PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Effort is our key

Since the establishment of our school in 1937 thousands of students have walked through the gates to learn and become better people. Hundreds of teachers have performed their magic in classrooms and helped to transform our students into innovative, creative, independent individuals who are able to contribute to society.

Over the years many things have changed at our school, such as the construction of new buildings and the refurbishment of classrooms. Technology has greatly changed the way we teach and teachers are far more skilled and aware of what to teach and how to teach so that all students have the opportunity to reach their potential.

One thing that has not changed over the years is our school motto Effort is the Key. Our motto sits quietly on our school emblem often taken for granted and mostly forgotten.

I can only think back to the founders of this school who would have thought long and hard about our school motto. Their criteria to place a number of words together that captured the value of education, that would stimulate and motivate students and teachers to strive to better themselves must have been a difficult task. To add to the complication the motto needed to be as relevant to the students and teachers of 1937 as well as all students and teachers who would follow them.

I believe our motto Effort is the Key is as relevant today as it was in 1937. But what is Effort the key to?

Is effort the key to academic potential? Is effort the key to happiness? Is effort the key to wealth?

I believe effort is the key to all the above and much much more.

This year I am extremely pleased with the effort of all our teachers and students. Our teachers have embarked on an extensive retraining program in the teaching of reading and oral language; this is in addition to their normal demanding duties. Many of our teachers efforts are seen in the many hours of preparation they do for each day of learning. Some teacher’s efforts have been directed in taking on responsibilities far beyond what is expected for their years of experience. The programs and efforts of all our teachers are showing improvements in the performance of all our students.

Our students, with the help of their teachers and parents, consistently apply themselves well to all their given tasks. I find it extremely pleasing to see so many students producing work that is well beyond what was initially expected. I know of a student in Year 4 who was asked to read for 10 minutes each night as part of their homework. That student would read for 30 minutes each night and finished reading 2 books each week, well beyond what was expected. Another student in Year 6 who was asked to complete a 1 page research article went well beyond the teacher’s expectation and completed a detailed, high quality 6 page research project. There are many more stories I could tell you. These 2 motivated students demonstrate, to me, the very essence of our school motto.

Effort requires discipline, perseverance and ability to apply what has been learnt. Our school provides our teachers and our students with the means to succeed, but the effort required to succeed must come from within each individual.

Effort is the key to Auburn West Public School

Mr H. Vassila

ZONE DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

Congratulations to the 28 students who participated in the Zone athletics carnival. The Zone athletics carnival held was at Parramatta Park on Tuesday 22 May. Our students competed in all age groups against students from 15 other schools.

2 students from AWPS have now been invited to compete at the next level of competition, the South Western Sydney Regional Cross Country.

Thank you to all students for representing our school in such an excellent way.

S Turrin and Z Elchami

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2013 are now being accepted. If your child was born between 1 August 2007 and 31 March 2008 please come to the school office and pick up an application form.
WHAT’S NEW IN KINDERGARTEN?
This year the Kindergarten teachers and students are engaged in a Department of Education and Communities program called Language Learning and Literacy (L3).

What is Language Learning and Literacy?
Language, Learning and Literacy (L3) is a program for Kindergarten students. All the Kindergarten teachers in our school are participating in retraining to learn how to use this program in their classrooms.

L3 focuses on providing rich literacy experiences to assist all children to become successful Readers and Writers.

It occurs as part of the daily literacy lesson within the Kindergarten classroom.

Your child and L3
During the literacy session your child is taught in small groups of three to four students.

While each group is being given short, explicit lessons in Reading and Writing, the rest of the class complete carefully selected activities to extend their literacy learning.

Your child will also listen to the reading of stories, poems and songs in small groups. This will build their knowledge of sentences, letters and words to help their reading and writing.

All children will take home reading books that they have read during their literacy lessons at school. Books are selected so you can provide praise, and encourage all the efforts your child makes when reading and writing. E Draven

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (NRW)
National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about shared histories, cultures and achievements and to see what everyone can do to work towards greater respect for and understanding of Aboriginal people.

National Reconciliation Week is celebrated across Australia between May 27 and June 3. The dates commemorate two milestones in the reconciliation journey.

May 27 marks the anniversary of Australia's most successful referendum. The 1967 referendum saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and recognise them in the national census.

On 3 June, 1992, the High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision which legally recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a special relationship to the land that existed prior to colonisation and still exists today. This recognition paved the way for land rights called Native Title.

M Alderson

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<tr>
<th>TERM 2 2012 EVENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 30 May</strong></td>
<td>Afghani Parent Group - Understanding climate change</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 5 June</strong></td>
<td>School photo day</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 7 June</strong></td>
<td>Year 3 excursion - Elizabeth Farm and Experimental Farm Cottage</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 14 June</strong></td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 20 June</strong></td>
<td>Choir rehearsal, Granville School Spectacular 10am</td>
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