**STAR BADGE 2015**

Congratulations to all 60 students who are receiving a Star Badge this week. This year we have many more Star Badge students, congratulations to all of our students who continue to strive for their personal best each week. Remember, if you have a Star Badge you will continue to maintain all the Star Badge Criteria: - make sure you wear FULL school uniform each day, continue to show respect to all students and staff, be safe in our school and learn each and every day.

**SHARING OUR SCHOOL**

AWPS continues to learn from other schools and share our success. Last week we had visitors from Putney Public School and Belmore South Public School. Principals and teachers visited many of our classrooms to see the great things we continue to do at our school.

Our school will also be involved in a project with five other schools in 2016. Last week I met with staff from Hilltop Road Public School, Camdenville Public School, Turrramurra North Public School, Campbelltown Performing Arts High School and Ambarvale High School to discuss how our schools will work together next year. I look forward to the great opportunities this community will bring.

**Ms L Hodges**

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**TERM 4 2015 EVENTS**

- Wed Nov 4 Transition to School, 9-11:30am
- Year 4 excursion to Berala Hindu Temple
- Fri 6 Nov Parent excursion: Sculptures by the Sea
- Tue 10 Nov Year 6 excursion to Australian Museum
- Wed 11 Nov Transition to School, 9-11:30am

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**BLACK vs WHITE**

On Monday 14 September 8 students, accompanied by Ms Drobnack and Mrs Burnicle, represented AWPS at the NSW Junior Chess League Tournament at Hawell Grove Public School.

When we arrived we split up into two teams, Auburn West A and Auburn West B. Each team played seven rounds against the other students who were from numerous other schools. Every match went for twenty minutes. Some of the challenges were easy to defeat but others were arduous because they were very talented at playing chess.

Throughout the day we were very excited in learning how our opponents were playing the game and winning the matches. I won a few games and was elected when I finally took the opponent queen and was able to say checkmate.

The competition was very enjoyable. Chess is a great recreational activity and I encourage students to have a go at learning how to play the game. If you don’t know how to play and you don’t have a chessboard at home you can learn how to play on the Internet.

We are all looking forward to competing in future tournaments and maybe one day we will come home with a trophy.

Eric SH

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**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

**Intercultural Day 2015:**

‘Journey Around The World’ Intercultural Day was a wonderful celebration of our whole school community; thank you to all our community who joined in the festivities throughout the day. From the moment you walked into the school on Thursday 15.10.15 you could feel that everyone was excited to be a part of the AWPS community.

The day began with a stunning concert of dancing, singing and videos of our learning in our school. Our special guests who were part of the audience were very impressed by:

- Our Drum Group who began the concert (Mr Gerber)
- Our student leaders who spoke to introduce the concert
- Our school choir (Mrs Haddad)
- Our dance groups:
  - Afghani (Miss Palani)
  - Bollywood (Miss Gandham)
  - Auburn West (Miss Kim & Miss Taing)
  - Arabic (Mrs Issa)
  - Turkish (Mrs Iyidilli)
  - Pakistani (Ms Tahir)
  - KW & 6T ‘Flags of the World’ Parade
  - And a special thank you to the Granville Boys HS Islander Choir.

All our students enjoyed a free sausage sizzle (thanks to Mr Gary, Mr Peter Galvin and Mr Sean Galvin for cooking) and food from around the world cooked by our great community.

Our students took part in a journey around the world, led by our tour guides, where they visited many countries with great activities to see and do. We created many memories in our photo booth, challenged our bodies with fitness activities by Fit Futures, challenged our mind with chess and had lots of fun too.

Congratulations to 6A, 6J, 6T and 5/6P who were inspired to raise money for a charity through their Market Projects. After thinking of an idea, pitching their research-based ideas, mass producing and advertising their product; our students raised $1280 for the Syrian Refugee Appeal. Congratulations to all our students and staff for this great effort.

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**GONSKI WEEK**

You may have seen many bright green posters around schools across NSW; our schools are sharing the news about the Gonski Campaign. Each school in NSW receives funding to support each and every student. For our school this means we are able to provide support in the classroom through additional staff; provide a range of flexible learning environments; employ support teachers to work with students in the classroom and the playground; and provide time for teachers to have in-depth professional conversations with their colleagues to discuss student learning and progress.

Gonski Week

Last Friday we celebrated Gonski Week and World Teacher’s Day. Thank you to the parents who attended our Parent Program on Friday to hear about the difference Gonski funding is making to our school. We will also send home our good news story which will provide more detail about what is happening at AWPS, please take the time to read them flyer next week.

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**TRANSITION TO SCHOOL**

This week we welcome all of our 2016 Kindergarten students to AWPS. For the last few weeks some of new students have attended our ‘Open Arms’ program, and each Wednesday for the next three weeks we welcome all students. Thank you to the Kindergarten staff and our office staff who have created three weeks of activities for our newest students and prepared all our enrolments. If you have a child who is start school in 2016, please contact our office staff for an enrolment form so your child can attend these important sessions.

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INTERCULTURAL DAY

On 15 October 2015, Auburn West Public school held our annual Intercultural Day. The theme this year was Journey Around the World and centred around learning about and celebrating the diverse cultural backgrounds of our students. Each grade explored a different continent in the weeks leading up to Intercultural Day and on the day students were able to experience different flavours/cuisines, cultural games, arts and dance. Kindergarten took us on a cruise around the islands of Oceania, Year 1 lead us through a tour of North America, Year 2 inspired us with European art and culture, Year 3 made us dance across South America, we witnessed one of the seven wonders in Africa with Year 4, and got caught up in the hustle and bustle of Asia with Year 5.

The whole school community also enjoyed henna and face painting, a photo booth, Year 6 market stalls, international food and a gelato stall. There were even opportunities for students to contribute to a school mural, improve their chess skills and take part in a variety of fun fitness activities run by (company name).

A highlight of the day was the school concert which was attended by many special guests one of whom was Mr Selby. The audience were treated to fantastic performances by cultural dance groups, the school choir and there was even a special performance by the Granville Boys Islander Choir.

In all it was a successful, fun day where our school community came together to celebrate.

Quotes about the day from students and parents

My favourite part was when we played sport and visited different classes - Aliya
That was the best day ever! - Sumayya
My favourite part was when we went to different classes. They called it different countries - Hassan
South Africa and Egypt - Zubair
I got my face painted! - Hamza
I loved Intercultural Day so much! - Nada
I also liked when I went to a class and learnt how to make a jumping frog - Hassan
I had the best time of my life. I hope next year it will be the same! - Aya
The concert was fabulous - parent
The ‘Journey Around the World’ was a great idea - parent
Learning different cultures empowered the kids to respect one another - parent
Variety of food shows different cultures but one community - parent