Social skill week 7&8
Preschool & Kinder: Following directions
Preschool and kindergarten have been following the steps:
• listen
• think about it
• ask if needed
• do it

Yrs1–6: Standing up for yourself
Years 1 to 6 have had an introduction to responding to provocation. They will discuss the different approaches that can be taken when they encounter a situation where they will need to stand up for themselves.

They will look at an aggressive response, an assertive response and a passive response. They will also discuss victims and bullies.

Calendar of events
June
Fri 13  PSSA sport
Tue 17  ICAS Spelling
Wed 18  P&C meeting
Thu 19  Assembly Stage 1, 3/4H
Sat 21  Trivia night
Mon 23  Acacia concert SOH – recorder
Stage 1 excursion – Botanical Gardens
Reports to parents
Thu 26  NAIDOC assembly and activities, mufti
Fri 27  Last day term 2, preschool closed

July
Mon 14  School Development Day
Tue 15  All students P-6 resume for term 3

Choir rehearsal
Congratulations to all choir members who spent the day rehearsing at Burwood Girls High School yesterday. Reports were that behaviour was excellent. We look forward to the Sydney Public Schools Music Festival concert at the Opera House on 25 August.

Create East success
Seven students have been selected to participate in the Create East Gifted and Talented production.

Congratulations to those chosen for film, drama, choir, dance and art.

These children will spend three days in July at the Nida Theatre in Kensington, developing a production titled ‘10’. This will culminate with a performance on Wednesday 30 July.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the selection process.

Stage 1 excursion
Years 1 and 2 will be heading off to the Botanical Gardens on Monday 23rd June. This is to support their classroom topics of study. Look out for the note arriving soon.
NAIDOC celebrations

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee.

NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society.

Orange Grove PS will be celebrating NAIDOC Week on Thursday 26 June.

Children can come to school wearing the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags. There will be a variety of Naidoc related activities throughout the day, culminating with an assembly at 2.20pm.

The SRC will be selling Indigenous Literacy Foundation stationery packs containing a ruler, pencil, eraser, wristband and pencil case for the cost of $3 during NAIDOC Week. SRC members will be selling these items under the COLA each morning during Week 9.

Trivia Night

Don’t forget to talk to friends and neighbours and get together your brains trust for OGPS Trivia Night 2014.

Where: Balmain Town Hall
When: Saturday 21 June

Reforms to the NSW Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations

The NSW Parliament has passed legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations. While these reforms do not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new leadership and executive structure that will ensure the federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school communities.

School P&Cs will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their area at the reconstituted federation’s annual general meeting and serve on the federation’s leadership team.

Garry Payne was appointed as the Administrator of the NSW Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations on 23 May 2014.

Homework Policy Review

Included in this newsletter is a parent/carer fact sheet about Homework.

Orange Grove PS Homework Policy is due for an update. If you would be interested in being a part of the review team, please contact Ms Jamieson. This would involve a number of meetings, and some follow up tasks.
What is the department’s policy on homework?
All NSW public schools are required to develop a homework policy in consultation with staff, students, parents and caregivers in each school’s local community.

Is the department’s homework policy the same as the school’s homework policy?
The short answer is no.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities’ homework policy requires each NSW public school to develop a local homework policy.

The department policy states that a school’s policy should be:
- relevant to the needs of students
- developed in consultation with the school community, and
- shared with staff, students, parents and caregivers – particularly at the time of enrolment.

Is homework compulsory?
No – each school must have a homework policy but the setting of homework and any indicative time allocations across year groups is a decision for each school to make in consultation with its local community.

What does the research say about homework?
It’s unclear – the idea that ‘the more homework, the better’ is not supported by research. There’s also no clear research finding as to whether homework raises student achievement. For more information about homework and the latest homework research findings, check out Homework Policy: Research scan document at http://tinyurl.com/det-homework-policy

What can be classified as homework?
Any task set by a teacher for students to carry out during non-school hours is homework. The task should have a specific, explicit learning purpose and the teacher should provide feedback to your child about their homework.

What can you do if you are concerned about homework?
Communication between home and school plays an important part in providing quality educational experiences. Please contact your school if you have any concerns about homework – schools are required to involve parents and caregivers in homework policy decision-making.

What support is available for research assignments?
Your child’s teacher and teacher librarian will help your child develop research skills in the classroom, library and online.

Links4Learning, available in NSW public school libraries, has links to sites for all learning needs and includes tips and help on how to evaluate information, identify credible online sources and credit expert opinions and sources. The local library is also another place where students can get support and assistance with their research.

For parents and caregivers, the School A to Z online school community includes homework and study tips along with a range of assignment starters on common classroom topics set for study. Go to: www.schoolatoz.com.au

If homework is set
- Ask for a copy of your school’s homework policy.
- Participate in developing and implementing the policy.
- Encourage and support your child with their homework - but don’t do the work for them.
- Discuss any concerns you have about homework with the school.
- Let the school know if you don’t agree with its homework policy and discuss alternative strategies.

The school library
NSW public school students have 24-hour access to their school library through the NSW Department of Education and Communities student portal. Students can access their school library’s full range of books, freely available ebooks, videos and websites that have been carefully selected by teacher librarians, teachers and curriculum experts across NSW.

For more help
Contact your local school or go to: the department’s homework policy http://tinyurl.com/det-homework-policy
School A to Z www.schoolatoz.com.au
KW’s GOT GAME!

Each week, Kindergarten students participate in an hour of activities aimed at enhancing their fundamental movement skills. Children are rewarded for team work, cooperation, positive attitude and effort.

Here are some action shots of KW students trying their very best during their GOT GAME lessons.
Upcoming meetings

The most important event in NSW next Wednesday night is the NSW Blues coming up against Queensland and hopefully winning a State of Origin series for the first time since most of our year 4 students were born! Unfortunately, the P+C Meeting will also be held next Wednesday night – perhaps the meeting can kick off early so that we can all get home and watch the footy! If you would like to come along to the P+C meeting please let us know in the playground before/after school or at orangegrovepc@gmail.com if an earlier start would suit you... perhaps a 6pm kick-off instead of 7pm for the P+C? Look for Peter Lewis, John Hayes Bell or Leanne Granger.

The P+C Fundraising meeting was held last week – if you’re interested in how this all works and where the funds should be directed please email orangegrovepc@gmail.com and ask for a copy of the minutes. The whole school community is encouraged to have a say in how we raise funds and how we should spend them... new ideas are always welcome!

And speaking of fundraising - have you organized your Trivia Night table yet? Saturday June 21 is the night to rack your brain and come up with those answers that are always right on the tip of your tongue!

Thank you

The P+C would like to thank the following sponsors for their continued support!

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Football news

The next home game at Leichhardt Oval for the Wests Tigers is Sunday 6 July against the Penrith Panthers. This game will be during the school holidays, which should mean a bumper crowd... so we need to get a call-out now for help with footy parking. If you’re available to help fill our school grounds with cars (and therefore receive free tickets for yourself to the game!) please contact Louise Appel on 0437 105 073 or Peter Lewis on 0413 873 285.

Canteen news

Did you know... the Thursday canteen menu also includes gluten-free pasta, and gluten-free bread is available every day for sandwiches and toasties!

And don’t forget that icy poles have gone up to 50c!

Mid-year canteen special

Thursday 26 June, hamburgers and home-made apple crumble!

It is time for another special delivery from The Boulevard Takeaway, Danny & Carla will be cooking hamburgers for the children at Orange Grove!

Plain hamburger (100% beef pattie and nothing else) - $2 or cheeseburger (100% beef pattie and cheese) - $2.50, with the choice of tomato or bbq sauce.

The burgers must be pre-ordered by Monday 23 June so that they can be made fresh-to-order! The burgers will be ‘mini’ (dinner roll size) so it might be worth ordering two!

And home-made apple crumble will also be available - $2 per serve... the apple crumble will be nut-free and absolutely delicious!

Please pre-order by Monday 23 June.