Wishing you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
Many thanks for your wonderful support this year.
Have a safe & happy holiday!
We will see you back in 2013!
Principals Message
2012- A FABULOUS YEAR
As I have reflected over the events and achievements for this year, I was amazed at what an incredibly busy and fulfilling year this has been for our students and what an amazing milestone it has been for our school.

We have achieved many successes for our students this year, thanks to the wonderful support provided by our parents and caregivers. Support is provided in so many ways, helping with classroom programs, attendance at parent workshops, meet the teacher night, parent/teacher interviews, support and encouragement of students at school, support of school initiatives, transportation of students to carnivals and special events, canteen-parent volunteers, P&C, fundraising and support for school programs and working bees.

I would like to acknowledge the talents and commitment of our dedicated teaching staff and thank them for working collaboratively and passionately to create a quality learning environment for all students at Greystanes Public School.

I would also like to acknowledge the dedication, passion and enthusiasm of our wonderful P and C who have worked tirelessly to make a difference for Greystanes Public School this year.

This successful partnership between staff, parents, students and school community, working together, has created opportunities and maximised student outcomes. Together we will continue to strive to make Greystanes Public School the best school it can be for our students.

Next week we are farewelling a number of families whose youngest child is progressing to high school. On behalf of the Greystanes Public School community, I would like to thank them for the valuable contribution they have made to our school during their children's enrolment here and to wish them and their children all the very best for the future. I would also like to wish our Year 6 students every success in high school. Our best wishes also go to families who are moving out of the area and whose children will be transferring to other schools.

I would also like to take this opportunity to farewell Miss Rebecca Kim who was successful in gaining a transfer to Ryde Public School for 2013. Miss Kim has not only contributed to the learning of many students but she has enthusiastically led the Junior and intermediate school choir and junior dance group. On behalf of the Greystanes Public School students, staff and community, I would like to thank her most sincerely for her dedication and commitment to making a difference for our students and for the invaluable contribution she has made to the school in her time here and we wish her every success with her future endeavours.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all families a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May you have a restful fun-filled holiday with your children and extended family and have a chance to recharge your batteries. I look forward to working with you all in 2013.

PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY 2012
Last Tuesday, 4th December we held our annual Presentation Assembly. It was a wonderful morning which was well attended by many parents, friends and visitors. Many of our students were recognised for their achievements at the assembly. Our school captains, Aditi Dalal and Brian Huang, along with Year 2 students Ryan Warner and Leah Genc confidently led the Presentation Assembly.

Mrs Janet Chua (Relieving School Education Director), Mr Ross Groves (Holroyd Mayor), Mr Andrew Rohan (Member for Smithfield), Allan & Pat Ezzy, Mr Michael Shiel (P&C president), and Mr Wayne Avery were part of the official party.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Helen Van Ryan, Mrs Kylie McKenna, Ms Narelle Wardell and Mrs Robin Webb for their fabulous organisation and coordination of the assembly.

**2013 STUDENT LEADERS**

It is with great pleasure that I would like to introduce our student leaders for 2013.

**School Captains** -
Ananya Deshpande and Thomas Wark.

**Senior Counsellors** -
Tiarna Brown, Amanda Chen & Switni Rajendra. Christopher Abosh, Timothy Coxedge & Owen Kociper.

**Year 6 Farewell**

Last Wednesday evening, 5th December, I had the pleasure of attending the Year 6 Farewell at Merrylands RSL. What a fabulous evening we had, with all students shining on the night: certainly a memorable night for all students. I would like to thank Mr Peter Morris and Mrs Margaret Smith for their exceptional coordination of the evening, and the Year 6 teachers Miss Sarah Knight, Mrs Garylene Neldner and Mr Grant Hansen for their support and contributions. Many thanks also to the many teachers and staff who supported the students by attending the evening.

**Sports**

**PSSA - Summer Sport**

Congratulations to senior girls softball who competed in and won the grand final against Widemere Public School. Congratulations also to the senior cricket team who also played in the grand final against but lost to Parramatta West.

**Principal’s Awards**

Congratulations, to the following students who achieved and were presented with their Principal’s Award this term:


**Farewell Nanna Peatman**

This year we say farewell to Heather Peatman who after 41 years of service to Greystanes Public School will leave us at the end of this term. Heather has been a member of the P&C throughout this time, as well as helping out in many capacities in the time her children and grandchildren have been at Greystanes. However, it is her years of work in our school canteen that Heather is best known for, with many children and now adults of Greystanes having been served at the school canteen by her. Now that Heather’s youngest grandchild is moving into year 8 at high school, Heather has made the difficult decision to hang up her canteen apron. We wish Heather all the best for her retirement.

**Enrolments for 2013**

If your child or children are leaving the school at the end of the year, could you please notify the office as soon as possible. Also if you know of someone who will be enrolling at Greystanes Public School for next year and they haven’t already done so, we ask if you could remind them to come into the office soon, so we can begin planning for 2013.

**School Security**

To help maintain the security of our school we ask that if you see people in the school grounds who do not have a valid reason to be there, that you please contact the Schools Security Unit or Merrylands Police. This can be done anonymously and helps to ensure the security of the school and minimise vandalism and theft.

School Security Unit: 1300 880 021
Merrylands Police: 02 9897 4899
Please note: We do have a number of legitimate groups who use the school facilities of an evening or weekend, this also helps minimise opportunities for vandalism and theft.

**Visiting the School**
Please remember that if you are on the school grounds after 9.15 and before 2.45pm you must sign in at the office as a visitor. *We also ask that you do not use the students’ toilets at any time.* If for some reason you need to use the facilities during your visit to the school please go to the administration office.

**Attention K – 2 Parents**
It is a good idea for children to have a clean change of clothes in their school bag in case of any accidents. Our supplies are running very low as some people forget to return borrowed items. If your child does come home with a change of clothes please wash and return to the office. Your assistance would be appreciated.

**Credit Card Payment**
Only payments of $20 and over can be accepted as a credit card payment. Please make sure that all details are completed correctly on the back of our school pay envelope when paying by credit card. Thank you for your co-operation.

Money is only collected on Wednesdays and Fridays unless otherwise advised. Please place money in the envelope provided or your own envelope clearly marked. Money must be brought to the office before 9am on these days and placed in the Money Box.

---

**School Holiday Creative Writing Courses at Sydney Olympic Park**

- **Stretch** your mind, provoke your thoughts and turn your imagination up to HIGH. This school holidays we present TWELVE exciting and engaging creative writing courses for 6 to 15 year-olds. Enjoy conceiving and developing pieces across a wide range of genres and writing interests.

  **TheWritingWorkshop** helps young writers build confidence, take pride in work, develop creativity, improve literacy, increase general braininess and have a lot of fun.

  All courses are conducted by award-winning authors. The last two surveys of parents record 100% satisfaction (source: Sydney Olympic Park Authority, Oct 2013 and Oct 2011).

- **Summer holidays creative writing courses**
  - **Fabulous Beasts** full-day fantasy writing course (6-8 year-olds).
  - **Write Your Own Book** for 8-13 year-olds. All the skills you need to plan and write your own extended work. (Full day.)
  - **Nearly True Story of My Life** (8-13 year-olds): stretch the truth but don’t quite break it! (Full day.)
  - **Skilled Young Writers** advanced writing workshop for 10-13 year-olds: characterisation, narrative voice and more.
  - **Story-Making Fun** for 5-8 year-olds. Three hours of written and oral stories, new skills and great fun.
  - **Kids in the Park Special** three days, 2 hours each day, 6-9 year-old and 8-12 year-old groups. Fun and educational, with six different creative writing exercises in the course.
  - **Tales of the Bizarre and Supernatural** w/ Mr. Atmosphere, tension and truly frightening pay-off. For 10-13 year-olds.
  - **Selective School/ACER** test preparation workshop (3 hours) for students entering year 6. How to show your ability in a twenty-minute test.
  - **Summer Poetry Imagery** form, rhythm, techniques to put the feeling of the season onto your page (9-14 year-olds).

**Contact us** for course details, dates, prices and booking forms: visit www.writingworkshop.com.au, telephone 0468 543 933 or email writingw@writingworkshop.com.au.

TheWritingWorkshop