**Welcome**

We warmly welcome Ioanna P 3AM, and Samuel S 1L. We trust that our new students and their families are made to feel welcome.

**PBEL (Positive Behaviour Engaging Learners)**

This week students are focusing on being confident and using lovely manners in everyday situations. Children have been learning to respond when addressed by a student, teacher or parent. It demonstrates respect and shows that you have heard someone when you respond to their ‘Good morning’, ‘How are you?’ or ‘How was your day?’

**Mindfulness Program**

Throughout the remainder of this term and in the following terms, students in Years 2-6 will be taking part in a research based mindfulness program. The lessons will be taught by Mrs Christine Burke who is trained in the Paws b Program. She is a teacher and Psychologist. Paws b is for children aged 7 -11 and is offered formally as a series of lessons and informally through integrating the learning and practice of mindfulness in the children’s everyday lives.

Why should a child in Years 2-6 take the Paws b course?

• It promotes well being

• It offers knowledge and skills applicable to the child’s life

• It helps children gain a better understanding of themselves

• It helps them to be resilient and resourceful when life is challenging

• Skills taught and understandings gained can be used throughout their school life and beyond

**FUNraiser 2016**

Put the date in your diary and book your babysitter for a fantastic night out in Northbridge!

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE TO BOOGIE THE NIGHT AWAY AT THE 2016 NORTHBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNRAISER

**DATE 14 MAY 2016**
**2016 Swimming Carnival**

On Thursday 18 February 2016, Years 3-6 attended the swimming carnival at Ryde Aquatic Centre. The children cheered on their house teams desperate to win a point for their house. Everyone showed great sportsmanship and congratulated each other after their races. The top four children from each heat made it to the finals to compete for a spot to go to Zone. Congratulations to all competitors for trying their very best and good luck to the students who will be representing NPS at the Zone Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 9 March. A big thank you to all the parents who helped with the timing, it really helped to make the day go very smoothly. *Kai H and Gemma F 6C*

**Swimming Trophies**

Swimming trophies will be awarded next Thursday 10 March at our 3-6 assembly. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Botany Bay Excursion**

Year 3 had a wonderful time visiting Botany Bay. They explored a museum where they read Captain Cook’s diary. They also saw a cannon from the Endeavour and enjoyed beautiful thought provoking art works. Students went on a bushwalk where they learnt about how the Indigenous Australians made shelters and the medicinal qualities of many native plants. Year 3 walked alongside Botany Bay and stood in the place where Captain Cook first landed on shore.
Young Leaders Day
On Monday 29 February, the School Captains and Prefects went to the Young Leaders Day held at Sydney Olympic Park. We heard from 8 inspirational speakers about “Mastering the Little” which means to be successful as a leader you need to take little steps and it will add up to something big. Nathan ‘Dubsy’ Want encouraged us to have a goal and stick with it and Andrew Scipione, NSW Police Minister, told us to make good choices and serve our school respectfully. We had a fantastic day and look forward to using these new skills around the school. Abbey T and Jack C

Tennis
Congratulations to Cate G and Sofia T who have made it through to the Area Tennis competition. We wish you good luck.

SRC Fundraiser – Thursday 24 March
Please make a note for your diary that there will be an SRC fundraiser on Thursday 24 March. More details will follow soon.

Grandparents’ Day - Friday 1 April – 9.30am-11.00am
All grandparents and grandfriends are invited to attend our Grandparents’ Day celebrations. This event is a highlight of the Northbridge calendar. Children in Years K-2 will dance and sing to entertain their grandparents and grandfriends in the Upper Quad and school hall from 9.30am. At the conclusion of the concert there will be an opportunity to visit classrooms before morning tea is served in the school hall for grandparents and grandfriends at 10.30am. Please note due to limited space this event is only for grandparents and grandfriends. Please see the invitation attached with this newsletter that children might like to post/email to their grandparent.

New Play Equipment – Years 2-6
Our students in Years 2-6 are enjoying the new play equipment which was purchased with funds from last year’s FUNraising effort. A huge thanks to our very generous Northbridge Public School community

Birthday Cakes and Ice-creams
Children enjoy celebrating their birthdays with cupcakes or ice blocks. Individual cup cakes and ice blocks are perfect for teachers to hand out to the class. Please be mindful of ingredients in cakes as we have several children with allergies. We have limited freezer space and with a school our size we can sometimes have 3-5 lots of ice blocks needing to be refrigerated for the class. If it’s possible can parents please bring these treats to school just before 11am or deliver in an esky to the classroom before school.

Library News
Introducing our Library monitors for 2016! Scarlett D, Sarah M, Timmy S, Rachel K, Sabrina S, Harrison P, Jack C, Sumner L, Kaden L, Ilyana L, Lydia H, Chloe L, Charlotte T, Max E. We have 14 dedicated and enthusiastic Year 5 students who are assisting in the Library. The Library is open to all students during the second half lunch period. Each monitor comes in twice a week (Monday – Thursday) to help shelve, tidy and provide support to their peers who have chosen to use the Library facilities during this time. Our school values of Responsible, Respectful and Successful are keenly demonstrated through the wonderful and invaluable assistance given by the Library monitors. Well done all!
2016 NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Challenge runs from 7 March to 19 August 2016. Students must complete their online Student Reading Records by 19 August. Ongoing reading is encouraged.

1. All Student Reading Records are submitted online. Students can enter their books online, at home, as they read them.
2. An electronic Student Reading Record is completed by either entering the PRC ID number of each book or clicking on titles from a drop-down PRC list.
3. A personal reading log can be printed for students to record books read. However, all Student Reading Records must be entered online to receive a certificate. Follow the link below to the PRC page. Here you will find the rules, book lists and other useful information.

https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

On the left hand menu click logon. Each student will be able to logon using their DEC username and password (Username – firstname.surname Password – your child has their own password they use at school). Once you have logged in, click on Student Reading Records. To add a book to your reading list, type in the PRC book ID number and the book title will appear automatically. Click the add button. Once the students have completed the challenge I can validate their reading log. These are some of the rules of the Premier’s Reading Challenge, to be known as the PRC in future newsletters.

Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge. See table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books needed to complete the Challenge</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge</th>
<th>Maximum number of personal choice books</th>
<th>PRC booklist selection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-6, 7-9</td>
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</tbody>
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- Independent K-2 readers should attempt the 3-4 Challenge.
- To experience a book a child can listen to a book, participate in a shared reading of the book or read part or the entire book independently.
- Students in Kindergarten – Year 2 can experience PRC books in their home language.
- For students in Years 3 to 6, all books selected from PRC booklists should be read in English.
- Students in Years 3 to 6 can read Personal choice books in their own language.

The Challenge finishes on August 19, 2016 and certificates arrive in schools during Term 4. If any students have difficulty logging in, please see me in the school library. Mrs Parker, Teacher Librarian

INVITATION TO SCRIPTURE EASTER ASSEMBLY

Parents and caregivers are warmly invited to our Scripture Easter Assembly on Tuesday, 22 March 2016 in the school hall. Catholic and Protestant Scripture classes celebrate Easter together at this assembly.

(K-2) 9.10 – 9.40 am
(Yrs 3-6) 9.40 – 10.10 am
Shrek Jr. – Years 3 and 4 musical – date for your diary

Congratulations to the following students who have been successful in obtaining a role in the Drama Club production of Shrek Jr. Close to 100 students auditioned for the musical this year. The talent was overwhelming and the competition was extremely fierce. Fortunately, every student in Years 3 and 4 will participate in this musical to be held during the last week of Term 3. Shrek Jr. will be performed during Week 10 of Term 3 on Tuesday 20 September at 7.00pm, Wednesday 21 at 9.30am and Thursday 22 September at 7.00pm. Tickets will be available in term 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shrek</td>
<td>Sebastien C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princess Fiona</td>
<td>Lily R</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donkey</td>
<td>Jett H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lord Farquaad</td>
<td>Lucas C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gingerbread Man</td>
<td>Saskia C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinocchio</td>
<td>Chris M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Pan</td>
<td>Sam F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wicked Witch</td>
<td>Charlotte E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugly Duckling</td>
<td>Lucy R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mama Ogre</td>
<td>Halle D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papa Ogre</td>
<td>Archie H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Ogre</td>
<td>Aidan L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Bad Wolf</td>
<td>Toby L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Captain of the Guard</td>
<td>Xanthe B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dragon</td>
<td>Bella S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwarf</td>
<td>India W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knights</td>
<td>Evelyn E, Phoebe R, Hugo M and Benny T</td>
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<tr>
<td>Storyteller</td>
<td>Hugo H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Amanda Donlan
Principal

Winter Uniform News
Winter uniform items will be available to purchase from Tuesday 15 March. This will give you enough time to make your purchases before Term 2. Students can wear their winter uniform from Week 1, Term 2. You can access a “what to wear” list on the school website. Go to www.northbridg-p.schools.nsw.edu.au then click on “our school” followed by “uniform shop.” You will also find a winter price list on the website. Don’t forget you can purchase all items using our mail order service if you can’t make it into the shop. Boys have the choice of wearing summer OR winter uniform during Terms 2 and 3.

Girls have a choice of wearing summer OR winter uniform for the first 3 weeks of Term 2. All girls need to wear their winter dress by Monday May 16th.

When buying winter uniforms please be mindful that students in all three Bands need the following uniform for festivals and performances during the winter months:

Band Boys: Long grey pants, grey ankle socks, long sleeve winter shirt with NPS crest, school shoes.
Band Girls: Winter dress, grey tights from uniform shop, long sleeve white peter-pan blouse, red scrunchie and school shoes. We have a significant shortage of 2nd hand boys short sleeve shirts. With the exception of this item we are not accepting any second hand uniform donations as we have an over supply! Thank you – Uniform Committee.