

# Welcome

Special Issue: Monday 1 September 2025 Relieving Principal | Mrs Emma Smith w: westmead-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

# **Diary Dates**

2025	Term 3
Monday 1 September	CAPA NIGHT TICKETS ON SALE  https://riversideparramatta.com.au/whats-on/through-the-decades/
8- 12 September	Book Fair
Tuesday 9 September	Book Character Parade Family Picnic
Thursday 25 September	CAPA NIGHT CHANGE OF DATE

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

# Our school days starts at

8.55am for 3-6 Students

9.00am for K-2 Students

#### Tell your child's school

- If your child misses school due to illness, religious reasons, family circumstances, or other reasons, remember to contact the school using the Sentral Parent Portal within 7 days to explain the reason for absence
- If your child needs to leave early, you will need to go to the school office to sign your child in or out and explain the reason for the absence
- If your child arrives at school late, please take them to the classroom and tell the teacher the reason
- If you're having difficulty getting your child to school and on time every day, contact the school for support.

# **Keeping Safe at Morning Drop Off**

# Playground Supervision starts at 8.30am

Unless your child has before school training for sport teams or rehearsals for extra-curricular groups

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

#### Celebrating Public Education Week Picnic & Open Classrooms

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our Public Education Week picnic and open classrooms. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying picnic blankets, delicious food, and time together. Our food trucks were a highlight, and we look forward to expanding the number of vendors to make our upcoming Book Week picnic even bigger and better!

We are so proud of our students, who shared their creativity and passion through their artworks on the day. A special mention also goes to the Senior Choir and our Training and Concert Bands, whose outstanding performances provided the perfect musical backdrop to our celebration.

Together, these moments showcase how our teachers, parents and community work in partnership to inspire and support our students to ignite their potential every day at Westmead.



#### Regional Premier's Debating Challenge Finals

On Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, Westmead Public School hosted the first round of the Regional Premier's Debating Challenge Finals against Llandilo Public School. The topic for this debate was 'That all homework and assignments should be group work.' Llandilo was affirmative and Westmead was negative. Both teams had strong arguments and solid rebuttal. However, in the end Westmead Public School proved that the practicality of this change would be too difficult for all stakeholders and walked away with the WIN! The team is now eagerly starting preparation for Round 2 of the regional finals.

The team for this debate (L - R): Adhvaith, Aayansh, Harisri & Prisha



#### Year 4 and 5 Black Diamond Incursion

#### **BLACK DIAMOND**

The day started with organising us into groups, which was a cliffhanger to find out. When finished, the Black Diamond crew introduced a game like scissors-paper-rock. If you lost, you had to go behind the person who defeated you and created a snake. After we did the snake game, the person told us what activity we were doing first, which was whiplashing.

The whiplashing was really fun. The Black Diamond crew were doing it safely. I tried a whip and managed to do it.

Then we did damper making. I made mine into a little bit of a triangle shape and put it on a tray with maple syrup. We also got hot chocolate. After, we had real underground archery and aimed at the pest animals. It was really good.

Then we did the Stockman Challenges, where students became a target for equipment and aimed at them. A few students were in charge and they replaced them. They were wearing legit uniforms!

The rodeo challenges were great because we got to do an obstacle course with all the activities combined. Then we had our sausage sizzle dinner, which tasted awesome. The movie was good because of the free snacks.

Rating: ★★★★★ 5/5 - 100%

The best incursion ever!!!

Thank you Black Diamond crew!

By: Rishiv and Rudra, 5K









#### **Year 6 Great Aussie Bush Camp**

Last week, our enthusiastic Year 6 students attended the Great Aussie Bush Camp for three unforgettable days of adventure, teamwork, and fun. Despite the wet weather, spirits remained high as students took on a range of exciting activities, including high ropes, rock climbing, bushcraft, the giant swing, and various initiative challenges.

Evenings were just as action-packed, with team-based challenges keeping everyone engaged and entertained. The highlight was the final night's County Fair, featuring milkshakes, ring toss, sumo wrestling, and plenty of laughter.

A special thank you to Mrs Beltran, Mrs Rajpal, Mrs Campbell, and Mrs Brogden for taking time away from their families to supervise and support our students throughout the camp. Your time, care, and energy made this experience truly memorable!

It was a fantastic week that built resilience, friendships, and memories to last a lifetime.







Here's a summary of camp in the words of one of our year 6 students, Avanthika 6M: Last week, Year 6 went to the Great Aussie Bush Camp. We had a really amazing time and pushed ourselves to our limits. From archery to a gigantic flying fox over a lake, this camp had something for everyone. Even the teachers got involved! Mrs Rajpal and Mrs Beltran zipped across the lake and Mrs Brogden tried rock climbing! Yes, it was raining but that didn't stop us from having a really fun time with our friends. We would all like to thank Mrs Campbell and the other Year 6 teachers for all of their hard word organising camp for us.

#### Caring for Country 'Tidbits'

We are excited to share with you a new feature for our newsletter courtesy of our 'Caring for Country' committee. Several parents have commented that they enjoyed learning about the meanings of our Indigenous murals and key spaces in our school including the Yarning Circle. This has inspired our committee to create a section of each newsletter sharing fortnightly 'tidbits' about our local Dharug history and culture.



#### **Dharug connection with waterways**.

For at least 40,000 years, the Burramatta people, a local Indigenous clan of the Dharug Nation, lived on Parramatta River's banks, feasting on oysters, yams, mullet and, of course, eels. In fact, the word "Burramatta" can be loosely translated as "the place where eels lie down". You can explore the history of the Burramattagal people by following the interpretive walk alongside the Parramatta River. Look out for the symbols and signs along the path.



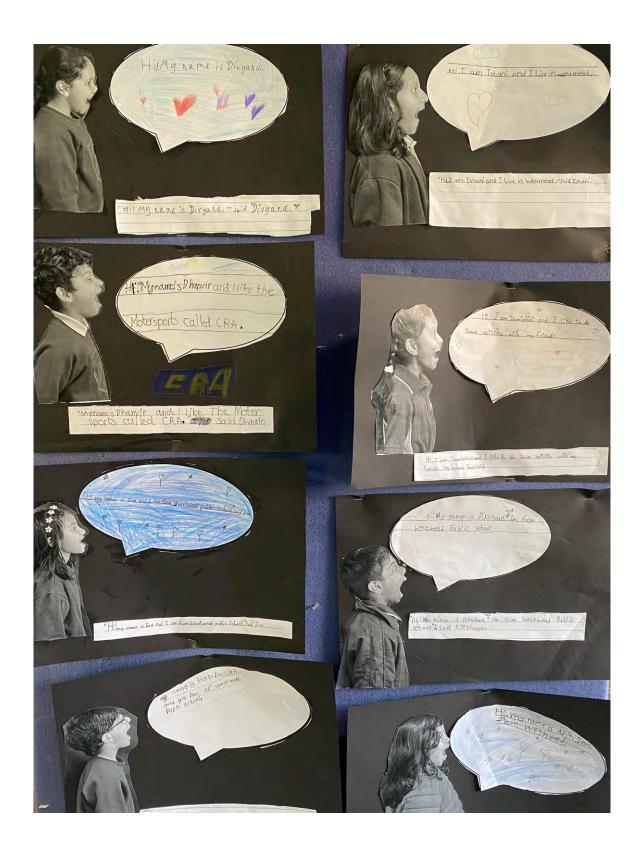
## Student sensory board creations:



Students completing our library's scavenger hunt challenge ahead of Book Week- solving riddles and looking for secret code words:



### Mrs Venkat's Year 3 NAP students have been learning about including speech in their writing:



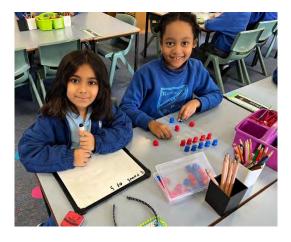
## 1M have been hard at work learning about arrays:

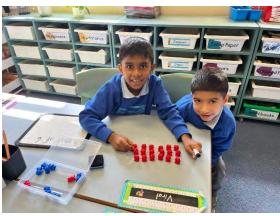


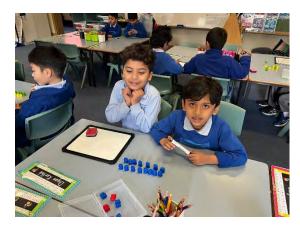










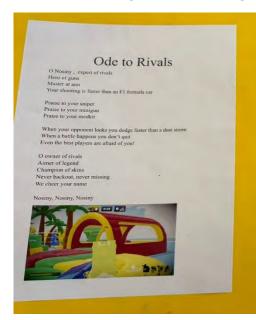


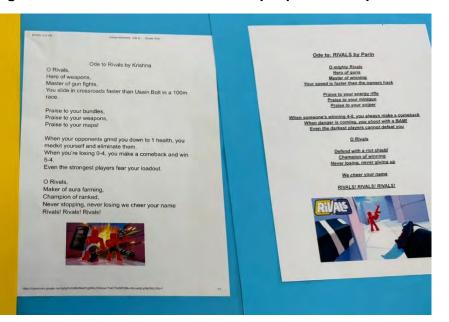


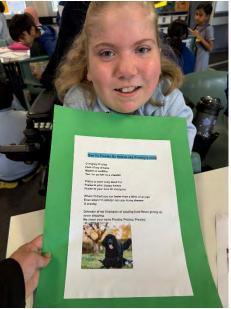


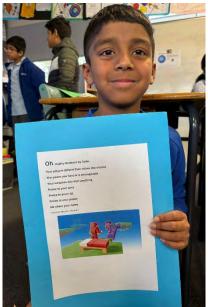


#### 4J have been writing odes and designing vases to celebrate characters and people who inspire them:



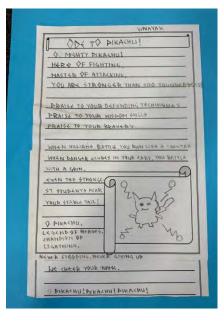


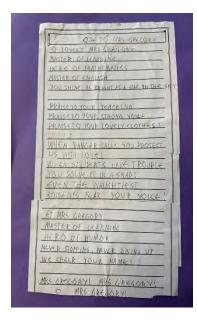






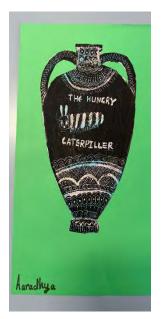




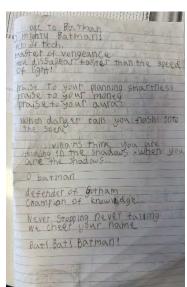


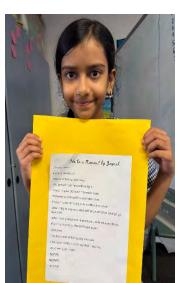
















## Happy snaps of students proud of their work K-6:

