**Park Avenue State School Newsletter**

23rd July 2015

**Our Best Always**

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### Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Claimers</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th July</td>
<td>Park Avenue State School Pre Prep commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 22 Thu 23 July</td>
<td>Interschool Sports</td>
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<td>Thursday 30th July</td>
<td>Indigenous Dance Performance</td>
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<td>Island Weaving Yrs 2-6</td>
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<td>Saturday 1st August</td>
<td>WORKING BEE 8:00-10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 31st July</td>
<td>Well Being book presentation Parade</td>
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<td>Friday 14th August</td>
<td>North Rocky Special Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Monday 17th August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>17/08 - 14/09</td>
<td>James Cook Uni Students on Practicum</td>
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<td>Wed 26th August</td>
<td>Tall Ships!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4th September</td>
<td>Fathers’ Day Raffle Draw</td>
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<td>Week starting 7th Sep</td>
<td>Pie Drive Delivery</td>
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From the Principal’s Desk

It’s lovely to be back! A big thank you to Brad Carlson and the Park Avenue team for their work in my absence.

### Staffing Term Three

- Ms Nicole Kift is back from leave today and the 5/6 classroom is buzzing.
- Mrs Cindy Smith will be on the class on Fridays.
- Leigh Smith, Learning Support, is enjoying three weeks LSL – Ms Lyn Cowl is currently filling his role.
- Mrs Kiley Lennox (3/4/5) is away ill but will be returning to us next week. We are fortunate to have Mrs Cindy Smith on class in her absence.

### Facilities

- Our students are enjoying the refurbished surface of the netball courts!
- The computer laboratory has all new hard drives. We now have the furniture AND the hardware to match 😊
- The new shade cover over the Junior Playground has created a lovely sunsafe space and looks attractive as well!
- The gardens around the school are looking better every day! Thank you to the staff team that have made this happen.
- A competition is afoot to see which class will benefit from the new furniture roll out this term.

### Learning Focus

Mathematics is Park Avenue State School’s improvement focus for this term. The strong work in reading and writing will continue. **PA continues to be organized around a 5 day cycle which will see your child engaged in the week’s focus lessons in writing, reading and numeracy in the first three hours of the Monday. Work on the remaining days of the week will directly link to the Explicit Instruction received on the Monday – even more important to not miss a day.** In coming weeks your child will be able to tell you exactly how they are going in each of these areas and what they are focusing on to improve. In reading they will be able to tell you their level and what strategy they are working on to improve that level; in mathematics they will be able to tell you how they went on this week’s pretest on the Monday and how they improved in the Friday check test; in writing they will know what they can do this week to be a better writer.
Swimming Term Four
Classroom teacher Mrs Leanne Burns has sourced a grant AASC for SWIMMING! Mrs Raylene Prestidge, Mrs Tess Carr, Ms Nicole Kift and Mrs Kiley Lennox have put up their hands to be trained as instructors. Lessons will be in the Crescent Lagoon swimming pool. Watch this space for updates.

School Opinion Survey
This year the survey will be open to EVERY parent – look for your families’ log on slips and notes in this note. The student survey will be conducted online at school. If you do not have a device you can log on to the site with you are very welcome to use a school computer.

Pre Prep Playgroup
Thursday in week four of this term our Pre Prep play group will commence! Sessions run 9:00-10:30am, fortnightly, on the Thursday morning. Children to be accompanied by their parents. We are looking forward to giving our 2016 Preps a real headstart!

James Cook University Education Students
15 day practicums will be hosted for three Second Year students in the 5/6, ECDP and Prep classrooms. Hosting university students is a great benefit to all involved. It is an opportunity to recognise the great practices of our teaching staff and to foster quality teachers.

Tall Ships
Due to wet weather our original sailing date was cancelled 😞 Fortunately for our Senior students and accompanying staff the Tall Ships team have invited us on board when they return up the coast at the end of next month 😊. Please return permission slips to the office and make payments asap. Thank you to all who have already made their payment.

Working Bee
The Term Three working bee is on the third Saturday morning of term. We will be planting a food garden at the front of the Senior verandah and doing a general grounds clean up.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
Park Avenue is participating! Put your Sticker sheets in the collection box at the office.
Student of the Week Award Winners
These students have been working exceptionally well in their classrooms. Congratulations to each and every one on being respectful, responsible and a learner.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Ending 17th July</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Miss Cunningham</strong></td>
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<td>Demi</td>
<td>Jayden G.</td>
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<td><strong>Miss Dielwart</strong></td>
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<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Gibson</td>
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<td><strong>Mrs Burns</strong></td>
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<td>Lee</td>
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<td><strong>Mrs Lennox and Mrs</strong></td>
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<td>Smith</td>
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<td>Jake</td>
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<td><strong>Mrs Kift and Mrs Smith</strong></td>
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<td>Cheyann</td>
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<td><strong>Mrs Martin (Music)</strong></td>
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<td>Reilly</td>
<td>Park Avenue Athletics Team</td>
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Memphis, Terrance, Mayer, Dyllan, Kaane, Shanikqua, Emilee, Gibson Hayley, Enakai, Lee, Aleisha and Seth!

PREP NEWS Term Three

The Prep class is discovering lots of new and interesting things. The students are learning how to read, write sentences and count. They have been exploring the school and the playground and discovering where it is safe to play.

They are doing a great job of following the school rules of ‘Be a Learner’, ‘Be Ready’ and ‘Be Safe’. They are becoming great little problem solvers.

Our key learning areas are Mathematics, English, History and Science, Geography and Our Social Development.

In **Mathematics** students are learning about numbers up to 50, how to count and match numbers with quantities, patterning - how to create patterns using different mediums like beads, counters, blocks and pictures, writing numbers 1 to 20, measuring time and weight (mass) in a fun and exciting manner. The Preppies love using the balancing scales and seeing what is heavier or lighter. They are creating simple addition equations and making stories to represent the different quantities.

In **English** students are learning all about books. They are looking at poetry and rhyming words. They are becoming experts with rhyming words and matching rhyme pictures. They are learning letters, sounds and word recognition skills. They are progressing with their word recognition in leaps and bounds. Well done Preps! They are learning to read simple texts and develop reading strategies like "look at the picture, "sounding out and "reading for meaning. It's extraordinary that the majority of Preps are now able to construct a simple sentence starting with a capital letter, using finger spaces and a full stop. Congratulations to all our budding writers.

In **History** the Prep class focus is on learning all about different cultures and how families are similar and different. They love stories about different families. Some are quite funny and interesting. The Preps enjoy the aboriginal stories like ‘How the Birds got their Colours’ and ‘Why the Koala has a Stumpy Tail’.

The focus for **Science** is weather. How it affects the environment and other living things.
In Prep we are also learning how to work as a team, how to share and cooperate with each other, to be good listeners so we can be good learners. Every student is working on how to take turns so everyone can be heard when having class discussions. They are demonstrating great manners, saying ‘Thank you’, ‘Please’ and ‘Excuse me’.

‘Our Special Places’ is the Geography topic for Term Three. Students are looking at places that have special meaning personal interest. They will be looking at the beach, parks, shopping centres and schools to see how they make them feel and their significance for them.

Prep is an exciting, fun and productive learning environment where everyone is valued and made feel part of the Prep family. We will continue to keep you updated on what is happening in Prep.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

The ECDP is off to a busy start to Term Three with many new students commencing classes this week. This term ECDP Programs will focus on “Animals”. Reading programs, Prewriting, Numeracy and Literacy will also continue to play an integral role in our Early Years Program. A highlight for this term will be our annual visit to the Heritage Village where children from the ECDP and ECDP Playgroup will be given the opportunity to feed the animals and participate in the many fun-filled activities. Songs and stories relating to our theme such as “Old MacDonald had a Farm”, “Baby Animals Songs”, and “Walking in the Jungle” are firm favourites with our students. Our Interactive Whiteboards and iPads also motivate and enhance learning concepts while reinforcing choice making and problem solving skills.

The “Romp in the Park” day at the Botanical Gardens in May was extremely successful. Our team organised a threading activity which engaged children of all ages. It was rewarding to be part of such a positive Community event.

Sports Day at Park Avenue School was also a fun day for many of our children at the ECDP. They took part in the ‘big’ school races and enjoyed being part of the events. Most classes now are focusing on essential literacy and numeracy concepts, as many of our students next year. Social skills play an essential part in our Program and enable our students to interact successfully with each other. It’s exciting observing the children becoming more confident and independent as they master these new skills.
Learning is always an adventure at the
ECDP!

ECDP

CELEBRATIONS

The ECDP recently celebrated a record mid-year intake of sixty students. At the beginning of 2015 our team had a vision for enrolling sixty students by our August download and were excited when we were able to light our "60" candle at the beginning of June.

It was a fantastic team effort and a reflection of the commitment and passion of all staff. We also appreciated the support of all our community agencies who have really gone out of their way to make our process so much more effective.

"Our Best Always"
Welcome back to another term and the start of a new semester! It’s hard to believe that we are already halfway through the year! Time goes so quickly when you are having fun! This term promises to be another fun and exciting term!

Please note that our specialist timetable has changed. Year One now have PE on Thursday mornings instead of Wednesday. It is essential that your child bring a hat with them every day, but especially on Thursdays when we have PE as they will not be allowed to participate without one.

Our school wide improvement focus this semester is maths. We will continue to improve and fine tune our writing skills so that we are ready for what we need in Year 2! Your child will be in a writing group which will focus on their individual writing goals.

On Friday afternoons students will begin learning Japanese as a fun activity. They will learn the basics such as counting, days of the week, months of the year, colours, simple greetings and the names of everyday items.

Here’s a quick rundown of the term’s learning:

**ENGLISH** – investigating the book series ‘Willy the Chimp’. Students will explore how characters can sometimes be used to reflect human qualities in stories. They will also look at books and stories from different cultures and will be asked to retell a favourite story to the class.

**MATHS** – Students will apply a variety of mathematical concepts in real-life, life-like and purely mathematical situations. Students will have opportunities to develop their understanding of:
- **Number and place value**
  - represent and record the fives number sequence, count collections, represent and record two-digit numbers, identify and describe number relationships, flexibly partition two-digit numbers, partition numbers into more than two parts, represent, record and solve simple addition and subtraction problems
- **Fractions and decimals**
  - investigate wholes and halves
- **Patterns and algebra**
  - recall the ones, twos and tens counting sequences, explore number patterns, represent the fives number sequence
- **Using units of measurement**
  - compare, measure and record lengths and capacity.

**SCIENCE** (Theme: Changes Around Me)
In this unit, students will consider changes in the sky and landscape, in particular day and night, and the impact on themselves and other living things. They will represent observable features and share ideas with others about changes in the sky and landscapes and how they affect everyday life.

**HISTORY** – Students will explore the concepts of yesterday and today. In particular, they will be looking at how life has changed or remained the same from generation to generation. It would be fantastic if parents or grandparents could share experiences from their ‘younger’ days about things that may have changed. It’s hard to believe there was ever a world out there without iphones and ipads!!

**HOMEWORK** – Just a reminder that reading and sight words are to be done EVERY night and homework is to be completed by Friday. Homework folders need to be returned EVERY DAY so that students can continue with their reading program. Just a few minutes helping your child with their reading will greatly improve their reading success.

**MORNING READING PROGRAM** – I am looking for volunteers to do reading in the mornings with students. If you can spare 30 minutes from 8:30 – 9:00 it would be greatly appreciated.

**ATTENDANCE** – Having your child attend school on time each and every day is vital to their learning success. A child who misses even 1 day of school can find it difficult to catch up on a new skill which puts their learning and understanding behind. If your child is away from school for any reason, please ensure that you either telephone the school to inform us of the reason, or send a note explaining their absence the following day. Park Avenue State School has an incentive for students who attend school 15 days in a row by awarding them with a FREE jumping castle!

I look forward to another exciting term ahead!!
Miss D hands out free Marshmallows!!

Not really... But you may have been thinking this!! This week in Year 1 we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We discussed corners, faces and edges of 3D shapes and what shape they would be if they were 2D shapes. We then built our own 3D shape using toothpicks and marshmallows!! We had a lot of fun making our shapes and discussing them along the way. We worked together and helped each other put them together. We also discovered that the marshmallows were far too heavy for the toothpicks and our shapes did not hold together for long... But that's ok, because we got to take home the marshmallows at the end of the day! Next time we might try smaller marshmallows or skewer sticks instead of toothpicks!!
English
Students will listen to, view, read and compare, a range of stories, with a focus on different versions of the same story. They will develop skills to comprehend stories and create spoken retells of stories from alternative perspectives. Students will listen to, read, view and interpret imaginative texts from different cultures. Rapid Recall Routines, CAFÉ and daily writing sessions continue to be an integral part of our learning.

Mathematics
In Maths students will engage in Rapid Recall Routines to consolidate previous learning. Daily explicit instruction lessons will target specific topics including 3 and 4 digit numbers, fractions, addition and subtraction strategies, multiplication facts and measurement. Students will be adding money and calculating change. They will use simple maps and directions.

Geography
‘Protecting Places Near and Far’
In this unit, students will investigate:
• How do people's feelings about places influence their protection of places?
• How and why are places similar and different?

History
Students will be exploring communities. In this unit following questions:
• Who lived here first and how do we know?
• What features have been lost over time and what features have been retained?

Science
‘Rockin' the Earth and Sky’
Students will investigate Earth's rotation on its axis in relation to the position of the sun, to suggest explanations for everyday observations and events, including day and night, sunrise and sunset, shadows and length of days. They will describe observable and non-observable features of Earth and describe activities related to the movement of the Earth and daily activities in people's lives. Students will explore natural processes and human activity, which cause weathering and erosion of the Earth's surface. They will relate this to their local area and predict how natural processes and human activity may affect future erosion. They will have opportunities to describe situations where science understanding can influence their own and others' actions.

Homework
On Mondays students will receive their homework which is to be handed in on the Friday. Students need to read their home reader each night. Spelling words are to be written out each night and sentences written using spelling words. This term we have also included a booklet with the pages for the week completed by Friday of each week.
3/4/5 with Mrs Kiley Lennox and Mrs Cindy Smith

Welcome back! Mrs Lennox is on leave until Week 4/5. She sends her best wishes to everyone and hopes you had a safe, happy and restful break. In her absence Mrs Cindy Smith is looking forward to a great start to term.

WHAT WE WILL BE LEARNING!!

English

Examining traditional stories

In this unit students read and analyse traditional stories from around the world. We will demonstrate understanding by identifying structural and language features, finding literal and inferring meaning and explaining the message or moral in traditional stories.

Maths

During maths this term students will be investigating the following concepts:

- Shape – Identify and describe 3D shapes.
- Number and Place Value – sequencing, representing and developing strategies for addition and subtraction of 4 and 5 digit numbers. Recall and connecting multiplication and division.
- Measurement – measuring length, mass and capacity using standard and non-standard units. Investigating units of time and telling time to the minute.
- Fractions and decimals – representing and comparing fractions, using symbols to represent fractions (shapes, collection), investigate equivalent fractions.
- Geometric – Describing, identifying and investigating symmetry.
- Money – Representing money, calculating change and spending and simple budgets.

Science

Rockin’ the Earth and Sky

In this unit, students will investigate Earth’s rotation on its axis in relation to the position of the sun to suggest explanations for everyday observations and events, including shadows, day and night, and the length of days. They will describe activities related to the movement of the Earth and daily activities in people’s lives. They will explore natural processes and human activity which cause weathering and erosion of the Earth’s surface.

History

This term we will be exploring:

- Who lived here first and how do we know?
- How has our community changed? What features have been lost and what features have been retained?
- What was life like for Aboriginal people and/or Torres Strait Islander people before the arrival of the Europeans?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal peoples and/or Torres Strait Islander people and early traders, explorers and settlers?

Specialist Lessons

- Music – Wednesday
- Library – Wednesday
- Physical Education – Thursday

Homework

Your child will receive homework on a Monday to be handed in on Friday morning. Please try to find 15 or 20 minutes in the afternoon to help them with the following:

1. Read with them – home reader or a book of their choice from home. Ask them questions about it to help in their comprehension. Example of questions ‘What do you think the character was feeling when that happened?’ ‘What do you think will happen next?’ ‘Why did the character do that?’ ‘What do you think the author was trying to do when they wrote that?’
2. Spelling – Write out spelling words once each night. Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check is a good strategy to use. Please test your child on these.
3. There is also a Maths and English sheet to complete.
4. Finally, students are encouraged to write out number facts once each night. Please test your child on these.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any concerns or questions. I look forward to the year ahead.
Dear Parents and Care Givers,

We are starting afresh this Term – half of the year has passed us by already, as we head closer and closer to that special word ‘Graduation’. The excitement already seems to be mounting so I believe that we will again see some outstanding work from our energetic 5/6 students as they work towards achieving their Goals this Term.

Park Avenue State School’s firm commitment to improvement is continued this Term with our Maths, Writing and Reading programs. This term in English the students of Year 5/6 will engage in a variety of texts for enjoyment, both though the CAFÉ reading program and in their current unit where students will listen to, read and view extracts from literary texts set in earlier times. They will demonstrate their understanding of how the events and characters are created within historical contexts. They will be required to create a literary text that establishes time and place for the reader and explores personal experiences by writing a letter to the future. A task that has been made much more enjoyable as our students attended an excursion to the Rockhampton Heritage Village in the last week of Term 2. This excursion enabled our students a hands on look at a comparison of the past with the present.

Our School Improvement Agenda continues in 2015 with our Maths program being a main focal point. This term students in 5/6 will apply a variety of mathematical concepts in real-life, lifelike and purely mathematical situations and through the proficiency strands - Understanding, Fluency, Problem solving and Reasoning students will have opportunities to develop their understandings of:

Number & Algebra by;
- Number and Place Value (NPV)
- rounding and estimating to check the reasonableness of answers;
- explore mental-computation strategies for multiplication and division;
- solve problems using mental-computation strategies and informal recording methods;
- compare and evaluate strategies that are appropriate to different problems and explore and identify factors and multiples;
- multiply and divide, using a range of strategies;
- apply estimation and rounding to estimate answers and check answers;
- apply mental computation to multiply and divide;
- solve multiplication and division problems with no remainders
- Fractions and Decimals (FD)
- make connections between fractional numbers and the place-value system, and represent, compare and order decimals
- apply mental and written strategies to add and subtract decimals;
- solve problems involving decimals; make generalisations about multiplying whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1 000;
- apply mental and written strategies to multiply decimals by one-digit whole numbers;
- locate, order and compare fractions with related denominators and locate them on a number line

Measurement & Geometry by;
- Location and Transformation (LT)
- investigate and create reflection, translation and rotation symmetry, transform shapes through enlargement, and describe the features of transformed shapes
- Shape (S)
- apply the properties of 3D objects to make connections with a variety of two-dimensional representations of 3D objects
- problem solve and reason to create nets and construct models of simple prisms and pyramids
- Geometric Reasoning (GR)
- identify the components of angles, compare and estimate the size of angles to establish benchmarks, construct and measure angles
- Location and Transformation (LT) and Shape (S)
- describe and create transformations, using symmetry; represent 3D objects with 2D representations
- Patterns and algebra (PA)
- create and continue patterns involving whole numbers, fractions and decimals, and explore strategies to find unknown quantities
- Using Units of Measurement (UUM)
- make connections between volume and capacity

Statistics & Probability by;
- Data Representation and Interpretation (DRI)
- Explore methods of data representations to construct and interpret data displays, reason involving data.

Coming up in August is our annual and NOT TO BE MISSED trip on the Tall Ship! It was a disappointing day when our trip was cancelled earlier this year due to rough seas but not to worry….. our eagerly anticipated adventure is nearly upon us, notes will be sent home shortly.

Discussions and organisation is underway for this year’s Senior Camp. As plans are consolidated and information confirmed, we will let you all know. If there is any interest from parents and/or guardians as to whether you would like to join us on our FUN FILLED and ACTION PACKED camp, don’t hesitate to contact the school.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions, I would love to see more parents and guardians dropping in to see our classroom and the GREAT work that we are doing.
Wednesday 24th June 2015

Today children from the ECDP participated in a running race at sports

We had to sit on the ground with our friends and wait for our turn to run.

We lined up behind the white line and waited for the whistle to go.

After the race we got a ribbon and an ice block.

We had lots of fun with our friends.
Parents and Citizens Association Newsletter Update

P & C Meeting – Firstly, congratulations to the new P&C Committee members who were voted in at the last meeting. We have some familiar faces and some new ones which we are looking forward to have them join the team to help support the Park Avenue State School P&C Association.

President – Tess Carr        Vice President – Ian Meuren
Secretary – Levina Forrest   Treasurer – Kandi Kelly

The P&C meeting this week was full of fundraising ideas! We are set to have a full on Term with lots of Fundraising potential. More details below. If you have some ideas that you would like presented at the P&C meeting, please ensure you see one of the committee members to list it on the agenda prior to the meeting. The next meeting is to take place on the 24 August 2015 at 5:30pm. See you there!

Tuckshop –

**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED!!**

TUCKSHOP CLOSED THIS WEEK!! The Tuckshop is in urgent need of volunteers. No experience necessary. If you can help to make sandwiches, cut up salads or heat food, we need you. If you do not feel you are a budding cook, then perhaps you would prefer to wash up and tidy the kitchen while being a support to other volunteers. We still need someone to assist in taking orders of a morning and handing out change that would only require around 30 minutes of your time. We are happy to work around your availability and set a roster in place to ensure your time is used productively. You may have a whole day or just a couple of hours or even only 30 minutes. Regardless of how much or how little time you can assist, it will be of great benefit to our Tuckshop Team. Thank you very much to Coral and Kandi for your continued efforts where you are often the only volunteers available.

The Tuesday menu is set to change to allow volunteers to feel comfortable with supplying orders in time for lunch. The Thursday menu will be a full menu.

Disco – The disco is set to take place in August. More details to follow!

**Father’s Day Raffle** – We are hoping to have a jam packed Father’s Day Raffle. Some prizes include 4.5kg of Toblerone Chocolate, Seafood voucher and a BBQ Pack. We would love to get a donation of a Barbecue. If you know of any businesses who would like to donate or discount please let Tess know as soon as possible.

**Chocolate Drive** – Please go to the office and get your box of chocolates to take home and sell to your family and friends. This is proving to be a great fundraiser and also promoting Park Avenue State School. An adult will need to sign for the chocolates and each box provided will contain either plain or a mix of Cadbury chocolate. Boxes are printed with the selling price of $2.50 per bar. We have been told that many workplaces have the boxes of chocolates in the staffrooms to entice the chocolate lovers. A great idea! Please get your money back into the office as soon as possible. You are not limited on having only one box. If you sell one quickly, then return the money and collect another. We appreciate your efforts!

**Pie and Lamington Drive** – The Term 3 main fundraiser is set to ensure your September/October holidays are stocked with meal and snack options. Week 9 is set to be the delivery date for McHughs Lamingtons and Cranston Pie Vouchers. For those of you who are perhaps a Pie Connoisseur, then we are in the process of working with the Pie Guru who is a Park Avenue business. Details will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Batteries – We are still collecting all types of batteries but we now need you to contact Tess on 0416 606 669 to arrange pick up or drop off times.