Principal’s Report
WEST RYDE EASTER PARADE - SATURDAY
Thank you to all the families who have indicated they may be able to attend the parade on this Saturday.

Please join in the fun if you can. Students wear sport uniform and parents can walk behind the students and have fun as well. The commitment for the day is about an hour.

Parade details and route:
1. Parade participants gather at Miriam Park between 8.45 am and 9.00 am.
2. School students march together behind their school banner.
3. March starts between 9:00 am and 9:15 am.
4. The Parade starts marching down Reserve Road and crosses Anthony Road and heads left towards West Parade, turning right heading towards Victoria Road, turning right onto Victoria Road, then right into Chatham Road, turning right into Graf Avenue and finishing near the stage on the corner of Graf Avenue and Market Street. (Sounds a long way but actually quite short)
5. You may like to stay for the community stalls and activities or free to leave.
6. In the event of heavy rain, use your own discretion. Mrs Kristensen will still be at the starting point.

Road closure - Graf Avenue at Chatham Road end, Graf Avenue just passed West Ryde Library and Market Street near Woolworths car park entry. Gladesville Police and Ryde SES will be there from 8:45 to help control the traffic and the Parade.

Judging of the competitions will start at 10:00 am - best Easter Bonnets and best decorated wheels.

Swim School
Swim School has had a great start with students eager to travel by bus to Lane Cove pool and participate in the Department swimming lessons. Expert swim teachers take our students for a 50 minute lesson each day. Thank you to Miss Branch and Miss Davey who accompany the students for this program. Remember all items of clothing and footwear need to be named in order to prevent loss.

Easter Mufti Day – Wednesday, 20th March
The students are eagerly awaiting the chance to come to school in play clothes tomorrow, Wednesday 20th. The cost of wearing play clothes is a donation to the P&C Easter raffle. Class representatives will collect your donation in the morning.

Working Bee – Sunday, 24th March
The list of jobs is growing longer and we are hoping for good weather this Sunday 24th March so that many of the tasks can be completed. If you can join us for an hour or two, we appreciate your time to keep our school looking so good. Please bring along your tools and equipment as the school has limited equipment. A community morning tea will be provided and this is a great opportunity to meet some of our parent community.

P&C Meeting
next Monday night
25th March
7.30pm in the library

PSSA
Try outs for the winter PSSA competitions of Netball and Soccer will commence this week and continue during the next few weeks. The T/ball and Softball competition will soon be in recess while the first competition round for the winter sports will be Friday 12th April.
Cross Country
As the weather becomes cooler students are commencing Cross Country training as part of daily fitness. The school’s Cross Country Carnival will be held on Wednesday, 10th April on the back oval. Families are encouraged to come and join in the fun and after the carnival share a picnic with your child and their friends. More information will follow.

Open Morning
Many prospective families are making enquiries about Kindergarten enrolment for 2014. The school will host an Open Morning for families to tour Melrose Park on the morning of Thursday 4th April.

Enrolments for 2014 are now open. If your child is ready to start school in 2014 please come into the office and pick up an enrolment form.

Parent Teacher Interviews
During the last week of Term 1 (8th – 12th April) Parent / Teacher Interviews will be held. Parents and caregivers will have an opportunity to discuss their child’s Term 1 progress both academically and socially. Times and dates will be sent home next week.

Clare Kristensen
Principal

Junior and Senior Sport
Our Ryde Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) classifies junior and senior age groups differently for Friday sport and for swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals. When students are in Year 3 and 4 they are classed as Juniors and when they are in Year 5 and 6 they are identified as Seniors for Friday sport. At swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals, students who are 8, 9 and 10 are recognised as Juniors, 11 year olds are a separate age group and 12 and 13 year olds are classed as Seniors. When sportsmanship trophies for swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals are given out at Melrose Park we identify 8, 9 and 10 year olds as Juniors and 11, 12 and 13 year olds as Seniors.

Congratulations to our Junior Swimming champions, Bejaie and Jesse and our Senior Swimming champions, Maxine and Thomas.

Harmony Day
The last couple of weeks, students have been developing an understanding of harmony. Each class have been creating posters to express harmony and they will be displayed in the hall on Thursday. You are welcome to view the posters throughout the day. 4/5E have also undertaken a special project where they have designed and taken photos to depict harmony. These will also be displayed in our hall and on our website.

Jen Riley
Assistant Principal

Coming Events

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Students return to school Wednesday, 1st May
Kitchen Garden Update
On Friday there will be a Kitchen Garden stall held in the Kitchen Garden. At 8:40 a.m., KS students and the Green Team will be selling spinach, basil, eggplants, pumpkin and capsicums. Please come and join us in the garden in the morning if you want to purchase some of the wonderfully fresh Melrose Park produce.

National Ride2School Day
On Thursday 11 April 2013, Melrose Park will be taking part in National Ride2School Day. To help celebrate, our local member for Bennelong, John Alexander, will be present at assembly. The Green Team have decided to host this event because we know how important being active is as well as the environmental benefits of not driving our car every day.

On National Ride2School Day, we would like to see as many families as possible leaving the car at home and giving walking, riding, skating or scooting a go. You might find it is quicker, easier and more fun than you thought. If your child already walks or wheels to school then we would like to take this opportunity to thank you and celebrate your child’s efforts on event day. If you live a long way from school, you may like to drive part of the way and bike/walk/scooter the remaining distance.

We would greatly value your involvement and contribution to our Ride2School Day. If you are available to assist on the day please contact Jennie Spenceley or the office at school. Volunteers are mainly needed to help with the storage and labelling of bikes and helmets at school.

To find out more about the Ride2School program and National Ride2School Day, visit www.ride2school.com.au or call the Ride2School Team on (03) 8636 8888.

P&C Report
Mufti Day / Easter Raffle
Tomorrow is our Mufti Day, please remember the penalty for wearing mufti is to bring in an item that can be used for the Easter Hampers, such as chocolate eggs, bunny, packet of eggs etc. Please send these in with your child they will be collected from them in the morning during class.

The raffle will be drawn next Thursday 28th, please ensure all tickets are returned by Tuesday 26th March.
Please ensure you write your name on each ticket (as some ticket numbers are duplicated). Also please return all unused tickets.

If you have any baskets or coloured paper (for shredding) that you are able to donate for the hamper making, please leave in the office by this Friday morning.

Helpers Wanted
If anyone is available this Friday morning from 9am, to help make the Hampers for the raffle, please meet me in the canteen (Uniform Shop).

Uniform Shop
During Term 2 and 3, students are required to wear Winter Uniform to school each day.
Winter Uniform Includes:
Boys – Long sleeve blue shirt with long grey pants
Girls – Navy tunic with skivvy or white long sleeve top underneath OR navy bootleg pants with white skivvy or white long sleeve top.
Blue Zip up Jacket or V neck jumper for boys and girls with the school logo. Also available is a blue Windcheater for boys and girls.
Orders can be made via the Order form sent in to school with your child (change can be given) and returned on the following Monday or Thursday, or the uniform shop is open on Monday and Thursday if you wish to view the uniform. You can contact the Uniform Shop via our email address for orders, melroseparkpc@hotmail.com and Bank details can be supplied for payment. Order forms can be found on the school website.

Sausage Sizzle
Thank you very much to our helpers last week, Michelle S, Stuart B and Mikey.
Due to the Good Friday public holiday, there will be NO SAUSAGE SIZZLE THIS FORTNIGHT. Our next one will be on the last day of term – Friday, 12th April.

Jennie Spenceley
Co-ordinator
Market Day
Annually the P&C organise a Market Day/Fete that involves many people’s assistance in the lead up to the day and on the day. Please put the date in your diary for this year - 2nd November 2013. We are hoping to improve on last year’s profit.

Dates to Remember for Term 1:
Easter Raffle Tickets – Due back Tuesday 26th March

Mufti Day – Easter Hamper Donation Thursday 21st March
School Working Bee – Sunday 24th March
(morning tea provided)
Easter Raffle Draw – Thursday 28th March

Deborah Riley
President

Lesley Slender
(Class Rep for 1/2R and 3L)
lesley@ozslenders.com
0403 794571

LADIES SOCCER
PLAYERS NEEDED ASAP

I play for a West Ryde Rovers over 35’s ladies 11-a-side soccer team (2 over 30s allowed in squad). We need 1 or 2 players to fill the squad before season begins after Easter. Lady coach and manager. No formal soccer experience necessary. It’s local, it’s fun.

Come to training this Wednesday at Meadowbank Park and check us out. Interested? Ring me RIGHT NOW.

WEST RYDE STREET FAIR
Saturday, 23rd March

☐ My child/ren is/are available and willing to participate in the West Ryde St Fair on Saturday 23rd March.

☐ My child/ren will not be available on Saturday 23rd March

☐ My child/ren is/are interested but cannot make a firm commitment at this stage

Name/s: ____________________________ Class/es ______________________

Parent’s Name: ____________________________
Dear Parents,

**WORKING BEE, Sunday 24\textsuperscript{th} MARCH**

As you will know from the school newsletter and calendar, our first working bee this year is planned for, **Saturday 24\textsuperscript{th} MARCH**, 9am - 12 noon. You are invited to an enjoyable morning helping to maintain our school environment. Children are also welcome under parent supervision. Please come if you can. Tasks to be tackled include:

- Spreading soft fall material under the playground equipment
- Clearing rocks and sticks in playground
- Water blasting playground seats
- Weeding gardens and car park
- Topping up the Kitchen Garden with soil
- Topping up the sand pit with sand
- Pruning and removing branches to make playground safe
- Assembling shelving in the new greenhouse
- Repainting door and safety strips (yellow)
- Spreading mulch around gardens and kitchen gardens
- Whipper-snipping / mowing under trees and around school boundaries

Morning tea will be provided.

Please wear old clothes, hat and work gloves. Bring any useful tools you may have, such as spades, buckets, pruners, whipper-snipper and wheelbarrow, water blaster to supplement our school equipment.

Vehicular entry and parking will be available via the Mary St gate.

If doubts arise owing to weather, phone the school, 9874 4669 on the morning of Sunday 24\textsuperscript{th} March. To assist planning and catering, please return the tear-off slip to your child’s teacher by Friday 22\textsuperscript{nd} March. Thank you.

Clare Kristensen
Co-ordinator

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**SCHOOL WORKING BEE - Sunday 24\textsuperscript{th} March 2013**

Family name: _______________________________  No. of adults: ____  children: ____

Contact phone: ______________

Equipment / tasks with which you may help:
As the Easter long weekend approaches, thousands of families are set to hit the roads for holiday trips. A concern for everyone across the country is always that of road safety over the long weekend. There are more people using our roads at this time meaning there is a higher risk for accident, injury or even death. Motorists are urged to be extra cautious especially at night and when passing through residential areas, due to the unpredictable actions of pedestrians. Here are some useful road safety tips you can take in to make sure your journey is a safe one:

- Don’t set off on a long trip at the end of a day’s work.
- Sleep well before travelling. Don’t drive at times you would normally be asleep.
- Take a 15 minute break outside your car every two hours. There are almost 100 community driver reviver sites that operate throughout NSW during holiday periods.
- Eat well balanced meals at regular times. You need the energy for brain activity and concentration while driving.
- Do not use your mobile phone while driving. Turn off your mobile phone or keep it on silent.
- Pack some quiet activities for the children in the car such as portable DVD players, books, small computer games, portable music player with headphones.

Please remember that children are inexperienced road users and that it’s important they are supervised in the traffic environment. Please remember to:

- Hold your child’s hand while in the car park, on the footpath and when crossing the road.
- Always buckle up in your seatbelt and follow the national child restraint laws for 0-7 year olds.
- Help your children exit the car using the rear passenger door on the footpath side.