



Newsletter

From the Principal

It has been most pleasing to see how settled our students are this year, especially our Kindergarten students. I was watching them during our Flag Assembly this week and was most impressed by how well they adapted to a whole school event.

Meet the Teacher Night

We had fantastic attendance at our meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday. It was a great opportunity for our families to hear about the quality teaching and learning programs at our school, as well as grade and class expectations and goals. It was pleasing to hear many parents commenting on how caring and positive our teachers are. If you have any concerns about your child's learning or behaviour throughout the year, their class teacher is the best point of contact.

School Excellence Programs

One of the school's strategic directions is to promote school excellence and wellbeing. Using the Department of Education's 'School Excellence Framework', we have a number of new programs we are implementing at the school this year:

- **'Bump It Up'** – An explicit writing program for grades 2-4, run by Mrs Harris for Term 1. We are tracking students from pre to post program on the Literacy continuum.
- **Stage 1 Enrichment Group** – Focus on Project Based Learning and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths Education), run by Mrs Aekins.
- **Stage 2 & 3 Enrichment Group** – Focus on Project Based Learning and documentary making, run by Mr Briggs. This also includes an Art Enrichment Group for years 4-6.
- **Art Teaching Program** – Team teaching of Visual Arts. Each class will have a term of Visual Art with Mr Briggs and their class teacher, sharing his outstanding expertise K-6.
- **Early Career Teacher Program** – Mentoring our Early Career Teachers through critical conversations, coaching and modelling of best practice, led by Mr Sanders.
- **Early Literacy Program** – Small group literacy lessons for Stage 1, run by Mrs Wells in place of Reading Recovery
- **Instructional Leadership Program** – Mrs Floratos & Mr Sanders with two non-teaching days each, developing school leadership through planning, monitoring and evaluating our teaching and learning programs.

As part of our school improvement cycle, we will be carefully tracking and monitoring progress and impact of our teaching programs and will continue to keep our community informed of this.

Have a great week!

Tanya Sarafoski

Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude. Ralph Marston

Term 1 Week 4

Friday, 17th February, 2017



Week 5

Intensive Swimming Yr 2&3

Fri 24 Feb Rd 1 PSSA

Week 6

Intensive Swimming Yr 2&3

Thurs 2 Mar District Swimming

Fri 3 Mar Rd 2 PSSA

Week 7

Mon 6 Mar P&C 7pm

Tues 7 Mar School Photos

Thurs 9 Mar Selective HS Testing

Fri 10 Mar Rd 3 PSSA

Week 8

Mon 13 Mar EnviroMentors K-2

Fri 17 Mar Rd 4 PSSA

Sat 18 Mar BUNNINGS BBQ

Week 9

Tues 21 Mar Kindy Excursion

Wed 22 Mar Cake Stall/Mufti

Thur 23 Mar Stg 3 Gala Day

Fri 24 Mar Rd 5 PSSA

Sport Cavalcade

PSSA team trials for season 1, Wk3-4.

The first week of competition is **Wk5**.

Our school will be entering the following teams:



SPORTS	Seniors	Juniors
Boys Softball / Tball	✓	✓
Boys Touch football	✓	✓
Girls Basketball	✓	✓
Girls Cricket	✓	✓

Pennant Winners

Congratulations to Ivan A for earning his pennant this week!



Boys softball/Tball: Miss Hefford Boys touch footy: Mr Brown Girls basketball: Mr Briggs Girls cricket: Mrs Poulos

This year's elected House Captains were presented with their badges at our first Flag assembly of the year.

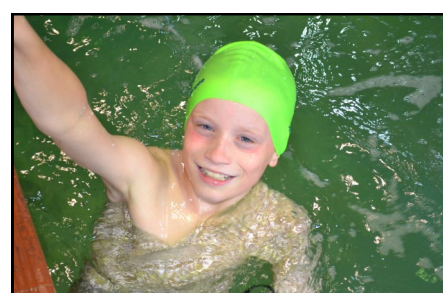


(L-R) **Kookas** Tarik Kumzus & Tayla Prior **Koalas** Jax MacMillan & Tara Briscoe
Kangas Mariam Jebeile & Jonah Dutton

Swimming Carnival

Our annual swimming carnival was a huge success. Despite the heat we were able to complete the program. After the finals everyone enjoyed the chance to cool off by participating in the novelty events. The carnival concluded with the traditional Yr3-6 school relay which was won by Kangas. Special mention must go to Ms Nichols and Mr Brown for organising the event and to the teachers, parents and Yr12 students from GRC Oatley for ensuring the day ran smoothly. The champion House for 2017 was Kookas.

Congratulations **Kookas** Champion House



Congratulations **Kangas** on winning the school Yr3-6 relay

Healthy Harold @ Peakhurst West

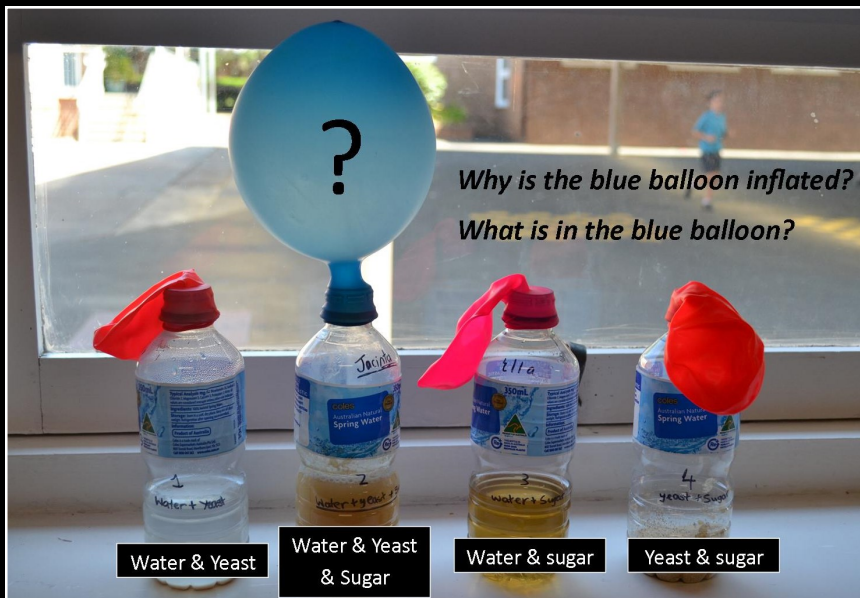


Healthy Harold appeared at our Flag assembly to say farewell to the students of our school, after a week of meeting different classes in the **Life Education** van. He danced as Julie led the assembly in a healthy song. High fives were the order of the day as Harold left—he was a real hit and even had a photo taken with our Principal, Mrs Sarafoski! ***This is the twentieth year he has visited our school.***



Healthy Harold was a huge hit at our recent flag assembly

What has **5-6B** been up to?

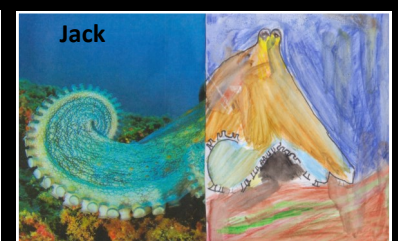


Our first Science topic is, **Marvellous Micro organisms** and with Mrs Poulos we have been exploring **yeast**. One of our experiments was to prove there is a chemical reaction when yeast, water and sugar are combined.

We spent an hour in the computer lab learning the basics of **coding** to run games and we watched a 3D printer in action—it was a very **hands on** experience.



Our Visual Arts is based around our Geography topic of the Great Barrier Reef—collages & watercolours

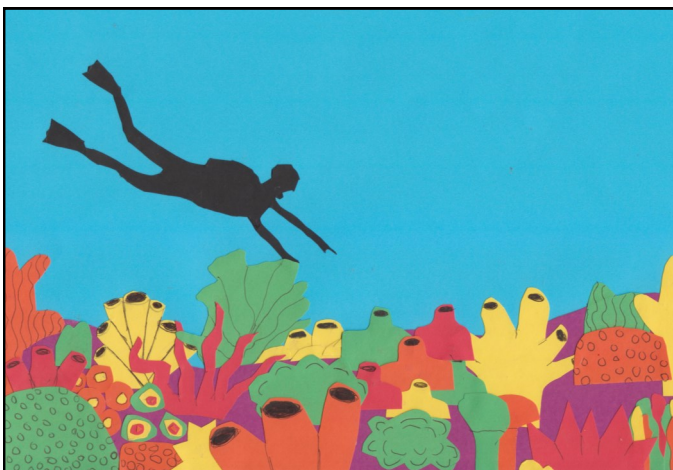
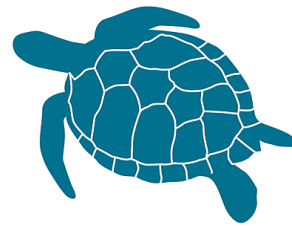


Visual Arts in Stage 3



Isue Song 4/5B Reef Diver with
Spanish Dancers (sea slugs)

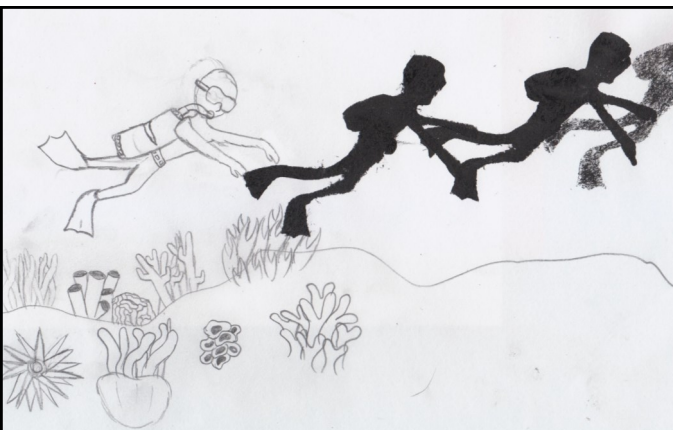
Stage Three's Geography topic on the Great Barrier Reef and rich text study of the book, Reef Superstar by Lesley Killingbeck has inspired some interesting Visual Arts.



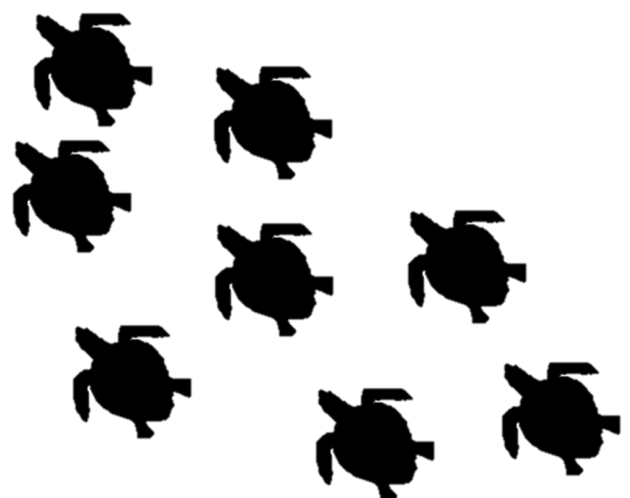
Jacinta Mo 5/6B Coral Reef Garden



Mia Holland 5/6T Reef Diver
& Spanish Dancers (sea slugs)

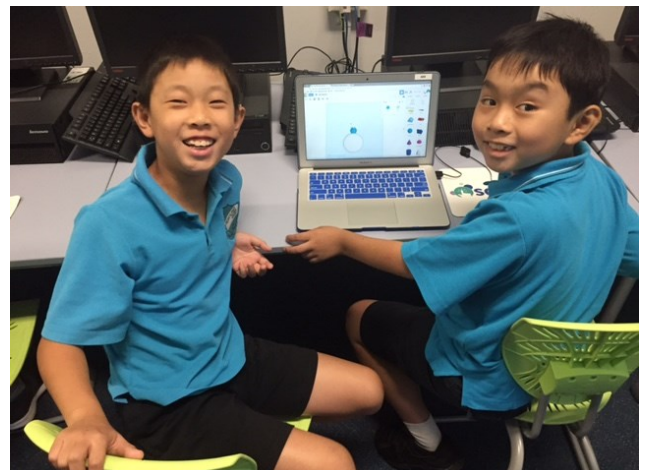
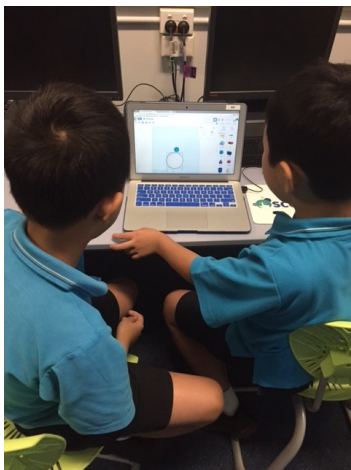


Sabrina Su 5/6 F Preliminary sketch
& Stencil Printing



Stage 3 Coding Workshop

Mrs Floratos and Mr Brown were fortunate enough to win a free coding day for our Stage 3 students. IT staff from Scope IT visited our school yesterday to run a coding workshop for all of our Stage 3 students. They had lots of fun, were highly engaged in the activities and even saw a 3D printer in action.



From the P&C...

There are so many other things you could be doing right now instead of reading this. Housework beckons. Kids are screaming. Your to-do list is bigger than Trump's wall. Put all that aside and come and join a worthy cause. Your school needs you. Not all of you. Not all the time. Just a little bit here and there.

Electronics
Peakhurst West P&C
Air Conditioning
Fund Raising
Movie Night
School Disco
Barbeques
Twilight Festival
Play Equipment

What do we do? We don't teach. We have extremely good people doing that already. We don't steer the ship either. We have our wonderful Principal for that. Our involvement is more finesse than hammer. We suggest. We provide willing hands for fund raising for worthy causes. We feel great because we are actively helping out our children's school become better and better.



Our P&C raises funds and helps the school get equipment that it wouldn't ordinarily have. For example, our children are sitting in air-conditioned bliss because of a number of years of hard work by dedicated parents.

What do we need? New ideas. More hands. And a willing attitude.

So, come along. Once a month. Start with our Annual General Meeting on Monday 6th March 2017 at 7pm. Lend a hand and help our school achieve its true potential.

Next Fundraiser – Volunteers Needed – BUNNINGS BBQ

Join us for a fun day at Bunnings!



Where?

Bunnings Warehouse Greenacre

Cnr Roberts Road & Amarina Ave, Greenacre

Due to its covered BBQ area, the BBQ will go ahead regardless of the weather

When?

Saturday, 18th March, 2017

If you can help for a two hour time slot during the day, please email Peter McWaters mcwatersp@ozemail.com.au or contact the school office.

Peakhurst West Communications

We are always looking for ways to increase our communication with our families. We have a number of ways to keep in touch. The best way to keep informed is through out Skoolbag App.



Peakhurst West Public School App

Search for Peakhurst West Public School in the App Store. This is the best way to receive newsletters, notes, reminders, alerts, etc.



Peakhurst West Public School Website

Search our website for general school information as well as printable notes and newsletters. Access our website to make online payments for school activities.

<http://www.peakhurstw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>



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Peakhurst Growers Market

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(Off Henry Lawson Dr)



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eggs & milk. Minimum purchase \$50.

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