Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Parent/Teacher Interviews: Thank you to both teachers and parents for taking the opportunity to meet and discuss their child’s progress together both yesterday and tonight. While parents are always welcome to make an appointment with their child’s teacher for further updates or to ask questions, this formal process which follows our reports is very valuable for all.

Mekasari Regional School – Bali. While I was away, I took the opportunity to visit the Mekasari Regional School that we support through Rotary. Each year the funds raised from our disco go to support the school. Mekasari is in one of the poorest districts in Bali and has just fewer than 100 students. We drove the two and half hours out in the rural areas of Bali to attend their graduation day. We were treated with great respect and given a prime seat at the front of the hall. The hall was smaller than our library. Several parents were there, but most were peering in through the windows. The children in the audience were excited to have westerners at their ceremony and waved or smiled at us, as did the parents. Their uniforms are bright red and gold. The delightful students entertained us with traditional Balinese dance. Each dance tells a story or fable, or has spiritual overtones. Their costumes were beautiful and the children were very expressive.

It was very touching for us to see these children and know that we are helping them with their education and that our support allows the teachers to improve resources. I will show our students at assembly next term all the photos, but here are a few that we loved.

I was also excited to meet the two children that our family supports for their education each year. Each child costs $130.00 for the year and this provides uniform, books and other essentials; such a small amount! If any parents are interested in sponsoring a child’s education though Rotary at the Mekasari School, please don’t hesitate to contact me for details.
Japanese Garden: How beautiful our new Japanese garden looks! Buildings and Grounds committee will continue working with Sensei Yamashita with the inclusion of plants that continue to reflect our LOTE language. This area will remain roped off until these plants are more established.

End of Term: How the year is flying by! Tomorrow is the last day of Term two. We have had a wonderful term which has ended with an opportunity for parent and teachers to discuss the children’s achievements. We are all looking forward to the mid-year break and trust that you all enjoy the holidays. Tomorrow the children will finish at 2.30 pm.

I wish everyone a happy and safe holiday period and look forward to seeing you all again next term commencing on 15th July.

Kind Regards,
Julie Gleeson, Principal.

Canteen News

We will be closed Friday 28th June

Enjoy the holidays, the canteen will reopen Tuesday 16th July for lunch orders and counter sales.

Monica Champion

FRIENDS for Life Program

Social Development Program: This week 4A, 4B and 3/4C completed their final FRIENDS for Life session. The students have taken part in the program once per week for the term with Miss Tess Higgins, their grade teachers, Mr Stephen Pugh (School Psychologist) and Mrs Deborah Madder assisting in the program. The FRIENDS program is designed to build resilience, self-esteem and confidence, and to increase children’s ability to cope effectively with stress, daily challenges, and difficult life events. The students have learnt many valuable skills such as developing positive peer relationships, working in teams, problem solving, relaxation techniques and have developed an understanding of how thoughts affect feelings and behaviour. Grade 3A and 3B will take part in the program next term.
Assistant Principal’s Report

Those parents who have been attending assembly recently will be aware that there is a consistent message being passed on to all of our students before we begin. This message is about listening well, being respectful to everyone who presents an item at assembly, and to make sure they follow teacher instructions. This is a simple message, and one that will be constantly reinforced by all of our teachers. The students are also reminded that this message is not just for assembly, but for all aspects of their day at Overport; no matter where they are, no matter who is speaking to them, no matter who is teaching them. Consequences will be implemented for those students who choose to disregard this message, such as removal from the class. Miss Higgins and the Wellbeing team are working very hard at the moment to develop new Student Wellbeing Guidelines, which will include the strategy mentioned above. It has already been very pleasing to note the positive change to some behaviours, not only at assembly, but in the classroom and playground as well. We will be continuing to reinforce the message, and hope for your support in this too.

The second instalment of the Schoolkids Bonus will be paid in July. Eligible families who have not updated their child’s education details with Centrelink have until 29 June to do so to ensure they receive the correct payment in July. Eligible families who have updated their child’s education details with Centrelink do not have to do anything. More information can be found at australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus

As this term draws to a close, I would like to note some of the events which have taken place at Overport Primary School:

- District Athletics
- Student Attitude to School Surveys
- Preschool visits
- ‘Nude Food’ days
- House cross country
- Mother’s Day stalls
- Bunnings workshops
- Yr 2 and Yr 5 NAPLAN
- Prep excursion to the museum
- Education Week
- Open Night and Science Fair
- Yr 3/4 excursion to Scienceworks
- Parents Club Trivia Night
- UNSW competitions began

Alongside all of these activities and events listed, there are many more things that have happened that are too numerous to mention. We are so fortunate to have the commitment of staff, parents and students, who all do their part in making our school a great place to be.

Term 3 will again be busy, with our Production being a major focus.

Deborah Madder
Assistant Principal

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and relaxing term break.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Happy Birthday to the children who are celebrating their birthdays this week.


‘OVERPORT CARES’ AWARDS

These certificates are awarded at assembly each week for children who have excelled in an academic or social endeavour throughout the previous week.

Extend OSHC at Overport Primary School

Our weekly recap
This week Gilbert the Gecko came for a visit on Monday, the kids had so much fun. Our last week of term 2 was full of fun and excitement. We played games both indoor and outdoor games. We are looking forward to Friday, it’s going to be great. Plenty of party games activity’s and prizes! - Kelly

Please note:
Starting on Tuesday 16 July until Tuesday 29 Aug, every Tuesday ASC will be held in the Tower Hill Learning Centre building rather than the hall.

Our Extend Superstar is………
Bonnie L for being a good buddy to other children at the program.

Activities for Term 3, week 1:
Monday 15 July:
Winter Wonderland
Tuesday 16 July:
Changing Seasons
Wednesday 17 July:
Paper Pictures
Thursday 18 July:
Beading & Weaving
Friday 19 July:
‘Stress’ Balls

Early Release session: 28 June
Please note After School Care WILL be available on the last day of term, Friday 28 June from 2.30pm. Book now for this Early Release session by contacting our office on 1300 366 437.

This will be charged as a separate session to the regular After School Care session, so parents have the option to book their child(ren) in for the Early Release session ONLY, or both the Early Release session and regular After School Care session.

If you would like to know what your out of pocket expense will be please contact our office.

ONLINE BOOKINGS:
extend.com.au
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437

PARENT CLUB NEWS

Monday this week, we had our latest parents’ club meeting. Thanks for those who turned up, even though our leader is living it up on holidays with her family! It was a short but sweet meeting with plans for the walk-a-thon, fathers’ day stall and future “coffee and chat” mornings discussed. A full agenda is available upon request.

A few parents then stayed to start collating the earn and learn stickers … and weren’t there a lot! We will let you know the results once they come through and once we see what equipment the school chooses.

Thank-you to everyone who dropped stickers in. It is great to see your continued support of all of the children and to the efforts of Parents’ Club.

All are welcome at these meetings (including babies and toddlers of course) and the next one will be Monday 22nd July at 9am. We currently have them in the conference room until the community portable is back in action for us to use. Please let the office know if you wish to be added to an email list to get regular parent club updates.

We are planning some social mornings which will be on a Monday and will initially be in the staff room until our community portable is available. Watch out for more information - these mornings are open to all parents … even once your kinder child is enrolled in prep for the following year so it is a great way to transition these new members of our school community.

Have a great mid year break and plenty of sleep-ins! Remember that the holidays are not complete until you have at least one pajama day!

From the Parent Club Committee.