Dear Parents,

Dr Geoff Lee, MP for Parramatta attended our official opening of the new playground last Monday, 26 May. Congratulations to Warren and Olivia who showed great leadership as our school captains in acknowledging the relationship between our parent community and the staff and students of EWPS. The morning was well represented by parents, demonstrating this relationship. Geoff enjoyed giving the playground a test drive and talking with the 3-6 students about governance.

School photos were taken last Tuesday, and a big thank you to all of the parents who ensured the full school uniform was worn. We endeavoured to have all children wearing consistent uniform for the photos, which was made possible by the uniform shop opening on Monday and Tuesday. Thank you to Kelly Parker who took on this responsibility and to parents who assisted in the uniform shop.

May I remind parents that black shoes are to be worn on Monday-Thursday for K-2 students and on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday for 3-6 students. This includes black shoelaces. Sport shoes may be worn on the other days. Some children are wearing black ‘skater’ style shoes to school. Whilst we appreciate your effort in following school uniform, please bear in mind these shoes are not recommended as school shoes as they have limited arch support.

Our Athletics Carnival was held yesterday at Barton Park. What a perfect day for a carnival! This certainly showcased the sporting ability of our students and I must congratulate all of our students for their participation, cooperation and enthusiasm. The support of the community was evident in the many parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents who attended, cheered children on and assisted with various jobs to ensure the day ran smoothly.

Thank you to Miss Pickrell, Mrs Simic and Miss Isaacs for their leadership and organisation of the day, and also to Mrs Farmer, who, although somewhat incapacitated, provided her experience with the planning and running of the carnival.
The canteen proved to be quite a hit, with snacks and drinks replenishing energy levels throughout the day. Thanks to all of the parents who assisted with organising and running this on the day. See Tyismika and Saja’s report on the day later in this newsletter.

Tomorrow will see both Junior and Senior dancers participate in a half-day workshop in order to polish off their dances for the Celebrating the Arts audition. Miss Haynes and Miss Elias have put in many hours behind the scenes, choreographing and costuming these dances: *Waka Waka* and *Let's Get Ridiculous*. I am sure the students involved appreciate their efforts. A special mention to Davina MacKenzie whose tireless sourcing of materials for the costumes has been a tremendous help.

We have posted Term Overviews on the school website. These overviews aim to give parents a snapshot of the learning programs across the school. You can access these by clicking on the ‘School Years’ tab and then selecting Term Overviews.

Shannan Judge
Principal

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### You Can Do It

**Free Iris the Dragon Resources**

Recently EWPS began implementing a whole-school student welfare program called ‘You Can Do It.’ (YCDI). This program aims to support communities, schools and homes to optimise the social, emotional and academic development of all young people by instilling in them with the five foundations of social and emotional capabilities — confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along and emotional resilience. As part of this we have been looking into various resources that can support and build upon the social and emotional well-being of our students as well as the YCDI program.

One great resource is Iris the Dragon - [http://www.iristhedragon.com/](http://www.iristhedragon.com/). Iris the Dragon is a registered charity that is a known producer of children’s books that facilitates conversations among parents, teachers and children about issues relating to mental health and wellness in a non-threatening manner. Their books include: *Catch a Falling Star*, *Lucky Horseshoes*, *Hole in One*, *I Can Fix It*, *He Shoots He Scores* and *Project: Kids Let’s Talk*. All of these books are available as free downloadable e-books from [http://www.iristhedragon.com/bookstore.html](http://www.iristhedragon.com/bookstore.html).

We encourage all families to have a look at these free resources and to use them at home according to which may best suit the needs of your child.

Simone Isaacs

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### School Leaders Report

This week Ermington West students K-6 learnt multiple new things from mathematics to self-esteem. The following quotes give a snap shot of the week:

“We learnt about the letter Z.”

...Owen L, KE

“Our class made pop-out fish in art.”

...Elliott C, 1/2D

“We looked at tallys and surveys and wrote sentences from the book *Big Rain Coming*.”

...Elena S, 1/2H

“We’ve been revising narratives and division.”

...Filip S, 3/4P

“We’re looking at division, partitioning and *The Lost Thing*.”

...Neda P & Maria H, 4/5S

“We learnt about the negative effects of labelling people and gave each other verbal compliments.”

...Simran K, 6I
MERIT CERTIFICATES

Merit Certificates are awarded to students each week by their teachers and presented at the weekly assembly. Congratulations to these recipients who recently attained the following awards:

**Merit Certificates:**
- KE: Giselle D, Benjamin V, Hunter S, Adam G.
- 1-2D: Hayden A, Kiana P, Elliott C, Kieren L.
- 1-2H: Tre C, Maria K, Sienna J, Hamish C.
- 2-3P: Matthew K, Lachlan C, Jemimah K, Emmanuel P.
- 4-5S: Tori S, Armaan K, Jasmine C, Neda P.
- 6I: Cora A, Charlotte E, Olivia V, Matthew J.

**Student of the Week:**
- Value: “Care”
  - Primary: Armaan K.
  - Infants: Gabriel O.
- Value: “Fairness”
  - Primary: Lachlan P.
  - Infants: Benjamin V.

**Bronze Striver:**

**Silver Striver:**

**Gold Striver:**
- Sarah R.

**Principal’s Banner:**
- Logan L, Maria K, Amelia H.

**Sport Awards:**

HIGHLIGHTING STUDENT WORK

Neda P has been very busy undertaking a rescue – not the sort you would imagine but a very different type of rescue. Read her story to find out what she did. What would you have done in her place?
Good morning.

Lunch said, Miss Carol.

Good morning. I mean, "good morning," Miss Carol.

Everyone, please clean your desk and put your things away. We're going to have room for everyone.

Today, you will be doing a test based on the chapter you've been working on. We will go over the answers in class.

Good morning. I mean, "good morning," Miss Carol.

School's over, you're out to go to school.
I sat down hungry while staring at the flowers.

Then I noticed a bumble bee lying down on the ground near the flowers.

I thought, "I should feed the bumble bee." I went to the garden shed and got a jar of honey. I fed the bumble bee with it.

Mrs. Capital, when I say "go" you start thinking, as I checked it in the bin.

"Ok, go!" I said. Everyone was concentrating on the test, except for me. I was working on the flowers. My mind wandered to the flowers.

I got out my lunch and walked outside. After finishing the test, I said to myself, "Good job!"

I got it in the tissue box. Bing-Bing!

I quickly ran upstairs and put the tissue box on the table.

I quickly ran downstairs and put the tissue box on the table. I was so hungry. I wanted to eat it all. But I had to take it home. I didn't want to leave it in the classroom.

The bell rang. For the end of school, quickly walked up to Miss Capital to show her the handmade box I had made to go home. She was happy.

and got it in the tissue box. Bing-Bing!

I quickly ran upstairs and put the tissue box on the table. I was so hungry. I wanted to eat it all. But I had to take it home. I didn't want to leave it in the classroom. And she was happy to see it. It was a great day!
THE END.

After happening, I sat up a while.

The sky was blue. The stars were shining. The leaves were rustling. I felt a calmness in the garden and knew it was time.

Then finally, the best movie started to screen.

I took off work on my bike and looked it down on the road side to ride around the corner.

What should I do? I thought while small critter, What should I do? What should I do? I decided to take a look at the bike and check it down on a bike stand.
Annual Athletics Carnival

It was a nice sunny day on Tuesday 3rd June, 2014 at Barton Park, Parramatta where Ermington West Public School held their annual Athletics Carnival.

As soon as we arrived there we sat in our house groups and then started the 800m races.

After that we started our rotations:

- Mrs Marshall on throwing games;
- Mrs Simic on 200m races;
- Miss Haynes on 100m races;
- Miss Dixon on skipping;
- Miss Nouragas on relay races;
- Miss Elias on ball games and
- Miss Isaacs wearing her designer gum boots on long-jump.

To finish off the day we ran the finals. After that we went back to school ready to go home.

Congratulations to all our winners!

…. by Tyimika L & Saja Z.

GRIP LEADERSHIP

On Thursday 22nd of May the Semester 1 and 2 SRC Members from years 4-6 went to a leadership course at Sydney Olympic Sport Centre.

At the Leadership course we learnt about the good qualities of a leader and how we can apply these qualities at our school.

We met other SRC representatives from different schools. We worked together with different representatives from different schools.

Freya, one of the hosts, showed us a video about a sport challenge and it also showed us the meaning of GRIP – Generosity, Responsibility, Integrity, People. The five hosts were leaders at their primary schools and they also told us what they experienced.

We enjoyed having a great time with everybody around us.

Written by SRC members and School Leaders