Social skill weeks 3&4
Preschool & Kinder: Sharing
Sharing is an important skill for children to learn and put into practice. The steps involved this week and next are:
• make a sharing plan
• ask
• do it.

Yrs1-6: Sharing
Children learn that it is fair to share. They need to be mindful of the following points:
• put away anything that you can’t share or is very precious
• offer to share when you feel others will enjoy it too
• if someone asks to use something of yours say yes and show them how to use and take care of it properly and tell them where you want it to be used
• If you and another person both want to use something that neither of you own, take turns at using it for an equal amount of time
• tell people that you allow to use your things if there are special ways to care for these things.

Calendar of events
October
Sat 25 Cake stall
Mon 27–Fri 31 Stage 3 Broken Bay camp
Tue 28 Afternoon Auskick (private supplier) Rozelle Child Care Centre visit
Thu 30 Music Count Us In, Assembly: KK (no Yr3-6 assembly)
Fri 31 Day for Daniel – stranger danger awareness

November
Tue 4 Kinder 2015 kinder session 3
Thu 6 Sculpture by the Sea K-6 excursion
Fri 7 Stage 1 picnic
Mon 10 Yr 6 PD session
Tue 11 Yr 6 PD session, Preschool visit Bambini
Thu 13–Fri 14 Stage 2 camp

Save the date:
December
Wed 10 9.30–11am K-6 Recognition Ceremony SSC Leichhardt 5pm Carols and picnic
Fri 12 K-6 Parsley Bay excursion

Public Speaking
Congratulations to all children who represented Orange Grove at the semi finals of the Greater Sydney Public Speaking competition held on Monday.

Our representatives were from stages 1, 2 and 3.

We understand the competition was fierce, but both teachers and students gained a great deal from the experience, and we will be in a stronger position for our comeback next year. However, special congratulations to one student who was the runner up in the stage 2 competition.

Primary Drama Ensemble
Two students from Year 6 & Year 5, this week participated in the NSW Public Schools Primary Drama Ensemble. This involves rehearsals, 2 evening performances and a matinee performance. We hope they had a fantastic time, and learnt lots as well!
Peer Support information

Week 3 – Predicting Consequences

As you may recall, a letter was sent home a few weeks ago, introducing our Peer Support Program, Working it Out. The program is designed to help children gain the skills for working with others and settling their disagreements fairly. At this point in the program, the children are learning the names of various feelings and how different actions affect them. Many arguments and fights at school are the result of children not considering the consequences of what they say or do.

The concepts and skills that the children are learning in Working it Out can be reinforced at home.

Here are some suggestions to consider:

- Encourage your child to identify various happy and unhappy feelings as they arise, such as excited, proud, surprised, pleased, mad, worried, hurt, frustrated, and disappointed. Knowing the words for various feelings can help children explain their own feelings more clearly.
- Explain that we all have pleasant and unpleasant feelings. What matters is that we express them without hurting ourselves or others. Guide your child in expressing feelings constructively by saying, for example, “I know you are angry, but I can’t allow you to hit someone else”.
- Help your child consider the effects of his or her own actions by asking questions such as, “How do you think your grandmother will feel when she reads the thank you note you sent?” or “How do you think your brother felt when you took his bike without asking?”

By encouraging children to think about the effects of their actions, they are better able to balance their own needs with those of others- an important part of having healthy, satisfying relationships.

Week 5 – Calming Your Own Anger and Expressing Anger Constructively

At this point in the Peer Support: Working it out program, students are practising positive ways to handle and express anger with peers. For situations in which a classmate is bothering them, the children are learning how to respond in a way that solves the problem rather than starts an argument. They have and will continue to learn these three steps:

1. Stop. Take a deep breath and calm down.
2. Say the behaviour you don’t like. (“I don’t like it when you tease me about my hair.”)
3. Say the behaviours you would like. (“I would like you to stop teasing me.”)

We are also talking about things children can do if a classmate or friend is angry with them. They are examining various options, depending on the situation:

- Talk with the person about what is wrong so you can find a way to solve the problem together.
- Apologise if you made a mistake.
- If the person is really angry, stay away for a while. Talk with a parent or teacher about what to do.

The concepts and skills your child is learning at school can be reinforced at home. Here are some suggestions to consider:

- When you child is angry, tell him or her to take a deep breath and count to five- or to ten- before saying or doing anything. You can also set aside a ‘cool down’ spot where your child can go to get control of angry feelings.
- After some cooling down time, encourage your child to explain what is causing the problem. Listen and guide him or her in thinking of ways to improve the situation.
- Look for times when you see your child managing anger in helpful ways and point out the benefits that result. You might say, for example, “You handled a difficult situation because you were able to calm down and think clearly about what to do.”

Children often let their anger out with parents because they feel safe and know they will be loved no matter what they say or do. Nevertheless, you can still help your child get those angry feelings under control and work out their problems with words, not hand or feet.

As always, we appreciate your feedback about the program and your child’s reaction to our discussions and activities.

Thank you for your help and support!
School-based assessment and reporting in Kindergarten to Year 6

Each child’s achievement and progress in class is assessed by their teacher(s). Teachers use a variety of ways to assess their students including observing their work in class and looking closely at the work they produce. They make assessments of their students’ progress throughout the year.

Teachers will also make judgements twice a year of each student’s achievement compared with the expectations described in each key learning area (KLA) syllabus. Judgements are made on a 5 point achievement scale, using A-E or the word descriptors; Outstanding, High, Sound, Limited and Basic.

The written report to each child’s parents provided by our school twice a year, also includes a written comment with strengths and areas for improvement.

The policy in public schools for Curriculum planning and programming, assessing and reporting to parents, K-12 is on the DET policies website.

The expectations for each learning stage (Early stage 1, Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3) are summarised in the NSW Board of Studies Foundations Statements. The Board of Studies provides information about assessing and reporting student achievement in each KLA against the common A-E scale through the Assessment Resource Centre.

Selective high schools

Online application for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2016 is now open. Find out more: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php

Managing your child’s weight

It’s all about family when it comes to influencing children’s waistlines and no number of wonder diets can beat some simple changes at home.


Raising good digital citizens

We’re the first generation of parents responsible for equipping our children with digital citizenship skills. That is, how to use technology safely and responsibly, and how to evaluate, manage and use the information and tools they find online.


Choosing the right school shoes

Can those school shoes last...one...more...term.....? And are the expensive ones REALLY better for your child’s feet?


Creative reading

If your child is full of great ideas, share these 22 slides to help them tell their stories. Pixar’s 22 rules for great creative writing are brilliant! http://bit.ly/1fpxNK3
5/6C Claymation
Growing School Communities

This week, our garden classes were all about the Soil. We discussed soil, played with soil, dug up soil, moved soil, watered soil, tested soil. We learnt that soil is full of living things. We discovered that there are three main types of soil - sandy, clay and black (or loam). Students experimented with each type of soil, to figure out which holds water or air or both. We then decided on the best type of soil that should be used in our garden. The answer is black dirt or loam.

Our older classes then branched out into chemistry and we did pH tests on the soil in our garden. There was much interest in where our soil would stand on the pH scale. After gathering the dirt from different part of the garden, testing it and waiting patiently the result was.....OGPS soil is nearly perfect! We seem to have just the right balance.

Harvest and Garden Club News

Senior Harvest Club did a great job last Friday, harvesting leafy greens, broad beans and a variety of herbs and edible flowers which they sold under the COLA before morning assembly. This coming Friday, they will be selling their harvest again. This time it will be a “mini” harvest of mainly leafy greens and herbs, including parsley and oregano. Please support our gardeners, all money raised goes to purchasing supplies for our Edible Garden.

This week Junior Garden Club spent some of their time weeding around the fig tree near the COLA, and learning how to use garden tools safely. They also started “seed saving”. Some plants in our Edible Garden have been left to “go to seed”, so our Junior gardeners spent time picking seeds and seed pods off these plants and storing them in paper bags. The hope is that next season we will be able to have second generation plants growing in our garden.

We are still welcoming any volunteers to come along to our lessons on Mondays and Tuesdays. If you have a student in KB, KW, 3/4H or 3/4B, please feel free to join our classes - it is tremendously rewarding for the students to have friends and family to help out.

Contact Scuba on 0401 096 843

ogps.garden@gmail.com
**Dates to remember in Term 4**

Cake Stall – Saturday 25 October
Car Boot Sale – Saturday 15 November
P+C Meeting – Wednesday 19 November

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**Cake Stall this Saturday – raising money for the Rozelle Fire Appeal**

Cake boxes and trays available from the P+C table on Friday 24 October, or from the canteen.

Your baking can be dropped off at the P+C table on the morning of Friday 24 October, to the school canteen on the afternoon of Friday 24 October, or deliver direct to the market stall on Saturday 25 October.

The more cakes/cookies/slices/treats we have on display the greater the funds we can raise and donate... and we need cake-sellers too. If you can give up an hour or two of your time on Saturday 25 October to help on the stall please let Pia or Di know.

Pia Raynard 0411 325 442 (pia-raynard@bigpond.com) or Di Webber (dwebber@statesstreet.com)

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**Uniform store**

Any winter uniforms that are no longer needed can be dropped off to the Uniform Shop – and then are sold as pre-loved for a gold coin donation... maybe not the ones with too many paint stains on the cuffs and that have definitely seen better days!

Uniforms that have been too quickly outgrown or ‘mum, I don’t want to wear that any more, I want to wear this’ donations are gladly accepted!

The Uniform store is in Block D – the 3 /4 classroom area – tucked into the neat corner that looks like a carport!

Open Monday 2.50–3.30pm, Wednesday 8.40–9.10am.

If you’d like to volunteer in the Uniform store just drop in and give the ladies your details... help is always appreciated.

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**Car Boot Sale**

Spring clean your garage/shed/laundry/kitchen/behind that door/playroom... it is time to get organised and see just how much you can sell at the Car Boot Sale on Saturday 15 November.

Let Suzy Perryman know that you want a spot to park your car (call or text Suzy on 0402 893 505) and for $30 you get a premium location to open your boot/set up a table/spread out your wares and make some money!

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**Canteen news**

**Pizza, pizza and more pizza!** Please be patient whilst we experience a few teething problems... pizza has over taken pasta & meatballs as the most popular choice at Orange Grove at the moment – our Tuesday and Friday volunteers are doing their best to keep up with the volume and make sure every pizza is as delicious as possible!

If you’d like to help out on a Friday please email Meredyth at ogpscanteen@gmail.com and let us know – help is needed roughly between 11.45 and 1.45pm.

If you’ve misplaced your copy of the Term 4 menu please email Meredyth at ogpscanteen@gmail.com and one can be sent to you.

**Walk-up items:**

All walk-up items are under $1 (except Up&Go - $2, Friday Gelato - $2), so children don’t need to come to school with a lot of money... even our Tuesday Home-Made Healthy Treats sell for $1 or less. Our current walk-up items are:

- Icy Poles 50c
- Toast: raisin, vegemite, honey, buttered 20c per slice
- Popcorn 50c
- Frozen pineapple rings 20c
- Stringers (100% fruit) 80c
- Juice $1.00
- (100% juice - apple, orange, apple & blackcurrant)
- Up ‘n Go $2.00
- (chocolate, strawberry, banana, vanilla, caramel)
- Apples (slinkied or whole) 50c
- Pretzel bag 40c
- Bega cheese stringers 50c
- Vaalia low-fat yoghurt – assorted flavours $1.00
- Gelato – FRIDAY ONLY $2.00

**Orders:**

**Remember it is always before 9.10am**

For Monday, Tuesday or Thursday orders, place paper bag in the box at the canteen BEFORE 9.10am.

For Friday sushi please place orders BY 9.10AM on THURSDAYS.

PLEASE NOTE – we cannot give change in the mornings – change will be placed in the lunch order bag.