Principal’s Message

Our school was buzzing last Wednesday at our End of Year Concert. Despite the hot weather our students once again delighted us all with their class performances and talent throughout the afternoon. All students and teachers had worked extremely hard over many weeks and the success of our concert was measured in the smiles and delight on everyone's faces throughout the afternoon. Each class performance was polished and the class dance performances were entertaining. As part of Mr Rush's dance program this term, each class performed a dance piece independently with skill and enthusiasm with many in the audience tapping along. The individual talent performances were also amazing and I congratulate all students for dedication and success on the day. Thank you to everyone for making this day a huge success for all of us.

Thank you to the many parents who completed the Parent Survey during the concert afternoon. At Luddenham Public School we continually strive to improve on our performances and your responses are greatly valued. Together we can make this school a successful place for all of our community. If you were unable to complete the survey last Wednesday, I have attached the survey to this newsletter. Early results indicate that our school community is very supportive of our school and I will give you a detailed analysis of the survey in the last newsletter of the year in Week 10.

Throughout the year, I have informed the school community in the newsletters about the various Professional Learning activities that the staff participate in. Learning is at the centre of all that we do at Luddenham and we place a lot of effort and time into continually learning and refining our skills to ensure that our students are consistently engaged in quality learning experiences to enable our students to successfully achieve the intended learning outcomes. In 2015 all staff have participated in: Mandatory Anaphylaxis training, Mandatory CPR training, Formative assessment professional learning, Taking Off With Numeracy (TOWN) across our small schools network over three terms, analysing student writing tasks, classroom observations, giving quality feedback and coding quality teaching learning experiences. As you can see we are continually refining our skills to enable all staff to continually improve to ensure that we have best classroom practices for all students at Luddenham Public School. All professional learning tasks have occurred after school and on weekends throughout this year. I am happy to report that analysis of our NAPLAN growth data has indicated that we have achieved beyond expected state growth in all areas of literacy and we have closed the gap in numeracy for students in Years 3-5.
Principal’s Message (cont.)

School Presentation Day will be on Thursday 10th December starting at 9:30 under the COLA. Presentation Day is an important day in our yearly calendar enabling us to recognise and celebrate the academic and sporting achievements of our students. All parents and family members are invited to celebrate our student successes in 2015. The P&C will also draw their Christmas raffle at the end of the Presentation day.

Year 6 Farewell will be at Enzos, Kemps Creek starting at 6pm. Year 6 students, parents and Mrs Lloyd have been busy ensuring that the night will be a successful night. Notification of parents attending and money must be paid by this Friday.

Student reports will be sent home on Friday 11th December.

Simply Swimming has started this week and 54 students are participating each day over the next two weeks. This is a valuable program which has been subsidised by a $1000 donation from the P&C, $400 grant from the Premier’s Sporting Challenge and the school contributing $1000 to reduce the cost of the swimming program.

We will be having a School disco for all students on Monday 14th December from 5:00- 7:00. The cost of the disco will be $3 which will include a bottle of water and a packet of chips. The School disco will be held at the Luddenham Progress Hall and students will pay for their ticket on the night.

Class Party day for all students will be on Tuesday 15th December from 11:30am. Each class teacher will send home a note home next week.

End of term for all students will be on Wednesday 16th December 2015.

Karen Ellis

Learning and Support Teacher (LaST) News

This school year is soon coming to an end. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and citizens who have given up their time in a variety of ways at Luddenham PS this year. Many parents have helped out in the classrooms, P and C meetings, Power Pack Groups, canteen, at special events and outside sporting events. Both the students and teachers truly value your assistance.

On this note, I’d like to ask you to consider lending a helping hand in 2016. There are many opportunities for you to become involved in your child’s education. Feel free to come and chat with me about a way you can join our welcoming team here at Luddenham. I am happy to train and guide you in this very rewarding role.

Looking forward to joining with you on this journey,

Lindy Johnson
Learning and Support Teacher

K-6 Assembly

The next K-6 Assembly will be held in Week 9 on Wednesday 2nd December immediately after the Captain’s Speeches, around 10:20am.
Stage 2 Camp

In Week 6, Years 3 and 4 went on their Stage 2 camp to the Blue Mountains at Katoomba with students from Mulgoa, Wallacia and Orchard Hills Public Schools. To many this was their first camp or trip away from family and excitement was mixed with butterflies and wonder. But this soon turned to feelings of fun and adventure as students participated in a range of activities such as abseiling, orienteering, outdoor living and team building. Students faced and overcame new challenges, met new friends and above all had a great time. Seeing the Three Sisters and experiencing the beauty of the Blue Mountains added to the adventure, as did the excitement of sleeping in bunks and cabins with friends, dining in large mess halls and relaxing in free time with time to reflect. All students behaved very well and represented Luddenham P.S. proudly and respectfully.

There are some great photos of our students at the end of this newsletter for you view, with many more photos available on our website at www.luddenham-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

P&C News

End of Year Christmas Raffle

Tickets for the Christmas raffle were sent home last week. Thank you to those families who have already sold them; more tickets are available from the office if you would like them.

Each year the P&C makes up hampers for the raffle from all the wonderful gifts our families kindly donate. Some suggested donations are food, toys, gift vouchers, bonbons etc. Your donations are very much appreciated and can be left in your child’s classroom.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Friday, 11th December in the library straight after the morning assembly.

Everyone is welcome

Due to the Simply Swimming Program the canteen will be CLOSED on Friday 27th and Friday 4th December

Simply Swimming

The Simply Swimming Program began last Monday and will continue each day until Friday 4th December. Students leave school at 12:45pm each day and return at approximately 2:45pm. Don’t forget that all your child’s gear should be clearly labelled with their name, including their school uniform.

Since the majority of our students will be attending the Simply Swimming Program, the canteen will be closed on Friday 27th November and Friday 4th December

Dental Visit

The mobile dental clinic is still experiencing scheduling difficulties so I am unable to tell you when or if they will be coming to our school this year.
On Thursday 12\textsuperscript{th} November, 2015 my class went to camp at the Blue Mountains Camp up at Katoomba. Luddenham and Orchard Hills had to meet up at Orchard Hills Public School by 7:30am.

When everybody arrived we started to put our suitcases on the bus. Orchard Hills and Luddenham Public School had to share the bus and Mulgoa and Wallacia had to share another bus. On the bus it took us an hour and 20 minutes to get there. When we arrived we got our suitcases off the bus and put them near the dining room where we ate all of our meals. When everybody arrived we started to put our suitcases in our cabins. In my cabin I had all of my friends in there with me like Abby, Jazymyn, Alyssa and Sienna.

Then when we finished that we started the activities like the abseiling, orienteering, team building and lots more. My group did the abseiling first. The abseiling wall was only 5 metres high. After that we had lunch at the dining hall. When we finished we did orienteering. It was where we had to find little metal symbols around the bush. When we finished we went to our cabins and kept on unpacking our suitcases for 15 mins then had afternoon tea. Then we played some games for like 25 mins. We played scissors, paper, rock buildups. Then we had dinner. We had a roast dinner. I thought it was delicious. Then we had supper, it was chocolate cake. After that we did the night game. It was called Mystery Board. Then it was night time. The next day we went to the playground. It had balance beams and lots more.

I really want to go back and do all the fun activities again. My Favourite activity was the orienteering. Elise

These are some comments about the favourite parts of the camp:

My favourite part was the activities. I would love to go back next year. Jazymyn

It was really fun and I want to go again and my favourite part was abseiling. Liam

Camp was the best! I want to go back again. Abseiling was my favourite thing there, followed by the food. Cameron

The last day, burgers for lunch. A while after we left and I loved it. My favourite part would have to be the rope swing. My least favourite part would be the heights on abseiling. I loved all of it and would go again. Bella

I liked the abseiling the best because it was my first time doing it and was so, so fun. I want to do it again. Alyssa

My favourite bit was the abseiling. It was something I have always wanted to do. It was the best experience of my existence. Dakota

The best thing that I liked was the rock climbing. It was so much fun. I wish next time I can have a big adventure again. Next time we can do it all again. Abbey

My favourite part was when we played the night games and I want to go back. Sienna

My favourite part was when we did Elephant Smash. Keanu

My favourite was abseiling because it was the best. It was good but I was a bit scared. I want to go back there. It was so, so, so, so, so much fun. Tori

My favourite part was when we had brownies for supper. I didn’t like how I got no sleep. Daniel

The thing I liked was abseiling because it was safe, cool, awesome, fun and other cool stuff. Kane
Stage 2 Blue Mountains Camp
What’s Happening at Luddenham PS

November
23rd-30th Simply Swimming

December
1st-4th Simply Swimming
2nd Captain’s Speeches—9:30am
2nd K-6 Assembly, immediately after Captain’s speeches
10th Presentation Day
Year 6 Farewell Dinner
11th P&C Meeting
14th School disco
15th Class parties
16th Last day of school for students

January 2016
27th Staff return
28th Students in Years 1-6 return

February
1st Kindergarten students start
9th Small Schools Swimming Carnival

Reminders

- Please return RSVP for Year 6 Farewell before Friday. If any parents/guests are coming, please leave your payment in the office
- Please leave all donations for the Christmas Raffle in your child’s classroom
- Please label all your child’s belongings, including clothing, hats, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc.
- If your child is absent from school they should bring in a signed note explaining their absence on the day they return.
- If you have misplaced a note which came home, or your child was away and didn’t receive one, you can print off a copy from the school website—www.luddenham-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Student Absence Note

Student Name ............................................................................................................. Class .........................

Date of absence ..........................................................

Reason for absence ........................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................

Parent/ Caregiver signature .................................. Date
2015 Parent Survey

Please choose the answer you agree with most

1. The school is continually looking for ways to improve its performance.
   - Almost always
   - Usually
   - Sometimes
   - Rarely

2. The educational needs of all students are met by the school.
   - Almost always
   - Usually
   - Sometimes
   - Rarely

3. The school cares about the students and the discipline is fair.
   - Almost always
   - Usually
   - Sometimes
   - Rarely

4. The staff at the school are valued and supported by the school community.
   - Almost always
   - Usually
   - Sometimes
   - Rarely

5. Teachers are continually participating in professional learning activities to provide quality teaching.
   - Almost always
   - Usually
   - Sometimes
   - Rarely
6. Do you encourage your child to be a respectful, safe and responsible learner?
   ○ Almost always
   ○ Usually
   ○ Sometimes
   ○ Rarely

7. Does the school communicate effectively with the school community?
   ○ Almost always
   ○ Usually
   ○ Sometimes
   ○ Rarely

Any further comments
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for completing the survey.
Your input is valued and appreciated.