STATE BUDGET cont.

Of particular note and personal delight is the government’s $1.4 billion commitment to deliver overdue and much needed Gonski funding in school budgets in 2016 and 2017. A number of schools will see some of this Gonski funding this year in the form of a replacement for the Education Maintenance Allowance. The remainder of the needs-based funding will start to flow to schools from the start of next year.

The Gonski Report made three key recommendations in 2011:

1. Australia must aspire to have a schooling system that is among the best in the world for its quality and equity, and must prioritise support for its lowest performing students.
2. It says every child should have access to the best possible education, regardless of where they live, the income of their family, or the school they attend.
3. And it says no student in Australia should leave school without the basic skills and competencies needed to participate in the workforce and lead successful and productive lives.

It was also pleasing to read that $600 million was committed to infrastructure, which includes the building of new schools, improved access to schools for people with disabilities, asbestos removal and building upgrades.

At this stage, I am uncertain what, if any additional funds, will be allocated to Patterson Lakes Primary School over the next two years.

STAFFING

I will be taking Long Service Leave from 22 May to 12 June. Paul Clohesy will be Acting Principal and Samantha Marston will be Acting Assistant Principal in my absence.

GENIE FLIPS – WORD OF CAUTION

Attempting spins and flips on horizontal bars is common practice in most primary schools. On occasion, students can land awkwardly whilst attempting a dismount.

Earlier this week, Hannah M from 3/4Z, fell awkwardly from the vertical bars attempting a Genie flip. An ambulance was called and scans revealed four broken vertebrae to the mid to lower back. Hannah was extremely brave and is recovering well. She will return to school next week.

With this in mind, it’s timely reminder for parents to chat about safe practices when using or playing around adventure playground areas. Classroom teachers have used this accident to focus on the need for students to play sensibly and safely. Of particular note are contact sports, chassey around the school, and safe use of adventure playground equipment.

I want to complement the pastoral care, professionalism and follow up displayed by Rachael Grady and office staff during this incident.

STATE BUDGET

Last week’s education funding announcements represented a significant reinvestment in public education for Victoria.

The commitment of funding, totalling $3.9 billion across early childhood, schools and TAFE is a positive step towards strengthening public schools that have been historically underfunded.
As parents will be aware, the 1:1 Program will commence in Year 3 and Year 4 in February 2016.

Year 2 and 3 parents will receive a letter shortly detailing options for the purchase of the Lenovo Think Pad. The options will be in line with information provided at Term One’s Parent Information Evening and subsequent Q&A sheet found on the school’s website. http://www.patterson-lakes-ps.vic.edu.au/page/220/1:1-Program. The school's 1:1 Program policy will accompany the letter.

To allow sufficient time for parents of Year 2 and 3 students to commence a payment scheme, a website [payment portal] providing options for your choice of Think Pad, payment scheme, or outright purchase will be included in your letter.

It is anticipated that the Lenovo Think Pads will arrive at school in December.

NAPLAN TESTING

This week, as part of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), national tests have been held for all students in Australia at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

On Tuesday the testing of Language Conventions and Writing took place. Reading was tested on Wednesday and Numeracy today. We are expecting that the results should be delivered to the school towards the end of Term 3.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who won our ‘Student of the Week’ awards for Week 5 of this term. Students will receive their certificates at their next assembly. Keep up the great work everyone!

Prep A – Lachlan D for working really hard to form his letters correctly during handwriting.
Prep B – Serafina M for working hard on her reading strategies and being a wonderful contributor to the Prep B Team.
Prep C – Antony G for staying focused during writing and always trying his best.
Prep D – Tayton F for doing so well with your reading. Your hard work is really paying off.

1A – Keanu C for showing excellence during our reading strategy sessions on visualising.
1B – Sosemans A for enthusiastic counting by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s in Maths.
1C – Ava K for being a fabulous class member and trying so hard in everything she does.
1D – Charlotte E for working hard at home and at school on her reading.
1/2Z – Ethan J for performing a wonderful try out for Patto’s Got Talent.

2A – Dillon T for being a quiet and hard working member of our class.
2B – Riley D for working really hard to make his writing smaller and sit on the line.
2C – Larissa K for planning and writing a wonderful narrative.
2D – Tom J for working hard to learn his visual words.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS cont

3A – Ayesha A for always brightening Mrs Bainbridge’s Wednesdays with your friendly smiles and helpfulness.
3B – Islay P for trying her best on all class tasks and modelling the school value of ‘excellence’.
3C – Zeth M for having great ideas and being a ‘deep thinker’.
3D – Mikayla R for her excellent writing skills.
3/4Z – Jackson L for excellence in Mathletics and achieving 11,000 points.
4A – Kailia E for terrific effort in all school activities.
4B – Bella W for demonstrating consistently brilliant effort and behaviour.
4C – Jayden W for persistence with his reading. Great work Jayden.
4A – Jazz S for being a caring member of our class who tries her best to help others when they are having problems.
5B – Kasey S for consistently working hard and upholding the school values in the classroom.
5C – Tiana B for always showing outstanding manners and extremely neat work.
5D – Annabelle R for her positive attitude and perseverance in all Naplan testing preparations.
6A – Katie H for her wonderful leadership qualities on display in class and at the JSC.
6B – Aden G for an outstanding historical recount.
6C – Jack B for demonstrating fantastic reading strategies to infer word meaning.
6D – Charlotte T for always aiming for excellence.

SPECIALIST CLASS AWARDS for last week were: Art – 1C, P.E – 2B, Music – 2D, Spanish – 1A, and Computers – 1D.

Congratulations to these classes on their super efforts with our specialist teachers.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS WINNER

Last week’s winning House team was Wells Wildcats (Red). Congratulations to all students in this team.

BIG GREEN SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

On Friday, May 8th, our six Environment Leaders represented our school at the annual Big Green Schools Conference which was held at Carrum Primary for Kingston schools. The conference theme for this year was ‘Sustainability’ and gave the students the opportunity to understand what is required to work towards being a 5 Star Sustainable school. A follow up conference will be held in September. Congratulations to Kai K, Hannah V, Natalie M, Jack M, Dillon H and Molly K who did an amazing job in representing Patto and in particular, presenting information about where Patto is at in our journey of sustainability.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthday during the next week. We hope you have a lovely day.

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<td>Kobi B</td>
<td>14 May</td>
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<td>Reid M</td>
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<td>Rhyce S</td>
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<td>Simone J</td>
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<td>Zoe S</td>
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<td>Poppy L</td>
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<td>Olivia L</td>
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MUNCH MONITOR ONLINE LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch Orders are available online on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

How do I set up an account to order online:

Go to: [www.munchmonitor.com](http://www.munchmonitor.com)

Click LOGIN then REGISTER

Enter School Id: plps and Password: munch3197

Then follow the 4 easy steps to create your account:

**STEP 1:** Create a Parent Profile by entering information about yourself.

**STEP 2:** Add your Students to your account.

**STEP 3:** Transfer money to your account by clicking the Account Top-up button

**STEP 4:** Click MY ORDERS and you’re ready to Order lunches!

OFFICE NEWS

Family School Accounts

2nd instalments were due Thursday 30th April

If you still have an outstanding balance on your school account, a reminder statement has been sent home with the youngest child in your family.

If you have missed paying your first instalment or have trouble paying your second instalment, please call Monique Hunt on 9772 4011 as soon as possible to make payment arrangements.

BPAY is the school’s preferred payment option. Thankyou.

KIDS DISCO

Patterson Lakes Primary School Disco will be held in the school hall on Friday 15th May. Prep - Yr 2 commences at 5.30pm - 6.45pm and Yr 3 - Yr 6 commences at 7.30pm - 9.00pm.

We ask for your co-operation in that children are promptly dropped off and picked up in the foyer area of the hall **ONLY** and ask that parents do no enter the disco/school hall area. If you could simply drop your child off and leave, it would also help alleviate congestion and allow ease of moving the students through into the disco. In the event that your child becomes distressed, you will be notified.

We have a duty of care to our students here at Patterson Lakes Primary School that requires us to be diligent in their safety and well being and given the popularity of our school discos, it becomes extremely difficult for us to ensure the safety of our students is being met, when parents/carers enter through the foyer and into the actual disco area.

**Pre Ticket sales have finished, but you can still purchase tickets on the night - $15 each**
Junior Mayor is that time of year when all schools in the Kingston area come together and discuss ideas to help Kingston, and where the best idea wins. Last month our school was obviously invited to the event, and I personally think (and I assume that everybody on our team; (Corey, our head, Katie, Sophia and I) killed it! Even though we did not end up winning the title, it was a great experience and I don't believe we would regret a thing we did on the day! Some ideas from a variety of schools were really well thought out!

The winner ended up being a girl from St. John Vianney’s Catholic School who had the good idea of a beach party and in her speech she incorporated some jokes. I think that it was a well-deserved title! (even though the Junior Mayor robe was a bit big for her)

The event itself was set out more professionally than I expected, with bleached white table cloths and a placard for every school! The Kingston Youth Services made an introduction about who they were and what they did. The winner had an opportunity to create and host an event that can be completed within six months. The budget was $500. Followed by that we had some speeches, then lunch.

Then, came the fun bits. We had an “ask the panel” Q & A near when the event was brought to a close. After gazillions of questions, finally, Katie had the courage to ask a question that not normally would be brought up. “This one is for the 2014/2015 JM, do you get any time off school?” Katie asked.

“Unfortunately only three hours a week” the JM replied. The team laughed when we heard Katie’s Q, because we definitely got an honest A!

Then we had McDonalds (as a reward) and, finally it was back to school

By the way, don’t tell the teachers, but I was enjoying a day with no home group!

By Sara S

School Captain
ACTIVE KIDS ARE HEALTHY KIDS

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

FRIDAY 29 MAY

Until they’re ten, children must always hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road

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* CVV: Credit Card Validation Value

Thanks for your support! 20% from each Book sold contributes to Patterson Lakes Primary School.
When things go wrong at school

“If your child is having trouble with other kids or a teacher, how you approach the problem can make all the difference. Taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach.”

Every parent wants the best for their children, especially at school. Schools are generally safe places, staffed by teachers who have the best interests of their students at heart.

But things can go wrong. Most kids experience learning difficulties at times. Conflict and peer rejection are a normal part of school life.

There will always be some turbulence during key transition ages, such as the start of adolescence. At these times young people often experience relationship difficulties and a dip in learning and sometimes call on their parents for help.

Your approach makes a huge difference to their resilience and future relationships with teachers and peers. Anecdotal evidence suggests that there’s been a significant increase in aggressive incidents at schools involving parents reacting to their children’s grievances.

Here’s how to react effectively.

1. **Stay calm and rational.** It’s natural as a parent to protect or defend your children, particularly when you think that they’ve been treated unfairly. But acting when you are full of emotion is not smart. Take your time to think about how you can help your child.

2. **Get all the facts.** Kids are faulty observers and often only see one side of a story. They sometimes can’t see that they may have contributed to a dispute or said something that may have upset a teacher. It’s the parent’s job to help kids process what happened so that they understand their role in a situation. Ask good questions to help the full story emerge.

3. **Assess whether to go to school or not.** Kids, like adults, benefit from telling their story to a trusted source. Problems can often be dealt with by talking through an issue, and giving kids some coping tips.

   If your child has a problem that they can’t solve themselves or you think adult intervention may be needed consider meeting with your child’s teacher or year level coordinator.

4. **Go through the right channels.** Approach the school calmly, going through the school office, or directly to your child’s teacher if that is the correct protocol.

5. **Look for solutions rather than blame.** Parent-teacher meetings get nowhere when one party blames the other. State the problem as you see it and view your child’s teacher as an ally, not a foe. Keep the discussion focused on what’s best for your child. Listen to your teacher’s viewpoint and value their perspective.

6. **Stay in touch.** Be realistic and remember that some problems can’t be solved to your satisfaction and won’t be resolved straight away. Be prepared to work with your child’s teacher for the long-term.

Parenting is easy when things are going well, but testing when children experience difficulty. Taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach when your child experiences difficulty at school.

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