exciting and engaging science activities and experiments. The day will culminate in a visit from Prof Bunsen! It should be a great day, I know I’m looking forward to it!

Katrina Watson – Science Teacher

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**THE NAME’S BOND,**

**HYDROGEN BOND**
WALKATHON: The walkathon is coming up this term. This event is the key fundraiser of the year and has been running since 2009. The students enjoy doing laps of the school, getting sponsorships and participating in the event. Fruit is shared around afterwards with tea and coffee available for parents. There is a fantastic community spirit and we invite parents to attend while the teachers supervise the course. There is a class party for the class that raises the most and individuals who raise the most in sponsorships also win a fantastic prize.

This year it will be held on Friday 23 October and the theme is Super Hero. Each child is encouraged to dress up as a super-hero (either as their favourite or create their own) for the sponsored walk. Monies raised will go towards new furniture for the LOTE room. Please see the attached flyer.

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN: Thank you to everyone who collected stickers. Our sheets were sent in during the holidays. We collected approx 32,300 stickers which is a fantastic effort. Early next term we should be able to go shopping and get some great new sport equipment for the whole school.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: The PFA will be running a raffle this year and we are seeking donations of brand new items to be included in the prizes. If you are able to donate an item please contact one of the PFA members.

FUN, FOOD & CAROLS: Thursday 3 December. This will be another fantastic night to celebrate the end of a great year with school families. We will be looking for expressions of interest for stall holders in the next few weeks so if you are interested keep an eye out for more information.

HELP WANTED: We will need some help on the day of the Super-a-thon to cut up oranges. If you are able to help on the day please contact Joanne D.
PARKHILL SUPER-A-THON

Dress up as your favorite Super Hero
or create your own and join in the fun!

Friday 23rd October
2PM!

Get lots of sponsors and walk
as many laps as you can

Fantastic party for the class that raises the
most as well as great prizes for the top
money earners in the school!

Funds raised will go towards
new furniture for the
Lote Room