

## OLD PPS RULES

BY ADA & OLIVIA

Hi, welcome to the past of Petersham Public School!

You might be wondering some random day what were the rules in Petersham Public School in the past. Well, here you will have your questions answered. Let's go back in time and see...

- No running, absolutely no running in the school playground. It is crazy!
- No vacation care!
- If you did not follow rules you get 6 lashes!!

In 1910 Ms Grey was Head Mistress of the Infants Department.

### DID YOU KNOW???

There was an average enrolment of 274 pupils housed in two long rooms each with 3 teachers.



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This is the third edition of Petersham Press, **this edition is all about the history of Petersham Public School.** Our school was established in 1878 making us nearly 150 years old. We used research, interviews and a (very) helpful magazine. Through articles, interviews, and games we are proud to present the 3rd edition of Petersham Press. ENJOY!!!

MARGOT  
- EDITOR



## IN THIS EDITION...

GAMES



MUSIC



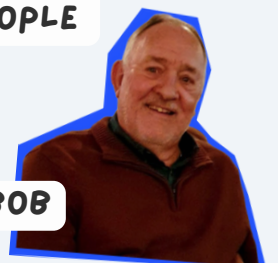
FAMOUS  
PEOPLE



PHOTOS



BOB



UNIFORMS

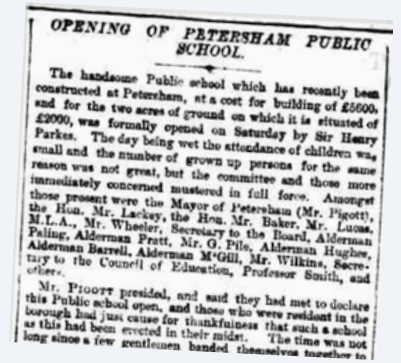




# HISTORY (AND LOCATION) OF THE SCHOOL

BY VIOLET & CLEM

**The School Opening.** The school opened in 1878, which is 147 years ago, and that year the school was named Petersham Public School.



**Names.** In 1879 the school changed its name to Petersham National School. After that, the school kept changing names until the 1940s they changed their name back to Petersham Public School.

**Location.** Before it was on 25 Hunter St, the school was on Gordon Street, located in the school of languages across the road. The school moved to its current location here on Hunter Street in 1927.

Our school has changed throughout the years but we are still here to this day!





# RULES IF YOU WANTED TO BE A TEACHER A LONG TIME AGO.

BY NIAMH & ELVIRA

Do you think teachers live boring lives?

Some of these rules that teachers HAD to follow will really surprise you!!

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps and clean chimneys before work
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle (bucket) of coal of the day's season
3. Make your pens carefully you may Whittle nibs to the individual taste of students
4. Men teachers may take 1 evening a week for courting purposes (dating) or 2 evenings to attend church regularly
5. After 10 hours in school you may spend the remaining time reading the bible or other good books
6. Woman teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed (fired)
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum for benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden society (so he can afford to retire)
8. Any teacher who smokes use, liquor in any form pool and public halls or get shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty

Well that is a bit crazy!!! Thank goodness it is not like that now!!

# UNIFORMS

BY ETHAN & THEODORE

Did you know, that in the past there was no school uniform?

Once uniforms were introduced, they looked very similar to the uniform that we wear today. The uniforms were mostly blue.



The boys in 1978 wore ties.



Year 1L, 1977. Photo courtesy of Petersham Public School

# FAMOUS FORMER STUDENTS FROM PETERSHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL

BY MARGOT & MAGGIE



**Gracie Otto** left our school in 1999 to move on to being a big film maker! She made a lot of movies but her most recent movies are Otto by Otto, Seriously Red and Under the Volcano.



**Maya Newell** became a movie producer with her movies. She made 'Gayby Baby' as well as 'In my Blood it Runs'.



**Susan Phonsongkham** who moved on to be football player that plays for the Perth Glory Women's team. She graduated from primary school in 2013.

## WHAT WAS SCHOOL LIKE FOR MY GRANDPARENTS?

BY MARGOT

I asked my grandparents and great uncle what school was like for them to see what has changed in the past 50 years.

### Derek Charters

Q: What type of punishments did you get?

A: I went to a boarding school from the age of 7. We watched a movie on Saturday night. If we were naughty we weren't allowed to watch it!



### Gaye McLindin

Q: What were your favourite lessons?

A: I used to love learning about geography because of the amazing scenery, but I also enjoyed music and poetry.



### Jack Charters

Q: What was the cheekiest thing you did at school?

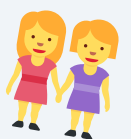
A: My teacher played a violin and once I put coins in his violin so he couldn't play so well!



### Shona Charters

Q: How did you get to school?

A: To primary I walked because it was only 5 minutes away but I walked with my best friend as we would chat the whole time, so we were usually late.





# THE PLANE CRASH AT PETERSHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL

BY ADA & AMALIA

On the 2nd May 1945 at 11:30am the Mosquito Bomber MK VI HR 576 part of squadron no 618, piloted by Flt Lt David Rochford LAC Charles Broughten - Boydell broke up over Petersham.

The plane exploded in mid air. Children went home for the remainder of the day but we are back at school the next day.

Marjorie Davies remembers a large dent in the playground for some time and that Miss Knight the head mistress at the time created the memorial to the two soldiers by planting two silky oak trees and creating a small garden bed rimmed with rocks.

At sometime the site was also marked by a concrete block. This memorial is still located at the School of Languages.



# HISTORY OF MUSIC AT PETERSHAM

BY MAGGIE BUTLER

Recently we had Music Camp at Dear Park. At our school, we have lots of ensembles, including strings, band, junior choir, senior choir and recorder.

In the past there at PPS was no music program. However, every classroom had a radio and the children sang along to the songs for their music lesson.

Our amazing Ms Sukkar was a finalist in the 2024 ARIA Music Teacher Awards. Emma Memma visited our school to present Ms Sukkar with her nomination.

Guess what the most loved radio program was in the 1950's??





# GADIGAL & WANGAL LAND

BY ASHA & ZADIE

Petersham Public School is on Gadigal and Wangal land, which is part of the Eora nation. We pay our respects to elders past and present. My name is Asha and my partner is Zadie. We will tell you about Gadigal and Wangal Land.

The Gadigal people are the traditional custodians of the Sydney city area. They are a clan of the Eora Nation, known for their strong bond to the land, sea, and sky.

While their population was significantly impacted by European settlement, Gadigal culture and knowledge are still present and celebrated today.

Gadigal land is the traditional land of the Gadigal people, encompassing the area that is now known as the City of Sydney in New South Wales, Australia.

The Wangal are a clan of the Dharug Aboriginal people, whose traditional lands and waters were located in the inner west of Sydney.

They are one of the 29 clan groups that make up the Eora nation. The Wangal people have a deep connection to the land. The Wangal are part of the Dharug language group. They are known for their fishing skills and their traditional knowledge of the area.

The Wangal's traditional lands encompassed the areas of Balmain Peninsula, Concord, Burwood, Starfield, and parts of Parramatta.

Thank you good bye.

# CLASSROOMS & GROUNDS FROM THE PAST

BY ROSALIE & KEZIAH

Petersham Public School, located in Sydney's inner west, has a rich history as a long-standing educational institution. Established in 1878, it's one of the older public schools in the area. The school has evolved, adapting to the needs of the community while maintaining a focus on academic excellence, student wellbeing, and strong partnerships.

But there's more!

The school was in different places and looked so different. The original school building, constructed in 1878, is now part of Petersham TAFE. Then it became the school ground today. It's just so amazing!

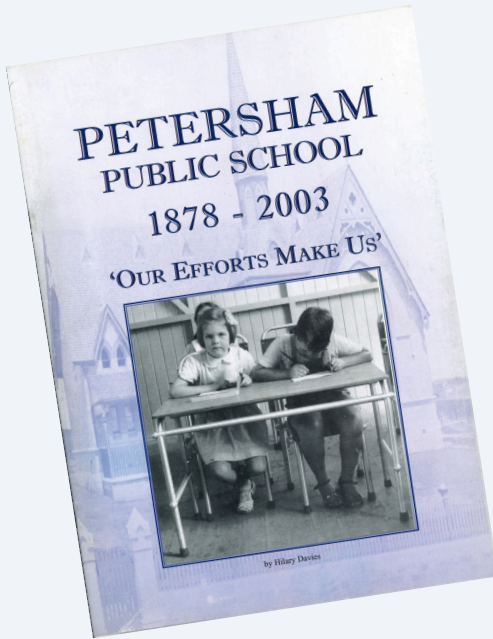
This school has an amazing history and an amazing feature, also really different from the past and now this school has changed a lot.

There are also new teachers, new classroom names and I think that these teachers love that when they learn they would be so happy and these students love learning new things.



TEACHERS FROM 1903

# HOW WE DID OUR RESEARCH



In 2003, Petersham P&C Association put together a booklet about the history of Petersham PS. The project was led by Hilary Davies and supported by the community and ex students, who provided some of the photos. Additional information was obtained by Department of Education School Files, local libraries and existing publications.

The students conducted a phone interview with Bob, who was an ex student at Petersham Public School. Bob was incredibly helpful and we are so thankful for his insight. As an adult, Bob went on to be a school principal and was Mr Corbett and Ms Wilson's boss when they worked in South Sydney!



**THIS IS BOB**



**MS MORGAN'S PHONE**

**THIS IS US TALKING TO BOB FOR RESEARCH**



# PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

BY VIOLET & CLEM

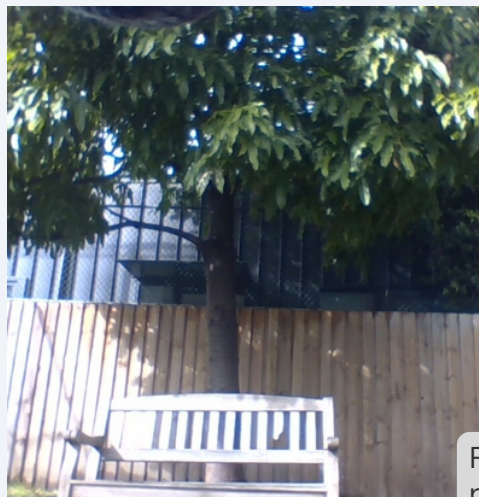
This is MacDonald's garden. She was a teacher here at Petersham, now known as Ms Mac!



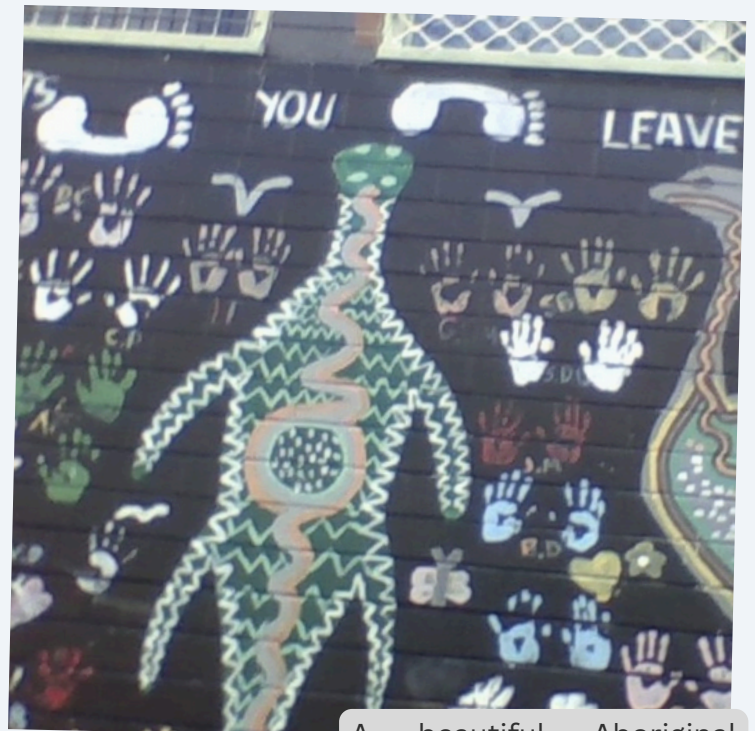
Mr Tony's garden. He does so much for our school, let us recognize him.



This is one of our playgrounds - the new one! It was built in 2022.



Finely's bench. Under a fire tree. A place to relax and remember.



A beautiful Aboriginal mural. We are going to paint another there soon though to update our commitment and imagery.



# THANK YOU FOR READING PETERSHAM PRESS!

OLIVIA

MS MORGAN

AMALIA

SAM W

KEZIAH

ETHAN

CLEM

NIAMH

ASHA

THEODORE

VIOLET

ROSALIE

ELVIRA

ZADIE

ADA

MARGOT

MAGGIE



BIG THANKS TO SAM (VIOLET'S DAD) WHO ASSISTED WITH THIS EDITION.  
ABSENT FROM PHOTO: AMALIA



# FUN GAMES TO PLAY

## WORD SEARCH!

P	I	N	E	Q	U	I	P	M	E	N	T	E	L
I	C	L	M	A	H	S	R	E	T	E	P	C	E
E	E	L	S	E	E	R	T	I	R	E	L	U	R
B	E	A	G	N	I	T	I	R	W	I	S	E	S
N	O	B	S	S	C	E	R	U	R	B	E	P	L
E	G	D	R	C	T	I	L	R	C	L	A	S	S
P	E	N	C	I	L	L	U	N	C	H	S	P	C
C	R	A	P	E	R	P	L	A	Y	U	Y	O	N
H	A	H	A	N	S	T	N	T	D	E	A	R	A
A	C	O	L	C	S	R	U	B	B	E	R	T	B
I	L	M	O	E	T	L	C	O	D	C	L	E	W
R	E	H	C	A	E	T	I	E	T	O	O	Y	E
S	T	N	E	D	U	T	S	D	U	C	O	L	A
L	Y	N	M	A	T	H	S	A	E	T	T	F	M

SLIDE  
SCIENCE  
SPORT  
RUBBER  
COLA  
MATHS  
FOOD  
LUNCH  
HANDBALL  
CLASS  
RULER  
WRITING  
STUDENTS  
TEACHER  
PETERSHAM  
CHAIR  
PLAY  
EQUIPMENT  
PENCIL  
TREES

