Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Mother’s Day to all our beautiful mothers, step mums, carers and grandmothers. You all do a special job each and every day. I hope you were spoilt on Sunday.

A big thank you to our P&C for holding the Mother’s Day stalls last week. We value your hard work. It has been a whirlwind of a start to term 2, but we are now business as usual and full steam ahead.

A few important things to take note of:

This week is NAPLAN for year 3 and 5 students. We would like all students to come to school on time so they are not disadvantaged in any way. All the best Year 3 and Year 5 students.

GEER STREET GATES
In this newsletter, there is a page dedicated to the closure of Geer St car park gates. It has been assessed as a potential safety risk and we will be trialling a closure, beginning week 5. The pedestrian gates will remain open as usual for access to the school, Thou Walla and the Preschool. The safety of students is paramount and I appreciate your support in maintaining their welfare.

Parent Forums are on Tuesday 19th May. It would be great to see you all here and sharing your opinions. An invitation will come home shortly for this event.

Looking forward to a calm and positive remainder of the term,

Although I am only in the role as Relieving Principal for this term, I would like to formally introduce myself and share a brief overview of my history.

Name: Stacy Mathieson. I am married with two beautiful boys.

Early years: I grew up in Newcastle and attended Newcastle University. 13 Years in the teaching profession: (a lucky number for me!) 8 Years as an executive:

Schools I have taught at: Gunnedah High School, East Maitland Public School, Kurri Kurri Public School and now the wonderful Irrawang Public School.

Interests: Spending time with family and friends, watching rugby union (was a player for Newcastle Uni for 113 first grade women’s games) and great cups of coffee.

The future: To enjoy this great experience as Relieving Principal and maintain the high standard of student behaviour and achievement through the skilled and focussed staff at IPS.

With warm regards

Stacy Mathieson
Relieving Principal
Our School Leaders Have Their Say

What a great start to the term Irrawang after the horrific storm we have following our Aussie all the way through it keep it up!

Just a reminder to keep away from the branches.

Just a huge reminder to walk on hard surfaces as a lot of kids are being injured.

This week is NAPLAN so make sure you respect the teacher on your class if you have a different class.

On Friday we have sport so just a reminder to bring a hat so you can do sport!

Have a safe and happy week.

From

Ashleigh and Tahlia

Assembly Roster Term 2-4 2015

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<td>Week 10</td>
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We had a very busy Library this afternoon for the first week of Homework and Chess clubs this term. Over 30 students arrived at the end of the school day to spend the next hour completing their classroom homework, developing their skills and strategies for Chess with Mr Bertram, reading aloud to Mr Jones, Mrs Isedale or myself, and using the computers or Think Pads to access online maths games and other educational sites. It is wonderful to see so many students involved in these sessions.

Our first Scholastic Bookclub brochures went home last week and quite a few orders have come in already. Thank you for supporting your school Library with these orders. You have until next Wednesday, 13th May to get final orders in for this issue.

My **Website of the Week** is [http://ngkids.com.au/](http://ngkids.com.au/) … the National Geographic Kids site. They have sections on Animals, History, Science & Nature, Places and Games! What is very exciting is the launch of the National Geographic Kids magazine's Australian version next month. This magazine will definitely be on our Library shelves.

Stay safe and keep reading!

Chris Berry
Teacher Librarian

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**CHESS NEWS**

I should have confirmation in the next few weeks of this term's Chess tournament at Irrawang. Fingers crossed that we will have the opportunity to host neighbouring school teams for a day of great sportsmanship. It's great to have Mr Bertram back with us this term. Some days, he really does have to push himself to be in the Library during lunchtime to coach our very keen Chess players. This commitment is very much appreciated.

Keep practising everyone!

Chris Berry
Chess Co-Ordinator

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**PSSA Soccer Knockout**

Congratulations to the following boys who were selected to play in our school team to play Grahamstown PS in Round 1 of the PSSA Soccer Knockout - Xander (captain), Thomas H, Jackson E, Travis S, Lachlan J, Caleb G, Malek K, Harley A, Cohan P, Jai H, Shane B, Jack W-C, Josh M and Josh W.

Kick off is at 10am sharp on our school oval. Feel free to come along and support the team.

Please ensure that you sign in at the front office first. Good luck team.

Mr Jones
Irrawang Public School Community are safe, responsible learners who show respect in all settings

Welcome back PBL members
(IPS Staff, School Community, Students, Parents)

WOW! Do we see blue sky and a big yellow sun? Yes! And they are one of the things that we must, not only appreciate, but also respect.

Which brings us to the focus of week 3, RESPECT! We all know what words such as “Respect”, “Kindness”, “Courage” and “Caring” mean. However, knowing and using these words is a lot easier than following what they mean and using them in day to day life. Sometimes we can come across as disrespectful when we don’t mean to be, like when we are having a joke with our friends. Respect should be shown everywhere, everytime to everyone.

Definition: Consequence - A result of one’s behaviour.

Respect - Means accepting that other people are different but just as important as you feel you are.

Eg: Treating others as you would like to treated - Gold Face - Deputy BBQ, Aussie Dollars, Star Cards, Dojos, Caught you being good, etc

Laughing at others ability - Blue Face - need to think about behaviour.

Poor sportsmanship - Purple Face - white/red form.

Making threats to others - Red Face - Red Form.

During week 4 we will be revisiting the Aussie 5 rule ‘I can control what I do and say’ with a focus on ‘Keeping our hands and feet to ourselves’ as this is showing through our data. Everyone has their own personal space.

We need to respect everyone’s personal space by keeping our hands and feet to ourselves.

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking is every THURSDAY.

Please remember to hand your bank books to your teacher and they will be taken to the office. If you don’t receive your bank book back by Friday please check at the office.
5 Things you don’t know about me - Staff

Congratulations to Rachel Montgomery, the winner of our guessing competition in the “5 Things you don’t know about me” feature of the Newsletter. The correct answer was Mrs Toni Carroll. Thank you to Emelia Gibson and Margaret Burton for entering. Better Luck next time.

Melissa Beasley
Community Liaison Officer

WHO AM I—Family

We are a family of 5 with a pet turtle. Our 2 children attend playgroup at Thou-Walla and Irrawang Public School. As a family we like to sing, Catch the bus to the beach in Newcastle and go camping or to the park. We are involved in the Hippy Program, Netball and have been involved with speech therapy. I like to get involved at the School with Careers Day. Who am I? Please write your answer on the tear off slip at the bottom of the page. Place in the foyer at the office by the morning of Tuesday week 5 (19th May). The winner is the first correct answer drawn out of the box which will be published in the newsletter Week 6. Good luck!

Melissa Beasley
Community Liaison Officer

Guessing Competition Answer.

Name: ........................................................................................................

Class: .................................

Answer: ........................................................................................................
Dear Parent/Carer,

Our Work Health and Safety representatives are in the process of conducting a safety audit of our school. A major area of concern regarding pedestrian safety has been identified.

As a result of our findings, we will have a trial period of closing the Geer St. Car park gates between 8.40am – 9.30am
2.40pm – 3.15pm

This trial period will begin Monday 18th May, 2015 (week 5, term 2).

The Geer Street pedestrian gate will continue to remain open for all access to the school, Thou Walla and the Preschool.

A follow up audit at the beginning of term 3 will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of this initiative.

Please take note of the parking signs around the school. Below is a reminder of the council signs and the rules.

A survey will be sent home separately to explore the possibility of a system for student drop off and collection.

Thanking you in advance for your support in maintaining the safety of our students and community.

Kind Regards,

Stacy Mathieson

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**SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES:**

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<tr>
<th>Sign</th>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>$169.00 + 2 Points</td>
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<td>$304.00 + 2 Points</td>
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Hours of operation may apply to some signs. This means that the restrictions apply for those times only.
HAS YOUR CHILD ENROLLED FOR SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

WILL YOUR CHILD BE STARTING KINDERGARTEN OR PRESCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

ENROL NOW FOR THE BEST START TO YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION!!!

ENQUIRE NOW!

Please ask at the office or phone 02 4987 2403

CAUTION:
Please remember that if you are putting photos from school events on your personal Facebook page that other children should not be in the photos unless you have permission from their parents or carers.

IRRAWANG AUSSIE 5
Irrawang Public School: Absentee Note

Student Name: ________________________________ Class:____________________

Date/s of absence/s ________________________________________________________

Reason for leave: (Please circle)

*Sick                      *Urgent Family Business                      *Other:_________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Signature:_________________________ Date:________________________

Relationship to student:______________________________________________

****************Please return with your child to class teacher. Thankyou**************