Dear Parents,

Lots of terrific things happening again at Prairievale PS. Keep up to date on our website: http://www.prairieval-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

Zone Swimming
Congratulations to the following students who represented Prairievale PS at Zone Swimming yesterday.

Andrew Blewitt  Cynthia Boun  Jessica Broome  Fernanda Cebada
Savanna Deans  Braydan Dodd  Luka Garovic  Chris Hana
Babylon Kafo  Michael Li  Cindy Mach  Devan Meas
Elias Navarrete  Eleni Nielsen  Teagan Ritchie  Trisha Tran
Nicholas Riva  Emily Sayer  Dylan Shlimon  Ryan Tran
Layton Shlimon  Luka Strbac

Mr Chand and Mrs Allum said that all students proudly represented our school and were great sports! Well done Prairievale!

A big congratulations to Trisha Tran who will now be representing Horsley Zone at the Regional Carnival in Butterfly! We are very proud of you!

Next P&C meeting and AGM
Wednesday 11th March 2015 at 2pm
Thank You!
I am very proud of the settled start that we have had to this year. It is fantastic to walk around the school to see all of the classes working so well. This is a credit to our hardworking teachers and students. It is also great to have such a large amount of parent support for our school. 2015 is going to be a great year!

Parents in the School
We are very concerned about ensuring the safety of all of students. We open the front and back gates in the mornings until 9:20am and then reopen them at 2:30pm in the afternoons. At all other times these gates are closed. If you need to enter the school between 9:20am and 2:30pm, please come to the front gate to be buzzed in and then report to the office to sign in.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should anyone enter the school through the carparks at any time. This is a safety issue.

Voluntary School Contributions
A reminder that school voluntary contributions are now due. Thank you to all those families who have already contributed as these funds help us to run a variety of programs here at Prairievale PS.

Contributions are as follows:

1st Child = $30  
2nd child = $20  
3rd + children = $10

As we did last year, we will choose three families (by selecting names at random) who have paid their voluntary contributions to win some fantastic prizes.

1st prize - ipad mini  
2nd prize - 1 summer or winter uniform  
3rd prize - Money back

School Photos
School Photos will now be on Thursday 12 March. Year 6 photos will be held after the students return from the Selective High School Test.
Attendance and Punctuality

This is a reminder that all students are expected to attend school EVERY day. Any student who is sick, is attending a medical appointment or has a family activity that cannot be held at another time should bring a note explaining their time off on the first day they return to school. Minding brothers or sisters or not wanting to attend excursions or sports days are not acceptable reasons for having time off school.

At Prairievale PS, school begins at 8:55am and rolls are marked at 9:00am. Anyone arriving after this time will need to get a late note from the office BEFORE going to class. We have a number of students who are arriving late every day. Just remember, that even if you are only 10 minutes late each day, you may be missing as much as 50 minutes literacy time a week. That’s 33 hours of missed literacy time each year!

Some suggestions to assist in getting to school on time include:

- packing bags the night before
- laying out uniforms the night before
- setting alarms 10 minutes earlier
- not watching TV or playing electronic games before school.

Please also be aware that school finishes at 2:55pm and parents should arrange student supervision from this time onwards. If you are going to be running late, please call the office before 2:45pm.

Please remember that we ask that you DO NOT bring electronic devices to school.

The school takes NO RESPONSIBILITY for any electronic devices that are lost or broken at school.
Parent Workshops
This term we will be having 2 parent workshops. Our first with Ms Alderson was a great success. The next workshop will be:

Monday 23 March - Maths - with Mr Krmac and Mr Sprange
These workshops will be held in the library at 1:55pm. We hope you can join us.

Coffee club
We would like to invite all parents to our school coffee club. Come along and meet some friendly people, have a chat, ask questions, all while enjoying a lovely cup of coffee and yummy cakes and biscuits.
Meet us in the staffroom on Friday at 9am.

Mrs Antoanet Warda
Community Liaison Officer (CLO)

What is Crunch&Sip?
Crunch&Sip is our recess break when students can refuel on fruit and veg and rehydrate on water. The break assists students with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom.
Crunch&Sip encourages fruit and vegetable snacking and drinking water. Healthy eating behaviours are modelled in the classroom and reinforce the nutrition messages in the PD/H/PE curriculum. By making fruit and vegetable eating and water drinking normal in the classroom, healthy habits can be formed and continued into adolescence and adulthood.
The Crunch&Sip break gives students the opportunity to eat the piece of fruit that might otherwise be left in their lunchbox. Students are also more likely to eat their fruit or vegetables and drink their water if their friends and peers are all doing it too!

We have started having Crunch&Sip breaks this year. Please make sure your child has a piece of fruit or vegetables and small bottle of water each day.

Have a good couple of weeks, 
Nikki Perrin
Principal
Parents Coffee Club
Music with Mr Pieterse

From St Johns Park High School
6S has had a great start to the year. We have settled into year 6 and are well on our way, learning to investigate, communicate and reflect upon our learning.

We started the year with a poster competition to raise awareness of the new school initiative ‘CRUNCH AND SIP’. Our winning posters have been laminated and displayed around the school to help remind everyone how important it is to eat fruit and healthy snacks as well as water to drink.

We also celebrated Chinese New Year by making Chinese lanterns. We decorated them with Chinese good luck symbols. This year is the year of the goat.

In HSIE we are learning about the Australian Gold Rush era and how Australia developed as a country during this time.

We are also planning ahead. We have planted some herbs in jars in preparation for a surprise in May for someone special. Let’s hope our green thumbs are up to this challenge! (Don’t tell your mum!!!!)
March
Tuesday 3  School Photos
Scripture begins
Monday 9  High school forms sent home
NRL workshops Years 3-6
Thursday 12  School Photos
Selective High Schools test
Monday 23  Parent Workshop—Maths
Harmony Day
Thursday 26  NRL workshops Years 3-6
Friday 27  Stage 3 Tree Planting

April
Wednesday 1  Cross Country carnival
Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday 2  Easter Hat Parade
NRL workshops Years 3-6
Last Day of Term 1
Tuesday 21  Students return to school
Friday 24  ANZAC Ceremony